

Stop, smell the junipers

The mythical *Juniperus fredericka* thrives in the sunlit valley between 15 and 70, west of Frederick. In this instance, we're talking about an easy-to-maintain, four-tier split-level on two-thirds of an acre – a corner property. Freshly painted, finished wood floors and stone-hearth fireplace in the lower level. Add in a new HVAC system and heat pump. Covered carport, retractable patio-cover lend convenience. And, more than enough space to plant anything you'd like – including junipers.

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Commuter's dream

Open, well-appointed floor plans, reveal comfortable living in appealing townhome community that's a hop, skip and jump from Route 15 near Frederick. Plenty of room to whip up tasty creations in this light-colored kitchen, which has granite counters and dazzling rays of light streaming through a large bay window. Living and dining areas – replete with wood flooring, crown molding – offer access to mid-level deck. Master suite above has vaulted ceiling.

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Retreat to splendor

Enjoy morning coffee on a grandiose deck that overlooks your own Shangri-La – a lush, tree-studded landscape. Spacious kitchen has granite counters, cooking island, hardwood flooring and cozy breakfast nook by an expansive bay window. Master-bedroom suite – with cathedral ceilings, sitting area and Jacuzzi – offers an ideal respite from a busy day. Located minutes from where 270 meets 70, south of downtown Frederick, this four-bedroom, brick colonial is also a short drive from three state parks.

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Easy living off Rt. 70

A brief stroll from Main Street in Mount Airy, this restored home, with white siding and newly painted gray roof, dates back to the dawning of the 20th century. A 625-sq.-ft. wraparound deck overlooks your own private swath of verdant tranquility. Inside: dine-in, updated kitchen with white cabinetry and ceramic flooring, 9-ft. ceilings and traditional hardwood floors.

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Amazing kitchen and three fireplaces

Magnificent brick colonial on three acres near South Mountain State Park in a community (circa 2007) where spectacular mountain views and oversized lots are ubiquitous. Inside, two-story entry space, hardwood floors, kitchen designed for epicurean delight, and first-floor master suite. Four bedrooms, four-and-a-half baths, three fireplaces, 9-foot (plus) ceilings, and full, finished basement.

This fertile valley – west of Frederick, south of Hagerstown (near Charles Town and Shepherdstown (W.Va.)), too – saw steady stream of passers-by during Civil War’s Maryland Campaign. Now, it’s a corridor for hikers along Appalachian Trail, C&O Canal Towpath. Big Cork Vineyards nearby. Not traveling by foot or horse? MARC’s Brunswick Station offers commuter convenience.

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Blurbs for real-estate listings

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