



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023

SEPTEMBER VILLAGE MEETING

September 19, 2023 – 7:30pm – Hybrid platform (Zoom instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of July Minutes *Treasurer’s Reports *Permits *Trees *Q&A with Councilmember Kate Stewart

CALENDAR (2023)

Sept 4: Labor Day
Sept 9: Music Fest! Hosted by NCC Connections
Sept 14: Curbside Donation, Clothing Donation Nation
Sept 15: Curbside Donation, Furniture/Non-Clothing Items Donation Nation
Sept 16: Bulk Trash Pick Up
Sept 19: Village Council Meeting 7:30pm (hybrid) with District 4, Councilmember Kate Stewart
Sept 28: National Good Neighbor Day
Oct 17: Village Council Meeting 7:30pm (hybrid)

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

New Residents:

The Village warmly welcomes the following new residents!

- 3701 Husted Drive: Joshua & Rebeccah Wrady
- 3812 Kenilworth Driveway: Greg Boyd & Kate Gibson
- 8804 Kensington Parkway: Tim & Angela Morrell
- 8802 Montgomery Avenue: Sameer Sheikh & Morgan Miller

Holiday Sanitation Schedule:

Monday, September 4 – no yard waste pick-up
Tuesday, September 5 – both yard and trash pick-up
Wednesday, September 6– recycling
Friday, September 8 - trash collection

Resident Directory: The Village will be updating the Resident Directory. Please provide your updated information using the attached form or contact the Village Manager at nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org or #301.654.7084.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chair: Adrian Andreassi
chair@northchevyCHASE.org
Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner
vicechair@northchevyCHASE.org
Secretary: Maury Mechanick
secretary@northchevyCHASE.org
Treasurer: Olga Joos
treasurer@northchevyCHASE.org
Member: Jon Macy
member@northchevyCHASE.org
Manager: Susan Theis
nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org
Fire Board Representatives:
Dave Albinson, Abby Morris, Guim Barbour
Village of North Chevy Chase
PO Box 15887, Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Mobile: 301-654-7084
TDD (MD Relay Service): 1-800-735-2258
Website: www.northchevyCHASE.org

New Village Website Launched:

We are excited to introduce the debut of the new Village of North Chevy Chase website! Our primary objective is to offer residents and visitors a seamless platform for accessing information. The content has been thoughtfully organized to ensure user-friendliness, allowing you to effortlessly navigate and find the information you seek. Rest assured, the website will be regularly updated with relevant and valuable content. Kindly bear with us as we continue to make further enhancements during this phase of improvement!

You'll find it at the same URL as the old one: <https://northchevychase.org>

Donation Prior to Bulk Trash Pick Up:

Donation Nation will be coming through the Village prior to the Saturday, **September 16** bulk trash pickup, as noted on the calendar. Donation Nation accepts furniture and appliances, household items such as dishes and glassware (they ask that those items be boxed up and not mildewy or significantly stained) and office furniture and furnishings such as chairs, computers, copy machines, filing cabinets, desks and more. They also accept clothing but request that it be placed in a bag and labeled for Donation Nation. Pick up of bagged clothing curbside will be on Thursday, **September 14** and non-clothing and furniture will be picked up on Friday, **September 15**.

Please only put out items scheduled for pick up that day. No specific timeframe is scheduled both days - the Village was informed that trucks will be in the area throughout the day.

Additional information on the organization can be found at: <https://www.donationnationusa.org>

Please Report malfunctioning Streetlights

Neither Pepco nor Village management regularly surveys the Village for malfunctioning streetlights, so it's up to us – the residents – to report malfunctions. If you see a malfunctioning streetlight (including a light that is dim or flickering), please report it directly to Pepco by visiting pepco.com and clicking on “outages” or by calling #1-877-737-2662.

Celebrating 100 years!

Incorporated in 1924, the Village is planning to celebrate its centennial this spring. Do you have a story to share? Documents from the founding? Or any fun facts or trivia or just willing to help in planning this milestone event please contact Village management at nccinfo@nrthchevychase.org or call 301-654-7084.

GENERAL INTEREST

Phase 2 of the Chevy Chase Lake redevelopment project has begun to move down the pipeline.

Plans for the second phase, which were submitted in July, propose more mixed-use residential development, improvements to walkability and seek to establish the community as a transit hub with proximity to a Purple Line station.

According to planning documents submitted by the Chevy Chase Land Company and the Bozzuto Group, the property, which is designated by the Chevy Chase Lake Master Plan as “Block A,” will be consolidated into a 1.81-acre lot.

The project will create up to 245,952 square feet of new development, with 19,000 square feet dedicated to retail and commercial space, documents state. The project plans to bring up to 220 residential units in a mix of apartments and townhouse-styles, with up to 28 being moderately priced dwelling units (MPDUs).

Businesses that currently exist at the site are Truist Bank, The Somerville Bath & Kitchen Store, Manoli Canoli, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Starbucks and a Liberty gas station. The project plans a total redevelopment of the retail center and its surface parking lot.

One block down from the Chevy Chase Lake site, residents and pedestrians will be able to access the future Connecticut Avenue Purple Line station. The station will feature parking, bike storage, a path for hikers and bikers on the Capital Crescent Trail and a trail bridge over Connecticut Avenue.

Governor Moore Announces Path Forward for Future of I-495, I-270 Corridors

Governor Wes Moore announced a path forward in addressing mobility and access challenges along the American Legion Bridge, I-495 and I-270, with the submission of a formal federal grant application for improvements to those corridors. The Maryland Department of Transportation will advance the following transportation solutions alongside stakeholder engagement:

Transit and Ridesharing. Maryland will advance transit options and transportation demand management enhancements along the American Legion Bridge, I-495 and I-270 corridors. The program will implement strategies such as express bus options in Maryland and connections to Virginia, ridesharing incentives and parallel transportation improvements including MARC Brunswick Line enhancements and Bus Rapid Transit.

Transit-Oriented Development. The Maryland Department of Transportation will advance Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) opportunities throughout the corridors. Maryland has previously supported TOD planning and implementation efforts throughout the WMATA Metrorail system. As part of this program, Maryland will look to accelerate investment in key corridor TOD projects to unlock new developments that create sustainable and inclusive communities.

Phased Approach to Managed

Lanes. Implementation of managed lanes will be phased, with the American Legion Bridge, I-495 to the I-270 West Spur, and the I-270 West Spur being the focus for initial implementation. The section from the I-270 West Spur to I-370, including through the City of Rockville, will be addressed in a later phase. This phasing will allow for a rational and fiscally prudent phased development.

A Comprehensive Planning Strategy for I-270. Maryland will launch a formal environmental study to identify the transportation needs of I-270 North of the Intercounty Connector/MD 200, consider a range of concepts including transit and transportation demand management, and evaluate multimodal approaches for near-term implementation and construction.

Engagement on Delivery Method. Maryland will engage the public on the potential implementation of the managed lanes as a publicly funded and delivered project.

The Moore-Miller Administration is actively pursuing federal grants for this multimodal corridor program in partnership with Virginia and local jurisdictions. As such, Maryland has applied for a Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. This grant will support the reconstruction of the aging American Legion Bridge and the construction of managed lanes from the bridge to the I-270 West Spur, and on the I-270 West Spur. In doing so, the grant will support reliable and frequent bus transit between Virginia and Montgomery County and the larger Washington region.

The grant request also affirms the commitment to improved bicycle and pedestrian access in the corridor, including a shared-use path across the Potomac River on the new bridge span to connect Maryland and Virginia trail networks and the C&O Canal towpath.

To continue the engagement with the public, the department will conduct open houses in Montgomery and Frederick counties this fall and winter, in coordination with state and local elected officials. These open houses will give residents an opportunity to weigh in on the different elements of this program. Dates and times for these open houses will be announced in the coming weeks.

Recreational Cannabis Now Legal in Maryland: Answers to Some Frequently Asked Questions

The Maryland General Assembly, during its 2023 session, approved legalization of recreational use of cannabis for adults 21-and-over. The law went into effect on July 1, but many residents still have questions about details in the law. Among the most common questions refer to being able to use cannabis in public areas and how its use can lead to impaired driving.

Smoking cannabis (and hemp) is prohibited in any public place. This includes outdoor spaces and indoor spaces open to the public including parks, streets and sidewalks, bars and restaurants, public transportation (e.g. buses, vans, trains, taxicabs, limousines) and indoor places of employment. Because cannabis

remains illegal at the Federal level, a person may not possess cannabis on any Federal property, such as national park. Using cannabis while driving (by a driver or passenger) and impaired driving remains illegal under Maryland law. Law enforcement officers can make a cannabis DUI arrest if they observe impairment using a standard field sobriety testing (roadside test) method. Answers to more questions about recreational cannabis use in Maryland can be found at <https://mmcc.maryland.gov/Pages/cannabisfaq.aspx>

“Etch and Catch”

To help address thefts of catalytic converters from vehicles, the Montgomery County Police initiated a program to etch an identification number on catalytic converters. Residents can call Community Services Officer Demond Johnson at 240-773-6728 to get on the waitlist for next season, as the demand for this free service has been significant. You can also pay your own auto shop to install theft prevention devices.

Music Fest!

Hosted by NCC Connections. All are invited for live music, featuring local folk and rock musicians, and free authentic Hawaiian shave ice on Saturday, **September 9** from 3:30-5:30pm at the NCC Christian Church. For more questions call 240-343-2446 or email info@nccconnections.org

Celebrate Good Neighbors on National Good Neighbor Day!

This was proclaimed an official holiday by President Jimmy Carter in 1978 and since 2003, has been celebrated each year on **September 28**. National Good Neighbor Day celebrates value of connecting with our neighbors and creating strong, healthy communities.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JULY COUNCIL

MEETING (Official minutes will be posted to the website)

Secretary’s Report for June 2023 Council Meeting (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer’s Report for June 2023 – reviewed by Council to be formally presented at September 19 meeting.

No Permits in July 2023

Action Items:

FY23 Village Audit– Council authorized to sign letter of engagement with LSWG for Village FY23 audit.

Fall 2023 Village ROW Native Tree Planting – Council agreed to move forward with contacting Stadler Nursery and the planting of critical need canopy trees within the Village. Village management will draft letter to residents asking for agreement to plant native trees in right-of-way. Village will provide tree watering bags and Village management will look into costs for tree watering service.

RFPs: Sanitation/Street Sweeping/Leaf Collection/Snow Removal

– Council agreed to move forward with requests for proposals except Street Sweeping. Street Sweeping to be reevaluated in Spring 2024. Village management training on eMMA, as municipalities are required to use online Maryland-wide procurement system.

Village 100th year celebration – Beginning of discussion for a Village-wide celebration since its incorporation to be held in April 2024. Village management has contacted Chevy Chase Historical Society for any documents and information. Any residents wishing to be involved in planning please contact Village Manager.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING

(Courtesy of the Environment Committee)

Notes on Composting by Carrie Witkop

There is lots of information about the benefits of composting and how to do it. I thought the best idea for me would be to share my own experience.

Our family has composted for 25 years. It is easy, fun, and empowering. For us, the empowering idea was important for our children. We feel that what comes from the earth should be returned to the earth and that anything we can do to help our earth is positive. It seems like common sense, organic, and a little science lesson all built into a life practice. There are many ways to compost.

The way we began was by starting a little pile in the corner of our back yard. We have an open beach pail under our sink which we use to collect coffee grounds (with the filter), vegetable and fruit scraps. We have never put in bones or meat and we have never attracted rodents... only an occasional cloud of fruit flies.

We empty this little pail daily and it became one of the shared chores in our home. We also put old leaves and any grass clippings we have on top of it and then resume adding more scraps. We never worried about the greens to browns that you might read about. We just added what we had when we had it. It was surprising how fast our big pile would disappear with hardly anything left to spread out.

When the kids got older, they would use the worms that were attracted to the pile for fishing. They had a wonderful time digging them up. We had not added any worms. They just came. As we got older, we modified the system. We moved the compost to another corner of our yard. We started to use a rolling bin and an open plastic perforated sheet which we formed into a large open tube. We got our plastic sheet compost bin from Nature Forward. We use these two systems together. I now use the plastic open bin much more than the rolling barrel. The perforated plastic sheet acts as a compost bin that can be moved back and forth. There is no top or bottom which makes it easy to move and then spread out the compost. The rolling bin has to be emptied twice a year and is a messy job although the benefit of our rolling bin is that it collects wonderful black liquid that can be used as fertilizer.

I hope this short note encourages you to compost. I would love to share a cup of coffee and show you how ours works. We have found that it is a lot of fun and at the same time so good us and good for our earth.

Interested in Helping a Neighborhood Watch Program Start Here?

A new Neighborhood Watch Program is now forming locally under the guidelines of the Montgomery County Police Department. The goal is to keep our community as safe as possible from crimes including auto break-ins, home burglaries and catalytic converter thefts that have concerned area residents recently.

The program is being organized under the auspices of North Chevy Chase CONNECTIONS, Inc., the neighbors-helping-neighbors nonprofit open to anyone living in the Village of North Chevy Chase as well as other households in the larger area served by NCC CONNECTIONS.

The county police department will provide training, education, guidance and support. But first at least ten residents are needed to sign up as soon as possible to be the core active participants and leaders. Our aim is to be ready to launch in mid-September.

Participants will report suspicious activity to the police, schedule a home security survey, attend a one-day training at the Bethesda police station, and meet as needed with our local Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, a long-time resident of our community who has already volunteered. There is no patrolling by residents and you do not have to be a member of NCC CONNECTIONS to volunteer.

To participate, please email: info@nccconnections.org and leave your name, address, email address and a phone number or call 240-343-2446. For information about the geographic area of North Chevy Chase CONNECTIONS, visit the website at www.northchevychaseconnections.org