



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2024

OCTOBER VILLAGE MEETING

October 15, 2024 – 7:30pm – Hybrid platform
(Zoom instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of September Minutes
*Treasurer’s Reports *Permits *Native Trees
*Streetlighting

over the storm drains, and at the three bus stops along Kensington Parkway.

New Residents:

The Village warmly welcomes the following new residents!

CALENDAR (2024)

Oct 1: Village Leaf Collection to begin
Oct 5: Village Streetlight mock-up demo
Oct 15: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm (hybrid)
Nov 5: Election Day
Nov. 11: Veterans Day
Nov 19: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm (hybrid)
Nov. 28: Thanksgiving
Dec. 12-13: Donation Nation pick-up
Dec. 14: Bulk Trash pick-up

- 3601 Jones Bridge Road – Nick and Laura Touran

The Village Office attempts to keep track of residents who move into and out of the Village. If you know of a home for sale or are planning to move out of the Village, please let the Village Office know at nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org or #301.654.7084.

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

Leaf Pick Up: Village street leaf pick-up will begin **October 1 and will occur weekly for 3 months, through December 31, 2024.** Bethke Landscaping, the Village contractor, will not provide a specific day each week given continual schedule adjustments due to weather. Leaves are to be placed curbside and made accessible for leaf pick up by truck (please note that given the traffic flow on Kensington Parkway, residents can place leaves on the grassy area but ensure they are right next to the street to facilitate reach of the vacuums). Sticks, trash, rocks and other debris will not be collected and will be left curbside. Leaves are not to be shredded. The contractor will also be removing leaves from the two diverters along Montgomery Avenue at Stewart and Kenilworth,

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

Free Native Shade Trees: As part of our ongoing commitment to preserving and enhancing our community's natural beauty, the Village is proud to offer free native shade trees to residents this fall!

As an official Tree City USA, we are dedicated to maintaining a healthy tree canopy that not only keeps our streets cooler and more walkable in the summer but also helps reduce energy costs for homes. These trees also play a crucial role in providing vital habitat for birds and other urban wildlife, helping to sustain a thriving ecosystem.

The Village works with Stadler Nurseries for its tree plantings. Stadler Nurseries would install a tree approximately 1-2" in diameter in mid-November and provide a 1-year warranty. Residents would be responsible for all costs for tree maintenance after that date and would sign an agreement form confirming this responsibility in advance of the tree planting.

Claim your free tree today with an email to the Village Manager (nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org) with your address, preferred tree species and the preferred location before **October 14** and contribute to a greener, more sustainable future for our Village!

Please Note: Limit 2 trees per household. Trees will be planted by the Village at a location of your choice in your front or back yard in mid-November. We especially encourage plantings near where you have lost a large tree or in any significant open space in your yard. **Please see the list of native trees attached.** Substitutions are not available at this time.

Directory/Listserv/Website: For those who have not yet updated their information for the Village directory (online – password protected on the Village website) please take a moment to do so now. In addition, for those residents who have not signed up on the Village's listserv, we strongly encourage you to do so now as well. These venues are the primary way in which the Village Manager and Council members can provide time-sensitive, important information to the community (i.e., related to power outages, public works projects,

emergency advisories, Village-wide surveys, etc.).

Please send your email address to nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org (include name and street address) or text that information to the Village mobile at #301.654.7084 and the Village Manager will sign you up.

Permit Reminders: Fall is a great time to refresh your home and yard, but before you begin any exterior improvement project, please contact the Village office for information and to determine what permits may be required. There are county and Village building regulations that may apply.

For additional information, please visit the Village website (northchevyCHASE.org), or contact the Village Manager at nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org or #301-654-7084 to verify any requirements.

Services Offered: Village management is looking to re-establish a list for residents' referral on our website. This would include pet sitters, baby sitters, leaf raking, lawn mowing, snow shoveling, etc. If you or a family member are interested in offering your services to Village residents, please contact the Village Manager as we continue to revive this opportunity.

Thefts: Residents are once again encouraged to ensure vehicles are locked and valuables removed. It is also advised that residents not leave valuables outside or unattended. 'Porch pirate' theft is on the rise as virtual shopping continues to grow and more packages are being left on porches and doorsteps. The Village recently learned that thieves are following FedEx/UPS/Amazon drivers around neighborhoods and picking up packages that have just been delivered. If using Amazon, you may consider having your packages delivered for pick up at the Amazon Fresh on Manor Road or delivery to lockers at the Kensington Safeway, as well as other locations in our area.

Residents please be alert to any unusual activity in the Village and if you see something contact the Montgomery County Police Department at #240-773-6700 immediately.

GENERAL INTEREST

October in Maryland becomes WALKTOBER! and October 2 is officially Walk Maryland Day!

A month where the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and other partnering agencies promote and host events and webinars spotlighting Maryland pedestrians' safety, health, and commuting options in current walk programs and initiatives.

Through a series of informational resources and free webinars for pedestrians tailored to interest enthusiast, advocates, planners, and residents. Throughout Walktober, learn how walking is easy and accessible exercise, how to safely use pedestrian infrastructure, and how to incorporate walking in your daily. For more information visit:

<https://mdot.maryland.gov/walktober/>

Taste of Bethesda

This year, Taste of Bethesda will be held on **Saturday, October 5 from 11am - 4pm** (rain or shine).

Each year, more than 40,000 attendees sample the delicious restaurants, enjoy the live entertainment and visit the kid's corner for face painting and arts & crafts.

Admission to Taste of Bethesda is free, with food, beer, and wine tickets available for purchase on-site. Tickets are sold in bundles of 5 for \$10, with tastes ranging from one to four tickets, allowing guests to sample a variety of dishes.

The event is held along Norfolk, St. Elmo, Cordell, Del Ray and Auburn Avenues in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle.

Nature Forward cordially invites you to attend the seventeenth **Community Meeting** on **Tuesday, October 8 from 7-8pm**. The meeting will be held on the virtual Zoom platform:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4886313655?pwd=aMjGUzJXTGxQbklweHI3Y1JRStKUT09&omn=89438520914>

Meeting ID: 488 631 3655
Passcode: Nature

If you do not have video conference capabilities, you can join by phone at #301-715-8592.

They will give a short update on Nature Forward activities and share information on completed projects. Please send your questions in advance or contact us at woodend@natureforward.org.

If you would like to volunteer at Woodend, please visit NatureForward.org/volunteer.

Unused Bikes Will Go to Good Use If Donated to Department of Transportation's Annual Bike Donation Event

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Annual Bike Collection event will be held from **7am - 2pm on Friday, October 11**, during Community Service Month. The event will collect child and adult bikes and bike parts outside of the County Council Office Building Garage, which is located at the intersection of East Jefferson and Monroe streets in Rockville. Used bike helmets will not be collected.

Donated bikes will be distributed to residents in need through the MCDOT's Bike Match MoCo program after being cleaned up by volunteers from the nonprofit Rockville Bike Hub. Some of the children's bikes will also be distributed through Rockville's Terrific Kids program and older bikes are donated to Bikes for The World.

For more information about the event, send an email to paul.gatons@montgomerycountymd.gov.

NCC Connections Annual Halloween Parade & Block Party is coming up on Sunday, October 27, and they are in need of adult and teen volunteers.

The parade will be going through North Chevy Chase, starting at the NCC pool (8817 Brierly Road). The Block Party has several activities planned including custom tattoos, cookie decorating, games, crafts, and snacks.

To volunteer, simply sign-up on the NCC Connections website:

<https://www.northchevyCHASEconnections.org>

or email Rebecca Gelfond

at rgelfond@comcast.net for more information. SSL hours are available for students.

Top Election Official Warns of Maryland Voter Scam

Board of Maryland Elections officials are warning about a new scam in which an urgent text message from scammers posing as election workers tells people they are not registered to vote, then directs them to a fake link that can steal their personal information.

The board urges recipients of such texts not to open any link in the texts. The board has a portal on its website

(https://elections.maryland.gov/press_room/Dis-Misinformation.html) where people can report instances of scamming and disinformation. The board's website

(<https://elections.maryland.gov/index.html>) also has a list of the valid sources for voter registration, polling locations, mail-in ballot status and ways to vote.

Early voting in Maryland begins **October 24**.

County earns 'Triple-A' bond rating for 52 consecutive years

The three major Wall Street bond rating agencies -- Moody's Ratings, S&P Global Ratings, and Fitch Ratings -- all affirmed AAA ratings for Montgomery County for the 34th consecutive year. Only about 50 counties nationwide have earned this distinction. AAA is the highest credit rating achievable by a local government.

Montgomery County has earned AAA ratings from Moody's Ratings every year since 1973 (52), from S&P Global Ratings every year since 1976 (49), and from Fitch Ratings every year since 1991 (34 years).

The AAA bond ratings enable Montgomery County to sell long-term bonds at the most favorable rates, saving county taxpayers millions of dollars over the life of the bonds. The ratings also serve as a benchmark for numerous other financial transactions, ensuring the lowest possible costs in those areas

Montgomery Municipal Cable (MMC)

Channel 16, supports the 16 smaller municipalities in Montgomery County including the Village of North Chevy Chase. They frequently provide content geared towards issues that affect our community and provide

local coverage of events. To learn more about our local TV station, watch some of their programming or sign up for their weekly newsletter visit mmctv.org.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING (Official minutes will be posted to the website)

Secretary's Report for July 2024 Council Meeting (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer's Reports for July and August 2024 (Joos) –Results for July and August 2024, representing the start of FY 2025, included combined income of \$156,66.48, and combined operating expenses of \$52,456.99 (including Village events, composting services, waste removal, street lighting, landscaping and lawn mowing, trees, wages and taxes, professional fees, membership and dues, insurance and bond, and office and communication). No capital expenditures were incurred during July or August 2024. Total current assets as of August 2024, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, including ARPA funds received, came to \$3,049.564.69. The Council also authorized the purchase of certificates of deposit in specified amounts and durations from funds recently transferred to the Sandy Spring checking account that had previously been held in an account with Truist Bank.

Action Items:

Fall 2024 Village Tree Order -- At the July meeting the Council decided to offer residents the opportunity, as was previously done in 2021, to have up to two shade trees planted on their properties at Village expense, subject to a commitment by the resident to assume responsibility for tree maintenance thereafter. The Village has now received a list of eight different canopy/shade trees that will be on offer. Requests for trees must be submitted by October 14, 2024 (one day prior to the October Council meeting). The Village Manager will disseminate information about the program via Constant Contact and in the October Newsletter. Tree plantings will most likely take place in late November 2024.

Attainable Housing Strategies -- Following up on the presentation made by the Montgomery County planning staff at the July 2024 Council meeting, the Village has sought to disseminate information about the proposed strategy and likely zoning changes that would be adopted to implement it as broadly as possible throughout the Village and also to encourage Village residents to attend the “listening session” that the Montgomery County Council has scheduled for September 25, 2024 (which will now be held at BCC High School). The proposals under consideration will have a significant impact on the Village and life in the Village and, to the extent Village residents have concerns about this proposal, it is important that they be communicated to County officials in whatever ways possible. The Village Council, in collaboration with the surrounding municipalities, including those in the 20814, 20815 and 20895 zip codes, all of which will be significantly affected by these proposed changes to assess the impact of these proposals. Also, efforts are underway to work with the State Congressional delegations representing these areas in the Maryland State House to amend the Maryland law, which confers the ability on smaller municipalities to undertake certain zoning activities, to make sure that authority is not lost if the areas within those jurisdictions are rezoned by Montgomery County as being for multi-family rather than single family residences.

Village Street Lighting –The Village Council has formulated, in consultation with the Village’s outside consultant (Scott Watson), a plan for the installation of 26 pedestrian pole mounted street lights to be placed along Kensington Parkway, the expenses for which would be covered, to the extent of funds availability, by the ARPA funds that the Village has received from the federal government. The next step is to continue review of potential poles and lighting fixtures capable of accommodating the type of environmentally friendly LED lighting that the Village would desire to install. The Council has narrowed the option for iron support poles for the lighting fixtures to two models manufactured by Spring City Electrical Manufacturing Company (Hancock and Newbury Port) and has arranged, in consultation with our lighting consultant, for a

mock-up sample of two alternate lighting fixtures to be set up adjacent to the North Chevy Chase Christian Church on Kensington Parkway on the evening (at dusk) on October 5, 2024, for residents to see prior to proceeding with final procurement commitments.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING **(Courtesy of the Environment Committee)**

Fall Bird Migration: Please dim your lights
Billions of birds migrate across the U.S. every spring and fall, flying mostly at night as they navigate with the night sky. These migrants struggle to stay on course over city and suburbs, which emit artificial light pollution that disorients the birds. To protect them, many cities are promoting Lights Out programs during migration season. **Fall Migration Period: August 15 – November 30.**

You can help migrating birds with these simple steps from [Cornell's BirdCast program](#):

- Turn off all non-essential lights from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. each night during migration season.
- Do not use landscape lighting to light up trees or gardens where birds may be resting.
- Close blinds at night to reduce the amount of light being emitted from windows.

For essential lights (like security lighting) use the following dark skies friendly lighting practices:

- Aim lights down.
- Use lighting shields to direct light downwards and to avoid light shining into the sky or trees.
- Use motion detectors and sensors so lights are only on when you need them.
- Use amber lights instead of bright white lights.