



**VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2024**

DECEMBER VILLAGE MEETING:

December 17, 2024 – 7:30pm – hybrid meeting in-person and Zoom (instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) **Approval of November Minutes *Treasurer’s Report *Permits *Street Lighting*

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.

CALENDAR (2024-2025)

- December 12: Curbside Donation – bagged clothing
- December 13: Curbside Donation – Non-clothing, furniture
- December 14: Bulk Trash Pick Up
- December 17: Village Council Meeting
- December 17 & 18: Voluntary tips for waste/recycling collection (can be taped in envelope on underside of waste receptacles)
- January 1: Happy New Year - 2025!
- January 21: Village Council Meeting
- February 18: Village Council Meeting

- Please note that the trash and recycling schedules may vary due to the upcoming holidays. Residents will be notified, in advance, via Constant Contact with any changes.

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES:

New Residents:

The Village warmly welcomes the following new residents!

- 3607 Dundee Drive – Taren Dolbashian and Patrick Kelly

Donations Prior to Bulk Trash Pick Up:

In an effort to help residents donate reusable/donatable items prior to bulk trash pickup, the Village has again arranged with Donation Nation to come through the Village in advance of the December 14th bulk trash pickup. Donation Nation is a 501©3 whose mission is to reduce landfill waste and supply a variety of tangible and economic resources to

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

benefit the growth of the nonprofit sector. 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. Pickup of bagged clothing curbside will be on **Thursday, December 12th** and non-clothing and furniture will be picked up on **Friday, December 13th**. 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/>

Bulk Trash: Bulk trash pickup is scheduled for **Saturday, December 14th**. Items must be at curbside by 7am. Our contractor uses different trucks to haul different items, so certain items may be removed before others. Included items: Washing machines, dryers, stoves, hot water heaters, other major appliances, furniture/parts of furniture, large toys, bicycles, swing sets, bath tubs, sinks, toilets, do-it-yourself amounts of earth, sand, gravel, demolition debris and construction waste, parts of automobiles, but not fleet tires. Excluded: Large tree stumps, poisons, acids, caustics, explosives, oil or other flammable liquids, motor vehicles and parts such as batteries, tires, bricks, general construction material, iron pipe over 10 ft long, large rocks, wood piles, large tree limbs, dead animals, human or animal feces and ammunition.

Gratuities for Waste/Recycling Crews: For those residents who would like to provide a voluntary holiday tip to the Village's waste/recycling crew, an envelope can be taped to the inside of the lid of the trash and/or recycling receptacle for pick up on **Tuesday, December 17th and/or Wednesday, December 18th**.

Please note that the recycling crew are Francisco Perez and Amado Baten. The trash crew are Carlos Carillo and Oscar Martinez.

Holiday Waste Pick Up: Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Wednesdays this year therefore, recycling will be picked up on the following day, **Thursday, December 26th and January 2nd**. Household waste will be collected, as usual on the Tuesdays prior and post-holiday. In addition, Christmas trees can be left curbside for pick up any Monday in the month of January.

Leaf Pick Up: Street leaf pick up will end the last week of December. Leaves are to be placed curbside and made accessible for 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.

Services Offered:

Village management continues to 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 at nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org.

Snow Removal:

Village management will notify residents via the email distribution list when snow removal is scheduled. The contract provides for automatic mobilization upon snow accumulation of 2" depth. Please note that residents are required to maintain the sidewalks in front of their property reasonably safe for pedestrian travel by removing snow and ice within 24 hours of snowfall ceasing (or spreading sand or calcium magnesium acetate if snow/ice has hardened).

Thefts: With the holiday season in full swing, 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—especially during the holidays. Unfortunately, law breakers know this too.

PERMIT REMINDERS:

- Please note that a **Village permit** may be required for many exterior work projects (and, when applicable, Montgomery County). Please visit the Village website at www.northchevychase.org or contact the Village Manager at #301.654.7084 to verify any requirements.

GENERAL INTEREST:

Montgomery Municipal Cable (MMC) is a government access station in Montgomery County.

MMC was established to increase community awareness among the citizens of Montgomery County Maryland by broadcasting municipal events, educational programs and other content relevant to the community. You can find MMC on Channel 16 on Comcast, Verizon and RCN every evening as well as 24/7 access to their online video archives. Channel 16 is a member of the PEG Network (Public Education and Government) of Montgomery County. MMC is able to provide programming due to the continued support from the municipalities within the county. MMC strives to increase community awareness among residents by producing content to inform, educate and connect the municipal communities they represent.

To learn more about MMC go to <https://www.mmctv.org/>

Answers to questions about Attainable Housing Strategies proposal

Last June, the Montgomery County Planning Board issued its Attainable Housing Strategies recommendations, which, if approved by the County Council, would give allow property owners to build other types of homes on their properties in neighborhoods zoned only for single-family homes, such as duplexes, triplexes, townhouses, and small apartment buildings missing middle housing.

County residents have expressed major interest in and concerns about the board's recommendations. To address them, the

Planning Board and the County Council held six community listening sessions (one via Zoom) this fall around the county to hear residents' thoughts. In its most recent Third Place Blog, the planning board addressed the most frequently asked questions from those sessions and now wants to share them and the board's responses with the wider public.

The topics include the following: whether the attainable housing strategies are about income-restricted affordable housing; zoning capacity in approved master plans; incentives for developers to purchase single-family homes for redevelopment; the environmental consequences of more land coverage from higher density development, increased traffic congestion; and reduced parking requirements.

Go to Third Place Blog (<https://montgomeryplanning.org/blog-design/2024/11/answers-to-questions-and-misconceptions-about-attainable-housing-strategies/>) and click on the questions of interest to you for the Planning Board's detailed responses.

County Council debates the merits of attainable housing proposal

The Montgomery County Council began discussions about whether it should tackle the county Planning Board's Attainable Housing Strategies recommendations, a proposed zoning-change initiative that would allow duplexes, triplexes, and small apartment buildings to be built in single-family home neighborhoods across the county.

The council would be required to draft a zoning text amendment (ZTA) if it chooses to move forward with any of the recommendations in the Planning Board's proposal. The ZTA would be subject to the same public hearing and voting process as any other legislation that comes before the council.

Council approves 2024-2028 growth and infrastructure policies

The Montgomery County Council voted unanimously on a resolution to approve the county Planning Board's proposed growth and infrastructure policies that will help govern county development for the years 2025-2028.

The new policies become effective January 1, 2025, and apply to any development application submitted on or after that date.

The policies follow the same general framework over time but are updated every four years to ensure the tools used for evaluating the impacts of development reflect the latest growth patterns and trends in the county. The policies also help determine if the county's public infrastructure can meet the demands of certain development.

'Vision Zero' report shows 11% decline in fatal crashes on county roads

The goal of Montgomery County's Vision Zero is to eliminate serious-injury and fatal collisions on county roads for vehicle occupants (drivers and passengers), pedestrians, and bicyclists by the end of 2030.

The Vision Zero Initiative annual report indicates that serious and fatal vehicle crashes on county roads dropped by 11% compared to the 2015-2019 pre-COVID-10 period. This was a 28% drop in serious and fatal crashes in high-injury network corridors, the areas the county targets the most.

The high-injury network corridors remain the county's main focus this year, as the county believes that 41% of serious and fatal injuries occur on just three percent of the county's roads. To address this, the county has 10 projects currently underway in these areas to limit the dangers for all.

According to the annual report, pedestrians continue to be struck at a high rate: over 400 people were hit by cars in the first ten months of this year. To remedy this, the county plans to install eight traffic signals with pedestrian hybrid beacons, 29 new bikeway projects, and almost seven miles of new sidewalks.

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Pepco Prepares Energy Grid for Winter Weather and Encourages Customers to Prepare Too

Being prepared is a responsibility that Pepco takes very seriously, and is encouraging others to do the same. How to prepare for a winter storm.

- Assemble an emergency storm kit.
- Prepare a plan for what to do during a power outage or winter storm.
- Please confirm we have your current phone number in the "My Alerts and Notifications" section of our website: [Pepco.com/MyAccount](https://www.pepco.com/MyAccount).
- Visit [pepco.com/mobileapp](https://www.pepco.com/mobileapp) to download our mobile app, which has many resources to keep you informed during a storm.
- More tips, resources and safety information are available at [pepco.com/StormPrep](https://www.pepco.com/StormPrep).

If a severe storm hits, Pepco monitors local weather reports regularly and follow the advice of local emergency management officials. Pepco follows a strategic response plan to restore service to the greatest number of customers first and will work to restore service in our community safely and as quickly as possible. To learn more about our restoration process, visit [pepco.com/Restoration](https://www.pepco.com/Restoration).

Customers are asked to immediately report a downed wire or service issue by calling **1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662)**, visiting [pepco.com](https://www.pepco.com) or through our mobile app. Pepco customers can also text "Out" to "48710". Customers must first text "ADD OUTAGE" to "48710" to sign up for this service.

Are You Winter Ready?

With the cold temps approaching, it's never too early to start to be winter ready. Take a look at these tips to help you winterize.

Please keep these important phone numbers handy:

WSSC Water Emergency Service Center

301-206-4002

WSSC Water Customer Service Center

301-206-4001

Important tips for homeowners

Here are some key steps to take before freezing weather hits:

- Turn off the water to outside faucets, remove hoses and drain the pipes
- From the inside, cover any open vents with insulation, plastic or cardboard
- Tightly close all doors and windows, repair as necessary to seal out drafts
- Insulate and repair outside-facing walls
- On colder nights, it's a good idea to open cabinet doors to expose pipes to your home's warmth
- The temperature where water meters and interior pipes are located must be a minimum of 55 degrees Fahrenheit from November 1 through April 1
- On very cold nights, let your kitchen or bathroom faucets drip slowly to keep water moving

If a pipe in your home freezes:

- Completely open the cold and/or hot water faucet closest to the frozen pipe. This will relieve pressure and reduce the chance of breakage
- If you decide to try thawing the pipe yourself, use a hand-held electric hair dryer
- If in doubt, call a registered plumber for help

For more tips, visit wsscwater.com/winterready.

Gift Outside the Box campaign returns

Every year, the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection runs the annual Gift Outside Box campaign that challenges county residents to reduce waste

during the holiday season by thinking differently about how they shop for and give gifts.

Specifically, the campaign encourages us to do the following:

- Buy gifts made locally from county businesses.
- Give experiences, such as classes, workshops, event tickets.
- Give greener. Think about what you buy and how you buy it to reduce the amount of shopping and delivery trips and contacts.
- Give back. Donate to a local charity (or nonprofit) in the name of a family member or friend.
- Reduce, reuse and recycle. Buy gifts made from recycled or reused materials; re-gift items not used from last year; recycle the wrapping paper or use no paper at all, just a bow.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NOVEMBER COUNCIL

MEETING *(Please note that the official minutes will be approved at the next Village meeting and will be posted on the website after)*

FY 24 Village Audit – The meeting began with a presentation by Eva Webb of LWSG, the Village's outside audit firm, of the FY 2024 Village Audit, which had been successfully completed with the issuance of a clean, unmodified audit opinion regarding the audited financial statements of the Village as of June 20, 2024, and with the results having been transmitted to the appropriate State of Maryland authorities. LWSG also reported that, in conducting the audit, there had been no disagreement between LWSG and the Village regarding any financial, accounting or auditing matters.

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

Treasurer's Reports for October 2024 (Joos)

–Results for October 2024 included income of \$49,555.16, and operating expenses of \$24,744.97 (including street lighting, waste removal, composting services, leaf collection, trees, landscaping and lawn mowing, membership and dues, wages and taxes,

professional fees, office and communication, and miscellaneous). No capital expenditures were incurred during July or October 2024. Total current assets as of October 2024, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, including ARPA funds received, came to \$3,109,766.72. Paperwork is in preparation to redeem the U.S. Treasury Bonds held by the Village that have reached full maturity.

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. Based on responses to that offer, Stadler Nursery will be planting 26 native shade trees, to be located on 17 different residential properties, on November 22-23, 2024.

Snow Removal Services/Winter 2024-25 -- Following issuance of a Village RFP, to which the Village received three responsive bids, all of which were deemed satisfactorily responsive to the RFP, the Village Council decided to award a one-year contract to Miller Landscaping for snow removal services for the winter 2024-25 time period.

Village Street Lighting --Based upon additional information provided by the Village's outside consultant (Scott Watson), including further review of the Village's physical boundaries along Kensington Parkway, the Council approved a specific plans for the installation of 25 pedestrian pole mounted street lights to be placed along Kensington Parkway, with expenses for this activity to be covered, to the extent of funds availability, by the ARPA funds that the Village has received from the federal government. The Council also approved contracts with a civil engineering survey firm (CAS Engineering) and an electrical engineering firm (Design America Engineering) for support services required in connection with the installation of the lighting fixtures. The Village remains in contact with PEPCO regarding the transition from high pressure sodium bulbs to LED bulbs on up to 63 existing

PEPCO-owned and maintained light fixtures in the Village (note: three of the existing fixtures already have LED bulbs so replacement for those fixtures may not be necessary at this time). The Village is looking to complete a formal agreement with PEPCO regarding this effort prior to December 31, 2024, to again allow for the expenses to be covered, to the extent of funds availability, by the ARPA funds that the Village has received from the federal government.

Attainable Housing Strategies -- The Village Council is continuing its efforts to ensure that Village residents remain fully informed about the proposed strategy and likely zoning changes that would be adopted to implement it. As previously indicated, the proposals under consideration will have a significant impact on the Village and life in the Village, and it is important that any concerns be communicated to County officials in whatever ways possible. Montgomery County Council staff has now prepared a summary of the outcome of the various "listening sessions" conducted by the Montgomery County Council, as well as the written comments that were submitted on or before October 18, 2024. On November 19, 2024 the County Council formally received this data, and expressed an awareness of the need for more data and further analysis, in light of the number and weight of concerns that had been expressed, taking note of the fact that those raising concerns or opposing the plan vastly outnumbered those in favor. There remains no clear sense of direction regarding the County Council's next steps or the impact of this on the plan's proponents. Separately, the Village is continuing to participate in efforts to work with the State Congressional delegations representing the affected areas in the Maryland State House to amend relevant 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.

***WISHING ALL A SAFE AND HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON!***