



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2026

MARCH VILLAGE MEETING

March 17, 2026 – 7:30 PM – Hybrid (Zoom instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval Jan/Feb minutes
 *Treasurer’s report/Investments
 *Intersection safety study *Landscape Solicitation *Draft FY27 Budget/Tax Rate
 *Arbor Day Event *State housing legislation

CALENDAR (2026)

March 12	Donation Nation Clothing	7:00 AM curbside
March 13	Donation Nation Non-Clothing	7:00 AM curbside
March 14	Bulk Trash Pick Up	7:00 AM curbside
March 17	Village Council Meeting	7:30 PM (hybrid)
April 21	Village Council Meeting	7:30 PM (hybrid)
May 2	Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebration	10 AM - 1 PM (NCC Church)
May 5	Village Elections and Annual Meeting	5:30 - 7:30 PM voting; 8 PM Annual mtg
June 16	Village Council Meeting	7:30 PM (hybrid)

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

2025 Taxes: Revenues received through our residents’ paid income taxes remain the most significant source of Village revenues. It is critical that your Maryland income tax return notes Village of North Chevy Chase as the “Maryland Political Subdivision” and includes 1618 (the “4-digit Political Subdivision Code”) to ensure the Village receives its share of state income tax.

2026 Village Council Elections: Election for three Village Council positions (2-year terms) will be held on Tuesday, May 5. The

<p>VILLAGE COUNCIL</p> <p>Chair: Adrian Andreassi chair@northchevychase.gov</p> <p>Vice Chair: Maury Mechanick vicechair@northchevychase.gov</p> <p>Secretary: Brian Hoffner secretary@northchevychase.gov</p> <p>Treasurer: Geetika Sripathi treasurer@northchevychase.gov</p> <p>Member: Jon Macy member@northchevychase.gov</p> <p>Manager: Dana Peterson manager@northchevychase.gov</p> <p>Fire Board Representatives: Dave Albinson, Abby Morris, Guim Barbour</p> <p align="center">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: https://northchevychase.gov</p>
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current Council members whose terms are expiring are: Adrian Andreassi, Maury Mechanick, and Geetika Sripathi, all of whom plan to seek reelection.

Any Qualified Voter (resident of the Village of North Chevy Chase who is qualified to vote in Montgomery County and is registered with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors of Elections or with the Village Council) who is interested in seeking nomination for the available seats should send written notification by **March 21, 2026** (not less than forty-five days prior to the Annual Meeting per Village Charter Section 9.03(a)(b)) to the Nominating Committee. The Village's Nominating Committee for this 2026 electoral cycle comprises: Ilona Purcha, Patricia Metzger, and Joe Ciavola. Please see the last page of this newsletter for an overview of Council member responsibilities and contact information for the committee members. Thank you for serving! Please also note that a portion of the April newsletter will be devoted to candidate bios.

FY 2027 Budget and Tax Rate: The proposed operating and capital budgets for FY 2027 (July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027) are on the March 17 Council agenda. A copy of the proposed draft budget will be included in the April newsletter, with formal adoption of the FY27 budget scheduled at the April 21 Council meeting and approval of the tax rate at the May 5 Annual Meeting.

Connecticut Ave/Kensington Pkwy/Jones Bridge Intersection Safety Study: The Council will share and discuss next steps with the intersection safety study at the March Council meeting.

Donation Nation: Donation Nation will come through the Village prior to bulk trash pick up. 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, March 12**, and non-clothing and furniture will be collected on **Friday, March 13**. Please only put out items scheduled for pick up that day. No specific timeframe is scheduled for both days - trucks should be in the area throughout the day. Additional information on the organization can be found at: <https://www.donationnationusa.org>

Bulk Trash: Bulk trash pick up is scheduled for **Saturday, March 14**. Items must be at the curbside by 7 AM. 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.

Composting: Residents can still sign up for the free Village service. Please go to the Village website at northchevyCHASE.gov and click on the link for Compost Crew under the Services tab, or contact the Village Manager.

Permits: If considering any exterior work, please contact the Village Manager to determine what permits may be required.



Village Tree Maintenance: The Village circulated an email via Constant Contact with the planned Village tree removals and prunings this spring (repeated below). Included in that email was a document noting the reasons for removal of each Village tree, which has also been uploaded to the Village's website under Services/Tree Maintenance.

Village Tree Removals: Please note that the arborist has placed a blue ribbon and blue paint mark on



Village trees planned for removal for easy designation by the tree removal contractor (see photo):

8905 Clifford Ave: sugar maple
3504 Hutch Place: pin oak
3601 Inverness Dr: sugar maple
3712 Kenilworth Drwy: silver maple
3716 Kenilworth Drwy: red maple
3806 Montrose Dr: ornamental cherry
3605 Stewart Drwy: polonia
3704 Stewart Drwy: box elder

The Village anticipates that the trees will be removed around early April and will provide exact dates closer to the time. As part of the removal, the contractor will grind the stump (likely at a later date) to allow for a new tree to be planted in the same location in the fall. Prior to the planting, residents near the site will have an opportunity to review a list of native tree options that are most suitable for that site.

Village Tree Prunings:

9006 Clifford Ave: red maple
3603 Husted Dr: sugar maple
3801 Kenilworth Drwy: silver maple
3813 Kenilworth Drwy: pin oak
3700 Stewart Drwy: tulip poplar
3710 Stewart Drwy: pin oak
3714 Stewart Drwy: willow oak

From the Village Arborist (Richard Jones):

Hello! This month, I'd like to highlight that North Chevy Chase has been designated as a "Tree City USA" for the fifth year. This fantastic program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, and it goes back 50 years.



To qualify as a Tree City USA, a municipality must meet certain standards. These include spending \$2 per capita on tree maintenance and planting programs, and having a board or department that discusses tree issues. Probably the most important part of this program is celebrating Arbor Day in your community. The first Arbor Day in the United States was observed in 1872 in Nebraska City (the Arbor Day Foundation itself is based in Nebraska).

This time of year, I get questions about when is a good time to plant trees. So long as the soil is not too frozen and is workable in your area, you can certainly plant a tree this time of year. One thing to keep an eye on is that trees can still be drought-stressed if we have a particularly dry winter (not an issue this year!) While the trees are currently dormant, their roots can have issues if they dry out completely over the winter. If you do plan on planting any trees or other plants in your yard this year, please be sure to put in a utility marking request with Miss Utility. This is a free service, and it both helps to prevent damage to any underground utilities and protects homeowners from harm: www.missutility.net

Save the Date! Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebration: The Village will host its own Arbor Day, combined with Earth Day, observance on Saturday, May 2, from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, at the NCC Church. In

addition to a tree planting ceremony, we plan on hosting a tour of some of our Village trees to highlight their characteristics and benefits to our local ecosystem. There will also be refreshments, an opportunity to purchase native plants, and activities for children. The Village will send out more details - including a sign-up list for volunteers - closer to the event.

GENERAL INTEREST

State Housing Legislation: There is an indication that the Starter and Silver Homes Act will likely not pass through the respective State committees. The Village coordinated with eleven other municipalities to send a follow-on letter to key stakeholders highlighting concerns with proposed amendments (letter is uploaded to the Village website under Government/Testimonies). That said, the Village (along with its general counsel and other municipalities) is monitoring other proposed legislation that could impact multifamily and mixed-use developments in residential zones, including Build Affordably in My Back Yard (BAMBY) and Housing Certainty bills.

Connecticut Ave/I-495 Repair Project: The State Highway Administration (SHA) began a routine bridge deck repair project on the outer loop of I-495 (Capital Beltway) bridge over MD 185 (Connecticut Avenue) on March 2. The project should be completed by March 16, weather permitting. There will be lane closures and drivers should add extra commuting time during the project.

MCPS Boundary Study Updates: MCPS

Superintendent Thomas Taylor presented his recommendation on Feb. 5 to permanently move Rockville's Thomas S. Wootton High School into the upcoming Crown High in Gaithersburg and shift boundary lines for schools surrounding the new Charles W. Woodward High School in Rockville – choosing a modified version of option H, one of several boundary options initially proposed by the district. Schools' designations for Village families do not change with that option. The school board is scheduled to vote on the recommendation on March 26.

Waldstreicher Scholarship 2026-2027:

The Waldstreicher Scholarship application will be accepted through May 15, 2026. The scholarship assists Montgomery County students in furthering their education and career goals for up to four years so long as they remain District 18 residents.

First-generation college students and those seeking technical education certification or licensure are strongly encouraged to apply.

The application can be found at

<https://forms.gle/WhWhRdb31vRZYNoK9>.

FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING (*Official minutes will be posted to the website once Council approves - please note that some agenda items are addressed above*)

Treasurer's Report: Year-to-date (July 2025-January 2026) income totaled \$316,413, with year-to-date operating expenses at \$252,675. Village assets as of January 31 totaled \$3.12 million.

Annexation: The Council discussed an expression of interest by some residents on McGregor Dr. to possibly be annexed into the municipality. There are specific procedures involved, and the community will be updated as discussions unfold.

Landscape Solicitation: The Village has put out to bid landscaping services for its native gardens at the diverters along Montgomery Ave and green space at Connecticut Ave/Kensington Pkwy, Connecticut Ave/Inverness/Kenilworth and Connecticut Ave/Montrose Dr, as well as new plantings in green space at the northern boundary of the Village along Kensington Pkwy and the 8900 block of Clifford Ave. Bids are due March 13.

What Does a Village Council Member Do?

Council members are volunteer neighbors elected to establish the Village's priorities and processes and to manage finances and services on behalf of the community.

Why Serve?

- Shape how the Village spends tax dollars and delivers services.
- Ensure the community remains safe, attractive, and well-governed.
- Strengthen neighborhood connections and bring residents' perspectives into decisions.
- Continue the tradition of volunteer leadership that has guided the Village of North Chevy Chase for generations.

Role and Responsibilities:

- **General** – Attend monthly Village meetings and Village-related events.
- **Set direction and policy** – Adopt ordinances, develop budgets, and oversee Village priorities and operations, including permitting, consistent with our Charter and County and State laws.
- **Build, maintain, and improve Village infrastructure and public safety** – Oversee Village roads, sidewalks, trees, streetlights, etc., and evaluate suggested improvements and related services.
- **Steward finances** – Review and approve spending, contracts, services, and Village property tax rates, ensure fiscal responsibility, and evaluate proposed expenditures.
- **Oversee services and staff** – Hire and evaluate the Village Manager, review performance of Village staff and contractors, and ensure essential services (waste collection, tree maintenance, street repair, building inspections, etc.).
- **Support Village Manager** – Respond to Village Manager correspondence, including emails and text messages, in a timely manner.
- **Represent the community** – Serve as liaison to committees, attend public meetings, hear resident concerns, and make decisions that affect daily life in the Village. Interact and coordinate as necessary with other government officials from neighboring municipalities; Montgomery County officials and departments (including County Council and County Executive); and State of Maryland officials and departments (including District 18 representatives to Maryland House of Delegates and Senate).
- **Uphold transparency** – Ensure Council business is conducted openly and fairly, in compliance with Maryland's Open Meetings and Public Information Acts.

Time Commitment:

- Council members serve **two-year terms** with no term limits.
- Most members spend about **8 hours per month** (slightly higher for officers).

Want to serve on the Council?

Contact the Nominating Committee for information and submit your statement of interest by the candidate filing date (**March 21, 2026**). Ilona Prucha (Chair) (ilona.prucha@gmail.com; (202) 440-3422); Joe Ciavola (joe.ciavola@gmail.com; (301) 456-3520); and Patricia Metzger (pmm19518@gmail.com; (301) 204-4467).