



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

OCTOBER VILLAGE MEETING: October 20, 2026 - 7:30 PM – Hybrid (Zoom instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Permits *FY26 Audit
 *Kensington Pkwy Traffic Calming
 *Contracts *Holiday Party

CALENDAR (2026)

Oct 20	Village Council Meeting	7:30 PM (hybrid)
Nov 17	Village Council Meeting	7:30 PM (hybrid)
Dec 10	Donation Nation (Clothing)	1:00 PM Onwards
Dec. 11	Donation Nation (Non-Clothing)	8:00 AM Throughout Day
Dec. 12	Bulk Trash Pickup	7:00 AM curbside
Dec. 15	Village Council Meeting	7:30 PM (hybrid)

Kensington Pkwy Traffic Calming: The Village Council approved installation of solar-powered radar signs with cloud data along either side of Kensington Pkwy as well as white edge line markings at the northern boundary of the Village to help calm vehicular speeds. The Village has sent a request to Montgomery Parks to add a 25 limit speed sign on Kensington Pkwy past Beach Dr before the I-495 overpass as well as to request approval for the edge line markings to extend to the overpass from the Village boundary. Installation will occur upon that approval.

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

Traffic Calming Husted

Drwy/Montgomery Ave Intersection: The Village’s vendor - Shannon-Baum signs - replaced on Oct. 2 the inaccurate control boxes in the three new stop signs to facilitate flashing when motion-activated. The solar panels may still need to be adjusted to ensure sufficient power.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chair: Adrian Andreassi
chair@northchevyCHASE.gov

Vice Chair: Maury Mechanick
vicechair@northchevyCHASE.gov

Secretary: Brian Hoffner
secretary@northchevyCHASE.gov

Treasurer: Geetika Sripathi
treasurer@northchevyCHASE.gov

Member: Jon Macy
member@northchevyCHASE.gov

Manager: Dana Peterson
manager@northchevyCHASE.gov

Fire Board Representatives:

Dave Albinson and 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: <https://northchevyCHASE.gov>

Connecticut Ave/Kensington Pkwy/Jones Bridge Intersection Safety Study:

SHA is reviewing the sight distance analysis conducted at 8801 Kensington Pkwy by The Traffic Group, which recommended removal of 6 trees that inhibit driver visibility on westbound Jones Bridge Rd and southbound Kensington Pkwy.

Leaf Collection: The Village awarded a new 3-year contract to Landscape



Workshop (who bought out long-time Village vendor Bethke Landscaping). Leaf collection

began on Oct. 7 and will continue weekly until around Dec. 31. Leaves should be placed curbside and made accessible for pick up by truck. Please also note that sticks, trash, rocks and other debris will not be collected and leaves should not be shredded. The contract includes removal of leaves at the diverters along Montgomery Ave, over the storm drains, and at the three bus stops along Kensington Pkwy.

Car Prowlers: Village residents continue to experience car break-ins, particularly at night. Residents are encouraged to be vigilant about locking their vehicles, ensuring no valuables are inside, and parking in well-lit areas, as feasible. Any vehicle intrusions should be reported to MoCo's non-emergency police number at 301-279-8000.

Holiday Celebration: The Village is organizing a family-friendly holiday get

together for sometime in December. Please reach out if interested in volunteering.

Composting: Please go to the Village website and click on the link for Compost Crew under the Services tab to sign up for this free service.

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

VILLAGE TREES



Village Tree Plantings: The Village will plant 17 trees around late Oct./early Nov. through Stadler Nurseries. Eleven of the trees will be in the Village ROW with the remainder on private property. The Village appreciates residents' efforts to help restore the municipality's tree canopy beyond the ROW and enhance the critical services that canopy trees provide.

From the Village Arborist (Richard Jones):

This month, I'd like to talk about what's right around the corner for us: Leaves. During



autumn, trees begin to break down and reabsorb the chlorophyll contained in their leaves. This allows us to see other pigments that are already present or

actively being produced in the leaf, leading to “fall color.” This can be particularly striking if you have a *Nyssa sylvatica* (AKA sourgum, blackgum, or tupelo) in your yard.

Another process that begins is “abscission.” This is the walling off and separation of leaves from the tree as it begins to go dormant for the winter. Tree growth and seasonal changes are controlled by hormones, and as auxin levels (responsible for growth) drop, and ethylene gas levels (responsible for – among other things – the ripening of fruit) increase, this process begins. Leaves can provide future nutrients for the tree and may help to limit competition for resources by covering and shading other plants.

Sometimes, trees may go into early fall color, or begin to drop their leaves if they are

experiencing health stress. For example, tulip poplars are notorious for starting to drop their leaves in August. This is often a response to drought stress



and their thin leaves. The same can happen if the tree has a particularly strong fungal infection from a wet summer. London plane trees will often drop their leaves if they have significant amounts of powdery mildew on them. Most fungal infections on trees can generally be disregarded as aesthetic

rather than health issues, though there are a few exceptions.

You may notice that some trees hold on to their dead leaves during the winter, and only lose them when buds open in the spring. This is called “marcescence,” and often happens with younger oak, hornbeam, and American beech trees. There are a few theories as to why this happens, such as protecting new buds from deer feeding or to provide compost in difficult soils in the spring.

GENERAL INTEREST

Montgomery County Community Survey:

The County launched a community survey on September 28 to gather feedback on local government services and the perception of overall quality of life in the County. The survey will remain open until 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 19 and is accessible [here](#).

Jones Bridge Rd Crosswalk to NCC

Elementary School: NCC ES’s principal has requested that the County assess the crosswalk for safety enhancements in the absence of a crossing guard. Residents can share their experiences at the crosswalk and support by contacting the County at: TrafficOps@montgomerycountymd.gov or (240) 777-2190.

Chevy Chase Fire Department Annual

Community Open House (Oct. 10) from 10

AM - 3 PM: Come meet your local firefighters and EMTs, see their equipment, and enjoy the activities at 8001 Connecticut Ave.

BCC Rescue Squad Open House and Family Fun Day (Oct. 17) from 11 AM - 3 PM. Enjoy local food trucks and fun at 5020 Battery Lane.

Harvest Festival (Oct. 25) at 12:15 PM: Everyone is welcome at the NCC Christian Church (NC4) for live music, delicious food, and fun activities (8814 Kensington Pkwy).

NCC Connections Annual Halloween Parade/Block Party (Oct. 25): Parade starts at NCC pool from 3 - 4 PM followed by block party from 4-5 PM on 3400 block of Kenilworth Drwy.

NC4 Conservation Gardens: The community is invited at any time to enjoy 2 newly-installed gardens at the rear of NC4, installed through a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Clean Water Montgomery Program to divert gallons of polluted & toxic stormwater runoff from entering the watershed.

Artificial Turf at Our Schools — Weigh In: The Montgomery County Board of Education has allocated \$55 million in its latest Capital Improvements Program for 12 high school playing fields, with much of that funding slated for synthetic turf.

The University of Maryland Turfgrass Management Program has recently demonstrated that installation and management of high use natural grass provides as much play time at less than half the cost of synthetic playing fields. The School Board's plan has raised questions about the health, environmental and financial costs of synthetic playing fields for both taxpayers and the students who play on them.

The Montgomery County Council of PTAs opposes plastic fields and recently hosted a panel of experts discussing the case for natural grass, including long-time Village resident Ray Dorman ([watch the panel](#)). Among the concerns

they presented: on hot days, artificial turf can reach temperatures above 160°F, up to 50 degrees hotter than natural grass. The harder surface is also associated with higher rates of joint, skin, head and other injuries. Especially on hot days, athletes can be exposed through their skin and the air to chemicals and materials in the turf, including PFAS “forever chemicals,” toxic heavy metals, microplastics, and other additives. These exposures are of particular concern for children and teens, whose bodies are still developing.

Cost is another consideration. Dorman presented an economic analysis finding that artificial-turf fields cost about 60% more than natural grass over a 25-year life cycle. Grass costs less to install, and worn areas can quickly and selectively be resodded at a relatively low cost. Artificial turf, by contrast, must be replaced and disposed of roughly every 10 years, at a replacement cost exceeding \$1 million per field, not accounting for disposal costs. The State of Maryland is currently researching where these fields have been disposed in the past.

There has been very little transparency in this process. The contracts for the new fields will be awarded in the near future. Please contact the Superintendent of Schools Thomas Taylor and your School Board Representative Rita Montoya (Rita_M_Montoya@mcpsmd.org) and others if you are concerned about this issue.

SEPT COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Treasurer's Report: Total current Village assets as of Aug. 31 were \$3,115,573.

65-Gallon Recycling Bins: The Council approved purchase of 65-gallon recycling bins to replace existing, non-functional bins. Delivery to those residents who request one will commence in December.