

Village of North Chevy Chase Newsletter

June 3, 2017

Village of North Chevy Chase

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Village Council:

Chairman	Adrian Andreassi
Vice-Chairman	Brian Hoffner
Treasurer	Chas Stuart
Secretary	Maury Mechanick
Member	Fern Lapidus

Fire Board Representatives:

Anne Fox, Abby Morris and
Dave Albinson

Next Village Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 8 PM in the Community Lounge of the North Chevy Chase Christian Church.

Agenda Highlights:

- Purple Line update
- Community Solar update
- 3816 Inverness - porch permit
- 3818 Montrose - fence permit

Bulk Trash Pick-up will be on Saturday June 17th. Items must be at curbside by 7 AM. Our Contractor uses different trucks to haul different items, so do not be alarmed if certain items are removed before others. Please contact You Call We Haul, Inc. at 301-605-0140 if you wish to dispose of a refrigerator, freezer or air conditioner.

Bulk trash includes: Washing machines, dryers, stoves, hot water heaters, other major appliances, furniture or 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 are: Large tree stumps, poisons, acids, caustics, explosives, oil or other flammable liquids, motor vehicles and parts including batteries and tires, bricks and general construction material, iron pipe over 10 feet long, large rocks, wood piles, large tree limbs, dead animals, human or animal feces and ammunition.

Results of the May 2nd Annual Meeting: Congratulations to Brian Hoffner and Chas Stewart, who were re-elected to the Council. Abby Morris was elected to the Fire Board for the two years of an unfilled term. Dave Albinson was re-elected for a full three year term. The Village property tax rate for FY2018 was **lowered** to \$0.045, the first change since 1996.

Village Permit: Village permits are required for additions or alterations to existing structures and new construction as well as for the replacement or erection of fences. Please refer to the Village regulations for details or contact the Village office at 301-654-7084. A copy of the Village regulations and permit forms are available on the Village website at www.northchevy Chase.org.

Village 4th of July Block Party: Save the date for the 40th Annual Village Block Party. Look for a flier with all the details in your mailbox soon. This is a "rain-or-shine" happening.

MVA on Wheels: The schedule for MVA on Wheels visits to the Friendship Heights Village Center, 4433 South Park Avenue is:
June 19

House Numbers: Many of the house numbers in the Village are not visible from the street, particularly at night or in bad weather. It is very important that your house can be identified by visitors or Fire and Rescue personnel. Please think of what might happen if someone called 911 because of a problem at your house and responders were delayed because they could not locate you in time. If you want to check the visibility of your house number, walk along the street at 9 PM. If you can't see your number, first responders can't, either.

Animal Control ("pooper-scooper"): Montgomery County Code, Sec. 5-203 (a)(2) states that "an owner must not allow an animal to damage or defecate on property outside of the owner's

property. An animal may defecate on public property if the animal's owner immediately removes and disposes of the feces by a sanitary method. Feces may be picked up in a plastic bag. If this bag is placed inside another plastic bag, it may be put out for disposal in your normal household trash. **The penalty for violation is \$100.** There has been a considerable increase in the number of "irresponsible poop sightings" within the Village this Spring. Let's all help to keep North Chevy Chase as clean as we know it can be.

Yard Waste: Please remember that the yard waste that you put out at the curb on Mondays must be in a paper "yard waste" bag, a trash can or bundled and tied. The length of branches should not be more than four feet. The County not only will not accept yard waste in plastic bags, but fines the collector if any are found in the truck.

Village Trees: As the weather turns hotter in June, July and August, please remember to thoroughly root-water Village trees. This is particularly important for smaller and newer trees, but is also necessary to avoid weakening the root structures of older, more established trees. Smaller trees should be watered a couple of times a week, particularly if temperatures remain in the 80's and 90's. A weekly soaking should be sufficient for larger, more mature trees.

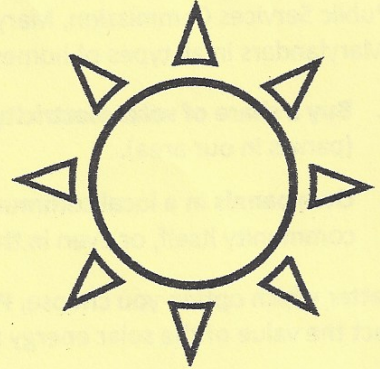
Community Solar for NCC

Maryland is launching a new “community solar” pilot program.

Explore your options

With community solar, you can:

- Buy a share of solar electricity, OR
- Own panels in a local community solar project



You'll still get any extra power you need from Pepco.

Support the environment

Through community solar, we can reduce the use of fossil fuels.

Save money

Savings estimate: 10% below Pepco rates. If you own panels, the electricity is free.

Interested?

Let us know! Don't worry—no commitment is needed now. But we do need an estimate of interested NCC households.

Please email our neighborhood working group at chevychasesolar@gmail.com by Wednesday, June 14th.

For more information, see next page and <http://www.psc.state.md.us/electricity/community-solar-pilot-program/> - and there'll be a presentation and Qs & As at the June 20th Village Council meeting.

Dear neighbors,

Maryland is launching a new **"community solar" pilot program**, which can give NCC residents who participate a chance to have solar power even without putting panels on our own roofs. Many of us are interested in solar power, but think our houses get too much shade, our roofs are not suitable, and so on. We are concerned about the environment, but not sure where to start. Plus, most of us are too busy to look into the details of solar. The community solar program makes it easier.

The Public Services Commission, Maryland utilities (including Pepco), and solar developers have come together to give Marylanders in all types of homes **options to support solar**. Households can participate in two ways:

1. **Buy a share of solar electricity:** Contract to buy a share of the electricity produced from a solar "array" (panels in our area).
2. **Own panels in a local community solar project:** A community solar array doesn't have to be located in the community itself, or even in the same county. For us, it just has to be within Pepco's territory.

No matter which option you choose, **Pepco will still deliver whatever power you need from the grid** and will subtract the value of the solar energy from your household's total bill.

What you pay for the solar electricity will vary with specific projects. However, several planned projects are estimating a **power cost about 10% below Pepco's current rates**. For those who actually buy panels in a shared array, the electricity will be free. The cost of buying panels will vary based on the size of the project, its location, and other factors but should be \$10,000 to \$17,500 for an average household's needs (less than installing them on your roof). Smaller shares that cover less than your total energy consumption may be available. Also, there may be financing options for buying shares.

We can make the most of this unique community solar opportunity by joining together. NCC residents can individually seek and sign up for community solar projects once they are established. BUT there may be **substantial savings if multiple residents approach solar projects as a group**, because that will save solar development companies a large amount in up-front marketing cost. By interested neighbors joining together, we can negotiate power cost savings (for power purchase contracts) or per panel costs (for folks who want to own part of an array).

Community solar developers will be beginning their projects as soon as **late June or July**. We would like to talk with several of them now about costs for interested NCC members. To do this, it will be important to have an estimate of how many NCC households might be interested (without commitment at this point). To help us get that estimate, **please send an email to chevychasesolar@gmail.com by Wednesday, June 14th** with the following info:

- Name and address
- "I am potentially interested in..."
 - ...buying a share of solar electricity," or
 - ...owning panels in a community solar project," or
 - ...both options."
- *And, if appropriate, "If I choose to own panels in a community solar project, I may consider financing options."*

Again, **there is no commitment needed at this point**. Our working group will compile this information and start collecting responses from solar developers. We will share updates as we get them and have open meetings as appropriate, **starting with an update for NCC Village residents at the June 20th council meeting**.

We are enthusiastic about this unique opportunity for NCC residents to take a step toward reducing consumption of fossil fuels and to save money at the same time.

Thank you,

Al Bartlett, M.D. (3702 Kenilworth Dr.), Guim Barbour (3705 Kenilworth Dr.), Mana & Matt McNeill (8921 Montgomery Ave.), Promodh Malhotra (3602 Dundee Dr.)