



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

September 2019

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Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
301-927-6381
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Department of Public Works

5008 Queensbury Road
301-927-6381
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Police Department

5004 Queensbury Road
301-927-4343
24-hours

Bates Trucking and Trash Collection

Bulk Trash Collection
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
301-773-2069

*Residents must contact Bates by 2 p.m. on Tuesday for a Wednesday pickup. Residents may request a bulk trash pickup online at www.batestrucking.com. Click on Customer Center and complete the Request Service form.

National Night Out

National Night Out was celebrated on Tuesday, August 6th with a Community Bike Ride throughout Town. Residents joined the ride, met the staff team at various stops along the way, and gathered at the finish line!



COME GROW WITH US!

WE ♥ TOWN LIFE!

Upcoming Community Walk

Community Walks are a good time to meet your Town representatives and discuss opportunities for or concerns about your community. Please plan to join us for the next Community Walk on September 21st at 9:00 a.m. at Town Hall.



Council Actions

Legislative Meeting

July 1, 2019

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items: - **Approved**

1. Minutes: May 20, 2019 Special Legislative Meeting; May 20, 2019 Work Session; June 3, 2019 Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to support a variance request for 4606 Queensbury Road for variances of 5 feet front yard depth and 9.9 percent net lot area conditioned on a Town building permit requirement regarding drainage system design (Ward 1) – **Approved**
2. Motion to approve the proposed amendments to DSP-13009-15 (Riverdale Park Station) – **Approved**
3. Motion to adopt Resolution 2019 R-04 in support of Main Street Maryland Affiliate Program application – **Approved**
4. Motion to authorize a letter to County Executive Alsobrooks (et al) requesting County support of two (2) Town priority projects for the Maryland State Highway Administration-sidewalks along East West Highway and a pedestrian bridge on Riverdale Road – **Approved**

Special Legislative Meeting

July 24, 2019

Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to authorize Town Manager to enter into a contract for Backup Generators for Municipal Center Project (CIP 18GG01) – **Approved**

Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Mayor

Alan K. Thompson
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Council Members

Ward 1 – Marsha Dixon, 301-531-4230
mdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 2 – Aaron Faulx, 860-970-7776
afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 3 – David Lingua, 301-779-3849
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 4 – Christopher Henry, 301-910-9855
chenry@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 5 – Colleen Richardson, 240-646-6457
crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 6 – Hala Mayers, 301-927-6381
hmayers@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Administration

John N. Lestitian, **Town Manager**
jnlestitian@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Jessica Barnes, **Town Clerk**
jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ivy Lewis, **Public Projects and Services Director**
ilewis@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Kevin Simpson, **Development Services Director**
ksimpson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Paul Smith, **Finance and Employee Services Director**
psmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

David Morris, **Chief of Police**
dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Brian Carpio, **Fire Chief**
Eng7twr@yahoo.com;
info@riverdalevfd.com;
www.riverdalevfd.com

The Town Crier is also available on the Town's Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Submission deadline: 15th of each month

EYEFA DOLLS

Emily's Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Arts

We specialize in teaching history, business management, and STEM skills through fine arts classes.

STEAM Program for Youth 7+

Learn Marketing Skills

Learn Leadership Skills

Learn How to Make Your Own Historical Dolls

Learn History and How to Conduct Your Own Research



Classes held most Sundays from 3:00PM to 5:30PM at Riverdale Park Town Hall.

5008 Queensbury Road • Riverdale Park, MD 20737

To pre-register, email Emily Fanning at ourdollmom@aol.com

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson

As usually happens, the summer got away from me, and was gone before I knew it. There were some fabulous tomatoes and corn, a more relaxed schedule, and some nice walks on warm evenings. The good news is that fall is almost here, and we can look forward to apples, beautiful leaves, and nice walks on cool evenings!

Traffic Safety

At the July legislative meeting the Town Council decided to defer action on a proposal to lower the default speed limit on town streets from 25 mph to 20 mph. I believe that the major reason this proposal is coming before us is not about what's going on in town, but in the fact that judges are unwilling to convict on speeding offenses unless the driver was exceeding the speed limit by at least 10 mph – which means that the enforceable speed limit on town streets, right now, is 35 mph. I have been paying attention to my own driving on the residential streets around town (excluding the state and county roads), and I seldom exceed 20 mph, and *never* exceed 30. I believe the council will take this decision slowly to allow for education and feedback from town residents, so please keep your eyes open for more information.

Pro-Truth Pledge

This spring I did something that is, unfortunately, unusual for an elected official to do by taking the Pro-Truth Pledge. By taking this pledge I am trying to make clear what I have tried to do during my entire professional career, which is to be as truthful, open, and honest as possible. The Pro-Truth Pledge has three main components – sharing truth (which includes sharing the *whole* truth, even aspects of the truth that do not support my opinion), honoring truth (which includes reevaluating my opinion if other provide facts I did not know or understand, and changing my opinion based on that information), and encouraging truth in others (including celebrating those who retract incorrect statements and update their beliefs when presented with new information). I encourage everyone in town, but in particular my colleagues on the council, to consider taking the

pledge. You can read about the pledge at <https://www.protruthpledge.org/>

Purple Line Construction

I typically only get a few weeks (at best) of advance notice on Purple Line activities, so it is best to sign up for announcements directly from <https://www.purplelinemd.com/construction/>. The Purple Line team was busy over the summer, and the pieces of the future bridge over the East-West Highway–Kenilworth Avenue intersection are springing up like mushrooms after a rain. As anticipated, there were a lot of lane closures along River Road and Kenilworth Avenue, and these are going to continue for a while (one long-term closure is the right-hand lane on southbound Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road, which closed long-term on July 8, and another the lane closest to the College Park Metro station, which will become the location for bus stops starting around September 1). If you have immediate questions or concerns about construction, you can call the project help line 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 240-424-5325 or send e-mail to outreach@pltcllc.com.

Contact Me

If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of Town government, please contact me by e-mail (akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or phone (301-237-0632). I will get back to you as quickly as I can, but please remember that while I love being Mayor, I have a full-time job during the day with an associated commute (as do the other members of the Town Council), and it may take me a little while to get back to you. If you leave me a voice mail (and please do if I don't answer!) I'd be grateful if you could let me know what times are good for me to call you back. Thanks!

Look for me here again in October, as autumn truly rolls in!

Ward 1 Report

Council Member Marsha Dixon

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable Summer. I can't believe that it's almost over! I have received a few calls and e-mails on various topics and thought it would be

best to share with everyone. If a few people have the same question, it's usually a good topic to discuss more broadly.

Raccoon Invasion

Raccoons have been spotted taking up residence in the yards of some neighborhood homes. Please be mindful that raccoons are very dangerous—don't approach them. The Town does not remove wildlife from residences; however, there are various companies within the county that you can call for a fee. The county also has an Animal Services Division that responds to certain residents' calls regarding wild animals.

Arts District Trash Pickup

Riverdale Park residents that reside in the Arts District (AD) townhomes should have recently received a letter from the Town stating that the Town is now handling your trash and recycling pickup. For background, during a council meeting last year, I asked the council to include these homes within the town's trash and recycling services. Historically, it is a service that AD residents paid for through local taxes and through HOA fees. This shift gets residents in line with the trash and recycling services offered to other Town residents. The letter indicated that you will be receiving a new trash can for trash pickup. If you have not received it as yet, contact the Town Hall to let someone know.

Missed Trash Pickup

As many of you know, the Town has set up a link on its website to report any trash and recycling issues that you have. Click the "trash concerns" link on the Town website if your trash or recycling hasn't been picked up, if your street is left with residue from trash pickup, or any other trash concerns that arise. It is important for residents to inform the Town so that we can keep track of these concerns and help us in our discussions with Bates.

Coffee with the Councilwoman

While I canvassed during this last election cycle, there were a few residents who asked about my "Coffee with the Councilwoman" get together. I stopped doing them when attendance became scant. I have revived them and hope that residents (open to all, not only Ward 1 residents) can stop by and talk with me about anything. The next meeting will be Saturday, September 21 at 11 a.m. at Town Center Market. If you cannot make it, you can always feel free to give me a call or send me an e-mail with your questions/concerns.

Riverdale Park Fun Run

For many years, I've thrown around the idea of a Town fun run. It's a great way for residents to meet each other and to explore our beautiful and growing Town. If you would be interested in participating in a Town fun run, please call or drop me a line to let me know.

Ward 3 Report

Council Member David Lingua

Before proceeding, a moment to express an appreciation for those who came out to vote at the municipal election in May. I will strive to serve well for the ward and the town. With this, an apology as well for not expressing this sentiment sooner.

Currently the Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization CDC (CKAR-CDC) is holding a capital campaign so as to raise funds for the completion and operation of the Sarvis Cafe; an operating instructional cafe in conjunction with Prince George's Community College. While CKAR-CDC has received pledges of support from large entities such as the County Council, Kaiser Permanente and MGM Grand, it is just as important to receive donations from residents of the community. These types of donations, in any amount, demonstrate an important broader support which allows CKAR-CDC to advocate for support from new and current donors both large and small. The Sarvis Cafe is the largest project to date by CKAR-CDC in its efforts to bring opportunity and amenities to Riverdale Park and the greater Riverdale area. For more on the project go their website, ckarcdc.org. Please consider and donate to this project.

As the donation of funds is one way to help make a difference, so is the even more important and generous donation of time and effort. It is this type of giving which is the secret towards a vibrant, enjoyable and dynamic town life. Well, if you are sensing a re-ascending of the soapbox perch then you are correct. Previously, it has been advocated here for this very type of volunteering. Combine that with the upcoming centennial and you can sense where this is encouraging paragraph is going. However, the celebration planning evolves and comes to fruition will be, in large part, based on the volunteering efforts of the residents. That being said, please, do

find a way to get involved with this celebration. Currently there is a small cadre already on board, looking for more hands to make lighter work of it all. Contact the Centennial Committee, headed up by CM Colleen Richardson and CM Aaron Faulx. (crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov, afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

Finally, with autumn approaching and the start of the school year, I hope all are able to remember to plan their trips accordingly so as to arrive when they need to safely. Do keep in mind the construction which is occurring along the Purple Line, both in town and elsewhere.

Collection Reminders

Residential Trash

Residential trash should be placed in durable, leak proof bags before it is placed in cans. Be sure that the can's lid is tightly closed to keep rainwater out- this will help to reduce spillage. Excess trash should be placed beside your container.



Trash cans should be curbside by **6:00 a.m.** on **Mondays and Thursdays** or the night before collection.

Yard Waste

Do NOT mix yard waste with household trash. Yard waste must be placed in paper bags or in reusable bins marked as yard waste.



Branches and limbs need to be bundled with rope or string (do not use

wire), additionally all branches, limbs, and bundles must be:

- less than 4 feet long,
- less than 3 inches in diameter
- weigh less than 60 pounds

Yard Waste should be curbside by **6:00 a.m.** on **Mondays** or the night before collection.

Bulk Trash

Bulk trash collection is **by appointment only** on **Wednesdays**. Residents must schedule their collection by 2:00

p.m. on Tuesday by calling 301-773-2069

or by completing a Request Service form online at

www.batestrucking.com. The Request Service form can be found on Customer Center tab at the top right corner of the Bates website.



Please note that bulk trash collection is limited to three (3) items per week.

Recycling

Recycling bins should be curbside by **6:00 a.m.** on **Wednesdays**. As a reminder, no plastic bags are permitted.



Recycling

Curbside recycling is provided by Prince George's County Department of the

Environment. Please call 311 or 301-883-4748, if you have any questions or concerns.

Reporting Concerns

In partnership with Bates Trucking and Trash Services, the Town has launched a dedicated Trash Concerns app.

The Trash Concerns app can be used to order a new trash can, report missed collections, and any other trash related concerns.

Visit

http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/ho.../trash_concerns/index.php.



You can also call 301-927-6381 (extension 500 or 503) to speak with a Town staff member.

Mosquito Control Program



The Town is participating in the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program. Spray season began on **May 29th** and is anticipated to end on **September 17th**.

Spraying will take place after dark on **Tuesdays** and may continue until midnight or later. Spraying will commence as soon as it is dark. As a precaution, it is advised that residents stay inside their homes and close their windows while the spray truck is in the vicinity, bring in any pets, and remain in the home for 20-30 minutes after the spray truck has passed by. If there are people outside when the truck passes by, no spray will be released, and the truck will not make another pass down that street.

The spray schedule will rotate every 3 weeks meaning that Riverdale Park may not be sprayed each week. The frequency of spraying will be determined by surveillance data collected and complaints received. In order to determine if your community will be sprayed on its scheduled spray night, please contact **301-422-5080** between 2-4 p.m. that day. Any unscheduled sprayings will be announced on the Maryland Department of Agriculture's webpage www.mda.maryland.gov or on Twitter [@MdAgMosquito](https://twitter.com/MdAgMosquito) and [@MdAgDept](https://twitter.com/MdAgDept).

For more information regarding the Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program, visit http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/mosquito_control.aspx.

As a reminder, to reduce the presence of mosquitos, residents must keep their property free of mosquitos breeding containers, stagnant water, bird baths, wading pools, pet watering dishes, tin cans, old tires, clogged gutters or flowerpots. Other water holding containers should be stored upside down.

To file a complaint about mosquitos, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture at 301-422-5080 or file a complaint online via the MDA website (listed above).

Neighborhood Services

If you have concerns regarding a property in your neighborhood, please contact Neighborhood Services. One of the primary duties of the Neighborhood Services team is to educate residents about the Town's community standards. In most cases residents simply do not know that they are not meeting the Town's community standards as defined in the Town Code. In some cases, another community partner such as Prince George's County, may be needed to address your concerns. Information about the Town's community standards can be found on the Town's website, www.riverdaleparkmd.gov, under Town Code and TRP's Vision and Commitment Statements.

If you have any questions regarding property maintenance or the application of Town codes, please contact the Neighborhood Services team:

Brad Goshen- bgoshen@riverdaleparkmd.gov or 301-927-6381 ext. 514

CJ Reading- creading@riverdaleparkmd.gov or 301-927-6381 ext. 508

We look forward to working with you!

Neighborhood Services Frequently Asked Questions

I want to build something on my property, do I need a Town building permit?

In most cases, yes. If you are planning to build a fence, driveway, garage, or anything that will require a building permit from Prince George's County, you will also need to obtain a building permit from the Town. To contact Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement, call (301) 883-5900 or visit <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1024/Permitting-Inspections-and-Enforcement>.

Town permits are also required for storage receptacles (PODS) and dumpsters. For more information regarding Town permits, please visit the Town's website at

http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/our_town/development_services/permits_and_licenses.php. If you have additional questions, please contact Neighborhood Services at 301-927-6381.

Who should I call to report a concern regarding an animal?

To report a missing, vicious, injured, or deceased animal, please call the Prince George's County Animal Services Division at 301-780-7200. You will need the following information when you call:

- Name, address, phone number (this information will be kept confidential)
- Address where the animal was last seen
- Animal's physical condition
- Color of animal
- Type of animal

I have a concern about a property in my neighborhood, what should I do?

If you have concerns regarding a property in your neighborhood, please contact Neighborhood Services. One of the primary duties of the Neighborhood Services team is to educate residents about the Town's community standards. In most cases residents simply do not know that they are not meeting the Town's community standards as defined in the Town Code. In some cases, another community partner such as Prince George's County, may be needed to address your concerns. Information about the Town's community standards can be found on the Town's website, www.riverdaleparkmd.gov, under Town Code and TRP's Vision and Commitment Statements.

I have concerns regarding cars parked on my street, who should I call?

If you have concerns regarding parking in your neighborhood, please contact the Riverdale Park Police Department at 301-927-4343. If you have questions about permit parking, please email Tracey Perrin at tperrin@riverdaleparkmd.gov or call (301) 927-4343.

Neighborhood Public Art Initiative

As part of the Town's placemaking initiatives to create visible and impactful change, the Town collaborated with Hyattsville Community Development Corp. to install vinyl public art wraps on traffic control / light boxes throughout Town. The art wraps are vinyl-coated, graffiti resistant, and durable, lasting up to 7 years. This project helps reduce blight on public spaces, while creating quality imagery to encourage community and economic development.

A total of (5) wraps have been installed at the following locations:



Andrea A Noel, Jazz
6200 block of Rhode Island Avenue



Anna Hayden-Roy, Nature Spirits
5000 block of Riverdale Road

Prince George's County Tree Removal Information

A County permit and permission is required for removing trees in Prince George's County.

The first step is to call CountyClick 311. If the tree is in the County road right-of-way, you also need a Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) roadside tree permit. No tree in the public right-of-way can be removed without Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T) approval, since the trees in the public right-of-way are maintained by DPW&T.

Once CountyClick 311 receives your request, a person from DPW&T's Office of Highway Maintenance will contact you. The County public right-of-way trees are governed by The Maryland Roadside Tree Law, administered by the DNR – Forest Service. It is unlawful for private property owners to cut down public County trees within the right-of-way, unless the person removing a tree has obtained a Roadside Tree Removal Permit from DNR – Forest Service. If the tree is in the public road right-of-way in a municipality or a state highway, you need to contact the municipality or the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) to determine their requirements regarding tree removal.

If the tree is on your property, it depends on how many trees you are removing. Generally, removing one tree does not require a permit. However, contact the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Environmental Planning Section, at 301-952-3650 for guidance regarding tree removal and tree conservation approvals. For detailed guidance on this topic, please go to the following *M-NCPPC website*:

<http://www.mncppc.org/1564/Woodland-Conservation> for more information. If you live in a municipality, you also need to contact the *municipality* to determine the municipality's requirements regarding tree removal.

If you are clearing more than 5,000 square feet of trees, you need a grading permit. Contact DPIE Site/Road Plan Review Division at 301-636-2060 for



Daniel B. McNeill, White Water Lily
5300 block of Riverdale Road



Elyse Harrison, Flying on the Sidewalk
5400 block of Kenilworth Avenue



Joel Traylor, Lemons
5600 block of Kenilworth Avenue

For more information, please contact Development Services Director Kevin Simpson at 301-927-6381 or ksimpson@riverdaleparkmd.gov.

the District Engineer for a specific area regarding the process for a grading permit.

Federal “Real ID” Act

On June 20, 2019, Maryland law enforcement agencies received an electronic letter from the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) requesting law enforcement’s assistance in confiscating the Driver’s License/Identification Card (DL/ID) from individuals whose DL/ID does not meet federal identification requirements.

Specifically, beginning July 2019, the MVA began “flagging” the driving records of individuals whose DL/ID must be recalled because the individual failed to present the necessary documents to comply with the Federal Real ID Act, in most circumstances, after the individual was supposedly notified numerous times by MVA to present the documents. The “flags” appear when an officer checks the status of a driver’s license during a traffic stop, motor vehicle collision investigation, or other similar contact.

Maryland’s law enforcement agencies, through the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs’ Association (MSA), collectively expressed concern to MDOT MVA as to the statutory authority for law enforcement to confiscate an otherwise VALID driver’s license. The MCPA & MSA viewed this as an administrative error by MDOT MVA and not the responsibility of local law enforcement to initiate enforcement action.

The purpose of this article is to clarify the Riverdale Park Police Department’s (RPPD) policy with regard to the Federal Real ID Act requirements and our response to any “flags” issued by the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration.

RPPD officers who discover during the course of their duties that an individual is in possession of such a DL/ID that is noncompliant with the Federal Real ID Act, “DL/ID Recalled – REAL ID Confiscate – Return to MVA”, will notify the possessor that the MVA is requesting they return their ID/DL to the MVA and obtain a new DL/ID that is in compliance with the

Real ID Act. The officer may provide the possessor of such a DL/ID with MVA brochure DL-409 - Real ID Recall Explanation, which explains how the possessor can become compliant and obtain a new DL/ID. Additionally, the officer will offer to return the possessor’s recalled driver’s license or identification card to the MVA on the possessor’s behalf.

Because possession of a flagged DL/ID is NOT a criminal offense, the officer shall NOT confiscate any DL/ID without the possessor’s permission. If they do not consent, the officer shall return the DL/ID.

To be clear, this policy only applies to those DL/ID that are not Real ID compliant. Officers who encounter those who possess a suspended or revoked driver’s license shall confiscate the DL/ID consistent with Maryland law prohibiting possession of a suspended or revoked DL/ID.

Anyone desiring further information on the FEDERAL REAL ID Act requirements may visit the MVA website via the following link:

<http://www.mva.maryland.gov/realid>



Slow Down: Back to School Means Sharing the Road

School days bring congestion: School buses are picking up their passengers, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, harried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work.

It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school.

If You're Dropping Off

Schools often have very specific drop-off procedures for the school year. Make sure you know them for the safety of all kids. The following apply to all school zones:

- Don't double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles
- Don't load or unload children across the street from the school
- Carpool to reduce the number of vehicles at the school

Sharing the Road with Young Pedestrians

According to research by the National Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking. They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus. A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe:

- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic
- In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection
- Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign
- Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas
- Don't honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians
- Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way

Sharing the Road with School Buses

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. It is illegal in all 50 states to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.

- Never pass a bus from behind – or from either direction if you're on an undivided road – if it is stopped to load or unload children
- If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus
- Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks

Sharing the Road with Bicyclists

On most roads, *bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as vehicles*, but bikes can be hard to see. Children riding bikes create special problems for drivers because usually they are not able to properly determine traffic conditions. The most common cause of collision is a driver turning left in front of a bicyclist.

- When passing a bicyclist, proceed in the same direction slowly, and leave 3 feet between your car and the cyclist
- When turning left and a bicyclist is approaching in the opposite direction, wait for the rider to pass
- If you're turning right and a bicyclist is approaching from behind on the right, let the rider go through the intersection first, and always use your turn signals
- Watch for bike riders turning in front of you without looking or signaling; children especially have a tendency to do this
- Be extra vigilant in school zones and residential neighborhoods
- Watch for bikes coming from driveways or behind parked cars
- Check side mirrors before opening your door

By exercising a little extra care and caution, drivers and pedestrians can co-exist safely in school zones.

National Safety Council

<https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/seasonal-safety/back-to-school/drivers>

Back to School Safety Checklist

As summer draws to a close and children start heading back to school, family life can get pretty hectic. It's important to remember – and share with your children – some key tips that will help keep them safe and healthy throughout the school year.

Transportation Safety

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions. Here are some tips to make sure your child safely travels to school:

Walkers

Review your family's walking safety rules and practice walking to school with your child.

- Walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing the traffic
- Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections
- Stay alert and avoid *distracted walking*

Bike Riders

Teach your child the rules of the road and practice riding the bike route to school with your child.

- Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, and in a single file
- Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street
- Stay alert and avoid distracted riding
- Make sure your child always wears a *properly fitted helmet* and bright clothing

Bus Riders

Teach your children school bus safety rules and practice with them.

- Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus
- Teach your children to stand 6 feet (or three giant steps) away from the curb
- If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach him or her to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other

- *Get the facts* on bus safety from Injury Facts

Driving your child to school

Stay alert and avoid distracted driving.

- Obey school zone speed limits and follow your school's drop-off procedure
- Make eye contact with children who are crossing the street
- Never pass a bus loading or unloading children
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them to safely enter and exit the bus

Teen drivers

Car crashes are the No. 1 cause of death for teens.

Fortunately, there is something we can do.

- Teens crash because they are inexperienced; practice with new drivers every week, before and after they get their license
- Set a good example; drive the way you want your teen to drive
- Sign the *New Driver Deal*, an agreement that helps define expectations for parents and teens

National Safety Council

<https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/seasonal-safety/back-to-school>

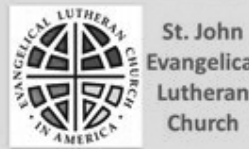
**Prince George's County Public Schools
start on Tuesday, September 3, 2019.**

Purple Line Construction Notices

Purple Line construction is well underway. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information,



visit purplelinemd.com, find "Construction" and click on "Subscribe for Updates". The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.



You're Invited To The 7th Annual



And Resource Day
Saturday, September 7th
11 AM - 2PM
Christian Life Center
5600 Taylor Rd
Riverdale MD 20737

Cotton Candy Free Groceries School Supplies Moon Bounce



Central
Kenilworth
Avenue
Revitalization
Community
Development
Corporation
&
Community
Legal Services
of Prince
George's
County, Inc.

6801 Kenilworth
Ave.
Suite 203
Riverdale Park,
MD 20737

09.16.2019
11AM-2PM

RSVP:
INFO@CLSPGC.ORG

Wills & Expungement Clinic



September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	2 Town Hall and DPW Closed	3	4 M-UTC Meeting 7:30 p.m.	5 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	6 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	7
8 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	9 Regular Legislative Meeting 8 p.m. Trash and Yard Waste Collection	10	11	12 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	13 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	14
15 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	16 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	17	18	19 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	20 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	21 Community Walk 9 a.m. Bulk Trash Drop-off 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
22 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	23 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	24	25	26 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	27 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	28
29 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	30 Council Work Session 8 p.m. Trash and Yard Waste Collection	<p>All Meetings and events are held at Town Hall unless another location is indicated.</p> <p>Also, all meetings are open to the public so please plan to join us!</p> <p>Save the Date! Community Walks are scheduled for the following Saturdays: October 19 and November 2.</p>				

CARRIER ROUTE
PRESORT

POSTAL PATRON
RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND
20737

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HYATTSVILLE, MD
PERMIT No.
2090



Town of Riverdale Park
5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737

Important Phone Numbers

Comcast: www.comcast.com
Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

Pepco: www.pepco.com
To report an outage: 1-877-737-2662
Customer service: 202-833-7500

Prince George's County: www.princegeorgescountymd.gov
Animal Control: 301-780-7200
Assessments: 301-952-2500
Parks and Recreation (maintenance): 301-918-4700
Permitting, Licenses and Enforcement: 301-636-2000
Public Works and Transportation: 301-883-5650

Prince George's County Public Schools: www.pgcps.org
Riverdale Elementary: 301-985-1850
William Wirt Middle School: 301-985-1720
Bladensburg High School: 301-887-6700
Parkdale High School: 301-513-5700

Verizon www.verizon.com

Washington Gas: www.washingtongas.com
To report a gas leak: 703-750-1400 or 800-752-7520
Customer Service: 703-750-1000

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC):
www.wsscwater.com
To report a water main break or sewage backup: 301-206-4002
Customer service: 301-206-4001 or 1-800-634-8400

Local Organizations

Lion's Club
Pat Prangley at 240-882-4993

Northern County Soccer Alliance
NCSA@soccer.net or 301-577-3559

Riverdale Park Boy Scout Troop 252
Scoutmaster Bob Killen at 301-483-8455

Madison Hill Homeowners Association
301-583-8857

Riversdale Historical Society
301-864-0420

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market
Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973

Riverdale Park Business Association
www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com

Riverdale Park Arts Council
Samuel Williams, Jr. at 909-380-4231

Riversdale Chamber Music Society
Robert DiLutis at rdilutis@umd.edu or
www.riversdalechambermusic.com