



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2019

NOVEMBER VILLAGE MEETING

November 19, 2019; 8 PM; NCC Christian Church

*Approval of Oct. Mtg Min *Treasurer's Report

*Permits *Permit Fees *Updates to Rules and Regulations

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Recycling: The Village appreciates the patience of residents during the transition to dual stream recycling. Please note that the contractor uses 2 different trucks to pick up the mixed paper and glass/plastic/aluminum. The contractor also services other municipalities so recycling will be picked up at different/multiple times on Wednesdays. The Village has procured an additional 32-gallon, wheeled recycling bin for each property. Delivery is anticipated in the 3rd or 4th week of November. ***Please note that plastic bags should never be placed in recycling containers.***

Additional information can be obtained from the following website:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/SWS/recycling/blue-bin-items.html>

Leaf Removal: The Village's leaf contractor is trying to come through the Village multiple times each week. It has been difficult to have the contractor confirm specific days each week due to

weather, in particular. Residents are requested to place leaves curbside and ensure the leaves are accessible by truck. Leaves are not to be shredded. Sticks, trash, rocks and other debris will not be collected.

Address Curb Painting: A number of residents have requested their house numbers be painted on the front curb (6-inch, black number with white background). If you are interested, please send an email to or call the Village Manager and mail a \$15 check to the Village of North Chevy Chase, to be received by **November 30**. Only those houses where residents have contacted the Village Manager and submitted payment will receive the

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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Village of North Chevy Chase

PO Box 15887, Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Mobile: 301-654-7084

Fire Board Representatives:

Dave Albinson, Anne Fox, Abby Morris

TDD (MD Relay Service): 1-800-735-2258

Website: www.northchevyCHASE.org

service. Curb painting will be scheduled for some time in December.

Bulk Trash: For future bulk trash pickups, the Village is looking into having a donation truck come through the Village the Friday before bulk trash for discarded items that are in good condition. Other items would be picked up by the Village's contractor the next day (Saturday). The December newsletter will confirm whether a donation truck will be available on Friday, Dec. 13 to pick up donation items prior to bulk trash pick up on Saturday, Dec. 14.

Parking – Emergency vehicles: - A County representative from the Fire Department Access and Water Supply Division of the Department of Permitting Services reviewed Village roads to ensure safe passage for emergency vehicles, particularly Stewart Drwy where parking on either side of the street can be significant. The Village was informed that while access is tight for emergency apparatus, the street(s) are not impassable. The Village was advised that vehicles should continue to park with one set of tires in the gutter pan in order to ensure sufficient space on the road.

Kensington Parkway Pedestrian Signs: In an effort to enhance pedestrian safety across Kensington Parkway, the Village Council approved "State Law: Stop for Pedestrian" signs at the intersections of Kensington Pkwy and Montrose and Kensington Pkwy and Kenilworth – to replace the yellow pedestrian arrow signs. At the Kensington Pkwy/Montrose, the signs will have a pedestrian-activated, flashing light. Installation is expected in December.

National Flood Insurance: The Village has been accepted into FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, effective Oct. 28, with a designation as a "non-special flood hazard area". For those interested residents, they can utilize this

information to purchase National Flood Insurance Program policies from participating insurance agents, if they so choose. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>.

Tree Survey: The Village has completed an initial survey of trees in its right-of-way. Please note results from the survey on Page 6 of this newsletter, prepared by members of the Environment Committee. A spreadsheet with the information will be uploaded to the website soon. Members of the Village's Environment Committee are adding helpful information with respect to tree circumference, average spread and height and will be helping to map the trees as well.

Tree Replacements: The following properties are receiving Village tree replacements this fall:

- 3704 Inverness – White Oak
- 3807 Inverness – Eastern Redbud
- 3714 Kenilworth – Redbud
- 3715 Kenilworth – Yoshiino Cherry
- 3818 Kenilworth – Zelkova Green Vase
- 9012 Kensington Pkwy – Eastern Redbud
- 8907 Montgomery Ave – Native Dogwood
- 3806 Montrose – Okame Cherry, Armstrong Maple
- 3601 Stewart – Native Dogwood

Street Lighting: The Village has requested from Pepco that light fixtures be added to existing poles at the following locations, to enhance safety and security when dark:

- 1) Near Dundee/Montgomery Ave intersection
- 2) Near 3600 Dundee
- 3) Northside of Kenilworth near Kensington Parkway

It will likely take a few weeks for Pepco to respond to the request.

FY19 Audit: The Village's auditor – Lindsey & Associates – completed the annual audit of the

Village's finances. A financial highlight is that the Village's net position increased by \$158,905 and the Village's fund balance increased by \$109,085. This includes both operating and capital expenditures for FY19. A complete version of the audit has been uploaded to the "newsletter section" of the Village's website.

New Residents: The Village warmly welcomes the following residents:

- Andy Leon Harney recently moved into 8905 Kensington Pkwy. Prior to joining our community, she was a longtime resident of Chevy Chase Section 3.
- Cassie and Brian Ciampa, along with their two sons Charlie (4 years) and Oliver (20 months) moved into 3601 Inverness. They had previously rented a home on Montrose.

Creekside Chevy Chase Townhome Update:

The builder informed the Village that the 1st 5 units (Lots 1-5) have received building permit approvals. Over the next month, weather permitting, they will start house construction, main road paving and installation of storm water facilities.

School Boundary Analysis: According to a Bethesda Beat, September 27 article entitled "School Boundary Analysis Plan Outlined", a district-wide school boundary analysis has started. The scope of work requires that the consultant review data collected by MCPS and other local and federal agencies regarding demographics, socioeconomic trends, development and transportation trends, and existing school boundaries. The contractor will also "examine 'best practices in boundary changes' from school districts across the country and summarize strategies for projecting school enrollment and how to best manage over- and under enrollment and segregation." The contractor "will use an already-

developed 'school rezoning model' to test swapping school facilities to different boundaries and what impact those changes would have...and will produce three boundary plan options based on its work, to be presented to the public in the summer." MCPS plans to hold a public hearing on November 18 (850 Hungerford Dr. Rockville, MD; Time TBD) to gather feedback from the community about the ongoing school boundary analysis.

Small Cell/5G Update: Montgomery County Council introduced a bill on October 1 to amend the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance to "incentivize" the (telecommunications) industry to use existing infrastructure in installing new technology like small cells. The proposed legislation would allow streetlight and utility poles that are 60 feet from residences to be replaced with new towers, as a limited use without a hearing, subject to certain limitations on height increases. Deployments in between 30 and 60 feet from residences would be allowed as a conditional use, subject to a hearing, and following a recommendation from the County Transmission Facility Coordinating Group. No equipment would be allowed closer than 30 feet to a house. The legislation is an effort to "adopt reasonable regulations in an effort to prevent Federal or State preemption." A public hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 19. The Village has its own permit requirements for telecommunications facilities in its right-of-way as well.

Washington Gas Rebates: Washington Gas participates in the EmPOWER Maryland initiative to reduce energy use and lower utility bills. As part of the initiative, Washington Gas offers high-efficiency natural gas equipment rebates (ranging from \$50 - \$700) for customers upgrading their home heating, water heating, and clothes dryer equipment. Through its EmPOWER Contractor Network,

Washington Gas can now help customers find and work with qualified contractors (participating contractors have proper trade licenses and insurance coverage to install new high efficiency natural gas equipment in the home).

To get started:

1. Visit WashingtonGasRebates.com/MDhome to find a list of local participating contractors.*
2. Have your participating contractor install qualifying energy-efficient equipment.
3. Your participating contractor will submit a rebate application on your behalf.

To learn more about the available equipment rebates, visit

WashingtonGasRebates.com/MDhome.

For questions, call the Application Processing Center at 833-286-0860 between 8 AM to 7 PM, Monday through Friday for more information.

If residents already have a contractor, ask them to join the [EmPOWER Contractor Network](#). In order to qualify for a high-efficiency rebate, equipment must be installed by a participating contractor.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OCTOBER COUNCIL

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

Meeting Minutes September 2019 – approved.

Treasurer's Report: Fiscal year to date revenues have exceeded expenses by \$19,252.05. Total current assets as of September 30, 2019, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, come to \$1,482,854.

Permits:

- 3717 Stewart – Fence (6 feet) and patio were approved.

Land Donation: The Village is awaiting legal documentation from the County and SHA to transfer ownership of the parcel of land at the intersection of Montrose Drwy and Jones Bridge Rd. The land will serve as a rain garden to help with stormwater management as part of the overall

Connecticut Ave/Jones Bridge Rd intersection improvement and expansion of the sidewalks and lanes along Jones Bridge.

Update on Connecticut Ave Intersection

Improvement: This is Phase III of the overall Bethesda BRAC project to design and construct intersection improvements at Connecticut Ave. and along Jones Bridge Rd. There is ongoing utility work by Pepco, Verizon, and other utility providers. Pepco pole placement was scheduled for completion in mid-October and **underground** Verizon work should be done by mid-November.

Once Pepco is done, the other required **aerial** utility companies (i.e. RCN, Comcast, CenturyLink, Verizon, SHA Interconnect, Montgomery County Interconnect) are expected to work concurrently for the remainder of the year and into 2020 if necessary. There are 2 start dates for work on the lane additions along Jones Bridge Rd and construction of the rain garden. The original start date was March 2020 but it is likely the date will move to July 2020. The start date partially depends on winter weather conditions.

A number of residents have raised concerns about the signs directing traffic at the Connecticut Ave/Jones Bridge/Kensington Parkway intersections -- in particular, unclear designation of turn lanes. There has also been concern about proper enforcement of "no turn on red" for westbound traffic on Jones Bridge Rd going onto Connecticut Ave. The Village is reaching out to SHA's District 3 Engineer to look at options of improving the signage and to Montgomery County Police on enforcement at that intersection.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING: DEALING WITH CHANGE ON A LOCAL LEVEL

(Courtesy of the Environment Committee)
Members of the VNCC Environment Committee attended the Town of Chevy Chase Environmental Committee event on [Climate Activism: The Green New Deal & Carbon Pricing Session](#) held on October 10. Maryland Congressman Jamie Raskin spoke on the proposed national legislation of the

Green New Deal, while Jessica Langerman presented the strategy of Carbon Pricing. A handout of 42 climate actions was distributed. (see below as well as <http://townofchevyCHASE.org/180/Climate-Environment> for more details)

Climate Actions (abbreviated): Switch to a 100% renewable energy provider such as Neighborhood Sun, WGL Energy; see details at <https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Switching-to-Clean-Energy-in-Maryland-DC-and-Virginia-508604051.html>

- Use a programmable thermostat to save energy when you are not at home
- Drive less. Carpool. Walk or bike more. Use public mass transit (free for students in MoCo, <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/kidsridefree/index.html>)
- VOTE for candidates with a progressive climate record and platform
- Reduce food waste and create a compost bin (or subscribe) to recycle waste to generate new soil and reduce methane gas (the most potent greenhouse gas (GHG)).
- Divest your investments portfolio of fossil fuel companies
- Buy carbon offsets when traveling by plane, e.g. from Terrapass, <https://www.terrapass.com/>

HR 109: Green New Deal: Carbon pricing is an approach to reduce carbon emissions (GHGs) that uses market mechanisms to pass the cost of emitting onto emitters. Its broad goal is to discourage the use of carbon dioxide-emitting fossil fuels in order to protect the environment. There exists various mechanisms to implement carbon pricing, see <https://www.carbonpricingleadership.org/what> for more details.

In 2017, Montgomery County adopted the **Emergency Climate Mobilization, Resolution No.: 18-974, Adopted: December 5, 2017**, which: *Underscores: Each of us has the moral duty to safeguard the planet for future generations. Aims to: Transform the climate by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2027 and reaching 100% elimination by 2035, and initiate large-scale efforts to remove excess carbon from the atmosphere.*

The Montgomery County Climate Mobilization Workgroup sent its [report](#) of recommendations to Council in June 2018, see <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dgs-OES/Resources/Files/ClimateMobilizationReport.pdf> In 2019, the County established three public committees, focused on 1) Transportation 2) Energy 3) Buildings, reflecting the County's largest carbon footprints, to identify actions to meet the Resolution's goals. A VNCC Environment Committee member sits on the Transportation Committee. More information can be found on the County's Climate website: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/climate/index.html>, which includes the schedule of Committee meetings, all open to the public.

Please note in October's newsletter, the link to Montgomery County's Rainspaces program – which provides technical and financial assistance to reduce stormwater runoff from individuals properties - was incorrect. The complete URL is:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/rainspaces/index.html>

CALENDAR (2019)

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|---------|---|
| Nov 19: | 8 PM – Village Council Meeting |
| Nov 30: | Checks due (\$15) for those interested in address curb painting |
| Dec 14: | Bulk Trash Pick Up |
| Dec 17: | 8 PM – Village Council Meeting |

Results of North Chevy Chase Village Tree Survey, September 2019

The Village of North Chevy Chase conducted a tree survey in September 2019 with its contractor Titan Tree Care. It logged 240 street trees – both shade and smaller understory trees – that are currently maintained by the Village. The resulting database provides a baseline that will allow the Village to systematically track its progress to maintain healthy street trees and restore the many shade trees that have been lost in recent years. The database includes trees within 25 feet of Village street centerlines, or 50 feet of Kensington Parkway's centerline. VNCC's Environment Committee is drafting a new Village Tree Policy for consideration by the Village Council that will be grounded in the survey findings.

Opportunities to improve the street tree program:

- Over one-third of Village homes have no street trees.
- Shade tree diversity is low: 3 species account for over half of all Village shade trees (Pin Oak, Red Maple, Willow Oak).

Of the 205 village homes:

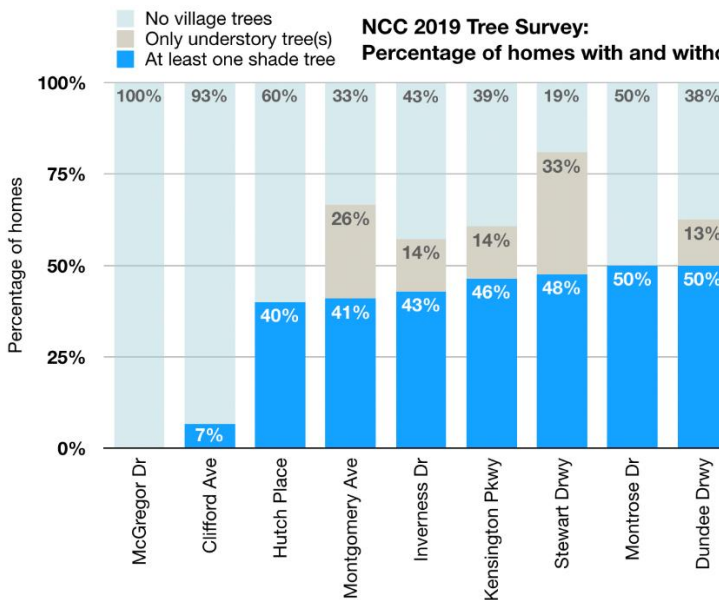
189 homes include Village ROW where trees could be planted.

- 63% of these have Village tree(s) (shade and/or understory trees).
- 37% have no Village trees.
- Some streets have significantly more tree cover than others. Kenilworth Driveway and Husted Driveway have the greatest density of street shade trees.

The 240 Village trees include:

- 166 shade trees, 33 species.
- 74 understory trees, 26 species.

A complete list of trees and locations will be posted to the Village website soon.



Basic findings:

- The Village currently maintains 240 street trees at 119 homes.
- These street trees include 166 shade trees and 74 understory trees. "Shade trees" include small and large specimens of trees that reach mature heights of at least 50 feet.
- The survey database will allow the Village to track progress over time. The Environment Committee is in the process of comparing the data to incomplete 1995 and 2001 tree surveys.