



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MAY/JUNE 2022

JUNE VILLAGE MEETING

June 21, 2022, 7:30 PM – Hybrid (zoom and in-person - instructions will be sent to the Village's email list). *Approval of May & Annual Meeting Minutes *Treasurer's Report *Permits *Arbor Pro demonstration *Pesticides *July 4th party

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

Village Council Elections: Adrian Andreassi, Olga Joos, and Maury Mechanick were reelected to two-year terms at the annual meeting on May 3rd. Please note in the box for the Village Council the respective positions each Council member has over the next year.

CALENDAR (2022)

- June 5: National Gun Violence Awareness Day
- June 16: Curbside Donation, Clothing Donation Nation
- June 17: Curbside Donation, Furniture/Non-Clothing Items
- June 18: Bulk Trash Pick Up
- June 21: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm Hybrid
- July 4: Annual Party/Pot luck
- July 19: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm Hybrid
- (No Council meeting in August)
- Sept 20: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm Hybrid

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chair: Adrian Andreassi
chair@northchevyCHASE.org

Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner
brianhoffner@gmail.com

Secretary: Maury Mechanick
secretary@northchevyCHASE.org

Treasurer: Olga Joos
treasurer@northchevyCHASE.org

Member: Chas Stuart
member@northchevyCHASE.org

Manager: Susan Theis
nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org

Fire Board Representatives:
Dave Albinson, Abby Morris, 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: www.northchevyCHASE.org

Taxes: While the federal tax filing deadline has passed (April 18), the deadline for Maryland state income tax is **July 15**. Please be sure to include the Village of North Chevy Chase as your “city” at the top of your State Tax Return. In the past, Village residents’ income taxes have been sent to other municipalities in error due to misfiling. For electronic filers, the Political Subdivision Code for North Chevy Chase is 1618.

Fast-Track Permit Approvals

- 3714 Stewart Driveway - POD
- 8900 Clifford Avenue - dumpster
- 8809 Montgomery Avenue – POD
- 9010 Kensington Parkway – fence replacement

Do you need a Permit?

Spring/Summer is a great time to refresh your home and yard, but before you begin any exterior improvement project please ensure you have obtained the necessary permits from the Village (and, when applicable, Montgomery County). When in doubt, please visit the Village website, or contact the Village Manager to confirm if your planned project requires a permit.

New Residents: The Village warmly welcomes the following new residents!

- 8910 Montgomery Avenue: the Hawley family
- 3606 Stewart Driveway: the Rottler family

National Gun Violence Awareness Day: In May 2020, the Council unanimously adopted a proclamation declaring June 5 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day within the Village of North Chevy Chase, to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence, to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence, and to encourage all citizens to support their local communities’ efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives. In recognition of this day, the Village will be hanging orange ribbons on its municipal signs.

Arbor Day Foundation Names the Village of North Chevy Chase A Tree City USA:

The Village was named a 2022 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

The Village achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program’s four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like The Village of North Chevy Chase make smart investments in urban forests,” said Dan Lambe, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits.” Trees are assets to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

Upcoming 2022 County Elections:

As a result of the redistricting in Montgomery County that occurred during the past year, the Village is no longer in District 1, where we are represented by Council Member Friedson.

With respect to direct representation on the County Council, the Village is in a newly created District (known as the “bowtie district” because of its shape), which is **District 4**.

District 4, there is no incumbent, which has several candidates running on at least the Democratic side in the primary to be the Democratic candidate for District 4.

Resolution of longstanding Municipal Tax Duplication:

Last month County Executive Marc Elrich signed into law an important piece of legislation that puts to rest a longstanding dispute between the County and municipalities regarding the payments for municipal tax duplication. The bill, passed unanimously by the County Council, codifies an updated tax duplication formula and increases payments to the towns.

Tax duplication refers to residents living in municipalities who are taxed by both the County and the municipality for services that are only provided but the municipality or that are provided by both levels of government. Under this bill, the payments to the Village will increase over a three-year period to the full level requires by the formula in FY 2025. A separate bill also provides supplemental tax duplication funds to the towns by the end of the current fiscal year to make up for past cuts in payments.

Our thanks to the County Executive and his staff, along with the County Council members, for finally resolving this issue to everyone's satisfaction.

Highway User Revenue Bill Signed Into Law:

House Bill 1187 fully restores municipal highway user revenue funding to pre-Recession levels and was signed into law by Governor Hogan on May 12, 2022.

Under this agreement, the share of transportation funding for local jurisdictions will increase from 13.5% to 15.5% in FY24, and by FY27, the percentage will increase to 20%.

Municipalities will receive 2.4% of that starting in FY24 (an increase from current level of 2%); that amount will rise to 2.7% in FY25, hitting a record high of 3% in FY26 and FY27, then levelling back off at 2.4% for FY28 and beyond. Without action, municipal funding would have dropped to 0.4% in FY24.

The Village is a member of the Maryland Municipal League which is grateful to Governor Hogan, House and Senate leadership, and our House and Senate sponsors Delegate Anderton and Senator McCray for their support for this important and historic bill!

Pesticides and Alternatives:

Now that spring/summer has arrived, many residents are working at having greener lawns. Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) encourages enthusiastic lawn care but reminds residents that the County's pesticides law is in effect, which affects property owners and professional landscapers equally. Contracts for lawn care should have provisions that include the use of organic pesticides or herbicides. Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns/law/>

Montgomery County's organic lawn and landscape program, says that organic lawn care is not difficult and recommends:

- Leave grass clippings on lawns to provide nitrogen to the grass.
- Cut grass over 3 inches to shade the ground and prevent weeds from germinating.
- Water lawns during dry spells to limit weed growth.

Noise: With the warmer weather, many residents are hiring construction contractors to maintain and make improvements to their properties. These contractors like to start the day early to avoid the heat of the day. The Village noise ordinance prohibits all noise-generating construction activity prior to 7am on weekdays (not to exceed 75 dBA) and prior to 9am on weekends and holidays (not to exceed 65 dBA). In addition to prohibiting noise from using power or hand tools, this also includes noise cause by loading, unloading or moving vehicles, materials, supplies or equipment or operating machinery.

GENERAL INTEREST:

Voting in the 2022 Primary Election?

Here's What You Need to Know: The Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) encourages eligible voters interested in casting a ballot in July's primary election to register to vote online (<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration>). SBE also urges those already registered to confirm their latest district and polling place information using the online voter lookup tool (<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>).

As in previous years, there will be three ways for eligible Marylanders to cast their ballots – by mail, secure dropbox, or in person. But the process for every voter should begin today, either by registering or confirming they have the latest information about their districts and polling places.

Voter Registration Deadlines: The Court of Appeals of Maryland issued an order moving the 2022 primary election from June 28 to July 19.

Early voting for the delayed July 19 primary election will begin on July 7 and run through July 14. The deadline to register to vote in the primary is June 28, and the deadline for primary voters to request a mail-in ballot is July 12.

What About Redistricting? Has My Polling Place Changed?: Following the recent redistricting process, county district, state legislative district, and congressional district information – as well as polling place information – for some registered voters has changed. For this reason, all registered voters should confirm their current district and polling place information online or by calling or visiting the office of their local board of elections (https://elections.maryland.gov/about/county_borders.html).

How (and Where) Can I Vote?: On May 20, the State Board of Elections finalized the list of all early voting, drop-box, and election day polling locations. A list of early voting locations is available online (https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2022/2022_Early%20Voting_Centers.pdf). Dropbox locations can be viewed online (https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/documents/Primary_Ballot_Drop_Box_List.pdf). Election day polling locations are available via the online lookup tool (<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>).

County Council says it supports housing at Chevy Chase Library site:

The Montgomery County Council amended the capital budget for libraries, signaling that members are interested in some sort of redevelopment of the Chevy Chase Library to possibly include affordable housing.

Previously, officials were considering spending just over \$5.8 million to renovate the Chevy Chase Library, according to a memo and council staff documents.

But county staff determined that the amount of renovation needed at the library on Connecticut Avenue — which was built in 1965 — is so extensive that rebuilding the library might be the better option.

Several council members said the library project presents an opportunity to consider building a new library and some type of housing that also could include designated affordable units. Council Member Andrew Friedson, whose District 1 includes the site, said there have been multiple opportunities over the years to consider building housing alongside other projects on county-owned land.

Greg Ossont, deputy director of the county's Department of General Services, told the council that he and colleagues are still exploring what the affordability mix could be.

“All we know is that generally, we would have about a 20,000-square-foot library with 60 to 70 parking spaces,” Ossont said. “And then, there’s a big question mark above that.”

Advocates say housing is needed at the library site because high housing prices can make living in Chevy Chase unaffordable for some, and that the housing would be close to a station for the future light-rail Purple Line. Opponents say adding housing would lead to more traffic congestion in the immediate area.

Elrich said in a news briefing that he initiated a study to look at the possibility of constructing housing on the site as part of a redevelopment of the library.

Ossont and council President Gabe Albornoz said that more details on what could be built at the site could come in the fall. But Ossont confirmed that any project that includes a building with 100% affordable units and a 20,000 square-foot library underneath would probably cost tens of millions of dollars — much more than the county was previously allocating.

Community Meetings Announced as Purple Line Work Continues: With the recent selection of a new contractor and construction activities of the Purple Line continuing, the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA), which manages the project, will be hosting a number of in-person community meetings in Montgomery County.

At these meetings, MDOT MTA will introduce the community to their new design-build contractor, Maryland Transit Solutions (MTS) and you’ll have the opportunity to ask questions and hear updates on construction activities in your area and the maintenance of traffic during construction including any upcoming detours (if applicable)

Upcoming Meeting for Village residents:

Bethesda/Chevy Chase (CAT)

Tuesday, June 7 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
North Chevy Chase Elementary School
3700 Jones Bridge Road Chevy Chase, MD
20815

Additional meetings can be found on the Purple Line’s project website at:
www.purplelinemd.com/upcoming-meetings

The Purple Line Outreach team is returning to in-person meetings to engage in meaningful dialogue about the project. Specific questions a community would like to have addressed should be sent to MDOT MTA’s Outreach Team 10 days in advance of the meeting date. Contact the Purple Line Outreach Team at 443-451-3706 or via email at outreach@purplelinemd.com.

Montgomery County Has the Highest Recycling Rate in Maryland, According to Maryland Department of the Environment:

Montgomery County’s recycling rate of 58.94 percent of solid waste created tops all other counties in Maryland, according to statistics released by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). The report was for 2020, the most recent year for which statistics are available.

In 2020, Montgomery County recycled 764,375 tons of materials, including glass, metals, paper, plastic and compostable items. The County is constantly increasing its recycling rate. In 2019 the rate for recycling in Montgomery County was 58.17 percent and in 2018 the recycling rate was 56.91 percent.

The County remains focused on meeting its existing goals to reduce waste and recycle more, aiming toward zero waste. To learn more about the county’s recycling programs, visit <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/recycle-right/>.

Maryland Dedicating This Year’s Sunflower Planting to Ukraine:

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announces that it will dedicate its sunflower plantings to the people of Ukraine this spring. Each year, the department plants about 130 acres of sunflowers on 15 wildlife management areas across 18 Maryland counties. Sunflowers are the national flower of Ukraine.

The primary purpose of DNR's plantings is to provide a source of food for birds and other wildlife species, after the plants mature and dry. Pollinating insects like bees and butterflies also benefit from the abundant nectar and pollen that sunflowers produce. This year the plantings will serve a dual purpose by expressing unity and support with the Ukrainian people.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL COUNCIL

MEETING (*Official minutes are posted to the website*)

Secretary's Report for March 2022 Council Meeting (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer's Report for March 2022 (Joos) – Results for March 2022 included income of \$8,485.81, and operating expenses of \$14,967.51 (including waste removal, street lighting, sign/street maintenance, wages and taxes, professional fees, and office and communication). Current fiscal year to date revenues through March 2022 came to \$461,181.54 and current fiscal year to date operating expenses came to \$202,006.96. No capital expenditures were incurred during March 2022. Total capital expenditures for FY 2022 to date came to \$154,961.10. Total current assets for as of February 2022, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, including APRA funds received, came to \$2,217,835.28.

Action Items:

FY 2023 Budget Approval – The Council approved the proposed FY 2023 budget as presented with one modification, and proposed real estate and personal property tax rates for Village residents. The one modification to the proposed budget was to increase the budgeted expense amount for sign/street maintenance (expense item 406) from \$2800 to \$10,000, based on possible upgrade in Village signage.

Tax Duplication Resolution Approval – The Council approved the Tax Duplication Resolution required in connection with the Village levying a municipal tax on certain real and personal property located within the

municipal corporation. The Resolution establishes a tax at the rate for 2022/2023 of \$0.045 per One Hundred Dollars of assessable value on real property subject to taxation by the Village, and \$0.13 per One Hundred Dollars of assessed value of assessable personal property subject to taxation by the Village. The proposed 2023 tax rates will be voted on by Village residents at the May Annual Meeting.

Tree City USA/Arbor Day Proclamation – The Village Council confirmed the decision to request status as a Tree City USA participating municipality, and adopted an Arbor Day Proclamation, proclaiming April 29, 2022, as Arbor Day in the Village of North Chevy Chase and commemorating 150 years of Arbor Day celebrations in the United States, the issuance of which was one of the requirements associated with the Village's application for a Tree City USA designation.

ARPA Funds – The Village Manager will submit the first annual report with respect to the ARPA funding grant provided to the Village to the U.S. Department of Treasury by the end of month, as required by federal law.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAY 3 COUNCIL

MEETING (*Please note that the official minutes will be posted to Village website upon approval*)

Secretary's Report for April 2022 Council Meeting (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer's Report for April 2022 (Joos) - To be presented, along with the May 2022 report, at the June 2022 Council Meeting.

Action Items:

Permits:

- 3716 Kenilworth Driveway – permit for screened in porch approved

Reduction in the Use of Harmful Pesticides:

The Council acknowledged concerns raised by various Village residents about the use of harmful pesticides within the Village and possible measures for addressing those concerns. This will be an ongoing subject of

consideration by the Council, which will seek further input from residents and from the Environmental Committee on appropriate measures to address these concerns.

Annual 4th of July Picnic: The Council confirmed plans to proceed with the Annual 4th of July picnic as an in-person event, similar to how the event was handled in 2021.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAY 3 ANNUAL MEETING

(Please note that the official minutes will be posted to Village website upon approval)

Action Items:

- Based on a vote of Village residents attending the meeting or voting by absentee ballot, the proposed Village real property and personal property tax rates for the upcoming year was approved (\$.045/\$100 of assessed value for real property and \$0.13/\$100 assessed valued for personal property) – unchanged from the past four years.
- The Council Chair, Adrian Andreassi presented an annual report on Village services. The power point is posted to the Village website.
- Based on a vote of Village residents attending the meeting or voting by absentee ballot, Adrian Andreassi, Olga Joos and Maury Mechanick were elected to two-year terms as Council members and were administered the oath of office.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING: (Courtesy of the Environment Committee)

Art and the Earth Day Fair -

The native plant sale and art show on April 23 was a huge success and many thanks to all who helped! We enjoyed a beautiful art show, bought hundreds of native plants into our yards (all great for supporting birds and butterflies), ate delicious crepes, enjoyed live music, learned from Audubon and conservation experts, and reconnected with neighbors.

SUPPORT EARTH DAY EVERY DAY BY SWITCHING TO CLEAN ENERGY!

What is clean renewable energy and why is it important?

Clean energy is electricity generated from a renewable resource—such as wind, sunlight, thermal energy stored in the ground, methane from landfills, or sustainable biomass—that emits little or no pollution in the generation process. In contrast, fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas aren't considered clean because of the pollution associated with their extraction from the earth and with the combustion process used to generate the power. The gases emitted when fossil fuels are burned include air pollutants and greenhouse gases (GHGs) and are a main cause of climate change. Switching to a clean energy provider at the household level can make a significant collective impact in the reduction of GHGs and support the transition to a clean energy economy.

Choosing your clean energy residential electricity supplier

Maryland residents are now able to choose who supplies their electricity. Customers of municipal electric systems and some rural cooperative systems may be the exceptions. Your local utility, now called your electric company, will still deliver the electricity to your home, but you can choose another company to generate the electricity that is 100% renewable in your area. The source or fuel mix of Pepco's energy is only 7% renewable or from clean energy.

To evaluate the price being offered by an electricity supplier, you will want to compare the supplier's rate to the rate charged by your electric company and any other competitive suppliers that are offering electricity to your area.

CompareRates: <https://www.psc.state.md.us/electricchoice/shop-and-compare/>

GreenMontgomery: <https://mygreenmontgomery.org/project/switch-to-clean-energy/>

NCC Village Resources:

<https://elipsky1.wixsite.com/mysite/county-state-resources>