



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2023

JANUARY VILLAGE MEETING:

January 17, 2023 – 7:30pm – hybrid meeting in-person and Zoom (instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of December Minutes *Treasurer’s Report *Permits

CALENDAR (2023)

January 17:	Village Council Meeting
February 21:	Village Council Meeting
March 16-17:	Donation Nation Pick-Up
March 18:	Bulk Trash Pick-Up
March 21:	Village Council Meeting

Snow Removal: Village management will notify residents via the email distribution list when snow removal is scheduled. The snow removal contract provides for automatic mobilization upon snow accumulation of 2” depth. Please note that residents are required to maintain the sidewalks in front of their property reasonably safe for pedestrian travel by removing snow and ice (or spreading sand or calcium magnesium acetate if snow/ice has hardened) within 24 hours of snow cessation. Residents are also requested to park their vehicles in driveways, as feasible, or on the even side of the street to facilitate snow removal and application of salt.

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES:

Taxes: 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**.

Yard Waste Pick Up: Christmas trees can be left curbside for pick up any Monday during the month of January. Street leaf pick up has ended for the season. Residents should place yard waste in paper yard trim bags or a reusable container for collection on Mondays. Brush can be bundled with twine. Branches or tree limbs should not exceed 4 feet in length and 4 inches in diameter and each bundle must be 30 inches or less in diameter and no more than 45 pounds.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chair: Adrian Andreassi
chair@northchevychase.org

Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner
vicechair@northchevychase.org

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

Services Offered:

Village management is looking to re-establish a list for residents' referral on our website. This would include pet sitters, baby sitters, leaf raking, lawn mowing, snow shoveling, etc. If you or a family member are interested in offering your services to Village residents, please contact the Village Manager at nccinfo@northchevychase.org as we begin to revive this opportunity.

Theft from auto prevention tips:

We've all heard about cars in our area being broken into and items stolen. Sometimes the cars themselves are stolen. Police Commander Amy Daum, of the District 2 police department in Bethesda, says that theft from autos and auto theft are crimes of opportunity. Too often, car owners don't lock their cars or leave their keys inside their vehicles, making it easy for burglars. According to Commander Daum, most thefts from vehicles are from unlocked cars.

Here are some ways you can reduce the risk of your vehicle being burglarized or stolen:

- Always take your keys with you and lock your car. Do NOT hide an extra key in your vehicle; thieves know all the usual hiding places.
- Put your valuables, including electronics, out of sight or take them with you.
- Don't leave your car running and unattended. Stay with your car or install a remote starter.
- Set a reminder before bedtime each night: did you lock your car?

In Memoriam:

It is with great sadness that we announce the death longtime Village resident, Matthew McNeill who passed away unexpectedly but peacefully at his home on December 3, 2022. The Village Council sends its deepest condolences to the McNeill family at this difficult time.

NEW RESIDENTS:

The Village warmly welcomes several new residents:

- 8918 Clifford - Josh Rosenthal and Christine Carletta
- 8909 Connecticut Avenue - the Oladapo family: Joseph, Lydia, Emmanuel and Esther

PERMIT REMINDERS:

- *Please note that a **Village permit** may be required for many exterior work projects (and, when applicable, Montgomery County). Please visit the Village website at www.northchevychase.org or contact the Village Manager at #301.654.7084 to verify any requirements.*

GENERAL INTEREST:

Montgomery County Council President Evan Glass Announces Council Committee Assignments

Montgomery County Council President Evan Glass announced the committee assignments for the 20th Council. Committee assignments are determined by the Council president every four years in collaboration with all Councilmembers.

"I am proud that the committee assignments for the 20th Council will be among the most diverse and historic – with a majority of our committees being chaired by Black, Latino, women and LGBTQ+ Councilmembers," Council President Glass said.

"To accommodate the increased size of the Council from nine to 11 members, two new committees have been created. The former Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee has been split into two separate committees: the Economic Development Committee and the Planning, Housing and Parks Committee.

The existing committee structure continues for the Education and Culture, Government Operations and Fiscal Policy, Health and

Human Services, Public Safety and Transportation and Environment Committees.

Visit the Montgomery County Council's website at:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/>

to learn more about the work of the Montgomery County Council, Councilmembers and the committees.

Montgomery County Council unanimously passed Maryland's first comprehensive building decarbonization legislation.

The Montgomery County Council voted unanimously to pass Bill 13-22, Buildings – Comprehensive Building Decarbonization, which will require the County Executive to issue all-electric building standards for new construction by December 31, 2026. The legislation, introduced by Councilmember Hans Riemer and cosponsored by Councilmember Will Jawando, is the first of its kind in Maryland.

The legislation ensures the County's buildings are built for a decarbonized energy future and addresses the County's biggest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, which come from its building sector.

The all-electric requirements will require systems and processes in new construction to use electricity rather than fossil fuels. When paired with renewable energy, all-electric systems have zero emissions, save money and improve indoor air quality in buildings and homes.

Full electrification has been a significant part of the conversation around reducing emissions and lessening the impacts of climate change. Electrification is a two-part problem: fully electrifying structures and generating electricity with little to no emissions. This bill aims to solve the first part, although there will need to be follow-up legislation to address existing structures if the County is to completely eliminate fossil fuel use.

This legislation does not address the second part, power generation. Nationally a significant amount of power is generated from fossil fuels. In Maryland, nuclear is the largest source of power generation. Without completely

transitioning to renewable and alternative energy sources, electrification only moves the source of pollution instead of reducing it. The bill, while historic, is only the first step in a long road ahead.

Maryland's Court of Appeals is Officially Supreme

The voter-approved measure to change the name of Maryland's two highest courts has officially been enacted.

Effective immediately, the Court of Appeals of Maryland is now the Supreme Court of Maryland, and the Court of Special Appeals is now the Appellate Court of Maryland.

Established by the Maryland Constitution of 1776, the Court of Appeals has remained the appellate court of last resort for the past 246 years. Under the recently passed constitutional amendment, the jurisdiction and function of the Court will remain the same and the 7 judges will now be known as justices of the Supreme Court of Maryland.

The Court of Special Appeals was created in 1966 by constitutional amendment as Maryland's intermediate appellate court. Originally, five judges served on the court and currently 15 judges sit on the renamed Appellate Court of Maryland.

MCPS superintendent recommends \$3.15 billion operating budget

Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Monifa McKnight presented the \$3.15 billion MCPS recommended operating budget for fiscal year 2024. It is an 8% increase over the current school budget and prioritizes staff retention and communication with families, according to Superintendent McKnight.

MCPS has four budget priorities for the new fiscal year:

- improving math and literacy
- building a safe and inclusive school climate
- enhancing staff recruitment and retention
- increasing communication between schools and families

The Montgomery County Board of Education will hold public hearings on the budget on Wednesday, January 11, and Tuesday, January 17. The board will tentatively approve an operating budget on February 7 and then send it to the Montgomery County Executive and County Council for consideration. The County Council will approve its final FY 2024 operating budget on May 25, 2023.

Purple Line Construction Updates for the Bethesda/Chevy Chase Area

Overnight Closure of Connecticut Avenue

On or about January 18, for one night, Connecticut Avenue will be closed to place the new Capital Crescent Trail pedestrian bridge over Connecticut Avenue, adjacent to the Purple Line light rail bridge. From 12am to 5am a detour will be implemented while the work occurs. Additionally, night work, including multiple-lane closures on Connecticut Avenue will occur the week prior between the hours of 9pm to 5am.

Temporary Lane Closures on Connecticut Avenue

Work continues on the Light Rail Bridge over Connecticut Avenue during the month of January, temporary lane closures may be implemented on Connecticut Avenue between Chevy Chase Lake Drive and Laird Place. One lane will be closed during daytime hours, and up to two lanes will be closed overnight. Lane closures will occur during non-peak hours between 9am to 3pm and 7pm to 5am.

Recreation Center Membership Passes Will Be Free in 2023

Montgomery County Recreation Center membership passes will be free for County residents in 2023. Starting January 3, a free pass will provide access to fully equipped fitness rooms, open gym (drop-in) activities and game rooms at any community recreation center during regularly scheduled hours.

Membership makes it easy for residents to work out close to home, near their office or at any center location that is convenient for them. Passes include both the gym and weight room.

To receive a free pass, proof of residency will be required in the form of either a valid photo ID

with a county address or accompanied by a current utility bill.

For more information visit

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec/memberships/centerpasses.html>

Montgomery County and WSSC Water to Detail 'Salt Wise' Campaign

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), MCDOT and WSSC Water are emphasizing the impact excessive salt use can have on the environment.

Salt runs off into storm drains, local streams and eventually, to the Potomac and Patuxent rivers. Those waterways are drinking water sources for 1.9 million residents in Montgomery and Prince George's counties. Salt can corrode concrete and masonry, harm pets, damage surrounding plants and lawns and adversely impact the water supply.

Salt levels have been steadily increasing in local streams, posing a risk to sensitive wildlife and stream health. Once salt gets into waterways, it does not go away.

The Salt Wise campaign is a three-step method for residents to keep sidewalks and driveways safe, while also reducing harm to the environment.

Tips residents can follow include:

- Shovel ice and snow early and often.
- Use one 12-ounce cup of salt for 10 sidewalk squares or for a 20-foot driveway.
- After storm events, sweep up excess salt for reuse.

For more information on how to effectively address salt use on residential properties, go to <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/water/education/winter-salt-management.html>

New telephone area code coming in 2023

The Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) announced the assignment of 227 as a new telephone area code which will eventually serve the same geographic area in Maryland

currently serves by the 240 and 301 area codes.

Customers with a 240 or 301 area code will maintain their existing areas codes and their phones numbers will not change. Under the implementation plan approved by the PSC, no new 227 phone numbers will be assigned in the area until the remaining 240/301 numbers are completely exhausted. When the remaining 240/301 number are exhausted, all future phone number assignments will be made in the new 227 area code.

NIH Blood Bank Seeks Donors

The NIH Blood Bank needs both Blood and Platelet Donors. All blood products collected go to the children and adult patients at the NIH Clinical Center hospital.

If you are interested in donating, please contact:

Whole Blood Donation: #301.496.1048

Platelet Donation: #301.496.4321

Research Donation: #301.496.0092

You can also request your appointment online at www.cc.nih.gov/blooddonor or email: nihbloodbank@mail.cc.nih.gov to request a recruiter to contact you for an appointment. The NIH Blood Bank is on the first floor of Building 10, with reserved parking while you donate.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM DECEMBER COUNCIL

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

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

Treasurer's Report for November 2022 (Joos) – Results for November 2022 included income of \$ 188,175.64 (including a significant receipt of State income tax funds allotted to the Village), and operating expenses of \$37,789.52 (including waste removal, leaf collection, trees, street lighting, landscaping and mowing, wages and taxes, membership and dues, professional fees and office and communication). Current fiscal year to date revenues through November 2022 (not

including ARPA funds) came to \$292,793.58 and current fiscal year to date operating expenses came to \$ 132,701.50. No capital expenditures were incurred during November 2022. Total current assets as of November 2022, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, including ARPA funds received, came to \$2,629,222.64.

Action Items:

Sanitation Contract – The Council approved an assignment of the existing contract with Montgomery Sanitation and Recycling to Key Sanitation. Both companies have common ownership, but the principal in Montgomery Sanitation and Recycling is about to retire and its business is to be consolidated with Key Sanitation.

Traffic Safety Concerns/Intersection of Kensington Parkway and Montrose

Driveway – In light of excessive speeds regularly observed on Kensington Parkway as vehicles approach the Kensington Parkway/Connecticut Avenue/Jones Bridge Road intersection and traffic light, and the serious accident at the Kensington Parkway and Montrose driveway intersection earlier in November, a number of residents have requested that the intersection should be converted into a four-way stop intersection, with stop signs installed on Kensington Parkway. Believing the concerns that have been raised are serious and substantial, and having afforded timely notice to Village residents about the proposed change, the Council decided to make that intersection a four-way stop, and directed the Village Manager to begin the steps necessary to effectuate this change consistent with County and State traffic control requirements.

Pepco Streetlighting – The Village, in coordination with neighboring municipalities, is monitoring some apparent changes in Pepco's pole attachment policy for lighting fixtures, as well as the increased flexibility for municipalities to own their own street lights. As regards the Village, further analysis will be required to determine whether direct ownership of streetlights would be advantageous or disadvantageous. Pepco is also pursuing a program for LED conversion of existing street lights and the Village will respond confirming its

interest in this activity to a Pepco survey that it has received. The Council is concerned that the current arrangements with Pepco for street lighting in the Village are not fully adequate to meet Village requirements, and will pursue measures to improve the situation in 2023 as Pepco's new policies take effect.

Future Tree Plantings – Having previously decided to move forward with the purchase of additional trees for planting the Village right-of-way in various locations to further increase the quality of the tree canopy coverage in the Village, 15 homeowners have confirmed a willingness to have a Village tree planted in the Village right of way adjoining their property. The Village is in the process of placing orders for trees with Stadler Nursery, although some of the preferred oak varieties may not be available at this time and Village will consider purchase of appropriate substitutions. The Village Council also authorized the purchase of a supply of watering bags to facilitate watering efforts by those homeowners on whose property the trees will be planted.

Diverters – Upon recommendation of the Village's Environmental Committee, the Council approved the purchase and installation of some large decorative rocks, to be placed within the planting areas adjacent to the two diverters on Montgomery Avenue (at Kenilworth and Stewart Driveways), to deter vehicles from driving over the planting areas.

Draft Mission Statement – The Council is considering the preparation of a formal mission statement and a formal vision statement regarding the Village and our commitment, on both a current and future basis, to serve and meet the requirements of Village residents.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING (Courtesy of the Environment Committee):

The Importance of Permeable Pavements

Permeable (or pervious) pavements can substantially help address increasing environmental challenges both at the local and global scales. Increasing levels of precipitation resulting in greater stormwater runoff can be mitigated by permeable pavements that reduce water volumes and limit peak flows as well as trap and filter many types of pollutants. Permeable pavements further improve ground water recharge, reduce surface temperatures, and improve aesthetics and biodiversity. Unlike a concrete slab, permeable pavements allow water to pass through the surface layer and temporarily absorb into the ground; this water is then released back to the storm drain system and/or infiltrates into the underlying soil. A small fraction of runoff will evaporate or evapotranspire.

There exist many types of permeable pavements and construction techniques. **Montgomery County's Rainscape Program** assists homeowners in understanding the various options and the available credits for permeable pavements and related environmental residential applications.

With increasing degrees of rainfall, heat and local construction activity generating air and soil pollution in our community, permeable pavements among other applications, such as tree planting, would significantly help improve our health, resiliency and quality of life.

To learn more about permeable pavements and how to support our environment, please join NCC Connections and register for the virtual **Rainscapes Presentation on January 26 at 7pm.**

To register in advance for this meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMLdeGprjtGdZvOU0dUTI5Lr3Q4R58459C>

**WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**