



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

since 1962

MUNICIPAL SCENE

4500 knox rd, college park - 240.487.3500
collegeparkmd.gov

AUGUST 2018

NEWS



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IS AUGUST 7!

In case you hadn't heard, National Night Out (NNO) events will be held at three locations across the City on Tuesday, August 7!

NNO is a community-police partnership that provides a unique opportunity for residents to increase awareness about crime prevention and safety, get to know their neighbors, and meet local law enforcement and other public safety officers with the goal of preventing crime and drug activities in their neighborhoods.

Join your neighbors, elected officials and law enforcement officers at one of these four locations for food, activities, fun, community engagement and neighborhood walks. Bring the whole family to your local National Night Out event!

Also, don't forget to turn on your porch or lamp-post lights from dusk to midnight on August 7.

Neighborhood National Night Out Events:

College Park Woods Community Park:

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
9119 St. Andrews Place

Lakeland and Berwyn Communities:

6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

The event begins at Lakeland Park (4901 Lakeland Rd) and ends with a lighted walk at 8:30 p.m. via the Trolley Trail to James Adams Park

Duvall Field:

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
9119 Rhode Island Ave

For additional information, contact your local Neighborhood Watch representative or contact the Department of Public Services at 240-487-3570 or publicservices@collegeparkmd.gov.



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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CELEBRATING THE AIRMAIL CENTENNIAL: 1918 - 2018

Article Courtesy of Andrea Tracey, Director of the College Park Aviation Museum

It is summer 1918, a 1/2 gallon of milk costs \$0.28, the US House of Representatives passes an amendment allowing women to vote (it would take almost 2 more years for America's leadership to ratify the amendment!), and America is at war. The Great War exposed deep flaws in American airpower including outdated aircraft and too few pilots, both in quality and quantity. As a result, United States Post Office (USPS)* and military officials believed airmail could increase the speed of communication while also improving the skills of military pilots. So, in the midst of World War I and after much persuasion, US Congress gave USPS \$100,000 to experiment with an aerial mail service.

Working with US Army officials and pilots, the inaugural flight of airmail took off on May 15, 1918 from the Polo Grounds, known today as West Potomac Park, in Washington, DC. While the flight got off safely, rookie aviator Major George Boyle proceeded to get lost and flip his plane upon landing near Waldorf, MD when he stopped to ask for directions. Boyle and the mail from his plane were trucked back to Washington, DC.

Despite this hiccup, USPS officials kept pushing for scheduled airmail service. By midsummer, changes were afoot. Captain Benjamin Lipsner, the Army officer on temporary assignment to the Post Office to organize airmail, resigned from the Army on July 13, 1918. That same day, he became the Post Office's first superintendent of airmail. Lipsner saw his role as more than just making airmail successful, he also saw it as the beginnings of civil aviation. He oversaw all aspects including recruiting and training airmail pilots, creating rules and regulations for airmail operations, and working to maintain reliable aircraft. Under Lipsner's leadership airmail operations were established at the College Park Airfield, which had been in operation since 1909 when the Wright Brothers taught America's first military officers how to fly at the field.

On August 12, 1918, the first USPS airmail flight took off from

College Park Airport utilizing civilian aircraft and civilian pilots marking the beginning of a new chapter in mail, aviation, transportation and communication. The grand airmail experiment ultimately led to the birth of America's commercial aviation industry and drove the development of navigation and radio communication improvements.

The College Park Aviation Museum and College Park Airport, known collectively as the College Park Aviation Campus are launching a year-long celebration of the Airmail Centennial with the support of the Field of Firsts Foundation, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).

The public is invited to take part in the Kick-off weekend on August 10 – 12, 2018. Events and programming include: an exhibit preview reception on Friday, August 10; a family day, USPS Stamp unveiling and new exhibit opening – Delivering America: Airmail to Email - on Saturday, August 11; and a reenactment of the original flight on Sunday, August 12 along with a pancake breakfast. To learn more visit: www.CollegeParkAviationMuseum.com and www.FieldofFirsts.com.

**Note: The United States Postal Service (USPS) underwent a few name changes over time. For the sake of consistency, we are using the term USPS throughout this article.*



*Bob Shank getting up on way to New York City.
Curtiss Machine.*

The Jenny. Courtesy Charles Townley Chapman Collection, College Park Aviation Museum

CONTROLLING MOSQUITOES

In mid-July, the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) confirmed the presence of West Nile virus in mosquitoes collected in the Riverdale Park area. In response, MDA will utilize Ultra-Low Volume truck-based mosquito spraying within a three-quarter mile radius of the positive sample in Riverdale Park, Hyattsville, Edmonston and Rogers Heights. West Nile virus is spread to people from mosquito bites; for more information about West Nile virus, including signs and symptoms, please visit the CDC's website [here](#).

In an effort to reduce mosquitoes in our area, MDA conducts weekly mosquito activity surveillance and mosquito spraying and larvaciding throughout the City and the County. Between July 2 and 9, MDA larvacided the entire City and will treat the area again soon. MDA also recently sprayed sections of the City that met the required thresholds and will continue to test and treat City neighborhoods as needed. For more information about mosquito spraying in the City, please [click here](#). If thresholds

are met, Wednesday night is the designated time when mosquito spraying will occur in the City. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for notifications when spraying will occur.

You can help protect yourself from mosquito bites by using insect repellents and wearing long, loose-fitting and light colored clothing particularly at dusk and after when the primary vector is most active. You can also reduce the amount of mosquitoes in your yard or area by removing stagnant water sources (mosquitoes breeding sources) by tipping over or emptying all water-holding containers (tarps, bowls, pots, toys, bird baths, etc). For permanent areas of standing water (ponds, rain barrels, etc), contact the City's Department of Public Works for mosquito torpedoes that target and kill mosquito larvae.

Contact the Mosquito Control Section of the Maryland Department of Agriculture for additional assistance and advice. For more information [click here](#) to visit their website or call them at 410-841-5870.

SHOP MARYLAND TAX-FREE WEEK

At the end of July, Maryland Comptroller, Peter Franchot along with Mayor Pro Tem Monroe Dennis, went around the City to promote Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week, visit the new Duvall Field plaza and concession stand and congratulate two College Park businesses.

The day began with a press conference at Stripe 3 in Downtown College Park to promote Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week from Sunday, August 12 through Saturday, August 18, 2018. During that week, qualifying apparel and footwear priced at \$100 or less per item, are exempt from the state sales tax. New this year, is that the first \$40 of a backpack/bookbag purchase is also tax free. For more information, [please click here to visit the Comptroller's website](#).



From left to right; Councilmember Kabir, Comptroller Franchot, Mayor Pro Tem Dennis and Director of Planning, Terry Schum touring Duvall Field

recognizing the bicycle shop for its more than 45 years in business and for its contributions to the local community.

City staff, Mayor Pro Tem Dennis and Councilmember Kabir led the Comptroller on a tour of the new Duvall Field concession stand and plaza. The plaza and stand were recently renovated with \$1.2 million in Program Open Space funding. It not only looks beautiful but the space was designed with sustainability in mind. If you haven't been by in the last year, you should absolutely check it out!



As part of his visit, Mr. Franchot also stopped by two more College Park businesses. The Comptroller issued a proclamation to owner Barbara Woods (above) of Wood's Flowers and Gifts recognizing the florist and her family for being in business for 80 years! Proteus Bicycle's co-owner Ben Bassett (right picture) was also presented with a proclamation



INVADERS FROM THE GREEN DIMENSION

They are green. They spread quickly. And they can definitely take over... your yard. Invading plant species like bamboo can be a real and very frustrating problem for homeowners.

What is an invasive plant?

Invasive plants are species of plants that grow and spread quite aggressively and displaces (or kills) other native plant species. These non-native species invade and really harm or destroy existing ecosystems.



What are some types of invasive plant species in College Park?

- Japanese or Asian knotweed is an invasive and quick spreading plant that can rapidly take over yards and gardens. It may look like bamboo, but it's not related.
- English ivy is considered an invasive species.
- Bamboo (clumping or running) is a major invasive species in the City. Because bamboo is a grass, it is very pervasive and fast spreading. If the plant spreads from your property to your neighbor's without their permission, it is a [City Code](#) violation which can result in a municipal infraction and a fine. Running bamboo is particularly difficult to control because it is extremely invasive and can spread more than 100 feet from the mother plant in an amazingly short amount of time.

What do I do if I have an invasive species of plant in my yard?

The key is to regularly maintain and control the

invading plant.

In the case of bamboo, because the plant is so aggressive, it can re-establish itself rapidly if any small section is left untouched. The first step is to remove as much of the plant's root mass and rhizomes (underground stems) as possible. With small infestations, you may be able to do this by hand, but for larger problem areas, you may need to use some power equipment to dig and remove.

Regular mowing is a great method to help control bamboo over time. The plant can tolerate occasional, but certainly not frequent (once-a-week) mowing where the grass is cut relatively short.

Herbicides, like Roundup can also be used to control bamboo, and if used correctly will only kill plants that receive direct contact. Do not apply herbicides to water or to areas where water is present.

How do I dispose of bamboo or other invasive species once I remove it from my yard?

Bamboo canes need to be cut and bundled into five-foot lengths for City disposal. You must make an appointment with the Department of Public Works at

publicworks@collegeparkmd.gov or 240.487.3590 for yard waste pickups on Thursdays and Fridays. Once the appointment has been made, place the bundled canes at the curb on your appointment day by 7:00 a.m. Once collected, the bamboo canes will be mixed with other woody material, processed by a grinder and made into City wood mulch.

Bamboo rhizomes (a.k.a stems) need to be put in a trash bag to be disposed of on your regular refuse collection day. Even after excavation, rhizomes are quite resilient and can regenerate or spread, which is why they cannot be picked up with other yard waste. They pose a contamination threat if processed with other municipally collected soft or woody yard waste to make the City's wood mulch and SMARTLEAF compost

Still need help or advice?

For more information about invasive species in Maryland, please visit the [Maryland Department of Natural Resources website here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

GREIVIS VASQUEZ BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACK BASH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26
10:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.
COLLEGE PARK
COMMUNITY CENTER
5051 PIERCE AVE

Mark your calendars for the Fifth Annual Greivis Vasquez Back to School Backpack Bash on August 25 at the College Park Community Center!

Free school supplies, backpacks and more will be given away during the event (while supplies last). There will also be games, activities, bounce houses, free hair cuts, food and tons of fun! All ages are welcome to participate.

For more information, please [visit our facebook event page](#) or call the Department of Public Services at 240-487-3570.



FARMERS MARKETS

HOLLYWOOD
FARMERS MARKET
Saturdays
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

DOWNTOWN
FARMERS MARKET
Sundays
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Fresh produce, wonderful crafts, local vendors, great food - visit our two Farmers Markets every weekend!

Come to our Hollywood Farmers Market in the Hollywood Shopping Center (near MOM's) every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and our Downtown College Park Farmers Market by City Hall every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

All City offices will be closed on Monday, September 3 for the Labor Day holiday. The refuse and recycling schedule will adjust as follows the holiday week:

- Monday collections will occur on Tuesday, September 4
- Tuesday collections will occur on Wednesday, September 5
- Wednesday collections will occur on Thursday, September 6

Special and brush collections will only occur on Friday, September 7.

RAIN BARRELS

A rain barrel is a great way to keep runoff from leaving your home. In the spring and summer, watering the plants or lawn accounts for a large percentage of water consumption. By having a rain barrel and storing rainfall, you'll have water that's both more sustainable and cost effective for outdoor irrigation.

In early August, the Department of Public Works will begin selling 50-gallon rain barrels to City residents for \$72.00, while supplies last. Once installed, Prince George's County residents can apply for a [Rain Check Rebate](#), off-setting most of the cost!

What are rain barrels?

Rain barrels are containers used to collect and store rainwater that flows from your rooftop and downspouts when it rains or storms. That collected rainwater can be used to irrigate lawns or plants; but it is not drinking water or water for use inside your home. By capturing water from downspouts that would otherwise discharge onto a paved surface, rain barrels can reduce the amount of runoff and pollutants reaching local streams.

What are the benefits of rain barrels to property owners and communities?

- Rain barrels provide a free water source for gardens, lawns, and car washing.
- Collected water can be used any time, even during periods of City- or County-imposed water restrictions.
- Since rainwater is soft, oxygenated, devoid of chlorine and other chemicals, it can help improve the health of your garden, lawn, and trees.
- Rain barrels can reduce the amount of stormwater runoff, allowing more of the

water to soak into the ground, replenishing groundwater.

How can you determine if your property is suitable for rain barrels?

Rain barrels are a good option for homes and buildings with:

- Downspouts that discharge onto driveways, sidewalks, and other paved surfaces, or steep slopes.
- Lawn, gardens or other landscaping that requires frequent watering.

Once the rain barrels are in, you can purchase and pick them up at the Department of Public Works (9217 51st Avenue), Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 240-487-3590 or email publicworks@collegeparkmd.gov.

NEVER LEAVE CHILDREN OR PETS INSIDE HOT CARS



The temperature inside a car can rapidly rise and create an emergency situation for a child or pet left inside. Heat related deaths are preventable - never leave a child or pet alone in a car, not even for a minute.

While the outside temperature may be only 80°, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, within only 10 minutes the inside temperature of the car can reach 99°, within 20 minutes, 109° and 114° in a half an hour. As you can see with the image above taken at the University of Maryland Police Department, even on a relatively cooler and overcast summer day, the temperature inside the car can raise pretty quickly.

Here are some tips to help prevent a vehicle heat related emergency:

- Use a visual reminder like a toy or stuffed

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animal in the front seat when a child is in the car. Or, securely place your purse, wallet or phone in the backseat when traveling with a child.

- Keep your car locked when you're not in the vehicle to prevent children from getting in on their own.

COMPOST AND WOOD MULCH

It's time to prepare your fall garden, and there's no better way to do that than with SMARTLEAF® compost.

Compost changes soil structure in the very best ways, converting your average garden soil into one that's friable and fertile.



Compost is \$28.00 per cubic yard and wood mulch is \$12.00 per cubic yard. Material may be picked up at the Department of Public Works Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Deliveries may also be arranged for an additional fee, please call 240-487-3590 or email: publicworks@collegetparkmd.gov. Delivered material cannot be unloaded in the street or right-of-way and there must be a paved or hard surface for our trucks to drive over.

For more information, [click here](#) to visit our site.

CITY TREE CANOPY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (TCEP)

Beginning in 2017, City of College Park property owners can apply for reimbursement of up to \$150.00 annually for approved tree(s) planted on their residential lot.

Now is a great time to plan for the future by planting trees. Trees provide many benefits such as reduction of cooling and heating costs, interception of rain water, increasing property values and improving air quality.

The completed application should be sent to balexander@collegetparkmd.gov for review and approval. [Click here](#) for a link to the guidelines and the application.

BACKYARD COMPOST BINS ARE AVAILABLE

Backyard compost bins are currently available to City residents for \$20.00 and non-residents for \$40.00.

A compost bin is on display in the lobby of the Department of Public Works at 9217 51st Ave. Composting is a great way to dispose of your household food waste and yard waste diverting them from the landfill.

Purchase and pick-up at the Department of Public Works Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information or to arrange a delivery, call 240-487-3590 or email publicworks@collegetparkmd.gov.

Size: 33" high x 31" wide, large capacity – 11 cubic feet with convenient 12"x16" offset, front access door.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

August 14, 2018

7:30 p.m.

City Hall, 2nd Floor Council Chambers

ORDINANCE 18-O-07

Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park Amending City Code Chapter 184 "Vehicles and Traffic", Article II, "Parking Regulations", §184-11 "Prohibited Parking", to Prohibit Parking of Certain Vehicles Within Three Feet of a Driveway or Driveway Apron.

Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 4500 Knox Road, College Park, MD 20740, or by calling 240-487-3501, or visit www.collegetparkmd.gov.

All Public Hearings will be held in the 2nd floor Council Chambers at City Hall, 4500 Knox Road, College Park. Parking passes will be available from the front window. All interested parties will have the opportunity to be heard.

If you are unable to appear in person, you may submit written comment prior to the Public Hearing. In order to be received by the Council as part of the record, the comment must include the specific topic to which it relates and the full name and address of the person submitting the comment. Written comment should be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing to cpmc@collegetparkmd.gov.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, please contact the

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City Clerk's Office and describe the assistance that is necessary.

NOTICE OF OUTCOME

Traffic Calming in the 9500 block of Rhode Island Avenue on the west side service road between Hollywood Road and Iroquois Street

The Mayor and Council of the City of College Park held a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 on the petition request to install traffic calming devices (speed humps) in the 9500 block of Rhode Island Avenue.

Following the Public Hearing, the Mayor and Council approved the installation of two traffic calming devices, to be located at the discretion of the City Engineer. The Engineer anticipates installation will be completed by the end of September, dependent on the weather.

NOTICE OF FAIR SUMMARY Ordinance 18-O-06

An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park to Amend the Fiscal Year 2018 Operating and Capital Budget of the City of College Park, Maryland (Amendment #1).

This Ordinance was introduced on June 19, 2018 and a Public Hearing was held on July 17, 2018. The Ordinance was then adopted on July 17, 2018 and will become effective on August 7, 2018.

Copies of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 4500 Knox Road, College Park, MD 20740, call 240-487-3501, or visit www.collegeparkmd.gov.

MUNICIPAL SCENE

TWO OPTIONS TO STAY IN TOUCH!

EMAIL:

Sign up for "College Park Connected" at www.collegeparkmd.gov/cpconnect. Choose the "General Interest" category to receive the Municipal Scene directly to your inbox every month.

MAIL:

Did you know that College Park residents can receive the Municipal Scene through the mail? Please submit your name and address to the City Clerk's office to get on our mailing list. Contact us at 240-487-3501, or send an email to lrberts@collegeparkmd.gov.

DIRECTORY

City of College Park Main Number.....240-487-3500
City Hall, 4500 Knox Road, College Park, MD 20740
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm

City Hall Departments

Administration.....240-487-3501
City FAX Number.....301-699-8029
Finance.....240-487-3509
Human Resources.....240-487-3533
Parking Enforcement Division.....240-487-3520
Planning/Economic Development.....240-487-3538

Housing Authority

(Attick Towers) 9014 R.I. Ave.301-345-3600

Public Services: 4601A Calvert Rd..... 240-487-3570
Animal Control, Code Enforcement, Public Safety
and Recreation. Parking Enforcement is at City Hall.

24 Hour Hotline..... 240-487-3588
For Urgent Code Enforcement, Noise Control,
Animal Control Issues.

Public Works: 9217 51st Ave.....240-487-3590
Trash Collection, Recycling and Special Pick-ups.

Senior Program..... 301-345-8100

Youth and Family Services

4912 Nantucket Rd.....240-487-3550
Drop-In Recreation Center..... 301-345-4425

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Patrick L. Wojahn
5015 Lackawanna Street.....240-988-7763
Councilmember Fazlul Kabir (District 1)
9817 53rd Avenue.....301-659-6295
Councilmember Kate Kennedy (District 1)
9730 51st Avenue.....202-400-1501
Councilmember P. J. Brennan (District 2)
4500 Knox Road.....202-288-5569
Councilmember Monroe S. Dennis (District 2)
8117 51st Avenue.....301-474-6270
Councilmember Robert W. Day (District 3)
7410 Baylor Avenue.....301-741-1962
Councilmember John Rigg (District 3)
6809 Dartmouth Avenue.....443-646-3503
Councilmember Denise C. Mitchell (District 4)
4500 Knox Road.....301-852-8126
Councilmember Dustyn Kujawa (District 4)
9238 Limestone Place.....240-620-2105

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY: FIRE-AMBULANCE-POLICE.....911
NON-EMERGENCY POLICE SERVICES

P.G. County Police (Hyattsville Station)301-699-2630
P.G. County Police (Non-Emergency) 301-352-1200
P.G. County Park Police (M-NCPPC)..301-459-9088
State Police (College Park Barrack).....301-345-3101
University of Maryland Police.....301-405-3555

College Park Community Center.....301-441-2647
5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park

PEPCO - Power Outages, Lines Down...1-877-737-2662

WSSC: Water Mains.....301-206-4002

Prince George's County Storm Drains.....301-499-8523