



RockvilleReports

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Mayor and Council Adopt Vision for RedGate Park's Future

The Mayor and Council adopted their vision for the future of RedGate Park in October, following months of public input and consideration, with the Reimagining RedGate Park Master Plan.

The master plan will map out how the nearly 130-acre park

will develop. About 90% of the park will be dedicated to passive recreation — activities such as connected trails for biking, hiking and walking, pathways, areas for picnicking, open spaces and natural habitats.

The central park area will *continued on pg. 8...*

Rockville to Host Salute to Service at Veterans Day Ceremony

Rockville will honor veterans of our nation's armed forces with a ceremony on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11.

The ceremony is planned for Veterans Park, at the intersection of MD 28 and Rockville Pike. Free parking will be available at Sandy Spring Bank, 611 Rockville Pike.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will include a wreath laying and a presentation of colors. A reception will follow at American Legion Post 86, at 2013 Veirs Mill Road.

Clarence Hickey, a retired marine biologist and environmental writer and lecturer, will be the guest speaker. Hickey served in the U.S. Army Medical

Service from 1966-1968 at an Army hospital in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, in support of the 101st Airborne Division. As a college graduate with a biology degree, Hickey served as a medical laboratory specialist in a blood bank, sending whole blood to Walter Reed Army Medical Center and to Vietnam, and performing other hospital medic duties. He is now an active volunteer known for his first-person portrayals of Dr. Edward Stonestreet, a prominent Rockville physician and surgeon during the Civil War.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/veteransday, email special_events@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620. ❖



The City of Rockville is 20th on Money.com's list of The Best Places to Live in the U.S.

Rockville was selected for its:

- Diverse Population
- Walkable Downtown
- Dining and Shops
- Croydon Creek Nature Center

Learn more at: money.com/best-places-to-live.

Mayor and Council to Review Rockville Station Study

Consultants from the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority will share an update on a study of the Rockville Metro station with the Mayor and Council at their Monday, Dec. 5 meeting.

The WMATA team will share the draft results of a concept analysis and discuss four concept design options with the Mayor and Council.

This is an interim review of the analysis by the Mayor and Council in order to provide direction before holding two public meetings to share results of the concept analysis and receive feedback from the community.

The station, which opened in 1984, is a critical part of the city's transportation network, but showing its age.

The study's goals are to develop recommendations for improvements to the station's aging infrastructure and connections with Rockville's downtown and neighborhoods to the east, and potential development opportunities at the site and strategies to increase bus and train ridership.

Find more information on the study at www.rockvillemd.gov/2356/Rockville-Station-Study or contact Manisha Tewari at mtewari@rockvillemd.gov. ❖

City Hall Election Ballot Box is Open

A drop box is installed at Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., to accept ballots until 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8 for Maryland's gubernatorial general election.

Note that Rockville City Hall is not an in-person polling location.

Find more information about the 2022 gubernatorial general at www.elections.maryland.gov. ❖



November Hours of Operation in Rockville

Rockville City Hall will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 8 for Election Day, on Friday, Nov. 11 for Veterans Day, and on Thanksgiving weekend. Other city facilities will be closed or will operate on limited schedules.

Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8: City Hall, Rockville Senior Center, Glenview Mansion and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers will be open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. All other city facilities will be open for regular hours. Recycling and trash will be collected on the regular schedule.

Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11: City Hall, the Rockville Senior Center, Glenview Mansion, the Rockville Civic Center business office, and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Croydon Creek Nature Center will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All other city facilities will open as usual.

Wednesday, Nov. 23: Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers will be open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. All other city facilities will be open for regular hours. Recycling and trash will be collected on the regular schedule.

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Outdoor Pool Renovation Plans at Swim and Fitness Center Need Your Input

Plans are moving ahead to renovate the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center's outdoor recreation pool, and so the city is asking — what would you like to see there?

An online survey is available to take your feedback until Friday, Nov. 4 at www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter.

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City's Financial Assistance Program Can Help in an Emergency

Need financial help? Facing eviction? Utilities about to be shut off? Need help paying for prescription medication?

Emergency financial assistance is available to eligible Rockville residents facing a financial crisis through the Rockville Emergency Assistance Program.

Depending on eligibility, REAP assistance may also be available for funeral and medical expenses. Referrals for emergency food, clothing, financial/employment counseling and other assistance are also provided.

All applicants for financial assistance must have a court-issued notice of eviction or notice of pending disconnection, and must apply to the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Montgomery County DHHS will submit a referral to the City of Rockville Community Services Division on behalf of eligible city residents.

For more information on REAP, including how to apply, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/reap.

To donate to the REAP program and help neighbors in need, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/donate. One-hundred percent of donated funds go to Rockville families.

November Hours of Operation

continued from pg. 1...

Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 25: City Hall, the Senior Center, Glenview Mansion, the Rockville Civic Center business office and the Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Theater tickets are always available at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Recycling, trash and yard waste normally collected on Thursdays will be collected Friday, Nov. 25.

Facilities closed Nov. 24 and open for the following hours Nov. 25: Croydon Creek Nature Center (10 a.m.-2 p.m.); Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers (10 a.m.-6 p.m.); the Rockville Skate Park (3-9 p.m.); and the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center (6 a.m.-9 p.m.). Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swim center for more information.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters on **Nov. 8, 11, 24 and 25**.

For more information on recycling and trash collection, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash or call 240-314-8568.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-5000. ✚

Swim Center Renovation

continued from pg. 1...

Renovation to the more than 30-year-old pool will include innovations to enhance visitors' enjoyment and swim experience.

The city's goal for the renovation is understanding and incorporating the community's feedback and expectations so the destination will continue to serve patrons' needs. Initial input, including research and planning, will inform three potential conceptual designs that will be offered for public feedback and comment before a final design is developed.

Potential new amenities could include: a beach/zero entry pool; a sprayground; a variety of slide heights; a water obstacle course; and in-pool basketball and volleyball.

Subscribe to the Rockville Swim Center and Fitness newsletter at www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcentralerts for updates. ✚

City Seeks Feedback on Shopping Centers

November Forums Provide Outlet for Feedback

Rockville will hold two virtual forums in November, for shopping center owners, property managers and tenants, seeking feedback on how the city can provide greater support.

The forums will be held 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 14 and 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15. Both are open to the public.

The city, Rockville Economic Development, Inc., and the Rockville Chamber of Commerce have worked together to create smoother and more timely development and permitting processes, as well as improvements to requirements for perma-

nent signage that allows shopping centers greater visibility.

To support new and existing businesses, future actions under consideration include changes to parking standards, improving opportunities for existing and new businesses, and supporting redevelopment.

The forum will be conducted online via WebEx. Details are available on the city's online calendar at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.

For more information, email Seth Rivard, srivard@rockvillemd.gov, or Katie Gerbes, kgerbes@rockvillemd.gov. ✚

City's Education and Youth Commissions Seek Members

Rockville's two newest commissions — one for education, the other for youth — are recruiting members.

The Education Commission was created by the Mayor and Council to support the city's students. While the commission has not yet been appointed, an interest meeting in September reviewed the ordinance creating the commission, commission responsibilities and requirements, and how to become a member.

The commission is intended to maintain and grow collaborative relationships among the county's board of education, Montgomery County Public Schools, private and nonprofit schools, Montgomery College, parent-teacher associations, private and nonprofit school boards, home-school communities, and providers of early child care and education programs in the Rockville community.

The 11-member commission will include seven parents or guardians, with four representing public education and three representing private, parochial and home schooling; and three educa-

tional professionals. Those 10 members will serve for two years. One member will be a student, who will serve for one year.

The Youth Commission, comprised of 16- to 21-year-olds who live or attend high school or Montgomery College in the city, will develop recommendations for the Mayor and Council about programs, policies and legislation to promote the health and well-being of young adults by identifying, monitoring and evaluating youth services, programs, and activities offered in Rockville and surrounding areas.

Five members of the 11-member Youth Commission will be appointed for two-year terms and six members for one-year terms.

Hear from Rockville residents about how they are sharing their time and talents by serving on a board or commission, visit youtube.com/cityofrockville and search "Join a board."

To learn more about the city's 22 boards and commissions, and how to apply, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions. ✚

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY NEWS!
www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters

New Report Details Census Results for Rockville

A new report developed by the City of Rockville, released in September, details the results of the 2020 Census as they relate to the city.

"2020 Census Results for the City of Rockville" can be found on the city's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/610/Community-Data-Trends.

The report provides a snapshot of demographic, housing, social and economic conditions in the City of Rockville by compiling and presenting data released from the United States Census Bureau.

The purpose of the report is to help the community understand existing conditions in Rockville and make informed decisions about local government, such as service delivery, capital improvement and planning.

The report also provides insight into significant changes in the city's evolving population with respect to ethnicities, households, income, poverty and other key indicators.

More data is accessible from the Census Bureau at data.census.gov. ✚

New Fire Protection Oversight System Proves a Success

Since January's implementation of the Compliance Engine, a third-party inspection and data collection platform for fire protection systems, the city has experienced 20% fewer nuisance alarms.

The Compliance Engine allows oversight by Rockville's fire marshal and Inspection Services Division of fire alarm, sprinkler, smoke control and commercial cooking extinguisher systems installed within commercial and multifamily dwellings in the City of Rockville.

This facilitates a more

efficient review, tracking and follow-up process with building owners to correct deficiencies and maintain systems.

The system, which allows for accurate and timely inspection reporting and tracking of those fire-protection systems, has meant greater safety and protection for the community.

Of 656 premises that were inspected since the system's implementation, 90% were compliant.

Learn more about the Compliance engine at www.rockvillemd.gov/576/fire-marshal. ✚



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MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel, (youtube.com/cityofrockville): the Mayor and Council help cut the ribbon on Parkside Landing; why you should join a Rockville board, commission or task force; Rockville Goes Purple wraps with Olympic coach and athlete Tony Hoffman; and a Walk-n-Roll-n-Talk for Walktober.

Mayor & Council

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THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ARE HOLDING HYBRID MEETINGS. The public is welcome to participate in person or virtually, until further notice.

Meetings Schedule: Monday, Nov. 7 and 14, with a work session Nov. 21, at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The Nov. 21 meeting will be preceded by a drop-in session by telephone with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

To participate, sign up by 10 a.m. the day of the drop-in at www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/CityClerk-11/Sign-up-for-Dropin-Meetings-227.

If you wish to submit comments in writing for community forum or public hearings, please email mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov by 10 a.m. on the day of.

Share comments live during community forum. Sign up by calling the City Clerk/Director of Council Operations at 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. the day of the meeting.

All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website.

Mayor and Council meetings are broadcast on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11 and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Agencies: 'Strong Economic Characteristics' for the City, Expect Outlook to Remain Strong

Reaffirmation of Triple-A Bond Rating Will Save Taxpayers Money

Two rating agencies recently reaffirmed the city's triple-A bond rating and expressed confidence in Rockville's financial outlook.

Triple-A is the highest possible rating and saves Rockville taxpayers money by allowing the city to borrow at the lowest possible interest rates.

In awarding the rating, the agencies showed confidence in Rockville's ability to meet its financial obligations, cited the city's conservative fiscal management, strong policies and practices, ample reserve levels and stable tax base.

"Rockville has historically maintained a strong record of conservative budgeting and finances, in our view, due to a very strong management team with strong well-embedded, formal financial-management policies and practices under our Financial Management Assessment (FMA) methodology, as well as very

strong economic characteristics," Standard & Poor's said in its ratings report.

Moodys Investors Service expects the city's rating outlook to remain strong. "The stable outlook reflects Moody's expectation that the city's credit profile will remain in line with the Aaa rating category due to prudent financial management, a strong local economy, and moderate long-term liabilities," Moody's said in its report.

"The city's finance staff take pride in the prudent and responsible management of city finances and celebrate this strong rating announcement," Stacey Webster, the city's chief financial officer, said in an email to the Mayor and Council, reporting the ratings. "Finance staff will continue to promote strong financial management policies and will continue to provide guidance and recommendations

that will keep the city on a path of financial stability."

On Oct. 19, the city sold \$11.2 million in general obligation bonds to TD Securities at a 3.74% interest rate. The bond proceeds will finance ongoing water main rehabilitation and improvements citywide; advanced water meter infrastructure implementation and replacements; upgrades and expansion of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority's Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant, which treats the city's wastewater; and stream restoration and improvements at the Croydon Creek and Calvin Park tributary stream to Rock Creek.

More information about these projects can be found in the city's Fiscal Year 2023 Adopted Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget. ❖

Mayor and Council Approve Budget Calendar, Launch Budget Survey

The Mayor and Council kicked off work on the city's Fiscal Year 2024 budget in October with approval of the budget process calendar, a public hearing and the launch of a survey for community members to offer input on their budget priorities.

The first budget hearing, held Monday, Oct. 17, gave community members an opportunity to present their needs early in the FY 2024 budget process. Find video of the hearing with the Oct. 17 meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Public participation in the budget process is a high priority for the Mayor and Council and city staff. A budget survey now

available at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget allows community members to identify their budget priorities and options for maintaining a balanced budget. The responses will provide valuable input to the Mayor and Council for their budget discussions.

The \$148.8 million budget for Fiscal Year 2023, which began July 1, keeps the city's real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation the same. All residential and commercial property owners pay this tax. Rockville has not increased its property tax rate since 1995.

For more info, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. ❖

FY 2024 Budget Calendar:

- **Monday, Nov. 14:** Discussion of budget practices and policies.
 - **Monday, Dec. 12:** Discussion of Mayor and Council survey results and priority setting.
 - **Monday, Feb. 27:** Presentation of city manager's proposed FY24 operating budget and Capital Improvements Program.
 - **Monday, March 6:** Public hearing and work session.
 - **Monday, March 20:** Work session.
 - **Monday, April 17:** Public hearing and work session.
 - **Friday, April 21:** Close of budget survey and budget public record.
 - **Monday, May 1:** Work session.
 - **Monday, May 8:** Adoption of the FY24 operating budget and Capital Improvements Program.
 - **Saturday, July 1:** FY24 begins.
- Note: Budget calendar dates for 2023 are subject to change.*

Get Involved with the City

- **Send an email** to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov.
- **Testify at a hearing** or in writing to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** to be on a board or commission. Find ways to give of your time and talents at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Boards and Commissions

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission may write to: Mayor and Council, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

While some meetings are canceled, other boards and commissions meetings will take place virtually. See times and dates, and ways to participate on city's online calendar: www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx.

- **Nov. 9 Planning Commission 7 p.m.** (Meetings will be held by teleconference. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details closer to the meeting dates.)

Vacancies

The Mayor and Council are seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Cultural Arts Commission (I)
- Education Commission (II)
- Environment Commission (I)
- Financial Advisory Board (I)
- Human Rights Commission (I)
- Human Services Advisory Board (I)
- Planning Commission (2)
- Senior Citizens Commission (I)
- Youth Commission (II)

For more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions or call 240-314-8280.

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FY 2024 Budget Priorities Survey

Public participation in the budget process is a high priority for the Mayor and Council and city staff. By completing the 2024 Budget Priorities Survey, you are providing valuable input to the Mayor and Council for their FY24 budget discussions.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget

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COMPLETE LA ENCUESTA

Presupuesto de la Ciudad de Rockville Para el Año Fiscal 2024

La participación pública en el proceso del presupuesto es de alta prioridad para la Alcaldesa y el Concejo, y el personal de la ciudad. Al llenar la encuesta sobre el presupuesto para el año fiscal 2024, estará proporcionando comentarios valiosos a la Alcaldesa y al Concejo para sus discusiones sobre el presupuesto para el año fiscal 2024.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget

IMPORTANT NUMBERS: Main: 240-314-5000 Police Non-emergency: 240-314-8900 24-Hour Utility Emergency Report Hotline: 240-314-8567

STAY INFORMED: The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil. Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting.

Connect with us on Social Media.

► SPEAK UP ◀

Report potential fraud, waste and abuse related to City of Rockville government services and employees.

Call 1-866-921-6714

Email rockvillemd@integritycounts.ca
Visit www.integritycounts.ca/org/rockvillemd
For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/fraud-waste-abuse.

Native 'Tree-Bates': Get \$150 for Planting Native Trees

Native trees are beautiful, provide important habitat for birds and other wildlife, and help absorb stormwater runoff and pollutants.

Single-family and townhouse owners, homeowners associations, condominium associations and nonprofits in Rockville can receive a \$150 rebate from the city for planting native trees. Learn how at www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes.

Rebates are also available for permeable paver retrofits, rain barrels, native-planting projects and pavement removal.

Need ideas for trees to plant? You can usually find these native trees at local nurseries or online:

Shade Trees

- Willow oak (*Quercus phellos*).
- River birch (*Betula nigra*).
- Red maple (*Acer rubrum*).

Small Trees

- Serviceberry (*Amelanchier* spp.).
- White fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*).
- Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*).

Evergreen Trees

- American holly (*Ilex opaca*).
- Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*).
- Sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*).



Climate Solutions Speaker Series to Offer a How-To on Reducing Household Waste

Rockville's Climate Solutions Speaker Series explores how to reduce waste at home with a free, virtual presentation from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 3.

Learn practical steps you can take at home to reduce waste and lower your carbon footprint. Presented by Brenda Platt from the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. Get tips on reducing food waste, food scrap composting, repurposing and reusing items, recycling and more. Register at bit.ly/ReduceWasteAtHome2022.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters to subscribe to the city's "Environment and Sustainability News" email for more event announcements, updates about city environmental efforts, news about Rockville's first Climate Action Plan, and tips for living greener year-round.

Don't Let a Clog Become an Unwanted Holiday Guest

When the holiday feast is finished, don't pour fats, oils and grease, i.e., FOG, down the drain.

FOG, including sauces, gravy and salad dressings, can trap solids, form hard deposits and clog pipes, causing basement backups, sewer overflows and costly damage to city infrastructure and private property.

Before washing dishes, scrape food and grease into a trash can, use a paper towel to wipe away oil, or pour FOG into an empty can, let it cool to solidify and dispose of it.



Recycle the Rockville Way This America Recycles Day

America Recycles Day is Tuesday, Nov. 15.

The 26th annual day of awareness, sponsored by Keep America Beautiful, encourages community members to visit america-recyclesday.org and take the #BeRecycled pledge to commit to recycling. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is sponsoring its own pledge challenge, featuring prizes. Visit bit.ly/MWCOGRecycles.

The national recycling rate has increased from less than 7% in 1960 to the current rate of 34%, according to Keep America Beautiful. Rockville's recycling rate is 42%.

At the 2020 America

Recycles Summit, the Environmental Protection Agency announced a first-ever national recycling goal of 50% by 2030.

Find a list of common items Rockville recycles at www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash.

Rockville also recycles air conditioners, water heaters, refrigerators (with doors removed), grills, lawn mowers and more. For a complete list, select "Electronics & Metal" from the sidebar of the recycling webpage. Other special collection items include:

Bulk refuse, for which Rockville provides six special collections per household per calendar year of items such as wooden furniture, fencing,

landscape ties and construction debris.

Electronics, such as televisions, computers, printers, small electronics, cords and cables.

The city will not accept materials for recycling that are in plastic bags or that contain plastic bags. Many grocery or retail stores offer plastic bag collection bins near their entrances. Find a drop-off location at bit.ly/howtorecyclebags.

Call 240-314-8568 or email refuse@rockvillemd.gov to schedule a special collection, start service, get a larger recycling cart, report a missed collection, verify collection schedules or ask a question.

Be Cart Smart

When setting carts out for recycling and trash collection, remember to place carts in the street along the curb in front of your property. Along busy streets, where carts in the street could pose a hazard, place carts adjacent to, but not in, the street, such as in the grass buffer between the sidewalk and street or, in locations where there is no buffer, behind the sidewalk. In all cases, carts should not be placed in the sidewalk because it impedes the path of pedestrians and can be particularly hazardous for those who use a wheelchair and cannot navigate around or move the carts. ❖

City Debuts New Food Scraps Compost Drop-Off

Rockville is piloting a food scraps drop-off program to make composting easy, keep valuable materials out of landfills and reduce excessive greenhouse gas emissions.

Food scraps will be picked up weekly by a commercial contractor and delivered to the Prince George's County Organic Compost Facility.

How To Use the Drop-Off

1. Place food scraps in an airtight container. (Empty coffee containers with sealing lids are great for this.) Be sure to remove any plastic or other trash.
2. Bring full containers and empty them into the designated green bins at the Food Scraps Compost Drop-Off area at the city's maintenance facility at

14625 Rothgeb Drive. View the map below and follow the signs when you arrive. The site is accessible 24/7 and the service is free of charge.

3. Rinse your container and repeat!

Need a food scraps container? The city is giving away a limited number of kitchen countertop pails to Rockville residents to make transporting food scraps easy. Supplies are limited and reservations are required. Reserve your pail and learn more about the food scraps drop-off at www.rockvillemd.gov/foodscraps. ❖



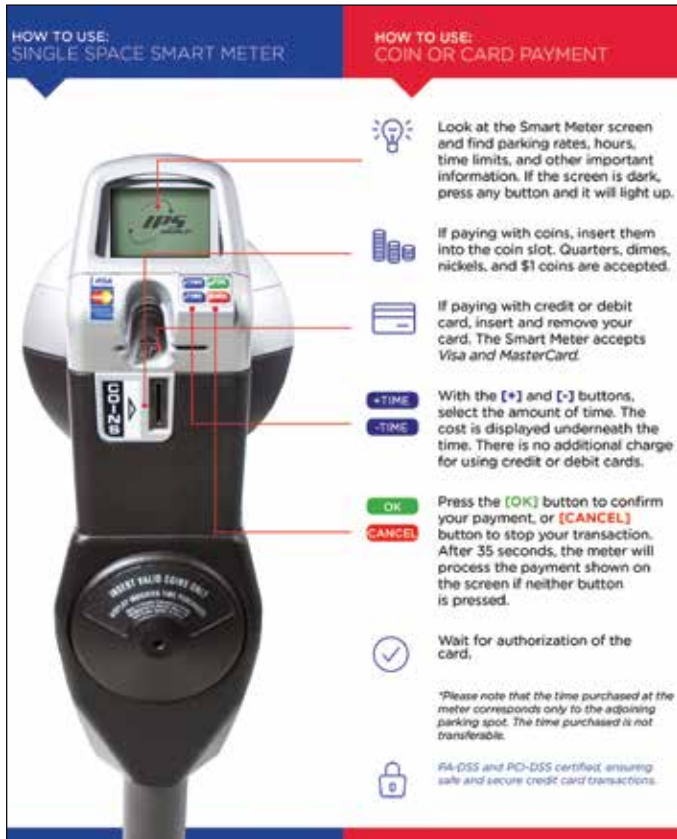
What Food Scraps Can I Drop Off?



Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/foodscraps.



HELP US LIGHT THE WAY ... With the days getting shorter, have you noticed a streetlight that's getting dimmer – or is out completely? Learn how to report it at RockvilleReports.com/streetlightreport or just select "Report a concern" at the bottom of www.rockvillemd.gov.



Smarter Parking as New Meters Debut in Two City Neighborhoods

Smart parking meters that allow motorists to pay by multiple methods and are environmentally friendly are debuting this fall in two Rockville neighborhoods.

The City of Rockville has teamed up with IPS Group to replace 300 parking meters in Town Center and Twinbrook with the new smart meters.

The easy-to-use meters will accept credit or debit card payments directly at the meter, payment through the city's ParkMobile app, and coins of multiple denominations, i.e., quarters, dimes, and nickels. They

replace meters that only accepted payment through the ParkMobile app or with quarters.

The meters feature a display that illuminates at the press of a button and allows motorists to view parking rates, hours, restrictions, and other important information. The energy-efficient meters are powered by solar panels and a rechargeable backup battery pack and modular components for easier maintenance.

Learn more about parking in the City of Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/parking. 🌟



REVVED UP FOR A REUNION ... Rockville's annual Antique and Classic Car Show returned to the grounds of Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park on Oct. 15. The show's 59th edition featured more than 500 vehicles from 32 car clubs and a special display marking 50 years of BMW's M series. Follow the Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show on Facebook for more photos, including a gallery of this year's Mayor and Council Award winner, Bob Ridolfi, of Dayton, and his 1957 Cadillac Biarritz. Rockville II takes you to the show at youtube.com/cityofrockville. Search "Car Show 2022."



WALK 'N' ROLL (SAFELY)! ... The Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee hosted a short walk and roll tour for "Walktober" on Oct. 6, highlighting pedestrian safety on Rockville's streets. Rockville II takes you there on the city's YouTube channel. Visit youtube.com/cityofrockville and search "Walk 'n' Roll." For more information about RPAC, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rpac.

The end of daylight saving time on Sunday, Nov. 6, and the coming winter, mean less daylight and a reminder to use caution while driving, biking and walking on city streets. Crashes involving pedestrians peak October through December, with most fatal crashes occurring in the dark. Learn more about the dangers of less daylight and find ways to stay safe at RockvilleReports.com/drivingbikingwalkingtips.

Meet a Rockville Employee: Jason Frett

Jason Frett, the newest member of the city's Department of Human Resources, is a talent acquisition and professional development manager. We asked him a few questions to introduce him to the Rockville community.



Jason Frett

right people for the city's current and future needs. I am very excited and grateful to be here!

How did you get started in your field?

I obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration with a major in human resources from Shippensburg University. I have 20 years of experience from a variety of industries and company types, including publicly traded and privately held companies spanning architectural and civil engineering, software development, building maintenance and trades, and professional engineering and consulting services.

What do you do in your free time?

I signed away my free time 17 years ago because I am married. (Joking, but not joking.) When not spending time with my wife and son, who is 14, I tend to be a busybody with home and car maintenance. I also enjoy playing basketball.

When did you join the City of Rockville?

I joined in September.

What did you do before joining the city?

I was with an engineering and consulting company for about seven years. I led talent acquisition efforts and managed a team of five. Before that, I was a human resources manager at a software engineering company.

Tell us about your new role.

I am part of an amazing human resources team. My role will focus on talent acquisition and professional development. I'll work with managers and teams in various areas of professional and management development, including performance reviews and continuous efforts in how we attract and hire the

Baltimore Road Partially Resurfaced as Corridor Improvements Continue

With the first section of roadway resurfacing on Baltimore Road complete, construction of a shared-use path near Rockville High School is next up as work continues along the corridor between Rockville Town Center and the city's east side.

Earlier this fall, city contractors completed paving Baltimore Road between First Street and Edmonston Drive. Curb bump outs were installed at Baltimore Road and Grandin Avenue, and at Baltimore Road and South Horners Lane. Crews also completed grading and preparation for the installation of a pervious shared-use path on the south side of Baltimore Road between the Rockville High School driveway and Twinbrook Parkway.

Upcoming work includes installing signage between First Street and Edmonston Drive, and continuing the installation of storm drain structure and pipe between Edmonston Drive and Avery Road.

To learn more about this project to improve safety and access on Baltimore Road, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/baltimoreroadproject.

Nominate a Neighbor for a Human Rights Awards

The city's Human Rights Commission is accepting nominations for two awards to be presented at Rockville's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration on Monday, Jan. 16.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award will be presented to a student at a Rockville high school who has worked to fulfill King's dream in either their school or the community.

The F. Michael Taff Award will be presented to an individual, organization or business that has helped to improve the lives of people with disabilities, such as through efforts to improve accessibility or raise public awareness. It is named in honor of the late F. Michael Taff, a dedicated human rights activist and former chair of the Human Rights Commission.

Find and submit nomination forms at www.rockvillemd.gov/mlk. The submission deadline is Monday, Nov. 14.

RHE Opens Wait List for Mainstream Program

Rockville Housing Enterprises will open its wait list, for its mainstream program only, in December.

These vouchers are for households with a non-elderly disabled person aged 18-61.

Applicants can sign up for the online-only wait list, available from 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, at myportal.rockvillehe.org.

Applicants will be required to provide contact information, including an email address for the application process, and details about income sources, household members and verification of disability.

RHE was created by the Rockville Mayor and Council in 1959 to investigate the need for building and administering affordable housing needed in the city.

For more information about the wait list or for assistance completing the online application, email ylopez@rockvillehe.org or call 301-424-6265, extension 110. For more information about RHE, visit www.rockvillehe.org.



FALL BACK AND CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS ... Daylight saving time comes to an end at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 6, meaning clocks need to be set back an hour. This time of year is also a good reminder to check that your smoke alarms work — they're the best way of notifying you and your family of a fire.



Find Local Flavor for Your Thanksgiving Table at the Rockville Farmers Market

Bring local farm-fresh fall flavor to your Thanksgiving with produce from regional growers/producers at the Rockville Farmers Market.

Fall offerings include apples, cider, gourds, potatoes and pumpkins. The market also features plants and flowers, herbs, baked goods, local wine and spirits, knife sharpening, meat and coffee. It is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, through Nov. 19 in the jury parking lot at the corner of East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets in Rockville Town Center.

Receive a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$10 weekly when shopping with SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program/Electronic Benefits Transfer), P-EBT (Pandemic EBT) and WIC-FVC (Women, Infants and Children-Fruit and Vegetable Checks). Matching funds can be used to purchase locally grown and produced items including fruits, vegetables, meat, cheese, dairy, baked goods, eggs and honey.

The Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money programs remove economic barriers for food-insecure shoppers, by increasing access to fresh produce and increasing purchasing power. Eat Fresh Rockville is sponsored in part by grant funds from the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission. The program aims to fight hunger while investing directly in farmers, strengthening the local food system. Stop by the market tent, located at the market entrance, for more information.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers or 240-314-8620 or follow the market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RockvilleFarmersMarket.

Volunteer to Shovel Snow for an Elderly Neighbor

City Pairs Helpers with Seniors

Each winter, the Rockville Senior Center looks for ways to help older Rockville residents with snow removal. If you're handy with a shovel and don't mind digging out an extra driveway or clearing a walkway or two, you can sign up and volunteer for the program.

The senior center's home maintenance coordinator organizes the program and can connect you with neighbors in need near your home. What better way to celebrate the season of selfless giving?

To sign up to volunteer or to request snow-shoveling assistance, email Jerry Jones at jjones@rockvillemd.gov, call Jones at 240-314-8819 or call the Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810. To sign up for assistance or volunteer online, visit bit.ly/snowshovelvolunteer.

For more information about Rockville Senior Services, call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov.

When winter weather strikes, turn to the city's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/winterweather for information about the Rockville's snow removal policies.

Physical Therapy, Keys to Nutrition and Bones, This Month at the Senior Center

Stay healthy and informed with seminars from the Rockville Senior Center in November.

Register with the course number at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration. Learn about 60-plus programs, courses, activities and services at www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter or by calling 240-314-8800. See the "Adults 60+" recreation guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/life for more information.

Activities are in person, except where noted.

Talk to a Physical Therapist

If you are in pain or have questions for a physical therapist, schedule your free 15-minute screening with Dr. Carlos Martinez of CAM Physical Therapy. Call Betty at 240-314-8803 for an appointment.

Register with course #24646. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9.

Diabetes: Key Steps to Nutrition and Active Living

Learn to read nutrition labels, understand portion versus serving size, the im-

pact of activity on glucose levels and general nutrition. Taught by a diabetes health educator from Adventist HealthCare.

Register with course #24084. 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Better Breathers Club

Features educational presentations on topics that include how lung disease affects your lungs, breathing techniques, exercise, treatment and more. Facilitated by an American Lung Association instructor.

Meets third Thursday of each month. Register with course #24074. 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17.

Osteoporosis 101: Bone Up on the Basics

Fractures and bone weakness become a reality as you age. In this virtual session, Dr. Kendell Moseley, an endocrinologist, will guide you on how to maintain optimal bone health, and discuss prevention strategies and treatment options.

Register with course #24606. 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17. ✚

Explore the County's Prehistory at Glenview with Peerless Rockville

Discover how early inhabitants of Montgomery County adapted to their environment with tool use and social development as the Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series hosts a free, live presentation by archaeologist Don Housley.

Housley, president of the Mid-Potomac Chapter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, will present "Prehistory in Montgomery County: A 12,000-Year Story" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park,

603 Edmonston Drive.

The illustrated presentation about the peopling of the region traces the Paleo-Indian, Archaic and Woodland periods before European contact, and explains how we know what we know about the people who lived here.

The event is free, but registration is required at www.eventbrite.com/e/prehistory-in-montgomery-county-a-12000-year-story-tickets-381337589997.

For more information, call 240-314-8660. ✚

Murder and Music, Music, Music, This Month at the Civic Center

Murder at the Mansion presents "Murder on the Oriental Rug." 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 4 and 5 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6.

Anything can happen when half of the cast of "Murder on the Oriental Rug" bails out and the remaining performers are stuck playing all the roles — and not everyone sticks to the script. This interactive murder-mystery spoofs old-fashioned whodunits and live theater. Includes dessert, a cash bar and an optional Mission BBQ dinner. Tickets are \$35 for individuals; \$30 each in groups of two. Tickets and Mission BBQ are \$55 or \$50 each in groups of two.

Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/MATM2022 for tickets.

Rockville Musical Theatre presents "Legally Blonde." 8 p.m. Nov. 4, 5, 11 and 12; 2 p.m. Nov. 6 and 13. Tickets: \$26; \$23, students and seniors.

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture. Elle Woods appears to have it all. Her life is turned upside down when her boyfriend Warner dumps her so he can attend Harvard Law. Determined to get him back, Elle ingeniously charms her way into the prestigious law school. While there, she struggles with peers, professors and her ex. With the support of new friends, Elle quickly realizes her potential and sets out to prove herself to the world.

Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Blonde for tickets.

Four Seasons Chamber Orchestra presents "A Celebration of 125 Years of Brahms." 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18. Tickets: \$15; \$10, students and seniors.

Artistic director/concertmaster Mei Mei Wei is joined by players from the National Philharmonic, U.S. Army Band, the Washington Opera and Washington Ballet. The concert program is Brahms Double Concerto for Violin and Cello in A Minor, Op. 102, and Brahms Symphony No. 2 Op. 73.

Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Brahms for tickets.

Washington Balalaika Society presents "A Musical Journey Around the World." 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19. Tickets: \$30; \$25, seniors and military; \$15, students; \$5, children 12 and younger.

Joined by the Kalinka Dance Ensemble of Baltimore, a highly acclaimed regional dance company whose mission is to preserve and disseminate Eastern European folk-dance traditions as a form of traditional art, the concert program will include a potpourri of musical selections from Ukraine, Russia, Austria, Armenia, Brazil, Italy, Poland, America and more. Conductor Peter Omelchenko will perform on the prima domra as a soloist.

Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Journey for tickets.

Rockville Concert Band presents "A Johan de Meij Tribute." 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20. No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation.

A varied program of spirited music by a world-renowned composer of original works, directed by Juan Gallastegui.

Visit rockvilleconcertband.org for more information.

The Rockville Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker." 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 3 and 10; 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 4 and 11. Tickets: \$17; \$13, 60 and older and children 12 and younger. Assigned-seat tickets are available for purchase online, by phone or in person.

Join Clara on her magical journey. Directed by Eleanor Simpson and Erin Kwong.

Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Nutcracker2022 for tickets.

Buy tickets online and learn more about performances and events at Rockville Civic Center Park at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre; call 240-314-8690; or visit the box office, 2-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For more info, email theatre@rockvillemd.gov. ✚



Winter Guides are Coming!

Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Sign up at www.rockvillemd.gov/register. Enter the course number listed on the calendar entry to see more details and to register.



WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH? November is Municipal Government Works Month. It's also National Native American Heritage Month, National Novel Writing Month, Military Family Appreciation Month, Alzheimer's Disease Month and Gratitude Month (so thanks for being a "Rockville Reports" reader!).

November CALENDAR

FACILITIES LEGEND:

- CC** Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- GM** Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- FSF** F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
- LP** Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
- CH** Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
- SR** Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
- SFC** Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
- TF** Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
- TC** Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.

- V** Virtual Program/Offering
- F** Facebook Live Event



2,16,30 OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB Spend an hour investigating and learning about nature. Play games, perform experiments and explore the preserve. Dress for the weather as time is spent outside. Each session meets every other Wednesday. Ages 7-11. Meeting dates: Nov. 2, 16 and 30; Dec. 14. 4-5 p.m. Register with course #24598 and #24599. \$40 R/\$50 NR. **CC**

3,19 LITTLE EXPLORERS Take time with your little one to go exploring with a naturalist. Hiking, games and hands-on learning are part of the fun! Registration and adult participation required. Ages 2-5. Register with course #24594. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

3 THE POWER OF LISTENING Most of us want to be heard, not just listened to. And some of us just want to be heard. Join for more thoughts like these and bring your own. \$6 M/\$9 NM. Register with course #23933. 11 a.m.-noon. **SR**

3 V HOW TO REDUCE WASTE AT HOME Practical steps you can take at home to reduce waste and lower your carbon footprint. See article on page 4. Free. 7-8 p.m.

4 ORGANIZING 101 Organization is unique to each person. This course builds community and a support network for participants to reach their goals. \$30 M/\$45 NM. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

4,5,6 MURDER AT THE MANSION PRESENTS "MURDER ON THE ORIENTAL RUG" See article on page 6. **GM**

4,5,6,11,12,13 ROCKVILLE MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS "LEGALLY BLONDE" See article on page 6. **FSF**

5,12,19 ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

5 CROYDON CREEK CAMPFIRE: ALL ABOUT DEER Gather around the campfire with your friends for stories, snacks and more. An adult must accompany children and all participants must register. Ages 5 and older. Register with course #24613. \$6 R/\$7 NR. 6-7 p.m. **CC**

6 ROCKVILLE 10K/5K See article on page 8. 8 a.m. King Farm.

6 FAMILIES OUTSIDE: LIFE UNDER A LOG Explore the habitats of the John Hayes Forest Preserve with naturalist-led nature outings that will help you and your family enjoy the wonders surrounding the center. Adults and children must register; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 3 and older. Register with course #24604. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 2-3 p.m. **CC**

9 TALK TO A PHYSICAL THERAPIST See article on page 6. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

9 HOME SHARE Reduce social isolation, create monthly income and generate affordable housing options for home seekers. Montgomery County's new Home Sharing Program assists homeowners offering rooms for rent to home seekers searching for affordable, healthy and safe housing for longer than six months. Register with course #22084. Free. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

10 FASHION SHOW WITH TAYLOR MARIE "Project Runway," without the drama and sewing disasters. The latest fashions in sizes and creative accessories for all. Senior center models wow you with designer clothing at below-retail prices. Light refreshments served. Register with course

#23883. \$10 M/\$12 NM. 1-3 p.m. **SR**

11 VETERANS DAY CEREMONY See article on page 1. 11 a.m.-noon. Veterans Park, route 28 and 355.

12 FALL COMMUNITY INDOOR YARD SALE Winter is approaching. Now's the time to declutter your home, make money and have fun. Check out bargains or sign up for a vendors table (6-by-3 feet). For more information, email lpcc@rockvillemd.gov. 7-11 a.m. Richard Montgomery High School, 250 Richard Montgomery Drive.

14,15 V VIRTUAL FORUM FOR OWNERS, PROPERTY MANAGERS AND TENANTS OF SHOPPING CENTERS See article on page 2. 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 14 and 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15.

15 CREATING HOLIDAY LABELS Learn step by step how to make festive labels for cards and gifts during the holiday season. Register with course #24021. \$9 M/\$15 NM. 10 a.m.-noon. **SR**

15 DIABETES: KEY STEPS TO NUTRITION AND ACTIVE LIVING Take charge of diabetes. Keep active and eat healthy. Learn to read nutrition labels, about portion versus serving size and the impact of activity on glucose levels, as well as nutrition. An interactive class with hands-on activities. Register with course #24084. Free. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

16 LGBT AND AGING LGBT older adults have higher risks of mental-health concerns, disability, and higher rates of disease and physical limitations than their heterosexual counterparts. Discuss resources and networks to lower these risks. Register with course #24543. Free. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

17 V ANNUAL TURKEY TROT: IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL The annual Turkey Trot walks through the Woodley Gardens neighborhood. Bring a canned food item to support the senior center food bank or make a donation to the Senior Assistance Fund. Register with course #24434 for in person; course #24435 for virtual. 10-11:30 a.m.

17 HIKE WITH A NATURALIST AT CROYDON CREEK NATURE CENTER Naturalists from Croydon Creek are heading out to the parks. Hike different parks in Rockville and discover the flora and fauna of our city. Hikes last about an hour and could be up to one mile. Trail quality may vary and bathroom access may be limited. Register with course #24589. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 1-2 p.m. **CC**

17 OSTEOPOROSIS 101: BONING UP ON THE BASICS Fractures and bone weakness become more of a reality with age. Maintain optimal bone health, and discuss key prevention strategies and treatment options. Register with course #24606. Free. 1-2 p.m.

18 ORGANIZING 101 Organization is unique to each person. This course builds community and a support network for participants to reach their goals. Register with course #24536. \$30 M/\$45 NM. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

20 ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "A JOHAN DE MEIJ TRIBUTE" See article on page 6. 3-4 p.m. **FSF**

R = Residents • NR = Nonresidents • MEM = Member • NM = Nonmember

FOR MORE INFO AND UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS: WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/CALENDAR

City Launches Reimbursement Program for Resident Flood Mitigation Projects

The City of Rockville is piloting a Flood Mitigation Assistance Program to reimburse residents and property owners for property improvements intended to mitigate future damage from flooding.

The matching reimbursement funds will provide up to 50% of the total costs of approved mitigation measures, up to \$5,000. The city has allocated a total of \$300,000 for the program. Funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Examples of eligible practices include floodproofing windows, flood gates, "sandless sandbags," battery-powered sump pumps, modifying topography, elevating utilities, flood alert systems

and flood-resistant building materials.

Who May Apply

- Residential and commercial properties, including homeowner associations and condominium associations. Condominium associations or homeowner associations may only apply for improvements to commonly owned property areas and must provide proof of approval by the association's governing board.
- Renters may only apply with documentation of approval from the property owner.



Eligibility Criteria

- Work must be completed before applying.
- Applicant must provide itemized receipts for purchase and/or installation for eligible expenses.
- Eligible expenses must be incurred on or after July 1, 2019.
- Applicant must provide photographic evidence that measures have already been installed.
- All applicable permits and approvals must be obtained and submitted with the application.
- Applicants must confirm that their project and/or installation will not adversely affect neighboring property by increasing or blocking stormwater flow.
- Applicants must execute the City Waiver Agreement included in the application.

View full program guidelines, a list of eligible practices and apply at www.rockvillemd.gov/floodassistance.

Know anyone 60+ who needs our help?

We're here as a helping hand for your older neighbors, friends or relatives.

- ✓ Food & Financial Assistance
- ✓ Counseling & Outreach
- ✓ Support
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Connecting with Peers
- ✓ Grocery Shopping



Call 240-314-8800.
Email SeniorCenter@rockvillemd.gov.
Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/397/Services.

Last Chance to Register: Rockville 10K/5K is Nov. 6

The 47th annual Rockville 10K/5K, the oldest continuing foot race in Montgomery County, is Sunday, Nov. 6.

A kids 1-mile fun run begins at 8:10 a.m. The 10K starts at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K at 8:45 a.m. Runners should arrive before 8 a.m., at which time streets leading to the race will be closed to ensure a prompt start.

Registration costs \$35 online or by mail through Friday, Nov. 4, and \$45 for in-person or online registration after that.

Saturday packet pickup on Nov. 5 is from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at RnJ Sports, 11910-R Parklawn Drive. Day-of race packet pickup opens at 7:30 a.m. at King Farm Village Center, 801 Pleasant Drive, between the Fontina Grille and Baja Fresh restaurants.

The course begins and ends in King Farm and travels a scenic route along Redland Boulevard (west of Grand Champion Drive), Gaither Road, Piccard Drive and West Gude Drive.

For more information, a course map and to register, visit www.rockville10k5k.com.

Charter Review Commission to Present Recommendations to Mayor and Council

Rockville's Charter Review Commission is scheduled to present a report this month that outlines recommendations about the makeup of the Mayor and Council, how the city conducts elections, operations of the city's Board of Supervisors of Elections, and how to increase voter turnout.

The commission is scheduled to present its report during the Mayor and Council meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21.

In 2021, the Mayor and Council appointed 11 commissioners to review the city charter, with a focus on examining city elections.

The report, which the commission submitted to Mayor and Council on Sept. 30, can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/Charter-Review-Commission. It is the result of over 40 public meetings of the commission and an online questionnaire that earlier this year asked city residents for ideas about how to increase voter turnout, update the city's election process and engage more communities.

About 70% of registered voters in Rockville did not vote in the city's 2019 election. The next city election is in November 2023.

Every decade or so, the Charter Review Commission examines ways to update the charter so that it best serves all residents. The charter is a legal document like a constitution. It outlines how the city is organized, runs elections, levies taxes, adopts ordinances, provides services and more. It can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/124/City-Code-Charter.

ROCKVILLE REWARDS

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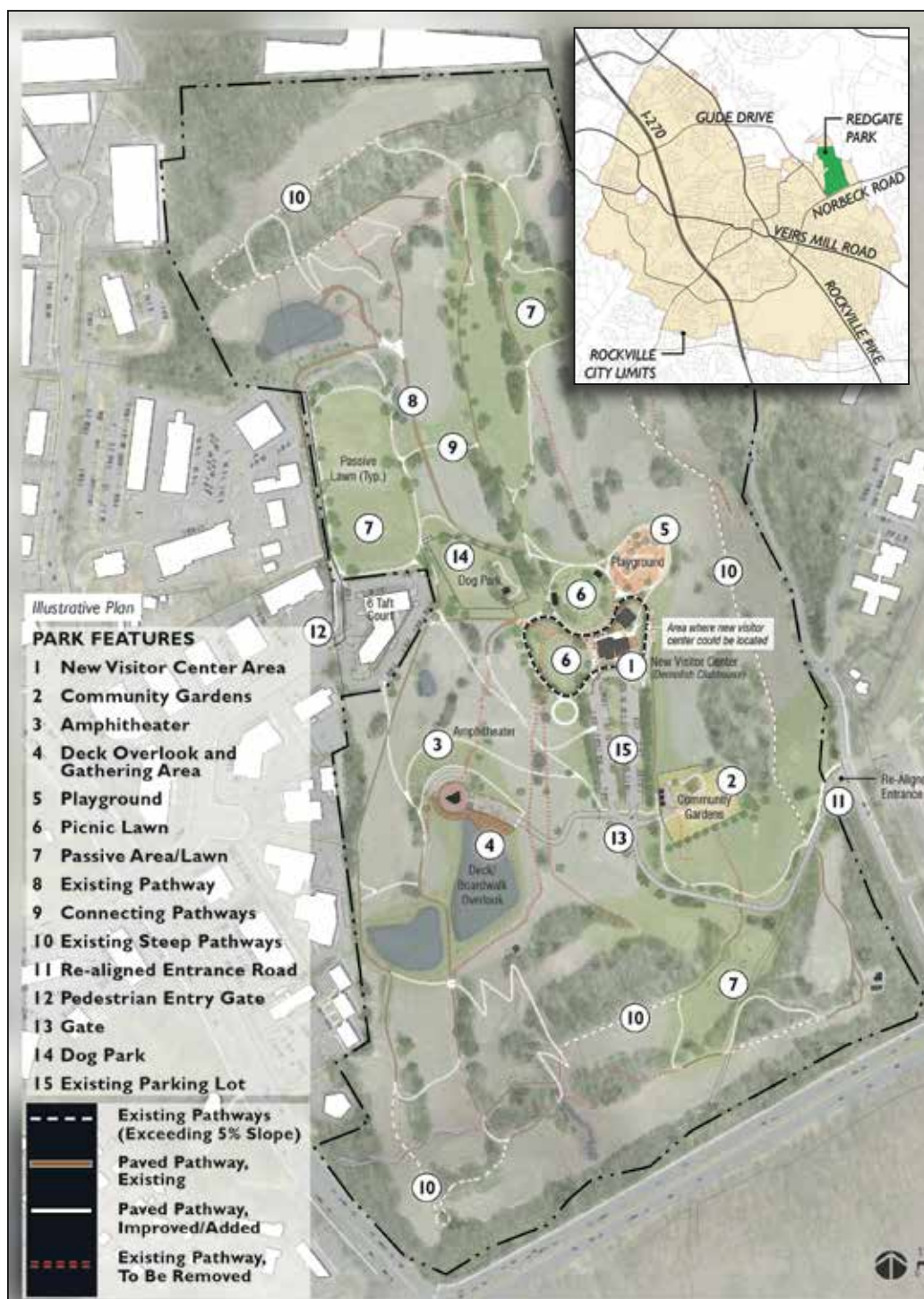
+ 100% OF THE PROCEEDS BENEFIT AREA NONPROFITS

WWW.ROCKVILLEREWARDS.COM



Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

Reach out to Rockville City Manager Rob DiSpirito at rdspirito@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8102.



RedGate Park's Future

continued from pg. 1...

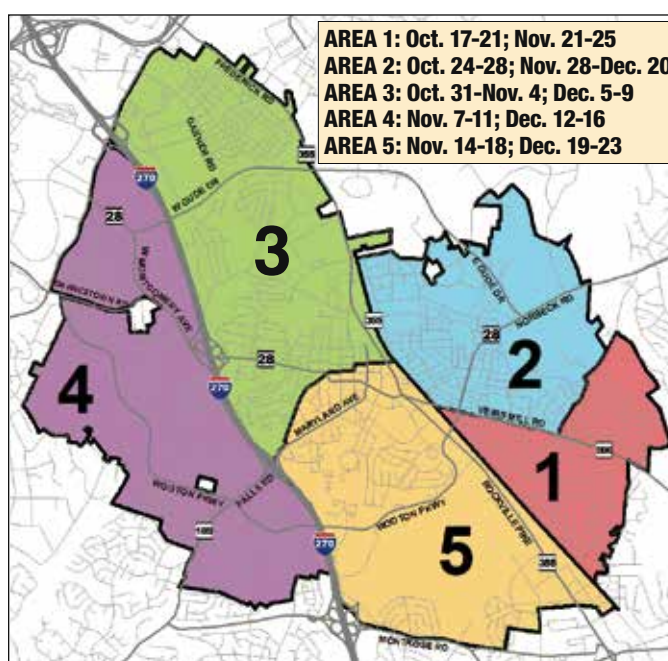
include features and amenities interwoven with the natural habitat areas, including a new visitor center, community gardens, picnic area, playground, dog park and amphitheater.

Over time, the entire park will be developed as an arboretum to feature arboretum plant and tree specimens and collections. Interpretive signage will be integrated into natural environments and park features with access along the pathway network.

Park features will be implemented in phases, particularly parkwide enhancements such as new forest, feature landscapes, collections associated with the arboretum and improvements to the pathway network.

Plans for the park were developed based on the city's strategic plan for recreation and parks; considerable engagement with, and feedback from, the community; input from the Mayor and Council; and environmental constraints of natural features at the park.

For the draft master plan and video of the master plan presentation to the Mayor and Council, find the Oct. 17 meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/Agenda-Center.



Rakin' Round Two – We'll Vacuum Leaves for You

Second Pass for Leaf Collection Begins This Month

Rockville crews are vacuuming leaves from neighborhood curbs, with the second of two collection rounds beginning Monday, Nov. 21.

Rake leaves next to, but out of, roadways, gutters and bike lanes, and away from parked vehicles. Leaves should be raked by 6 a.m. on the first day of their collection period, but no earlier than one week before the collection dates to avoid grass damage or fire hazards. Remove sticks and other objects from leaf piles. Avoid

parking near leaf piles or other vehicles.

Green Yard Tips

Consider environmentally friendly alternatives to raking, including leaving some leaves where they fall or using them as mulch in garden beds, where they provide natural habitat for beneficial insects. Mowing over the leaves can break them into tiny pieces that can filter into the grass, providing much-needed nutrients. Or consider composting leaves at home with other yard trimmings.

See interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection.



Get Into It

City Manager: Rob DiSpirito
Director of Communication: Katherine Kirk-Dantzler
Assist. Director of Communication: Sean Sedam
Public Information Specialist: Cliff Cumber

Web and Digital Manager: Nick Kanary
Graphics and Printing: Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell, Lori Russler
Rockville 11: Hagop Balekjian, Craig Buchanan
Social Media and Digital Engagement: Becca Brown

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BACK IN THE DAY ... After a concerted effort by the city to improve pedestrian and bicycling safety and infrastructure over two years, Rockville was named a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists, according to the November 2012 edition of "Rockville Reports." The city was honored with a bronze level award, which recognizes municipalities actively supporting bicycling.