



# ROCKVILLE reports

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## State Designates Rockville Metro Station as 'Transit-Oriented Development'

The state of Maryland has designated the Rockville Metro station area as a transit-oriented development, a move expected to support future growth, economic development and expanded housing opportunities.

In December, the Mayor and Council unanimously voted on a resolution to support the Maryland Transit-Oriented Development designation.

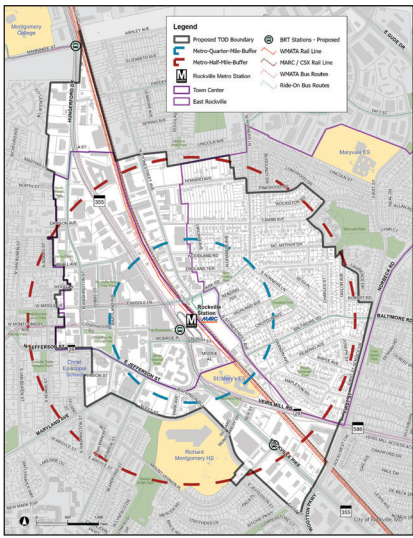
The designation, approved by the Maryland Department of Transportation and the Smart Growth Subcabinet, recognizes the station area as a key location for compact, mixed-use development centered on transit access. The designation is intended to encourage coordinated planning, infrastructure investment and redevelopment that supports walkable communities and reduces reliance on cars.

The Rockville Metro station area includes land surrounding the Metrorail Red Line, MARC Brunswick Line and Amtrak service, making it one

of the region's most connected transit hubs. The designation, which lasts 10 years and can be renewed, makes the area eligible for state support, including access to the Maryland Department of Transportation's transit-oriented development capital grant and revolving loan fund, as well as competitive advantages in housing and state procurement programs.

The city has identified the station area as a strategic location for redevelopment that can accommodate housing, retail, office space and public amenities while improving connectivity and accessibility. The framework aligns with broader planning efforts to promote sustainable growth, expand housing options and strengthen the local economy.

The designation does not change existing zoning or approve specific development projects. Future proposals will continue to undergo the city's standard planning and public review processes.



## Earth Month Activities in Rockville

Earth Day is Wednesday, April 22, but Rockville and Montgomery County celebrate throughout spring with the following events:

### Stream Cleanups

City staff will greet volunteers. Gloves and bags will be provided. Student Service Learning hours are available. Children younger than 14 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Space is limited.

Registration required at [rockvillemd.gov/adopt-a-stream](http://rockvillemd.gov/adopt-a-stream).

### Pull for the Planet

Various locations and dates in April and May.

Help restore native habitat by volunteering to remove non-native invasive garlic mustard from Rockville parks this spring. Pull sites include Croydon Creek Nature Center, RedGate Park, Twinbrook Park, Dogwood Park and Fallsgrove Park. SSL hours are available. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration required at [rockvillemd.gov/weedwarriors](http://rockvillemd.gov/weedwarriors).

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## Annual Police Report Highlights Crime Drop, Growth and Stronger Community Connections

The Rockville City Police Department marked 2025 with an overall 4.3% reduction in crime as it grew its ranks, expanded specialized units and reinforced its commitment to community policing, Chief Jason L. West wrote in the department's newly released 2025 annual report. The report describes a department shifting "from a reactive law enforcement agency to one that proactively reduces crime and enhances public safety," driven by data-informed policing, new initiatives and strong community partnerships.

Growth was the defining theme of 2025, the chief stated. The department welcomed 13 new officers, bringing its total to 73 sworn officers and 26 civilian staff. It also added a new deputy chief of police and promoted one major, three lieutenants and four sergeants to strengthen its leadership team. For the first time in more than 50 years, RCPD redesigned its badge and unveiled new graphics on its marked cruisers to present a modern, professional image that reflects the

department's values.

According to the report, officers made 552 arrests in 2025, served 371 warrants, and issued 1,790 traffic citations and 12,600 parking tickets, along with 25 criminal and civil citations. Under the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System, overall crime decreased 4.3% and serious crimes against people, property and society decreased 14.9%, with the report noting that, excluding trespass incidents, overall crime would have fallen 9.6% from the prior year. The average response time for priority calls for service was 6.04 minutes, underscoring an emphasis on timely, visible policing in neighborhoods across the city.

Community engagement remained a top priority in 2025. The department expanded its Community Engagement Unit and continued to hold events and presentations throughout the year to meet residents where they are. RCPD partnered with Main Street to launch its first Neighborhood

*continued on pg. 7*



Fred Mowell



Officer Chance Thrasher

**ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT NAMES 2025 CIVILIAN AND OFFICER OF THE YEAR ...** The Rockville City Police Department recently honored Neighborhood Services Officer Fred Mowell as its 2025 Civilian of the Year and Officer Chance Thrasher as its 2025 Officer of the Year. Mowell, a 26-year department veteran, handled more than 45% of animal-related calls for service in 2025 and serves as a mentor and leader within the Neighborhood Services Division. Thrasher distinguished himself through proactive enforcement work, including his role in a joint Crime Suppression Task Force with the Montgomery County Department of Police, and serves as a field training officer for incoming recruits.

## Go Green and Save Green with Permit Fee Waivers for Earth Month

Rockville to Waive Fees for Select Home Improvement Permits During April

Rockville will mark Earth Month in April by waiving permit fees for certain environmentally friendly home improvements.

The city will waive all fees assessed by Rockville's Inspection Services Division that are directly associated with the residential installation of solar photovoltaic systems, electric vehicle charging stations and energy-efficient heating and cooling upgrades, such as heat pumps.

Applications must be submitted by Thursday, April 30 at [mygovernmentonline.org](http://mygovernmentonline.org) and must be accepted by city staff by 5 p.m. Friday, May 1.

For more details, visit [rockvillemd.gov/services/apply-for-a-building-or-trade-permit](http://rockvillemd.gov/services/apply-for-a-building-or-trade-permit) or email questions to [permits@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:permits@rockvillemd.gov).

This program is in support of the city's Climate Action Plan, which was approved by the Mayor and Council in 2022. For more about the plan, visit [rockvillemd.gov/climate](http://rockvillemd.gov/climate).

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### 1500 Rockville Pike (Twinbrook Quarter)

A new mixed-use development has been proposed for Twinbrook Quarter, with two floors for retail and restaurant uses and residential development above. This also includes a single-story retail building, which will frame and activate the central park.

The development is located along Rockville Pike. It includes a portion of Chapman Avenue to be dedicated and constructed in connection with a future Congressional Lane extension, and construction of a pedestrian and bicycle path along the building front.

The proposed development represents phase two of the overall approved project plan for Twinbrook Quarter. The first phase has been constructed.



Source: Applicant.

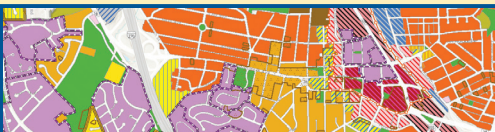
### 41 Maryland Ave. (Momentum at Rockville Station)

A new affordable housing development at 41 Maryland Ave. was approved last fall for Rockville Town Center, with up to 147 multi-family residential units. A parking waiver was also approved to facilitate the new development.

The property lies within the Central Town Center and Core Character areas, west of MD 355 (Hungerford Drive), bounded by East Middle Lane, Maryland Avenue and East Montgomery Avenue.



Source: Applicant.



### Stay in the Know About Development in Rockville

Sign up for the monthly "Development Watch" e-newsletter.

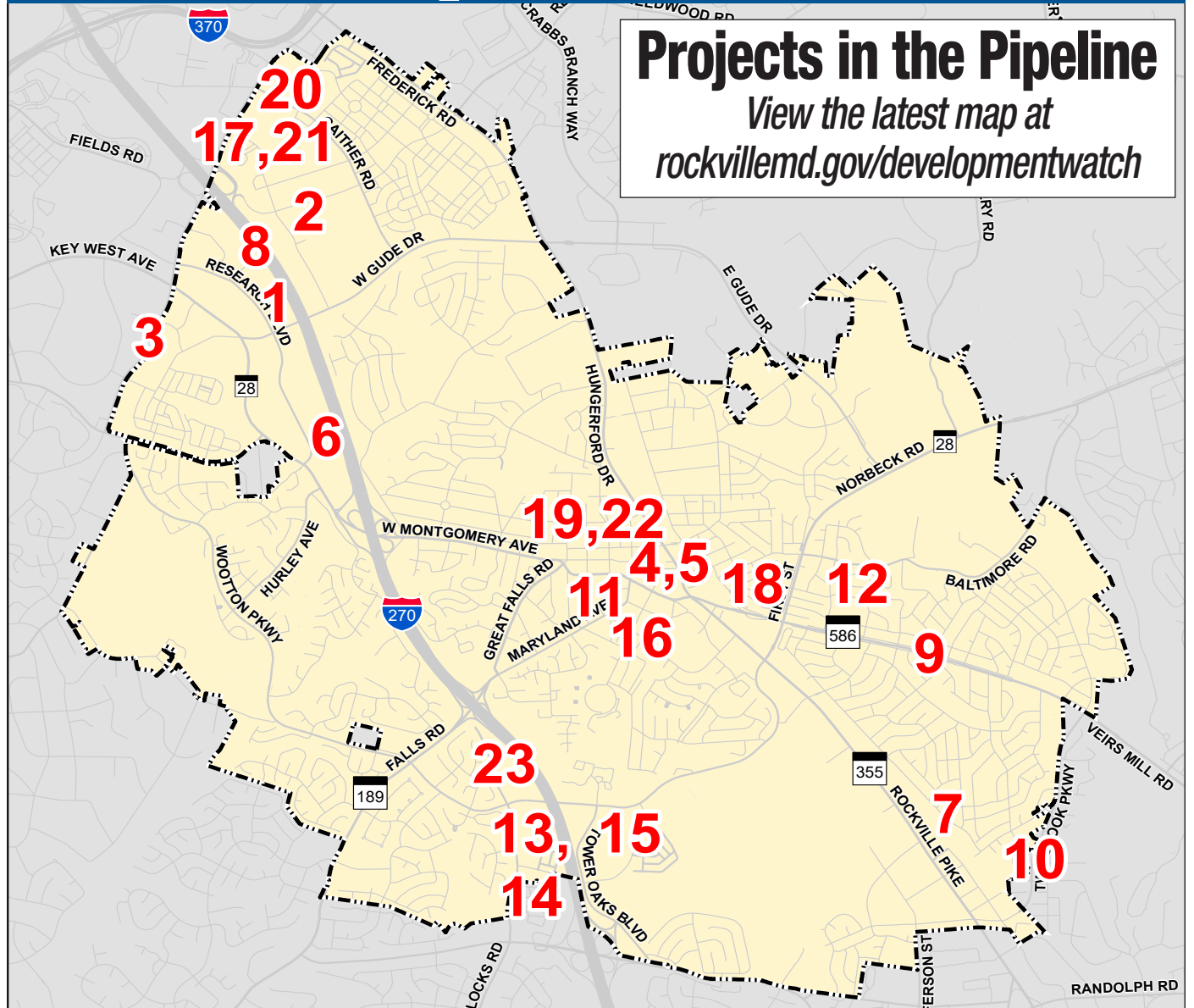
- Check the latest major planning applications.
- Use the interactive map.
- Attend area meetings held by project applicants.
- Provide input on projects under consideration.

Learn more at [rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch](http://rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch).

# Development Watch

## Projects in the Pipeline

View the latest map at [rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch](http://rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch)



### Recent Preapplication Submittals

1. **2277 Research Blvd.:** Preapplication area meeting for a proposal to demolish an office building and develop up to 133 town houses and/or two-over-two dwelling units, and convert ground floor office space into retail use. Case 2026-180-PAM.
2. **1395 Piccard Drive:** Preapplication area meeting for a proposal to construct 110 town houses and 32 condominium units on the property. Case 2026-183-PAM.
3. **521 Falls Grove Drive:** Preapplication area meeting for a proposal to develop an approximately 3,500-square-foot retail pad site in the southwest corner of the property. Case 2026-191-PAM.

### Applications Under Review

4. **255 Rockville Pike:** Project plan to amend the planned development and convert the existing office use building to multifamily residential and a parking reduction waiver within a PD zone. Case PJT2025-00021.
5. **255 Rockville Pike:** Level 2 site plan for the change of use from office into residential with a vertical expansion. Case STP2025-00505.
6. **1455 Research Blvd.:** Level 2 site plan for the redevelopment of the existing mixed-use employment property into a 206-unit residential development. Case 2026-101-STP.
7. **1582 and 1584 Rockville Pike:** Level 2 site plan for phase two implementation of Twinbrook Quarter, consisting of a proposed mixed-use development of 413 units and up to 77,500 square feet of retail. Case 2026-149-STP.
8. **Two Research Place:** Level 1 site plan proposal to construct 68 two-over-two condominium units. Case 2026-255-STP.
9. **Veirs Mill BRT:** Mandatory referral for a new bus rapid transit service along MD 355 and 586 from Montgomery College to the Wheaton Metro station. Case 2026-263-STP.
10. **5906 Halpine Road:** Final record plat for one lot. Case PLT2025-00642.
11. **22 West Jefferson St.:** Final record plat for one lot. Case 2026-96-PLT.
12. **1025 Scott Ave.:** Final record plat for three lots. Case 2026-219-PLT.

### Recently Approved Applications

13. **11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Final record plats to resubdivide the property into 32 town house lots and six parcels to facilitate improvements under STP2025-00497. Cases PLT2024-00624 and PLT2024-00625.
14. **11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Final record plat for one lot, a total of 65,759 square feet of residential area to facilitate improvements under STP2025-00497. Case PLT2025-00631.
15. **2000 Tower Oaks Blvd.:** Final record plat for one parcel to facilitate improvements under STP2024-00473. Case PLT2025-00640.
16. **107 Fleet St.:** Final record plat to resubdivide into two lots to facilitate improvements under STP2024-00481. Case PLT2025-00626.
17. **15815-15825 Shady Grove Road, 2 Choke Cherry Road, 2094 Gaither Road (Shady Grove Innovation District):** Final record plat for five parcels and 136 lots. Case PLT2025-00632-PLT2025-00636.
18. **210 First St.:** Final record plat for one lot. Case PLT2025-00641.
19. **198 E. Montgomery Ave. (BLVD Lofts):** Project plan for the conversion of street-level commercial space into 13 residential loft dwelling units. Case PJT2025-00020.
20. **2097-2101 Gaither Road (Park Plaza):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to redevelop the property into 646,000 square feet of life-science uses. STP2024-00482.
21. **15815-15825 Shady Grove Road, 2 Choke Cherry Road, 2094 Gaither Road (Shady Grove Innovation District):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to construct a mixed-use development with lab/office and multifamily residential units. Case STP2024-00492.
22. **198 E. Montgomery Ave. (BLVD Lofts):** Major site plan amendment for the conversion of street level commercial space into 13 residential loft dwelling units. Case STP2025-00503.
23. **1307 Seven Locks Road:** Mandatory referral for a level 2 site plan for a new rehabilitation facility and installation of new site features. Case STP2025-00512.



**Mayor Monique Ashton**  
240-314-8291  
mashton@rockvillemd.gov



**Councilmember Kate Fulton**  
240-314-8293 • kfulton@rockvillemd.gov



**Councilmember David Myles**  
240-314-8294 • dmyles@rockvillemd.gov



**Councilmember Marissa Valeri**  
240-314-8296 • mvaleri@rockvillemd.gov



**Councilmember Barry Jackson**  
240-314-8295 • bjackson@rockvillemd.gov



**Councilmember Izola (Zola) Shaw**  
240-314-8297 • ishaw@rockvillemd.gov



**Councilmember Adam Van Grack**  
240-314-8292 • avangrack@rockvillemd.gov

## Last Chance for Budget Input as Mayor and Council Continue Work

The Mayor and Council will hold their final scheduled Fiscal Year 2027 budget work session in early April and the community has a final opportunity to provide budget input.

Monday, April 13 is the last day to provide input via the community budget priorities survey and budget public record. The Mayor and Council are scheduled to hold their final budget work session and last budget public hearing during the April 13 meeting.

The survey at [rockvillemd.gov/budget](http://rockvillemd.gov/budget) allows community members to identify their priorities and options for maintaining a balanced budget. It is available in English, Spanish and simplified Chinese.

Responses provide valuable input to the Mayor and Council for their budget discussions.

The budget, which covers the fiscal year that begins July 1, is scheduled for adoption on Monday, May 4.

The proposed FY 2027 operating budget of \$187.1 million is a 6.6% increase over the FY

2026 adopted budget. The general fund budget, which supports the largest portion of the operating budget, is \$125.5 million, a 7.2% increase. The city's real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation would remain the same for FY27. All residential and commercial property owners pay this tax. Rockville has not increased its property tax rate since 1995.

The proposed FY 2027-FY 2031 Capital Improvements Program, the five-year plan for funding construction and infrastructure maintenance, supports 56 capital projects and includes \$35.2 million in new appropriations.

Find the proposed budget and Capital Improvements Program at [rockvillemd.gov/budget](http://rockvillemd.gov/budget).

Find staff reports and video of the city manager's proposed budget presentation, and Mayor and Council work sessions and public hearings, at [rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter](http://rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter).

## Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Moves to Mayor and Council for Final Review

Rockville's zoning ordinance rewrite and comprehensive map amendment have reached another milestone with the Planning Commission completing its review and forwarding recommendations to the Mayor and Council for consideration.

The commission concluded its review Wednesday, Feb. 25, adopting advisory recommendations on the staff draft zoning ordinance and proposed zoning map. The recommendations do not change current law, but will guide the Mayor and Council as they begin their adoption phase of the process.

The Mayor and Council will begin their review on Monday, April 13. During that meeting, which begins at 5:30 p.m., public hearings will be held for both the zoning text amendment and the comprehensive map amendment, followed by a work session where the Mayor and Council will discuss the Planning Commission's recommendations and provide direction on the staff draft zoning ordinance and draft zoning map.

In following weeks, the Mayor and Council will hold a second set of public hearings on Monday, May 4 and a series of work sessions to consider the proposals.

Members of the public who

wish to testify will have three minutes per item; those representing an organization will have five minutes.

Additional work sessions are planned to review the key changes in each article of the zoning ordinance.

City staff will also update the staff draft ordinance and zoning map during the review process. A revised staff draft incorporating Mayor and Council direction, technical corrections and refinements to language is expected after the April 13 work session. A final staff draft reflecting additional guidance will be prepared in early June, following the final work session in May.

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to take formal action on the zoning ordinance rewrite and comprehensive map amendment on Monday, July 6.

Community members can continue to review materials and submit comments on the draft ordinance and zoning map through the project page on Engage Rockville. Feedback submitted through the site will be shared with the Mayor and Council throughout the review process.

More information about the project and next steps is available at [engagerockville.com/zoningrewrite](http://engagerockville.com/zoningrewrite).



**TUNE IN TO HEAR FROM YOUR MAYOR AND COUNCIL ...**  
A new episode of "Conversations with the Mayor and Council" is now available, featuring Councilmember Marissa Valeri discussing how Rockville protects the environment, native plant benefits and environmentally friendly landscaping.

Episode three will feature Mayor Monique Ashton and focus on Fair Housing Month. The episode will be available later this month.

The show features rotating members of the Mayor and Council leading discussions with city leaders and staff on topics ranging from legislation and city services to programs and upcoming events. The goal of the series is to provide clearer insight into how the city works and what's happening across Rockville.

Tune into Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, or watch at [youtube.com/cityofrockville](http://youtube.com/cityofrockville).

**SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY NEWS!**  
[rockvillemd.gov/newsletters](http://rockvillemd.gov/newsletters)

**THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ARE HOLDING HYBRID MEETINGS.**  
The public is welcome to participate in person or virtually.

**Meetings Schedule:** Monday, April 13, beginning at 5:30 p.m., and April 20 and 27, at 6:30 p.m. Visit [rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter](http://rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter) for details. A drop-in session from 5:15-6:15 p.m. with Mayor Monique Ashton and Councilmember Barry Jackson will precede the April 20 meeting. 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.

If you wish to submit comments in writing, please email [mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov) by 10 a.m. on the day of a community forum or public hearing.

Mayor and Council meetings are broadcast on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, live-streamed at [rockvillemd.gov/rockville11](http://rockvillemd.gov/rockville11) and available a day after each meeting at [rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand](http://rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand).

### Get Involved with the City

- **Send an email** to [mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov).
- **Testify at a hearing** or in writing to [mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov) or by mail to Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** Find ways to give of your time and talents at [rockvillemd.gov/volunteer](http://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 [rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions).

See times and dates on the city's calendar: [rockvillemd.gov/calendar](http://rockvillemd.gov/calendar).

### Vacancies

- Board of Appeals (1)
- Community Policing Advisory Board (2)
- Cultural Arts Commission (4)
- Education Commission (1)
- Environment Commission (2)
- Ethics Commission (1)
- Financial Advisory Board (1)
- Historic District Commission (1)
- Human Rights Commission (4)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (1)
- Landlord-Tenant Affairs Commission (3)
- Planning Commission (1)
- Transportation and Mobility Commission (1)
- Recreation and Park Advisory Board (1)

For more information, visit [rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions) or call 240-314-8280.



City Hall: 240-314-5000  
Police Non-Emergency: 240-314-8900  
24-Hour Utility Emergency Report Hotline: 240-314-8567

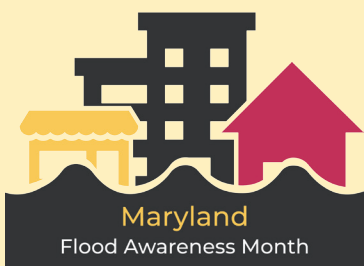
**STAY INFORMED:** The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found at [rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil](http://rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil). Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting.

## April Is Flood Awareness Month

Flooding is the most common natural disaster. Anywhere it can rain, it can flood. Taking steps now helps protect homes and neighborhoods before storms hit.

Rockville offers a variety of resources to stay flood smart:

- **Get the Guide.** “Go With the Flow: A Homeowner’s Guide to Responsible Stormwater Solutions” is available in English, Spanish and simplified Chinese. The guide helps identify the source and severity of flooding, potential solutions and how to apply for rebates to offset project costs.
- **Apply for Flood Mitigation Funds.** Rockville offers matching reimbursement funds of up to \$5,000 for residents and property owners who have made flood protection improvements.
- **Prepare for Future Flooding.** Learn how to understand flood risks, reduce potential impacts, consider flood insurance and prepare for severe weather events. Visit [rockvillemd.gov/flooding](http://rockvillemd.gov/flooding) for tools and resources.



## Help Shape Rockville's Flood Resiliency Master Plan

Rockville is developing a Flood Resiliency Master Plan to better protect the city from flooding, and community input is essential. Share experiences, ideas and priorities by taking the Flood Resiliency Survey and add flooding, locations to the interactive map at [engagerockville.com/floodplan](http://engagerockville.com/floodplan).

## Switch to Solar, Together, This Spring and Summer

Lower energy costs, become energy independent and take part in the renewable revolution: Join Capital Area Switch Together to learn about options for installing a solar energy system on the rooftop of your home or small business.

The spring campaign for Solar Switch Together is open now through Wednesday, Aug. 19. This group buying initiative allows residents to purchase solar panels and battery storage at a significant discount, with optional electric vehicle chargers.

Switch Together will be the topic of a Climate Solutions Speaker Series session from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, June 4. Find a link to this virtual program with the June 4 event listing at [rockvillemd.gov/calendar](http://rockvillemd.gov/calendar).

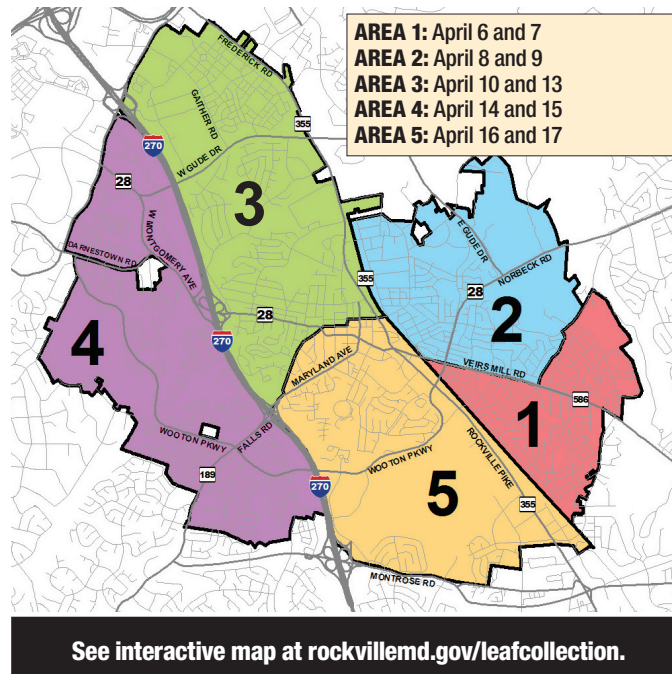
Learn more at [switchtogether.com/solar/rockville](http://switchtogether.com/solar/rockville).

Don't own a roof or have one that's shaded? Consider joining a community solar project. Learn how at [solarunitedneighbors.org/go-solar/community-solar](http://solarunitedneighbors.org/go-solar/community-solar).

Connect with us on Social Media.



# Spring Rake! Leaf Collection Arrives in April



Rockville will vacuum leaves from neighborhood curbs from Monday, April 6-Friday, April 17 in five collection areas citywide.

City residents can enter their addresses on the interactive map at [rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection](http://rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection) to find their collection days. Crews make one pass only during spring collection.

### How to Prepare

- Rake leaves next to, but not into, roadways, gutters or bike lanes. Keep piles away from parked vehicles.
- Leaves must be raked out by 6 a.m. on the first day of the collection period, but no earlier than one week before collection to prevent grass damage or fire hazards.
- Remove sticks and debris from leaf piles.

- Avoid parking near leaf piles and do not block access for collection crews.

After the collection period ends, leaves can be placed in biodegradable paper lawn bags or 32-gallon trash cans (no plastic bags) and set out on regular refuse and recycling collection days. Never dump leaves or yard waste in parks, wooded areas, streams or storm drains.

### Leaves Help Pollinators

Leave some leaves in garden beds, under trees or in designated patches for wildlife. Leaf litter provides shelter for beneficial insects such as butterflies, moths, native bees and fireflies. These insects overwinter in leaves and emerge in spring to support pollinators and a healthy local ecosystem.

# Energize and Electrify for Earth Month

Celebrate Earth Month by tackling climate change. Reducing energy consumption and switching to electric power are two of the best ways to make an impact.

### What You Can Do

Visit the Montgomery Energy Connection at [montgomeryenergyconnection.org](http://montgomeryenergyconnection.org) to find actions, resources, activities and events for all ages to help lower utility bills, save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Montgomery County also offers a home electrification help desk and grants for replacing fossil

fuel-fired equipment with efficient, electric appliances like heat pumps and hot water heaters. Learn more at [montgomerycountymd.gov/electrifymc](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/electrifymc).

Get started on a home energy assessment. Visit [homeenergysavings.pepco.com/residential/energy-assessments](http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/residential/energy-assessments) for help understanding home energy use and identifying ways to save money.

Switch to green power and wind or solar, without any special equipment, by choosing a green energy supplier at [mdelectricchoice.com](http://mdelectricchoice.com).

# Native Plants: Choosing, Finding and Planting with Purpose

Join the Climate Solutions Speaker Series at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 16 for a virtual webinar featuring Lisa Kuder from the Maryland Native Plants Program at the University of Maryland Extension.

Attendees will learn how to use the new Maryland Native Plant Guide for the Piedmont Region to select the right native plants for their property and explore helpful resources.

The webinar will also highlight how to find certified native plant nurseries and retailers, and explore how native plants are be-

coming more widely available as garden centers, nurseries and suppliers respond to growing demand.

The Maryland Native Plants Program is a partnership between the University of Maryland Extension, the Maryland departments of agriculture and natural resources, and the Maryland Native Plant Society. The mission is to promote the sale and use of plants native to Maryland, and to increase awareness about the importance and benefits of native plants.

Register online at [bit.ly/rkvclimate](http://bit.ly/rkvclimate).

# Save the Date for the Return of Hometown Holidays to Rockville Town Center in May

The city's 38th annual Hometown Holidays festival returns to Rockville Town Center on Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24, with an extra splash of patriotism in celebration of America's 250th anniversary.

The entertainment, food and shopping, is followed by the city's annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade on Monday, May 25.

Hometown Holidays at Rockville Town Center will feature two stages of entertainment for all ages and music from a variety of genres, including rock, pop, country, blues and more.

Confirmed acts include Joslyn & The Sweet Compression, The E Street Shuffle, North to Nashville, Ocho de Bastos, Bastard Bearded Irishmen, Band of Roses, Fast Eddie and The Slowpokes, Proverbs Reggae Band, Midnight Mimosa, The U.S. Navy Band Cruisers, Groovy Nate, Echoes of Nature, Rocknoceros, Thrive Yoga, Victorian Lyric Opera Company and Ceylon Bera. The full schedule can be viewed on the event website.

Food and beverages from local restaurants and vendors will be available for purchase. Festivalgoers can enjoy a shopping area

featuring local artisans or take part in yard games and crafts. Outreach booths will connect attendees with festival sponsors, community groups and city services.

The festival is accessible via Metrobus and Metrorail, Ride On, ride-share, biking or walking. Free and paid parking lots will be available.

The Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade, a city tradition for 82 years, will feature more than 50 dance, marching and community groups from around the region, and be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, May 25 in Rockville Town Center. This year's parade theme is "America 250." Find more information about the parade, including how to participate, at [rockvillemd.gov/memoriamday](http://rockvillemd.gov/memoriamday). Applications must be submitted by Friday, April 3.

Find out more about Hometown Holidays at Rockville Town Center, at [rockvillemd.gov/hth](http://rockvillemd.gov/hth). Follow "City of Rockville Hometown Holidays" on Facebook for more details as they are announced and find the Hometown Holidays at Rockville Town Center insert in the May/June print edition of "Rockville Reports."



**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL CITY OF ROCKVILLE NONPROFIT SYMPOSIUM...**  
 Join fellow nonprofit leaders, partners and community members as the City of Rockville and Nonprofit Montgomery meet to share resources, build connections and strengthen the community's local nonprofit sector.  
**When: 9 a.m.-noon, Thursday, May 14 (doors open at 8 a.m.).**  
**Where: VisArts, 155 Gibbs St.**  
 Co-hosted by the City of Rockville and Nonprofit Montgomery.

## Pothole Patrol Rolls Out in April

Rockville's Department of Public Works will begin its annual spring pothole inspection and repair program in early April, following a winter marked by repeated freeze-thaw cycles that can weaken pavement.

During the first two weeks of April, city crews will conduct a citywide assessment of roadways to identify potholes and other pavement damage caused by winter weather. As crews inspect streets, they will repair eligible potholes on the spot and schedule more extensive pavement deterioration for follow-up work later this year.

"Winter weather can have a significant impact on asphalt surfaces," said John W. Hollida, operations maintenance superintendent for the Department of Public Works. "We want residents to know we have a plan to assess and address potholes and that we

will be working quickly this spring to make roads smoother and safer."

Community members can assist by reporting potholes and other roadway concerns through the city's online road and traffic issue report form. Include the exact location so crews can respond efficiently. Residents are encouraged to report issues as soon as they are noticed so repairs can be made as part of the ongoing inspection schedule.

The spring effort is part of Rockville's broader planned street repairs and asphalt maintenance program, which helps preserve roadway conditions and improve driving safety.

For more information, visit [rockvillemd.gov/services/planned-street-repairs](http://rockvillemd.gov/services/planned-street-repairs). To report a pothole, use the Report a Concern form at [rockvillemd.gov/contact](http://rockvillemd.gov/contact).

## Wheely Good Times Coming in May

Rockville will celebrate National Bike Month in May with rides, events and opportunities to connect with the community.

The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee will host a **Bike Month Kickoff Ride** on Saturday, May 2. Participants will meet 10 a.m. at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. The casual 6-mile ride will travel along multiuse trails and residential streets, highlighting the city's cycling infrastructure. The route includes paths, bridges and tunnels.

**National Bike and Roll to School Day** will take place Wednesday, May 6. Schools are encouraged to host events. Visit [walkbiketoschool.org](http://walkbiketoschool.org) or check with your school for details. Montgomery County requires anyone under age 18 to wear a bicycle helmet when riding or being carried on a bicycle, including bicycles with training wheels, on a public street, right of way, sidewalk or bicycle path.

**National Bike to Work Day** is 6:30 a.m. Friday, May 15. Registration is open at

[biketoworkmtrodc.org](http://biketoworkmtrodc.org) for Montgomery County pit stops, including locations at Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive, and The Square in Rockville Town Center. Participants can receive snacks, beverages and giveaways while supplies last. Free T-shirts will be available for the first 18,000 people in the Washington metropolitan region to register and attend.

**The 19th Annual Rockville Ride of Silence** will be held at 6:40 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, to honor cyclists who have been injured or killed on public roadways. This is a 10-mile, police-escorted ride through city neighborhoods. Riders must be comfortable on streets with traffic and traveling about 10 miles in one hour. Visit [rideofsilence.com](http://rideofsilence.com) for more information.

Learn more about bicycling in Rockville at [rockvillemd.gov/rbac](http://rockvillemd.gov/rbac) and [rockvillemd.gov/bicycling](http://rockvillemd.gov/bicycling), and search "bike safety" on [youtube.com/cityofrockville](http://youtube.com/cityofrockville).

## City Seeks Input on Updates to Landlord-Tenant Code

Virtual Meetings and Online Feedback Opportunities Available in April

Rockville is inviting renters and landlords to help shape updates to the city's landlord-tenant code.

City staff will hold two virtual input meetings, one for landlords and one for tenants, each featuring a short presentation on proposed changes followed by discussion and feedback.

**Landlord input meeting: 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 15.**

**Tenant input meeting: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16.**

Registration for both meetings, as well as the landlord-tenant feedback survey, comment submission and question form, is available at [engagerockville.com](http://engagerockville.com) under "Landlord-Tenant Code Rewrite" section.

Attendees who need accessibility accommodations should contact city staff in advance. Presentations from both meetings will be posted to Engage Rockville following the event.

## Field Work Begins for Drinking Water Service Line Inventory

Rockville is conducting a federally directed inventory of water service lines on both public and private property.

The inventory helps water utilities comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, which require agencies to identify service line materials and address any potential risks from lead in drinking water.

City-authorized contractors will begin field investigations in early April. This phase combines advanced machine learning data analysis with physical inspections to identify water service line materials across Rockville.

Water service lines are the small pipes that carry drinking water from a water main in the street to homes and other buildings. The city owns the portion of the line that runs from the main to the water meter, while property owners are responsible for the section that runs from the meter into the building.

The city and its consultants have reviewed historical records and conducted surveys to gather information about service line materials. The next phase of the project will include field inspections and targeted site visits to properties where the material of the service line remains unknown.

During the field investigation phase, crews may inspect meter pits outside homes and, in some cases, request access to inspect pipes that enter buildings. Residents will receive advance notice through door hangers and other materials explaining the work and what to expect.

During this phase, residents may also see crews digging test pits. This involves making a small, localized hole (often using vacuum excavation) to safely expose a section of the pipe for identification. This targeted approach, guided by predictive modeling, ensures the city will only dig where necessary, minimizing disruption to neighborhoods.

As of the latest review, no lead service lines have been identified within Rockville's water system.

Property owners in targeted areas will receive a test pit agreement notification in the mail. For the project to proceed, owners must review and sign the agreement to grant permission for the work. To expedite the process, the agreement can be reviewed and signed online via the project webpage.

Property owners can also help the city complete the inventory by reporting the material of their service line.

For more information or to take part in the inventory effort, visit [rockvillemd.gov/lcrr](http://rockvillemd.gov/lcrr).

## The Big Machines Are Back



Climb into the big seat of some of the city's largest vehicles as Rockville celebrates National Public Works Week, Monday, May 18-Friday, May 22.

The highlight of the week will be the city's annual Public Works Equipment Show, scheduled for 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park, 1800 Piccard Drive. The event's rain date is Wednesday, May 20.

The free event includes displays, demonstrations, popcorn, coloring books and giveaways, along with opportunities to meet public works employees who provide essential services that keep Rockville running. Exhibits highlight recycling and trash collection, environmental management, the city's water treatment plant, water and sewer operations, and stormwater management. School and daycare groups are welcome.

National Public Works

Week raises awareness about the essential services public works provides, from planning and building infrastructure to maintaining the systems that support daily life.

This year's theme, "Rooted in Service, Powered by Community," acknowledges that the roots of service run deep in public works. It's what has propelled public works innovations that have helped our communities evolve into places where people can lead lives of purpose and possibility.

Follow the celebration on social media using #NPWW and #PeopleMatter.

Rockville's Department of Public Works provides water, wastewater, stormwater, streets, recycling and trash, transportation and fleet services, and engineering, environmental and right-of-way management.

To learn more, email [jperkins@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jperkins@rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8500.



### Summer Camps Slots Still Available Park Adventures in King Farm This Summer

Get ready for an unforgettable summer with something for every interest and imagination at Rockville's summer camps. Camps are filling fast, so don't wait to sign up.

Kids ages 5-11 can join Park Adventures in King Farm Park, spending their days playing games, sports and water activities while making new friends. Each week brings fresh themes and fun surprises, including trips to the pool.

Families can also explore gymnastics, pottery, flag football, RC racing, CSI, Lego and more. Visit [rockvillemd.gov/camps](http://rockvillemd.gov/camps) and see the "2026 Summer Camps" guide at [rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://rockvillemd.gov/guide). Register now at [rockvillemd.gov/registration](http://rockvillemd.gov/registration).

### Sponsors Wanted for Rockville Pride

Rockville is seeking sponsors to help mark a decade celebrating the city's LGBTQ+ community at its annual Rockville Pride festival.

Hosted by the city's Human Rights Commission, Rockville Pride will be held 2-5 p.m. Sunday, June 7 at The Square in Rockville Town Center.

Find more information, including a sponsorship application, at [rockvillemd.gov/pride](http://rockvillemd.gov/pride) or email [prideinfo@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:prideinfo@rockvillemd.gov). Support Rockville's Pride celebration by making a donation at [invoicecloud.com/rockvillemd](http://invoicecloud.com/rockvillemd).

## International Night 2026

6 p.m. Friday, April 17

F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre  
603 Edmonston Drive

Celebrate the diversity, traditions and nationalities of Rockville's vibrant community at this exciting cultural performance showcase!

#### #worldrockville

- Explore the many cultures that make up the community.
- Experience live cultural performances and traditional clothing displays
- Engage with people from different countries and discover their customs.

Free event with limited seating.



## This April in Performances and Events at Rockville's Civic Center

From international folk traditions and multilingual theater to puppetry and a new gallery exhibition, April's lineup offers a range of cultural experiences for audiences of all ages at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and Glenview Mansion. **Murder at the Mansion Presents "A Wedding to Die For"**

8 p.m. April 10 and 11;  
2 p.m. April 11 and 12.

You're invited to a very special wedding at Glenview Mansion.

From the groom to the garter, Madison planned the perfect wedding. Will someone have to die to keep it from spiraling into chaos? Recommended for ages 15 and older. Dress in wedding attire for a chance to win a prize.

Presented in partnership with A Taste For Murder Productions. Written by Dean Fiala.

Tickets cost \$40, \$35 for students and seniors. Tickets plus optional buffet are \$70, \$65 for students and seniors.

All tickets include dessert. A cash bar for patrons aged 21 and older will be available.

### Rang-Manch Theater Festival 2026

3 p.m. Sunday, April 12.

Features three plays brought to life by local artists and performers. From laughter to reflection, these multilingual performances celebrate the community's many voices.

Premium tickets cost \$40; mid-tier tickets, \$30 and regular tier tickets, \$25. **The Tamburitzans present "The Shared Song"**

7 p.m. Saturday, April 18.

Known for high-energy performances and cultural authenticity, The Tamburitzans return with "The Shared Song," an unforgettable journey through Eastern Europe and beyond.

From Croatian folk harmonies and Serbian kolo dancing to the rowdy rhythms of an Irish pub, this show brings centuries-old traditions vividly to life.

This year's ensemble includes student performers from Kazakhstan, Serbia and Spain, each bringing their personal heritage to the stage. From flamenco to kafana jazz, these international artists are a reminder that music transcends

borders.

Tickets cost \$49, \$39 for seniors and the military, and \$29 for students. Children attend free.

### Rockville Concert Band Presents "Spring Awakening: A Concert of New Energy, Growth and Brighter Days Ahead"

3 p.m. Sunday, April 19.

Featuring "Molly on the Shore" by Percy Grainger, "Planet B" by Catherine Likhuta and "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves" by Michael Kamen and arranged by Paul Lavender. Directed by Christine Higley.

No tickets required; a \$5 donation is suggested. Visit [rockvilleconcertband.org](http://rockvilleconcertband.org) for more information.

### Civic Center Puppet Show Presents "The 3 (Not So Little) Pigs" in Partnership with Blue Sky Puppets

11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;  
Saturday, May 2.

When Mrs. Pig's three bickering sons are sent out into the world, they each build a home of straw, sticks and brick, and cross paths with a friendly vegetarian wolf on an alphabet diet. After blowing down the homes of the two rude brothers, the wolf is won over by the youngest's kindness. The trio learn that cooperation and teamwork are the true foundations of success. Includes craft project.

Tickets are for ages 3 and older, and cost \$5 for residents and \$7 for nonresidents.

### Glenview Mansion Art Gallery

The Italian-American Art Circle's "Radici/Roots: Italian Creativity in the USA" will be on display at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery until Friday, May 8.

This culturally resonant multimedia exhibition will be presented by Federica Giove Pegu, Andrea Limauro, Antonella Manganelli, Elisabetta Marmolo, Maria Elena Moioli, Elena Olivi, Isabella Panizzolo, Davide Prete, Alessandra Ricci, Giacomo Sannino and Rita Tersio.

Meet the artists from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 19. The event is free and open to the public.

The gallery is on the second floor of Glenview Mansion and is wheelchair accessible. Hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The gallery is closed on city holidays.

## April Events Coming Up at the Senior Center

Stay healthy, informed and entertained with seminars and events from the Rockville Senior Center in April.

Register with the course number at [rockvillemd.gov/registration](http://rockvillemd.gov/registration). Learn about 60-plus programs, courses, activities and services at [rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter](http://rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter) or by calling 240-314-8800.

See the "Adults 60+" recreation guide at [rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://rockvillemd.gov/guide) for more information.

### Back Pain from Stenosis and Dry Needling

Learn about spinal stenosis anatomy and the role of physical therapy in treatment. The session also explains the history and benefits of dry needling. Presented by Brennon Monroe, a doctor of physical therapy with CAM Physical Therapy.

Register with course #39865. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 7. Free.

### Obstructive Sleep Apnea

This common but often underdiagnosed condition affects about one-third of U.S. adults and carries serious health risks. Learn about treatment options, including CPAP, nasal airway optimization and Inspire, for those unable to use CPAP. Presented by Andrew Lee of Metro ENT & Facial Plastic Surgery in Rockville.

Register with course #40235. 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 8. Free.

### Turning 65? Medicare Choices

Learn about Medicare enrollment and available assistance from State Health Insurance Assistance Program representatives. Two sessions are available.

Register with course #39896 for 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 8 or

course #40397 for 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 29. Free.

### National DEA Drug Take Back

Officers from the Rockville City Police Department will safely dispose of unused and expired medications. Pet medications are accepted. Needles, EpiPens, inhalers and glass containers with rubbing alcohol or peroxide are not eligible. No registration required.

10 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, April 14. Free.

### Preventing Muscle Loss

Learn how to maintain and improve muscle health and function with age. Presented by Chris Burton, a doctor of physical therapy with Launch Physical Therapy and Fitness.

Register with course #39826. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14. Free. Hybrid.

### Mobile Market at Rockville Senior Center

The Capital Area Food Bank Mobile Market provides fresh produce to local communities free of charge. The program supports community members at risk of hunger, with no income requirements or other qualifications. Bring a reusable bag.

2-4 p.m. Thursday, April 23. Free.

### Zen Den

A calming retreat that offers hand, seat and foot massagers, gentle ambient sounds, soft lighting and quiet activities creating the perfect environment to unwind and recharge, with a maximum of two people at a time. Senior center membership required.

Open 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, the Zen Den is designed to be enjoyed in 10-20-minute increments.

## Make a Difference in Your Community

Join a Rockville Board or Commission!



Boards and commissions in the city provide the Mayor and Council with informed thoughts and ideas that help shape Rockville's future.

Learn more at [rockvillemd.gov/boards](http://rockvillemd.gov/boards)



### RESOURCES FOR FEDERAL WORKERS

... Visit [rockvillemd.gov/federalworkers](http://rockvillemd.gov/federalworkers) for a list of resources for federal employees and other workers impacted by the federal government transition.

# April 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
- H** Hybrid: Offering both Virtual and In Person
- f** Facebook Live Event

**1 LITTLE EXPLORERS: NATURE ADVENTURES FOR TODDLERS** Introduce toddlers to nature and spark curiosity and exploration through guided exploration and activities. Register with course #39953. \$10 R/\$12 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

**1 DEATH CAFE** A safe space with open discussion to explore and share thoughts on end-of-life topics with Patricia Dubroof from Assisting Hands. Register with course #39873. Free. 10-11:30 a.m.

**7 BACK PAIN FROM STENOSIS AND DRY NEEDLING** See article on page 6. **SR**

**8 OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA** See article on page 6. **SR**

**8, 29 TURNING 65? MEDICARE CHOICES** See article on page 6. **SR**

**10 ARBOR DAY AMERICA250 CELEBRATION** Join the City of Rockville for a commemorative tree planting celebrating Arbor Day and America's 250th anniversary. 9-10 a.m. Millennium Garden Park, 634 Great Falls Road.

**11 MEMORY WALK PARK PUBLIC ART WORKSHOP** See article on page 6. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. **CC**

**11 LITTLE EXPLORERS: NATURE EXPLORATION FOR TODDLERS** Discover the wonders of nature with your toddler through hands-on activities, hikes, crafts, and more. Register with course #39954. \$10 R/\$12 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

**10, 11, 12 MURDER AT THE MANSION PRESENTS "A WEDDING TO DIE FOR"** See article on page 6. **FSF**

**12 RANG-MANCH THEATER FESTIVAL 2026** See article on page 6. **FSF**

**13 MAYOR AND COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION AND PUBLIC HEARING** See article on page 3. 5:30 p.m. **CH**

**13, 20 ZONING ORDINANCE REWRITE PUBLIC HEARINGS** See article on page 3. **CH**

**14 PREVENTING MUSCLE LOSS** See article on page 6. **SR**

**14 NATIONAL DEA DRUG TAKE BACK** See article on page 6. **SR**

**15 LANDLORD INPUT MEETING** See article on page 5. 7-8:30 p.m. **V**

**16 TENANT INPUT MEETING** See article on page 5. 7-8:30 p.m. **V**

**16 NATIVE PLANTS: CHOOSING, FINDING AND PLANTING WITH PURPOSE** See article on page 4. 7 p.m. Register at bit.ly/rkvclimate. **V**

**17 INTERNATIONAL NIGHT 2026** See ad on page 8. 6 p.m. **FSF**

**18 ROCKVILLE VILLAGES GO GREEN** See ad on page 8. Rain or shine. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **SR**

**18 THE TAMBURITZANS PRESENT "THE SHARED SONG"** See article on page 6. **FSF**

**19 MEET THE ARTISTS** See article on page 6. 1:30-3:30 p.m. **GM**

**19 ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "SPRING AWAKENING: A CONCERT OF NEW ENERGY, GROWTH AND BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD"** See article on page 6. **FSF**

**20, 27 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING** 6:30 p.m.

**22 EARTH DAY** See article on page 1.

**23 MOBILE MARKET AT ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER** See article on page 6. **SR**

**25 CITY NATURE CHALLENGE** See article on page 1.

**25 ROCKVILLE POLICE DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY** See article on page 8. Rockville City Police Station, 2 W. Montgomery Ave.

**25 MONTGOMERY COUNTY GREENFEST 2026** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Blackrock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown.

**26 ROCKVILLE SCIENCE DAY** See article on page 8. Montgomery College, Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee St.

**28 COFFEE WITH A COP** See the article on page 8. 10-11:30 a.m. The Bean Bag at Main Street, 50 Monroe Place.

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

FOR MORE INFO AND UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS: [ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/CALENDAR](https://rockvillemd.gov/calendar)

### Earth Month Activities *continued from pg. 1*

**Saturday, April 25: City Nature Challenge**  
9-10 a.m. Croydon Creek Nature Center.

Be part of a global effort to observe and document local wildlife during the City Nature Challenge. Join nature center staff on a guided walk through the forest preserve, where naturalists will demonstrate using the iNaturalist app to record plants and animals, big and small.

Ages 6 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Register at [rockvillemd.gov/](https://rockvillemd.gov/) registration with course #39958.

**Saturday, April 25: Montgomery County GreenFest 2026**

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Germantown.  
The largest annual environmental festival in Montgomery County. Visit

[montgomerycountygreenfest.org](https://montgomerycountygreenfest.org).

**Saturday, May 2: Native Plant Sale**

9-11 a.m. Elwood Smith Community Center, 601 Harrington Road.

**Saturday, May 16: Spring Festival and Kids to Parks Day**

10 a.m.-noon, Croydon Creek Nature Center.

### RCPD Report

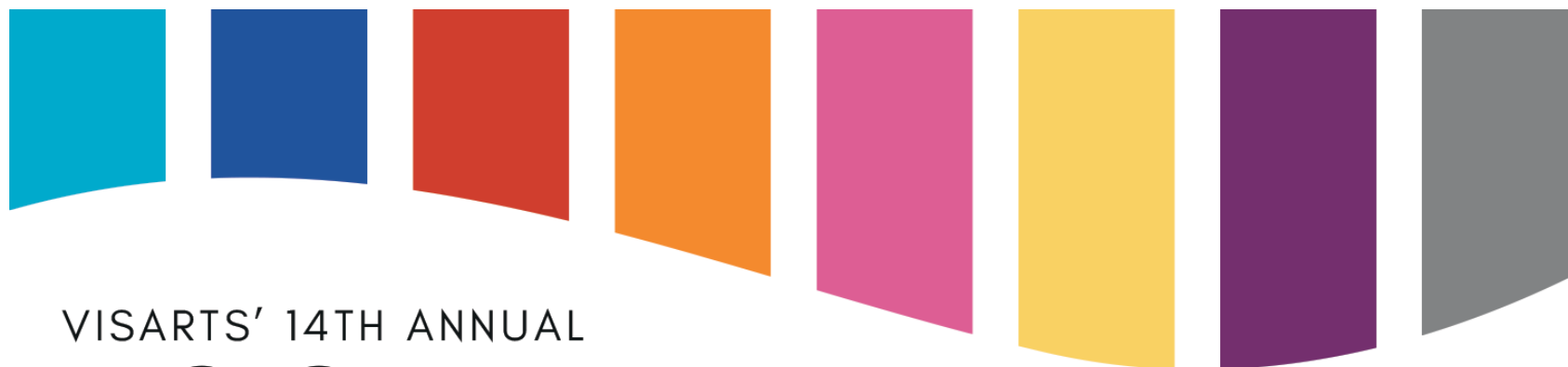
*continued from pg. 1*

Safety Day, creating new opportunities for residents to connect with officers. RCPD also held an annual open house, National Night Out and a gun buyback event, which collected 303 firearms.

RCPD's work drew national attention when the International Association of Chiefs of Police featured the department in its IACP-TV film, "The Rockville Way," highlighting recruitment, training and community-focused policing strategies.

The report notes that progress made in 2025 laid the groundwork for new initiatives in 2026 as the department continues to build a safer, stronger Rockville.

Learn more about the RCPD and its mission at [rockvillemd.gov/police](https://rockvillemd.gov/police).



# VISARTS' 14TH ANNUAL ROCKVILLE ARTS FESTIVAL

**MAY 2+3, 2026 | 10 AM-5 PM | THE SQUARE**

Maryland Ave + E Middle Ln

- 130 Artists + Artisans
- Art Demonstrations
- Chalk Art Activities
- Food Trucks
- Free Admission
- Free Two-Hour Parking
- Red Line Metro Accessible





## Drug Take-Back Day: Drive Up, Drop Off Unwanted Medication

The Rockville City Police Department will offer a safe, free and anonymous way to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicine and pet medication on Saturday, April 25.

City police will accept leftover — including expired — prescription drugs from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Rockville City Police Station parking lot at 2 W. Montgomery Ave. RCPD officers will be outside with easy drive-up and drop-off access, so there is no need to get out of your vehicle.

The Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, will also host a drug take-back day event from 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, April 14. See the article on page 6.

Illicit drugs, liquids, needles, inhalers, glass containers, sharps or syringes cannot be accepted, only pills or patches. Bring medication in original containers or combine pills in a clear, sealed plastic bag for disposal. Returned medication will be destroyed by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a convenient and responsible means of disposal, keeping prescription drugs from potentially polluting drinking water, while educating the public about the potential for abuse or theft of these medications.

During the most recent collection in October, 4,263 law enforcement agencies collected 571,054 pounds — 283 tons — of unwanted prescription drugs, including 11,271 pounds in Maryland. All-time, the program has collected 10,196 tons over 29 national collection dates, including 286,274 pounds (more than 143 tons) in Maryland.

For more information about the city's take-back event, contact Cpl. Ronnie Crowe at 240-314-8974 or [rcrowe@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rcrowe@rockvillemd.gov). Unused, unwanted or expired medication can be disposed of, with no questions asked, in a prescription drug drop box available to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in the front lobby of the Rockville City Police Station. The drop box accepts only pills or patches; no liquids, needles, sharps, inhalers, glass containers or illicit drugs are allowed.

Learn more at [deatakeback.com](http://deatakeback.com).

## City Police Invite Community for Coffee and Conversation

*Get to Know the Men and Women Who Protect and Serve the City*

The Rockville City Police Department invites community members for Coffee with a Cop from 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 28 at The Bean Bag Deli at Main Street, 50 Monroe Place.

RCPD officers will be on hand for informal one-on-one conversations with community members. Coffee with a Cop helps break down barriers between police officers and the community they serve in a casual atmosphere where residents can sit with officers, ask questions and share what's on their mind.

As part of its community policing mission, the RCPD strives to get to know community members, build trust and discover mutual goals with the Rockville community the department serves.

Learn more about the RCPD and its mission at [rockvillemd.gov/police](http://rockvillemd.gov/police).

## Rockville Science Day Marks 35 Years of Discovery and Innovation

The Rockville Science Center will hold its 35th Annual Rockville Science Day on Sunday, April 26. The event is at Montgomery College's Rockville Campus, 51 Mannake St., from noon-5 p.m. Opening ceremonies will begin at 1 p.m. outside of the Physical Education Center building.

What began as a community tradition more than three decades ago has grown into Montgomery County's largest STEM festival, drawing more than 4,000 visitors and 120 exhibitors from across the region each year.

Rockville Science Day offers families and science enthusiasts of all ages the chance to dive into interactive exhibits spanning robotics, environmental science, medicine, chemistry

and beyond. Attendees can build and launch rockets, peer through telescopes, meet live reptiles, explore electric vehicles, tackle coding challenges and conduct chemistry experiments. Other exhibits include stream science, archaeology mini-digs, 3D printing and math games.

The event is free to attend; parking is free. Food will be available for purchase. The festival takes place rain or shine.

Visit [rockvillemd.gov/rockville-science-day](http://rockvillemd.gov/rockville-science-day) for more information, including exhibitor registration, sponsorship and volunteering. Student Service Learning hours are available for students 16 and older who help with exhibits on Sunday and/or with setup on Saturday.

## City Seeks Community Feedback to Build Diversity Strategic Plan

Rockville will be asking community partners and residents for feedback as it works to develop a five-year strategic plan focused on justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.

The plan will guide the city's efforts to ensure equitable access to services, strengthen community partnerships and identify opportunities to better serve diverse populations.

An assessment phase is underway through April that includes a series of external listening sessions designed to gather feedback from community stakeholders on experiences with city services, barriers to access and opportunities for collaboration.

Input from these sessions will be combined with feedback gathered from city employees to create a comprehensive assessment of practices, policies and community needs. This combined approach will provide a more complete understanding of where gaps exist and where progress is being made.

Strategic planning will continue through spring, with a final plan expected to be presented to the Mayor and Council in June.

Additional information about opportunities to take part in the sessions will be shared through the city's website, e-newsletters and social media.

## Memory Walk Park Public Art Workshop Invites Community Participation

Lincoln Park residents are invited to help shape a new public artwork planned for Memory Walk Park.

The city will hold a community workshop from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road. Attendance is in person, with a virtual option available via Webex. Visit [rockvillemd.gov/event/memory-walk-park-public-art-workshop](http://rockvillemd.gov/event/memory-walk-park-public-art-workshop) for more information.

Memory Walk Park, at 300 Lincoln Ave., is a reflective space that honors the history and legacy of the Lincoln Park community. The public art installation is planned as a permanent

feature within the park. Artist Dina Fisher will lead the session in person, gathering ideas and input for the project's final design. The final installation is anticipated in fall.

Participants will have an opportunity to contribute directly to the artwork. Community members may trace the outline of a hand to be incorporated into the border of the piece and suggest family-friendly words to be engraved on one of the sculptures.

The workshop is open to Lincoln Park residents. No registration is required.

Learn more about the project at [rockvillemd.gov/projects/memory-walk-park-public-art-project](http://rockvillemd.gov/projects/memory-walk-park-public-art-project).

## Need help paying for camps?



### City residents who qualify for...

- FARMs (Free and Reduced Meals)
- Medical Assistance
- Rental Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income

...may be eligible to receive \$175 towards each camp week.

For more information, see page 30 of the camps guide at [rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://rockvillemd.gov/guide).



**BUILDING CONNECTIONS THAT LAST AND A LIFETIME OF LEADERS ...** Rockville City Police Department officers attended the Special Olympics Maryland Brave in the Attempt Talks event in March to support speakers with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are emerging as leaders in their communities. The speakers shared personal experiences and lessons learned, while inspiring others to follow their example.

The event is one of many the police department supports throughout the year. Participation helps officers build relationships with residents with disabilities through direct, personal connections that foster inclusion, trust and friendship.

Learn more about the RCPD at [rockvillemd.gov/police](http://rockvillemd.gov/police).

## Rockville Villages Go Green

**Saturday, April 18**  
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Free event.  
No registration required.

**Rockville Senior Center**  
1150 Carnation Drive

Rain or shine. Event will move indoors if it rains.

**A day dedicated to making Rockville a little greener — together!**

**Featuring:**

- Kids Activities, including Scavenger Hunt, Bee Hive Making and Pot Decorating
- Giveaways and Prizes, including Native Plants and Seeds
- Master Gardening Tips
- On-Site Shredding Truck
- And much more!

Sponsored by the Village Support Network and the Rockville Villages Program. Rockville Villages are neighbor-to-neighbor networks that foster community connection.

**For more information:**  
Villages Coordinator, Trish Evans  
[tevans@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:tevans@rockvillemd.gov)  
240-314-8807






**City Manager:** Jeff Mihelich  
**Director of Communications and Community Engagement:** Katherine Kirk-Dantzler  
**Asst. Director of Communications and Community Engagement:** Sean Sedam  
**Community Engagement Manager:** Carlos Aparicio

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**Public Information Specialist:** Cliff Cumber, Juan Jovel  
**Web and Digital Manager:** Nick Canary  
**Graphics and Printing:** Lidiya Cochetti, Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell  
**Rockville 11:** Hagop Balekjian, Joshua Joe, Adrian Zlotescu  
**Social Media and Digital Engagement:** Becca Brown