



# The Riverdale Park Town Crier

*A Welcoming Community, Come Grow with Us!*

**July-August 2023**

**Volume 52, Issue 6**

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## **Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information**

### **Town Hall**

5008 Queensbury Road  
301-927-6381  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (MWF)

### **Department of Public Works**

5008 Queensbury Road  
301-927-6381  
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### **Police Department**

5004 Queensbury Road  
301-927-4343  
24-hours

## **An Open Letter to Town Residents**

Dear Residents,

On June 20th, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution 2023-R-13 establishing the vision for and the intent to acquire the former Army Reserve property, located at 6601 Baltimore Avenue. A copy of the Resolution can be found on page 3. The Town envisions transforming the property from a contributor of flood waters to a solution in stormwater management, from a dormant site to an activated community site, from a vacant shell of a building to community and government meeting spaces and government operations center that serves to bring our diverse community together.

The conveyance of this property from the U.S. Federal Government to the Town of Riverdale Park makes possible large scale and impactful stormwater management facilities, improves sustainability, and plans for the future of our community and Town operations. This effort requires building support and addressing concerns. As an initial step, the Town pledges to remove approximately 2.5 acres of impervious surface from the property, and to partner with the County, State, and Federal governments to create the necessary stormwater facilities that will address both water volume and water quality. The sustainability features and planning for community and government uses will take time to develop, and your input will be greatly appreciated along the way.

Your support of this effort is critical to the Town's success. In the coming weeks, the Town will be publishing additional information and coordinating opportunities for you to express your support, and to share your thoughts on the vision as this opportunity comes into a clear plan for the future of Riverdale Park.

Respectfully,

Town of Riverdale Park Mayor and Council

El Boletín de Riverdale Park está  
disponible en Español!  
Asegúrese de escanear el QR Code.



### **6601 Baltimore Avenue Quick Facts:**

- Approximately 6.63 acres
- Enclosed (building) area 30,000 sq. ft.
- Assessed value of \$7,808,667
- Anticipated conveyance to the Town acquisition cost \$0.00
- Proposed Uses:
  - Stormwater Management
  - Sustainability Elements
  - Community and government



**Town of Riverdale Park**  
**www.riverdaleparkmd.gov**  
**Cable Channels: 10 and 71**

**Mayor**

Alan K. Thompson, 202-527-0309  
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Council Members**

**Ward 1** – Richard A. Smith, 202-527-2435  
rsmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Ward 2** – Aaron Faulx, 202-527-3130  
afulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Ward 3** – David Lingua, 301-779-3849  
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Ward 4** – Ifiok Inyang, 202-845-6251  
iinyang@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Ward 5** – Karen Mejia, 202-329-7610  
kmejia@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Ward 6** – Foday Kallon, 202-527-2637  
fkallon@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Administration**

John N. Lestitian, **Town Manager**  
jnlestitian@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Jessica Barnes, **Administrative Services  
Director/Town Clerk**  
jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ivy Lewis, **Public Projects and Services Director**  
ilewis@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ryan Chelton, **Development Services Director**  
rchelton@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Paul Smith, **Finance and Employee Services Director**  
psmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Rosa Guixens, **Chief of Police**  
rguixens@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Fire Department - Emergency 911**

Information - 301-927-0356

Brian Carpio, **Fire Chief**  
Eng7twr@yahoo.com;  
Info@riverdalevfd.com;  
www.riverdalevfd.com

The Town Crier is also available on the Town's  
Website: [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Submission deadline: 15th of each month**

Send submissions to:  
towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**2023 Dates to Remember**

**Legislative Meeting**

July 10, 2023, at 7:30 pm

**Independence Day**

July 4, 2023—Town Hall/DPW Operations Closed

**National Night Out**

August 1, 2023, at 7:30 pm

**PGCPS First Day of School**

August 21, 2023

**Work Session**

August 28, 2023, at 7:30 pm

**Labor Day**

September 4, 2023—Town Hall/DPW Operations Closed

**Legislative Meeting**

September 11, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

**Work Session**

September 18, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.



**Town Office Extensions**

**General Inquiries** (301) 927-6381: ext. 500, 503

**Assistance in Spanish:** ext. 500, 503

**Town Provided Services (Public Works):** ext. 500, 503

**Permits and Licensing:** ext. 500, 503

**Neighborhood (Code-related) Concerns:** ext. 508, 514

**Business and Economic Development:** ext. 509

**Accounts Payable:** ext. 500

**Human Resources:** ext. 507

**Town Clerk:** ext. 505

**Police Department (Non-emergency):** ext. 560



COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND

Resolution 2023-R-13

Introduced by: Councilmember Faulx

Date Introduced: June 20, 2023

Date Adopted: June 20, 2023

Date Effective: June 20, 2023

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FOR THE PURPOSE OF establishing a vision for and declaring intent to acquire the former U.S. Army Reserve property, located at 6601 Baltimore Avenue, Riverdale Park, Maryland.

WHEREAS, the Town of Riverdale Park envisions transforming the former U.S. Army Reserve property from a contributor of flood waters to a solution in stormwater management, from a dormant site to an activated community site, from a vacant shell of a building to community and government meeting spaces and government operations center that serves to bring our diverse community together; and

WHEREAS, the above vision is built upon a shared priority with Prince George's County and neighboring municipalities to properly and adequately address stormwater management throughout the area; and

WHEREAS, installation of stormwater management facilities on this site will directly impact and improve the safety of the 560 Riverdale Park families who reside in a floodplain and the thousands of families who similarly reside in the floodplain of our neighboring jurisdictions and those further downstream; and

WHEREAS, Riverdale Park's vision includes a focus on sustainability and commitment to expand the native tree canopy, the creation of habitat, and open green space to enhance the quality of life in the increasingly densely populated area; and

WHEREAS, Riverdale Park is committed to active programming with community partners, including the development of classroom space for continuing education and ESL classes, partnerships with non-profit organizations, partnerships with educational institutions, and other collaborative efforts for public benefit; and

WHEREAS, Riverdale Park is a landlocked and growing community, in which 1,600+ new residential units will be constructed in the next 3 to 7 years for which government services will need to be expanded and the current Municipal Center has limited opportunities to grow;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Riverdale Park does hereby establish this vision for the former U.S. Army Reserve property and declare the Town's intent to pursue conveyance of this vitally important property, located at 6601 Baltimore Avenue in Riverdale Park, from the U.S. Federal Government to the Town of Riverdale Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Riverdale Park hereby calls on its sister municipalities, and Federal, State, and County representatives to support this effort to protect the future of residents of the Town of Riverdale Park and neighboring municipalities and provide an opportunity for Riverdale Park to continue delivering on its commitment to sustainability and high-quality government services.

ATTEST:

  
Jessica E. Barnes, Town Clerk

COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF  
RIVERDALE PARK:

  
Alan K. Thompson, Mayor

## Council Actions

May 22, 2023

### Special Legislative Meeting

#### Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-OR-06 regarding FY2024 Operating and CIP Budget and Tax Rates - **Adopted**
2. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-OR-07 regarding 54th Place Removal of Deed Restriction - **Adopted**
3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-OR-08 regarding Riverdale Park Station Infrastructure Transfer - **Adopted**
4. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-OR-09 regarding Amendment of FY2023 Budget - **Adopted**
5. Motion to Close Meeting to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(1) - **Approved**

June 5, 2023

### Legislative Meeting

#### Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items: - **Approved**

1. Fence Permit Request: 6-foot fence at 4504 Oliver Street
2. Minutes: April 15, 2023, FY2024 Budget Public Hearing; May 2, 2023, Public Hearing for 54th Place Alley; May 2, 2023, Public Hearing for Tax Rate

#### Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to continue Cooperation Agreement with Prince George's County for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County Qualification for Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2026 - **Approved**
2. Motion to authorize the closure of Town Center parking lot from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, 2023, for Trolley Trail Day - **Approved**
3. Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-R-11 regarding Council Meeting Schedule - **Adopted**

#### New Business

1. Motion to direct staff to acquire and raise Pride flag in front of Town Hall for the month of June - **Approved**

June 12, 2023

### Special Legislative Meeting

#### Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to authorize Town Manager to sign license agreements for use of Town infrastructure in Riverdale Park Station - **Approved**
2. Motion to authorize Town Manager to sign contract with Espina Paving, Inc. for an amount of \$666,089 for 2023 Road Improvement Projects, Streets and Sidewalk Improvement CIP Project #11PW07 - **Approved**
3. Motion to authorize extension of grant agreements with Brighter Bites; Global Health and Education Projects; LindaBen Foundation; and Passion & Compassion Ministries to address food insecurity in Riverdale Park related to the COVID-19 pandemic until December 31, 2023 - **Approved**
4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-R-12 regarding Acquisition of Vehicles – Suspension of Competitive Bidding - **Adopted**



#### TRP's Voice

I wanted to send a long overdue acknowledgement for one of the hardest working teams in our Town: the Department of Public Works team, and their coordinator Ivy



Lewis. These are a group of industrious, friendly, and capable individuals that work very hard to keep our Town looking as good as it does. In recent weeks, they have removed the graffiti from the buildings near the train crossing (perhaps three times!). They have also made the small green space at Oliver St. and Harrison Ave. look like new again and trimmed many of the trees in nearby tree spaces. They continue to sweep our Town streets and clean up trash in the neighborhoods—sometimes walking the streets to pick up trash by hand. During snow storms, they are the reason our roads are so much clearer than those in nearby county-maintained areas. In addition, they are the set-up crew for the Farmer's Market and go through that area after the Market ends to clean up. They are a hard-working bunch of individuals that always go beyond what is expected of them and don't get enough credit for all that they do. My sincere thanks for a job well done!

Diane K.





## Mayor Thompson's Message—Summer 2023

The cool spring has continued into June, which means the tomatoes and corn will arrive later than usual. They both will arrive soon enough, and I've been enjoying being outside without so much heat and humidity.



Alan Thompson, Mayor

### New Town Council, New Fiscal Year

The new Town Council (including me) was sworn into office on Monday, June 5, 2023.

I welcome new members CM Ifio Inyang (Ward 4) and CM Foday Kallon (Ward 6) and returning members CM Richard Smith (Ward 1), CM Aaron Faulx (Ward 2), CM David Lingua (Ward 3) and CM Karen Mejia (Ward 5) to the council, and look forward to working with all members for at least the next two years. The new Council is energized for change if the first few meetings are an indication of what is to come! Already we are planning review and likely changes to several chapters in the Town Code, and hope to see more in-person town-sponsored events.

June was the last month of the fiscal year, so some projects that were funded in the FY 2024 budget (and contracts that were awarded in June) will be starting in July. Examples of these projects are public Wi-Fi stations for areas of town where residents struggle to access broadband, a park on our border with Edmonston near where Adam Plummer's house used to be, a flooding mitigation project (details to be determined), and a significant update to the town's website.

### Army Reserve Center

The Army Reserve Center at 6601 Baltimore Avenue (just south of the Whole Foods and immediately next to Wells Run) has been empty for the last few years, and the town has been discussing internally how we might acquire it. In early June we approached our colleagues at all levels (federal, state, and local) to let them know about our interest and are working with them to make it happen. Our plans for the site include community activities, town offices, and a surge stormwater management area that will divert water from Wells Run, so the homes nearby will be less likely to flood. Expect a lot more news about this in the months ahead!

### COVID-19

With the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency in May, we don't have a lot of good data to tell what's going on. What data we *do* have is good news: wastewater data in our area has leveled off at around 10 % of the levels seen in late December, and hospitalizations for COVID-19 are down by a similar amount. As I recommended last month, keep opening your windows and socializing outdoors – I think the good weather has helped to drive the numbers down! As always, wearing a mask when you can helps reduce the chance of infection (and the N95 masks the town distributed will also keep you safe against wildfire smoke like we saw in early June – wear one if you'll be outside during code Orange or worse air quality days should we see more smoke this summer). Stay safe and healthy!

### Contact Me

If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of Town government, please contact me by e-mail ([akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)) or phone (202-527-0309 – my town mobile number). I also monitor accounts on Mastodon (@RPMdMayor@forall.social, my preferred social media site right now), Facebook, Twitter (@RPMdMayor), and Instagram. I will get back to you as quickly as I can, but please remember that while I love being Mayor, I have a full-time job elsewhere during the day (as do most of the other members of the Town Council), and it may take me a little while to get back to you. If you leave me a voice mail (and please do if I don't answer!) I'd be grateful if you could let me know what times are good for me to call you back. I'll be back here in September (there's no Town Crier published in August) as the heat of summer recedes and autumn approaches. Take care and stay safe until then!

## Upcoming Virtual Meetings

### **Legislative Meeting: July 10, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85147093909?pwd=QjhROERPbnV1T00yVFhNdEp0ZysyZz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 851-4709-3909

Passcode: 682023

### **Work Session: August 28, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88330676645?pwd=K0ZldzNTbmVvcHhvM3B2L24yY3NXdz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 883-3067-6645

### **Legislative Meeting: September 11, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84164514533?pwd=TU9Ta1R4V29OWUk0Sm00UzRjZ1F1UT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 841-6451-4533

Passcode: 06152023

### **Work Session: September 18, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81345253157?pwd=VHZ4djVmaWFnOGZxN1E0RythdU9DUT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 813 4525 3157

Passcode: 20230615

## Work Groups and Advisory Councils



The Comptroller of Maryland will be convening several Work Groups and Advisory Councils to provide opportunities for key stakeholder groups, policy experts, and community partners to advise the agency on our strategic goals, policy direction, and new initiatives while also helping to shape our internal and external engagement strategy. Each Work Group/Advisory Council will meet quarterly, with two-year terms. Members will be invited to:

- Share feedback on pressing issues impacting their communities;
- Advise the agency on its policy agenda and priorities;
- Outreach to their networks to identify volunteers to support the Comptroller of Maryland's initiatives and community engagement efforts;
- Identify opportunities for collaboration between the Comptroller of Maryland and their communities/networks; and
- Serve as internal and external validators for the agency.

Applications can be obtained at  
[www.marylandtaxes.gov/getinvolved](http://www.marylandtaxes.gov/getinvolved)

## 54th Ave Street Lighting Project

The Town's 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Streetlight Project is currently underway. The purpose of this project is to improve lighting in this area of Town by installing 11 pedestrian style streetlights on 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue, between Riverdale Road and Jefferson Street. These streetlights will be the same as those in place along Riverdale Road. Construction work will occur on the east side of 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Electric wire will be installed in the areas between the curb and sidewalk, where the streetlight will be installed. Driveways in the path of the installation will not be disturbed. Instead, the contractor will bore beneath driveways and install a conduit for the wires. Parking on the east side of 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be affected at different times during construction.



Santos Construction Co. Inc. will be conducting construction work on the sidewalk project on weekends, including Saturdays and Sundays, until June 30<sup>th</sup>. The 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Sidewalk project is funded by a Federal Grant and to ensure compliance with the project timeline, weekend work is required. The designated working hours for these weekends will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the project or any other related matters, please feel free to contact Special Projects Coordinator, Nouman Haider via email at [nhaider@RiverdaleParkMD.Gov](mailto:nhaider@RiverdaleParkMD.Gov) or by calling 202-695-6665.

## Swearing-In Ceremony

On Monday June 5, 2023 the Riverdale Park Mayor and Council were officially sworn in for their respective terms by the Prince George's Clerk of the Circuit Court, Mahasin El-Amin. The ceremony was attended by community members, friends and family of the Mayor & Council along with the Community Representative from Congressman Glenn Ivey's office.



#WeLoveTownLife ❤️

## Sandbag Program

Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T), in partnership with the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, are launching a - Sandbagging Program to provide sandbags ahead of the seasonal rains in Maryland. As we continue to experience unprecedented climate disruption, we are working to provide resources to our most vulnerable communities before and during heavy rains.

The timeline for the rainy season in Maryland has historically taken place from June - through September. This newly created -Sandbagging Program is expected to provide increased protection to residential structures located within low-lying areas in the County during heavy periods of rain. The County will provide sandbags to the local municipalities. The July distribution dates will happen on:

- Saturday, July 1st, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
- Saturday, July 8th, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
- Saturday, July 15th, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

**Where:** Town's Public Works Building  
5012 Queensbury Road

# SANDBAG PROGRAM

## DO'S & DON'TS

✓ Direct water away from your property but not onto neighboring property.

✓ Dispose of used sandbags by using them in gardening and landscaping projects.

✓ Store unused sandbags in a cool, dry place to use for next season.

✓ Sandbags are ideal for blocking entryways, window wells, and garages for up to two feet.

✗ Don't dispose of sand in the storm drain systems.

✗ Don't dispose of sand in ponds or streams.

✗ Don't dispose of sand in children's sandboxes or playgrounds.

✗ Don't pile sandbags in roadways or emergency lanes.



Angela D. Alcebrooks  
County Executive



Michael D. Johnson, P.E.  
Director



## M-NCPPC Outdoor Pools

(If you have questions please call in advance.)

- Long Branch Pool — 301.341.5700  
8700 Piney Branch Ave, Silver Spring
- Piney Branch — 301.270.6093  
7510 Maple Ave, Takoma Park
- Adelphi Pool — 301.434.1994  
9442 Riggs Rd, Hyattsville
- Rock Creek — 301.585.1185  
8619 Grubb Rd, Silver Spring
- The New Carrollton Pool— 301.577.6310  
6250 Westbrook Dr, New Carrollton
- Theresa Banks Memorial Aquatic Center —  
301.772.5515, 8615 McLain Ave, Glenarden
- David C. Driskell Community Park —  
301.985.5000, 3911 Hamilton St, Hyattsville



## Prince George's County Youth Soccer League



**Meeting Details:** 6/16—8/11 (Fridays)

Time: 5 pm - 11 pm

Heurich Community Park

6001 Ager Rd, Hyattsville, MD, 20782

301.699.2255

### Individual Registration

Resident: \$20 / Non-Resident: \$26

For more information on registering please visit,

<https://tinyurl.com/y6zmv9as>



## Tax Credit For Seniors

The Elderly Property Tax credit provides up to a 20% credit on your County property taxes, inclusive of the County portion of the Homeowners' and Homestead credits, for up to five years once eligibility criteria is met. To be eligible for this tax credit beginning July 1, 2023, at least one owner must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Owner applicant must be at least 65+ (born on/before June 30, 1958), AND
- 2) It must be the same owner's principal residence, for at least the previous 10 consecutive years (on or before June 30, 2013), AND
- 3) Assessed property value must be \$500,000 or less.



Scan Me

## Summer Programs for Kids and Teens



June 26 - August 18, 2023 | 9 am - 4:30 pm

PG Parks and Recreation has summer day camps, playgrounds, a virtual clubhouses and teen centers to keep your kids engaged and active. Ages 4-17. For kids with disabilities, register at least two weeks in advance of activity start date for accommodations. Fee assistance available.

Go to: [pgparks.com/629/Summer-Programs](https://pgparks.com/629/Summer-Programs).

Follow us!



@RiverdaleParkMD



@Riverdale\_Park\_



@RiverdaleParkMD\_gov



@Town of Riverdale Park



## Preparing for Summer Storms

### A Message from PEPCO

We take the responsibility of providing our customers with safe, reliable and affordable energy service very seriously. This includes being prepared for whatever Mother Nature might bring at any time of the year.

We encourage others, including our customers, to be prepared as well. Please help us bring this important information into your community, by sharing these steps for preparing for summer storms:

- Assemble an emergency storm kit.
- Create a what-to-do plan for power outages.
- Confirm Pepco has your current phone number in the "My Alerts and Notifications" section of the website: [pepco.com/MyAccount](http://pepco.com/MyAccount).
- Visit [pepco.com/MobileApp](http://pepco.com/MobileApp) to download the app (it has resources to keep you informed during a storm).
- More tips, resources and safety information are available at [pepco.com/StormPrep](http://pepco.com/StormPrep).

We monitor local weather reports regularly. If severe storms are forecasted, we heed the advice of local emergency management officials.

Pepco follows a strategic response plan to restore service: address live wires/potentially life-threatening situations first, followed by high-voltage transmission lines and equipment to restore service to the largest number of affected customers. We also prioritize public health and safety facilities, like hospitals, police and fire stations and water treatment plants, while working to restore service in your community safely and as quickly as possible.

To learn more about our service restoration process, visit [pepco.com/Restoration](http://pepco.com/Restoration). Customers are asked to immediately report a downed wire or service issue by: calling 1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662), visiting [pepco.com](http://pepco.com), or submitting an outage via our mobile app. Pepco customers may also text "Out" to "48710." Customers must first text "ADD OUTAGE" to "48710" to sign up for this service.



## Senior Call Check

Senior Call Check is a FREE service available to adults 65+ in Maryland. Seniors can receive an automated daily call at a time they designate. After 3 attempts and no answer, the department will contact designated alternates to check on residents. Registration can be completed over the phone at 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-0560) or online <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/senior-call-check.aspx>

## Report Streetlight Outages

Streetlight outages can be quickly and easily reported through the PEPCO website at <https://pepco.streetlightoutages.com/> or by calling 1-800-735-2258. The online streetlight outage reporting tool is available 24/7.

## Emergency Repairs Grant Available

The Town is soliciting grant applications from homeowners and businessowners for the Emergency Repair Grant Program. This grant program is designed to assist with emergency repairs in homes and businesses that would otherwise not be addressed. An "emergency repair" is defined as a situation that is life-threatening or one that prohibits someone from living in decent, safe, and sanitary conditions or is needed for the safe and continual operation of a business.

Successful applicants can be reimbursed for up to \$2,000 after work has been completed and paid for or \$5,000 if the applicant can demonstrate the emergency repair is due to a natural disaster. Applicants that have a household income of no greater than 50% of the Area Median Income can have the matching requirement waived. Grants require a 1:2 match for the first one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and a 1:1 match thereafter. Grants are subject to funding availability.

For more information, please visit [http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency\\_repair\\_grant.php](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/emergency_repair_grant.php) or contact ARPA Project Manager, LaVerne Peakes at [lpeakes@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:lpeakes@riverdaleparkmd.gov) 301-789-4141.

## Mosquito Control Program

The Town will participate in the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program this year. Spray season began at the end of May and is anticipated to end in mid-September.

Spraying will take place after dark on **Tuesdays** and may continue until midnight or later. Spraying will commence as soon as it is dark. As a precaution, it is advised that residents stay inside their homes and close their windows while the spray truck is in the vicinity, bring in any pets, and remain in the home for 20-30 minutes after the spray truck has passed by. If there are people outside when the truck passes by, no spray will be released, and the truck will not make another pass down that street.

The spray schedule will rotate every 3 weeks meaning that Riverdale Park may not be sprayed each week. The frequency of spraying will be determined by surveillance data collected and complaints received. In order to determine if your community will be sprayed on its scheduled spray night, please contact [301-422-5080](tel:301-422-5080) between 2-4 p.m. that day. Any unscheduled sprayings will be announced on the Maryland Department of Agriculture's webpage [www.mda.maryland.gov](http://www.mda.maryland.gov) or on Twitter [@MdAgMosquito](https://twitter.com/MdAgMosquito) and [@MdAgDept](https://twitter.com/MdAgDept).

As a reminder, to reduce the presence of mosquitos, residents must keep their property free of mosquitos breeding containers, stagnant water, bird baths, wading pools, pet watering dishes, tin cans, old tires, clogged gutters or flowerpots. Other water holding containers should be stored upside down.

To file a complaint about mosquitos, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture at 301-422-5080 or file a complaint online via the MDA website (listed above).

To request an exemption from the spraying program or for more information about an exemption, visit <https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/MosquitoControlExemptionForm.pdf>



## Collection Reminders

**Residential Trash:** Place residential trash in durable, leak-proof bags before placing it in containers. Close lid tightly to keep rainwater out to reduce spillage. Clean trash can regularly. Place trash can curbside by 6:00 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays or the night before collection.

**Yard Waste:** Do NOT mix yard waste with household trash. Place yard waste in paper bags or in reusable bins marked as yard waste. Bundle branches and limbs with rope or string (do not use wire). Bundles must be less than 4 feet long and less than 3 inches in diameter and weigh less than 60 pounds. Place yard waste curbside by 6:00 a.m. on Mondays or the night before collection.

**Recycling:** As a reminder, NO PLASTIC BAGS ARE PERMITTED. Curbside recycling is provided by Prince George's County Department of the Environment. Please call 311 or 301-883-4748, if you have any questions or concerns about this service. Place recycling bins curbside by 6:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

**Bulk Trash:** Collection is by appointment only on Thursdays. Schedule collection by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesdays by calling 240-604-6077 or online at [www.jedatruckinginc.com/book-online](http://www.jedatruckinginc.com/book-online). Please note that bulk trash collection is limited to three (3) items per week. Set out bulk trash scheduled for pickup by 6 a.m. on Thursday.

**Report a Concern:** To report a concern, call 301-927-6381 or submit a request online. The Trash Concerns app can be used to order a new trash container, report missed collections and report any other trash-related concerns. Visit [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov) and click on the Trash Concerns icon.

**Disposing of Bamboo:** Bamboo should be placed in a trash container or tied together in bundles no longer than 4 feet long and 12 inches across. Bamboo may also be dropped off at the Public Works building on Bulk Trash Drop off Saturday but is limited to a maximum of 15 bundles (4 feet by 12 inches) on a given drop off day.

Bulk Trash Drop off Saturday the Public Works facility takes place on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Public Works facility is located at 5012 Queensbury Road.

## Trolley Trail Day 2023 Success

The Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail is one of the last remnants of the streetcar line that ran from the Treasury Building in downtown Washington, D.C. all the way to Laurel. Residents and visitors alike can again experience the trip from Hyattsville to Branchville on the same route that the “Number 82” streetcar took every day by using the Trolley Trail. In 1956, Congress decided to replace the streetcars with buses and on September 7, 1958 the last streetcar ran the route.



Currently, The Maryland Department of Transportation’s State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) has initiated improvements to US 1 (Rhode Island Avenue) from Charles Armentrout Drive to Farragut Street (PG8675188). This project will connect the Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail to the Anacostia Tributary Trail and enhance pedestrian and bicyclist access to trails and the arts historic district. The project is expected to be complete by the end of year.



On Saturday, June 10, 2023 the third edition of Trolley Trail Day was celebrated with multiple hubs along the trail. In Riverdale Park, there were two hubs; Town Center and Riverdale Park Station. The day celebrates the resiliency of the communities connected by the trail in an effort to highlight the shared-use benefits of the path. Riverdale Park came together and showed out thanks to our amazing local businesses, community partners, Town staff, and incredible residents.



Sources: <https://hycdc.org/the-arts/public-art/artways/rhode-island-avenue-trolley-trail/about/>  
<https://mdot-sha-us1-trolley-trail-pg8675188-maryland.hub.arcgis.com/>

## Riversdale Jazz on the Lawn

Pack a picnic, grab a blanket or lawn chair, and enjoy some of the finest local jazz musicians while relaxing on Riversdale’s grounds. This FREE summer concert series is sponsored in part by the Maryland State Arts Council and the Town.

**Date:** Wednesdays | 7-8 p.m.

**Location:** Riversdale House Museum  
4811 Riverdale Rd, Riverdale Park, MD

**July 12:** Riverdale Park Arts' Clarinet Academy presents Redwine Jazz featuring orchestral sounds at the summer concert series.

**July 26:** Downtown Tumbao, features Chilango Jazz from Mexico City, accompanied by rhythms of Cha cha chá, guaracha, son, samba and more with rich Jazz harmonies and driving tumbaos at the summer concert series.

**August 23:** Brulee will bring elements of bossa nova, smoky jazz ballads, and bouncy alt-pop anthems to this summer concert series.

For more information: email [riversdale@pgparks.com](mailto:riversdale@pgparks.com) or call 301-864-0420.



## National Night Out



National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Riverdale Park Police Department will celebrate on August 1, 2023, from 5:30 pm-8pm with a community bike ride that will depart from Riverdale Elementary.



## Fireworks

The 4th of July is just days away! We want everyone to have a safe holiday! Please remember that purchasing, selling and using fireworks is illegal in Prince George's County. In addition, they can cause serious bodily harm and start fires. And let's not forget, fireworks often scare our beloved pets!! If you wish to report illegal use of fireworks, you can call the Fire/EMS Department Operations Center at 301-583-2200.

### Regional Fireworks Display

- Bladensburg Waterfront Park  
6pm-9:30 pm | July 3, 2023  
4601 Annapolis Road
- Buddy Attick Park, Greenbelt  
4:30 pm– 9 pm | July 4, 2023  
555 Crescent Road
- National Mall  
9:09 pm | July 4, 2023  
Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool
- The Wharf DC  
7pm-10:00 pm | July 4, 2023  
760 Maine Ave SW



### Maryland Natural Resources: Annual Photo Contest

"Fresh Air" by Andrea Conte was submitted to the 2022 Photo Contest.

Take your shot... enter the annual MDDNR contest, with a grand prize of \$500, a one-year State Park and Trail Passport, and more! All winning photos will be featured in the Department's 2024 wall calendar and published in the MD Natural Resource magazine. Submit your entry by August 1 online ([dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/photocontest.aspx](https://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/photocontest.aspx)).

Winners are notified before being announced on the website newsroom and social media outlets. Email questions to: [photocontest.dnr@maryland.gov](mailto:photocontest.dnr@maryland.gov).

## Neighborhood Services

If you have concerns regarding a property in your neighborhood, please contact Neighborhood Services. One of the primary duties of the Neighborhood Services team is to educate residents about the Town's community standards. In most cases residents simply do not know that they are not meeting the Town's community standards as defined in the Town Code. In some cases, another community partner such as Prince George's County, may be needed to address your concerns. Information about the Town's community standards can be found on the Town's website, [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov), under Town Code and TRP's Vision and Commitment Statements.

If you have any questions regarding property maintenance or the application of Town codes, please contact:

**Stephen Smith-** [ssmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:ssmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or  
301-927-6381 ext. 508

### Purple Line

#### Construction Notices

Purple Line construction is well underway. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit [purplelinemd.com](http://purplelinemd.com), find "Construction" and click on "Subscribe for Updates". The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.



### Green Team

Riverdale Park's Sustainability Committee (RPSC or Green Team) meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. The next meeting is July 11, 2023 and August 8, 2023, via Zoom.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84004794706?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84004794706?pwd=ejkWskpHQ3EzeWMrdFRqaHFhOGVxQT09)  
[pwd=ejkWskpHQ3EzeWMrdFRqaHFhOGVxQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84004794706?pwd=ejkWskpHQ3EzeWMrdFRqaHFhOGVxQT09)

Or call: 301-715-8592  
Meeting ID: 840 0479 4706  
Passcode: 202301



# July 2023

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Municipal Center Renovation project, public meetings are being held via Zoom. If you have any questions about how to participate in a public meeting or need assistance, please contact the Town Clerk at 301-927-6381

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	27	28 Recycling Collection	29 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	30 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	1
2	3 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	4 Town Hall & Public Works Closed	5 Recycling Collection	6 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	7 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	8
9	10 Legislative Meeting 7:30 PM Trash & Yard Waste Collection	11 RPSC (Green Team) 7:30 PM	12 Recycling Collection	13 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	14 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	15 Bulk Trash Drop-Off
16	17 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	18 Mosquito Spraying	19 Recycling Collection	20 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	21 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	22
23	24 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	25	26 Recycling Collection Town Center Market Patio Concert Series	27 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	28 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	29
30	31 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	Notes <b>Town Hall will be open for in-person services on Mondays – Wednesdays – Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</b> Please note that Town Hall will be closed on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for lunch. Services are also available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. via phone at 301-927-6381, via email at <a href="mailto:community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov">community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov</a> , and online at <a href="http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov">www.riverdaleparkmd.gov</a> . If you need immediate assistance at any time, please call 301-927-6381.				

August 2023 *Happy Happy*

Happy Happy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	1	2 Town Center Market Patio Concert Series	3 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	4	5
6	7 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	8 RPSC (Green Team) 7:30 PM Mosquito Spraying	9 Recycling Collection Town Center Market Patio Concert Series	10 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	11	12
13	14 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	15	16 Recycling Collection Town Center Market Patio Concert Series	17 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	18	19 Bulk Trash Drop-Off
20	21 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	22	23 Recycling Collection Town Center Market Patio Concert Series	24 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	25	26
27	28 Work Session Trash & Yard Waste Collection	29 Mosquito Spraying	30 Recycling Collection Town Center Market Patio Concert Series	31 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm Trash Collection	1	2



## SPEEDING ENDANGERS EVERYONE ON THE ROAD

The speed limit in Town is 20 mph



SPEED  
LIMIT  
20



## DRIVING SAFETY TIPS

- Stay focused and alert
- Come to full stops at red lights and stop signs
- Don't follow others too closely
- Allow more time for traveling

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

SATURDAY  
JULY 8



12 NOON-  
5 PM



## UPON REQUEST

### Reduce Single-Use Disposable Foodware

To reduce waste, as of June 1, 2023, CB-014-2022 requires all food service businesses in Prince George's County to provide single-use foodware accessories and condiments to customers **upon request** or at self-serve stations for ready-to-eat foods.

Food facilities that use a third-party delivery platform must customize their menu with a list of single-use accessories/condiments that customers can request with their order in person, on the phone, or online.



Angela D. Alsobrooks  
County Executive

### What Foodware Are Included:

Single-use items, including straws\*, utensils, condiment cups and packets, cup sleeves, splash sticks, stirrers, and napkins, provided with ready-to-eat food designed to be used once and discarded.

Customers will have to verbally **request** that they want single-use items, or select items from self-service bins instead of having them automatically included with a food order.

\*compostable and paper straws are allowed under County law



Straws



Eating Utensils



Condiment cups and Packets



Cup Sleeves



Splash Sticks and Stirrers



Napkins

CARRIER ROUTE

PRESORT

PRSRT STD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

HYATTSVILLE, MD

## POSTAL PATRON

**RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND 20737**



Town of Riverdale Park  
5008 Queensbury Road  
Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737

### Important Phone Numbers

**Comcast:** [www.comcast.com](http://www.comcast.com)  
Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

**Pepco:** [www.pepco.com](http://www.pepco.com)  
To report an outage: 1-877-737-2662  
Customer service: 202-833-7500

**Prince George's County:** [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov)  
Animal Control: 301-780-7200  
Assessments: 301-952-2500  
Parks and Recreation (maintenance): 301-918-4700  
Permitting, Licenses and Enforcement: 301-636-2000  
Public Works and Transportation: 301-883-5650

**Prince George's County Public Schools:** [www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org)  
Riverdale Elementary: 301-985-1850  
William Wirt Middle School: 301-985-1720  
Bladensburg High School: 301-887-6700  
Parkdale High School: 301-513-5700

**Verizon:** [www.verizon.com](http://www.verizon.com)

**Washington Gas:** [www.washingtongas.com](http://www.washingtongas.com)  
To report a gas leak: 703-750-1400 or 800-752-7520  
Customer Service: 703-750-1000

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC):**  
[www.wsscwater.com](http://www.wsscwater.com)  
To report a water main break or sewage backup: 301-206-4002  
Customer service: 301-206-4001 or 1-800-634-8400

### Local Organizations

Northern County Soccer Alliance  
[NCSA@soccer.net](mailto:NCSA@soccer.net) or 301-577-3559

Riverdale Park Boy Scout Troop 252  
Scoutmaster Bob Killen at 301-483-8455

Madison Hill Homeowners Association  
301-583-8857

Riversdale Historical Society  
301-864-0420

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market  
Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973

Riverdale Park Business Association  
[www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com](http://www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com)

Riverdale Park Arts  
Samuel Williams, Jr. at 909-380-4231

Riversdale Chamber Music Society  
Robert DiLutis at [rdilutis@umd.edu](mailto:rdilutis@umd.edu) or  
[www.riversdalechambermusic.com](http://www.riversdalechambermusic.com)