



# The Riverdale Park Town Crier

*A Welcoming Community, Come Grow with Us!*

**May 2023**

Volume 52, Issue 4

Election Notice	Page 1
Town Directory	Page 2
Dates to Remember	Page 2
Council Actions	Page 3
Virtual Meetings	Page 3
Fair Summary of Ordinances	Page 4
Public Hearing Notice	Page 5
Mayor's Report	Page 6
Mental Health Awareness	Page 7
National Public Works Week	Page 7
Building Safety Month	Page 7
Same Day Voter Registration	Page 8
Neighborhood Services Info	Page 9
Sustainability in TRP	Page 10
Rain Check Rebate Program	Page 10
Calendar	Page 11
Important Numbers	Page 12

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

### **Town Hall**

5008 Queensbury Road  
301-927-6381  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (M, W, F)

### **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

## **ELECTION NOTICE**

In compliance with the terms of the Charter of the  
Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland, an election will be held on

**Monday, May 1, 2023**

**To elect Mayor & Council Members**

**Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at  
Riverdale Park Town Hall, 5008 Queensbury Road**

### **CANDIDATES**

Mayor

**ALAN THOMPSON**

Council, Ward 1

**RICHARD SMITH**

Council, Ward 2

**AARON FAULX**

Council, Ward 3

**DAVID LINGUA**

Council, Ward 4

**IFIOK INYANG**

Council, Ward 5

**NO CANDIDATE FILED**

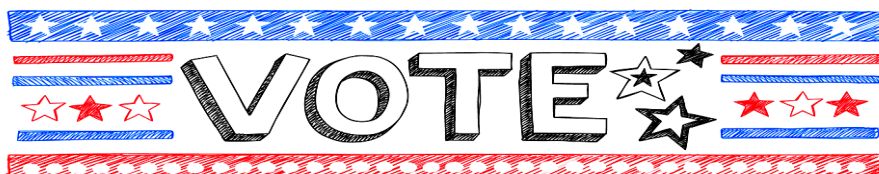
Council, Ward 6

**FODAY KALLON**

**Residents may also vote by mail (or Ballot Drop Box) by  
requesting an Absentee Ballot.**

All residents sixteen years of age or older, who have resided in the Town of Riverdale Park for 45 days or more preceding Monday, May 1, 2023 (March 17, 2023, to April 30, 2023), will be entitled to vote. Same day voter registration will also be available on Election Day, Monday, May 1, 2023.

More information regarding how to register to vote is available on the Town's website [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov).



**Boletín En Español**



**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** – Thomas Sadiq, 202-845-6251  
tsadiq@riverdaleparkmd.gov

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

**Ward 6** – Hala Mayers, 202-527-2637  
hmayers@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**

**Town Election**

May 1, 2023

**Legislative Meeting**

May 1, 2023

**Special Legislative Meeting**

May 2, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

**Special Legislative Meeting & Work Session**

May 22, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

**Memorial Day**

May 29, 2023 - Town Hall and DPW Operations Closed

**Legislative Meeting (Mayor & Council Swearing In)**

June 5, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

**Work Session**

June 12, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

**Juneteenth**

June 19, 2023 - Town Hall and DPW Operations Closed



**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



## Upcoming Virtual Meetings

### **Legislative Meeting: May 1, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82966502737?pwd=enlyTHRvcVBEZmZGVtI4S2gvVlZkdz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 829-6650-2737

Passcode: 4142023

### **Special Legislative Meeting: May 2, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84201278309?pwd=cCtMVkZVYUUVazZuSkRUa2dTK2ZMZZ09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 842-0127-8309

Passcode: 03302023

### **Work Session: May 22, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86767156446?pwd=SlRkQmVwY0h2aG5MVkFiR0dmbFBsUT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 867-6715-6446

Passcode: 14423

### **Ethics Commission: May 23, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83094147523?pwd=N1RzWkNHWG9VZ0d5OVA4RU1ubHBmZz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 830-9414-7523

Passcode: 4182023

### **Town Seal Design Comm.: May 25, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83254375004?pwd=c2d5TEVvYkhyY1Z2Z1RpbERpbmZVZz09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 832-5437-5004

Passcode: 41823

### **Legislative Meeting: June 5, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88088619365?pwd=ZUwyR3F5V3hWYitNVUNJTUtwV3JwQT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 880-8861-9365

Passcode: 20230414

### **Work Session: June 12, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87157221948?pwd=Yml4SFViekptU3U4QkNmNWJza05GQT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 871-5722-1948

Passcode: 23414

## Council Actions

### **Special Legislative Meeting**

**March 27, 2023**

#### **Legislative Action Items**

1. Motion to adopt Monthly Finance Report - ***Adopted***
2. Motion to adopt Emergency Ordinance 2023-OR-05 regarding Amendment to Property Maintenance Code – ***Adopted***

### **Legislative Meeting**

**April 3, 2023**

#### **Consent Agenda**

1. Motion to approve consent agenda items: - ***Approved***
2. Curb Cut Request: 4802 Queensbury Road for expansion of driveway
3. Minutes: February 6, 2023, Legislative Meeting

#### **Legislative Action Items**

1. Introduction of Ordinance 2023-OR-04 regarding Chapter 75 Stormwater Management - ***Introduced***
2. Motion to send letter of support for County legislation, CR-018-2023 regarding Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program - ***Approved***

#### **New Business**

1. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign a Task Order Agreement for CIP# 20DS06: Building Demolition and Parking Lot Development - ***Approved***
2. Motion to authorize the acquisition of two license plate readers through FY2023 Technology Grant from the State of Maryland - ***Approved***
3. Motion to authorize the acquisition of Leaf Vacuum Truck - ***Approved***



## NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Riverdale Park proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. If the Town of Riverdale Park maintains the current tax rate of \$0.6540 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 4.8% resulting in \$249,425 of new real property tax revenues.
2. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2023, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 4.8% from \$795,433,176 to \$833,571,585.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.6241, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The Town is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The Town proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.6540 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 4.8% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$249,425 in additional property tax revenues.

A virtual public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. To join, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84201278309?pwd=cCtMVkZVYUUVazZuSkRUa2dTK2ZMZz09> or call 301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 842-0127-8309 and Passcode: 03302023) to participate. The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Testimony may also be mailed to: Town of Riverdale Park, Real Property Tax Rate Testimony, c/o Town Clerk Jessica Barnes, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737 or emailed to [community\\_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov). Written comments will be accepted for seven (7) days following the virtual public hearing. The Fiscal Year 2024 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget is scheduled to be introduced on April 24, 2023. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-927-6381 for further information.

***\*\*Please note that there is no proposed change to the current real property tax rate.***

## FAIR SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE 2023-OR-04

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2023-OR-04.

Ordinance 2023-OR-04 will create Town Code Chapter 75, Stormwater Management, and generally relate to stormwater management in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2023-OR-04 is available for inspection by the public on the Town's website [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov), by e-mail request to [community\\_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov), or by calling 301-927-6381.

The Fair Summary of Ordinance 2023-OR-04 and the Notice of A Proposed Real Property Tax Increase were also included in the April 14, 2023, edition of the *Enquirer-Gazette*.

### TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK



### FY2024 Budget Development and Adoption Calendar

#### May 2023

**May 2:** Real Property Tax Rate Public Hearing

**May 22:** Mayor and Council Special Legislative Meeting: Adoption Final FY2024 Operating and CIP Budget and Tax Rates Ordinance

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND INTENT  
TO ABANDON AND CLOSE PUBLIC ALLEY**

This is to give notice that the Mayor and Council of the Town of Riverdale Park will conduct a public hearing on Ordinance 2023-OR-07 on May 2, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. The public hearing will be conducted virtually using the Zoom platform.

The public may access the meeting by logging in at the following link:


<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84201278309?pwd=cCtMVkZVYUUVazZuSkRUa2dTK2ZMz09> or calling 301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 842-0127-8309 Passcode: 03302023).

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO: Town of Riverdale Park, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737, or e-mailed to [community\\_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov).

Reasonable accommodation will be made for persons with disabilities upon request. To receive accommodation, contact the Town Clerk at 301-927-6381 (ext. 505) not later than April 28, 2023.


This Ordinance would abandon a certain alley in the Town of Riverdale Park as a public road and authorize its closure; authorize the alley to be removed from the Town's public roads inventory; and generally, relate to the abandonment and closing of a certain alley as a public road.

The alley referred to in the Ordinance is known as the 54<sup>th</sup> Place Alley, is 30' wide and extends 258.50 feet south from Riverdale Road to a dead-end at its terminus. Since 1956 the Town has treated and used the alley as a public alley and has included the alley on its public roads inventory. If the alley is abandoned and closed as a public road, the Town intends to replace the paved road with an open vegetated area for use as a pocket park by the general public. The conversion of this property from a paved road to a vegetated pocket park will contribute to the fulfillment of the Town's desire to reduce impervious surfaces in the Town, eliminate the need, cost and expense of maintaining and repaving the alley in the future, and provide additional open recreational space for Town residents.



**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK**

Not sure which  
ward you live in?  
Check out the Ward  
Boundary Map here:

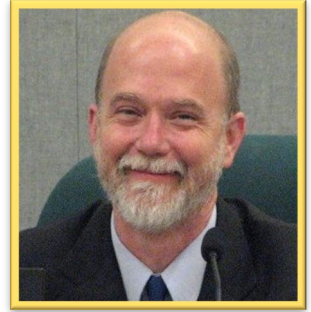


Or visit,  
<https://tinyurl.com/2p8y5z5w>

For more information about the May 1st Town Election, visit [www.RiverdaleParKMD.gov](http://www.RiverdaleParKMD.gov)

## Mayor Thompson's Message—May 2023

As I write this report in the middle of April, my windows are open and I can hear the frogs singing in my neighbor's yard. The trees are bright green and lush with new leaves, the temperature is perfect, and I am happy it is spring. Because it is a busy time of year this report will be a bit shorter.



Alan Thompson, Mayor

**Elections:** It is likely that the elections, which are scheduled for Monday, May 1 from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, will be over by the time you see the printed version of this report. Based on those who submitted an application to be on the ballot and are unopposed – including me – it's likely there will be a lot of returning members. The new council will be sworn into office on June 5. I'd like to express my most sincere thanks to Hala Mayers and Thomas Sadiq, who are not running for reelection, for serving on the council – it is important and at times difficult work, and I saw how hard both of you worked to represent your constituents and improve the town as a whole. I'd also like to thank the members of the Board of Elections and town staff, who have worked hard to make this election happen!

**State Legislation:** There's some good news and some bad news out of the legislature. The bad news is that the bill introduced by Senator Alonzo Washington to double stormwater funding was adopted by both the Senate and House of Delegates, but the Senate ran out of time before adopting amendments from the House so the bill was not passed. On the good news side, the bill that would have reduced school zones to be only 0.1 mile did not pass. And I was informed by Senator Washington's office that he had secured \$150,000 for a stormwater project in Riverdale Park, which is great news. I'd like to thank Senator Washington for his advocacy on behalf of the many residents of Riverdale Park who are impacted by stormwater.

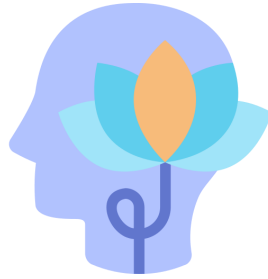
**COVID-19:** The COVID-19 news is not so rosy as it was in March. While the XBB.1.5 variant that was dominant in our area then is still dominant, there is a new variant that has been seen in 17 states so far: XBB.1.16, which has a nickname of "Arcturus." It was first seen in India and has recently been identified as a variant under monitoring by the World Health Organization and US CDC. It appears to be more infectious than XBB.1.5 and has a symptom that has not been seen in other variants – conjunctivitis or pink eye. As with all versions of this virus, it's best to avoid infection, and given the season I would recommend doing that by opening your windows and socializing outdoors! As always, wearing a mask helps reduce the chance of infection, and there is encouraging news that being up-to-date on vaccinations halves the likelihood of long COVID. Stay safe and healthy!

**Mosquitos:** It's that time of year – start implementing a mosquito control program before they get bad. We will again be using our Biogent GAT Traps – they worked quite well for us last summer! Other helpful strategies include: emptying standing water from pots, gutters, drains, and yard furniture and cover the ends of above-ground drainpipes with nylon stockings. Using mosquito dunks in birdbaths, small ponds, below ground drains or where standing water cannot be removed. Dunks are available at local hardware stores in granular form or in doughnut shapes, and are specifically designed to prevent larvae from hatching without endangering pets and wildlife.

**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](mailto:@RPMdMayor@forall.social), my preferred social media site right now), Facebook, Twitter ([@RPMdMayor](https://twitter.com/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 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 June as we head into the summer. Take care and stay safe until then!

## National Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental health is how we think about life or issues, feel about ourselves/others, and how we handle change, stress, and other things that happen to us. With good mental health, you feel good about yourself, relaxed with other people, and handle tasks and problems easily. Taking care of your mental health is just as important as taking care of your body. If you have a broken bone, you go to a doctor; if you have a mental health problem, you should seek treatment. Mental illness covers a wide variety of disorders, e.g.: anxiety, bipolar disorder, borderline personality disorder, depression, schizophrenia, substance use and other self-harm. If you're worried about your mental health, start by talking to friends, family, a spiritual counselor, or your physician about concerns. Your doctor can explain what you are experiencing and make referrals for mental health treatment. Visit [health.maryland.gov](https://health.maryland.gov) to search mental health services by zip code. In Maryland, most health insurance plans cover some mental health treatment. If you or a loved one is experiencing a mental health crisis, suicidal thoughts, or another related concern, call 211 and press 1, or text MD to 741741.



In addition, Starting in 2022, "988" became the three-digit, nationwide phone number for connecting to the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, formerly the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. By *calling or texting 988*, you'll speak directly with mental health professionals. Veterans may press "1" after dialing 988, to access the Veterans Crisis Lifeline, which serves our nation's service members, veterans, National Guard and Reserve members, and those who support them. For texts, continue to text the Veterans Crisis Lifeline short code: 838255. There is hope. The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a national network of more than 200 crisis centers that help thousands of people overcome crisis situations every day. These centers are supported by local and state sources as well as the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The 988 Lifeline provides 24/7, confidential support to people in suicidal crisis or mental health distress.



9

8

8

## National Public Works Week



2023 marks the 63rd annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association "Connecting the World Through Public Works" who selected the theme for the 2023 National Public Works Week. From May 21-27, 2023 let's do our part to show our appreciation to our dedicated and effortful Public Works Staff who we see day in and day painting our curbs, planting flowers and keeping our Town clean. Public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Riverdale Park. These infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of our public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees, honorary members of the community that are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential to our Town.



## National Building Safety Month



Building Safety Month is an international campaign celebrated in May to raise awareness about building safety. For more than 42 years, Building Safety Month has reinforced the need for the adoption of modern, regularly-updated building codes, and helps individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. The 2023 Building Safety Month theme is "It Starts with YOU!" Building Safety Month provides education for the public about solutions that improve the safety, sustainability, affordability and resiliency of buildings and communities. Building Safety Month unites industries, associations, academia and government under a common goal to protect the public by creating a safe and resilient built environment.

## Same Day Voter Registration

On May 1, 2023

### How do I register to vote?

Residents may register to vote in one of the following ways on Election Day:



If you are a U.S. citizen, a Maryland resident, and at least 16 years old; you may register to vote by using the State of Maryland Voter Registration Application found on the Town's website [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov); OR



If you have, or will have, the Town of Riverdale Park as your primary residence, for at least forty-five (45) days immediately prior to May 1, 2023 (March 17, 2023 to April 30, 2023); are at least 16 years old; do not claim the right to vote elsewhere in the United States; and have not been found by a court to be unable to communicate a desire to vote; register to vote by using the Town of Riverdale Park Supplemental Voter Registry Voter Registration Form found on the Town's website [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov).

### What forms of identification and proof of residence will be accepted for the supplemental voter registry?



An identification card issued by a federal, state, or local government entity of the United States or any foreign country or school provided that the identification document contains the applicant's name and date of birth; AND



A document that establishes your current residence in the Town of Riverdale Park if not already established by (1.) above. Examples include a copy of house or apartment lease, utility bill, paycheck, bank statement, school record, or other document that shows your legal name and current address in the Town of Riverdale Park.

## Preparing for Election Day on May 1<sup>st</sup>

### Prior to Election Day:

- If you moved recently, be sure to update your voter registration with the Prince George's County Board of Elections (County/State voters) 301-341-7300 or the Town Clerk (TRP Supplemental Voter Registry voters) 301-927-6381, extension 505.
- Review the list of candidates that is available on the Town's website or on the Election Notices posted in each ward and throughout Town.
- If you requested an Absentee (Mail-in) Ballot, be sure to return it as soon as possible. Absentee (Mail-in) Ballots can be returned by mail or by depositing them in the Ballot Drop Box at Town Hall. Absentee (Mail-in) Ballots **must be received** by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, May 1, 2023.

### On Election Day:

- Plan to arrive at the polls (Town Hall) after 7:00 a.m. and before 8:00 p.m.
- If you plan to register to vote on Election Day, be sure to bring the required documentation. Voter registration forms are available on the Town's website or in the document holder at Town Hall, if you would like to complete the voter registration form prior to Election Day.

### Information regarding Write-in campaigns

Town Code § 29-13 (b) states: "...in the event no candidate files for an office, such office may be filled by a write-in vote for a person qualified to hold the office if elected, provided that there are at least as many valid votes for such write-in candidate as the number of qualified petition signatures necessary if the candidate had filed a petition for that office. If no such number of votes are cast, the office is declared vacant, and the vacancy shall be filled in the manner prescribed for that office by the Town Charter."

This means that a write-in candidate for a council seat must receive a minimum of 15 write-in votes and a majority of the votes cast for that Ward. For the Mayor's race, a write-in candidate must receive a minimum of 25 write-in votes and a majority of the votes cast for Mayor.

Town Code § 29-11 states: "...Any qualified person elected to a town office by write-in vote shall pay the same fee as if they had filed a petition."

## 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

**Jermaine Dixon-** [jdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:jdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or 301-927-6381 ext. 514

## 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.



## Permit Parking Renewals

It's time to renew your parking permits and to help bridge communication gaps with the residents of Riverdale Park, applications are now available in Spanish. Please contact Tracey Perrin for more for details. Please direct your inquiries to [tperrin@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:tperrin@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or by calling 301-927-4343.



## 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.

## Sustainability Practices In TRP

There are two electric charging stations in Town Center and TRP residents are doing their part to help mitigate carbon emissions. Thus far there have been:

Charging Sessions <b>447</b>		CO2 Offset <b>15,169.52 lbs</b>	
Gasoline Saved <b>774.4 gallons</b>		Energy Used <b>7,743.5 kWh</b>	

In addition, combatting climate change is an important priority. The Riverdale Park Mayor & Council approved the purchase of two new electric vehicles for the Office of Neighborhood Services. Be sure to say hello, when you see our Neighborhood Services Specialists in your area.



## Green Team

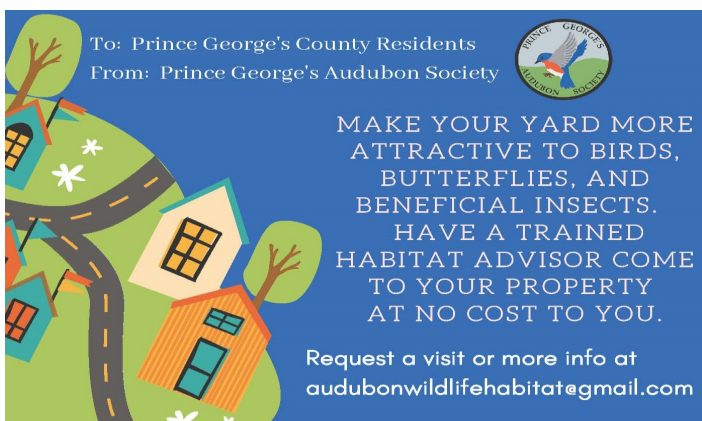
Riverdale Park's Sustainability Committee (RPSC or Green Team) meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. The next meeting is May 9, 2023, via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84004794706?pwd=ejkWskpHQ3EzeWMrdFRgaHFhOGVxQT09>

Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 840 0479 4706

Passcode: 202301



## Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate

Chesapeake Bay Trust is partnering with PG County on its Rain Check Rebate Program. The program offers rebate incentives to homeowners, businesses and others, to improve stormwater runoff quality (reducing pollutions and improving local stream and river health).

**7 stormwater options eligible for rebate:** rain barrels, cisterns, rain gardens, urban tree canopies, pavement removal, permeable pavement, and green roofs.

**Eligibility:** An applicant must be the property owner or a nonprofit organization with an agreement to complete a project on public property. Applicants are not eligible for this program if the project is part of the permit-approval requirements for new building construction or renovations.

For nonprofits working with owners, to install Rain Check Rebate practices on residential property, go to [cbtrust.org/rain-check-for-nonprofit-organizations](http://cbtrust.org/rain-check-for-nonprofit-organizations).

**Maximum rebate amounts:** Each practice supported by the program has a rebate allowance based on the project type and size. A project must meet the criteria and minimum size requirements to qualify for a rebate. The total maximum rebate amount for the lifetime of the property is \$6,000 for residential properties and \$20,000 for commercial, industrial and institutional properties. An applicant may complete multiple projects until the maximum rebate amount is met.

Interested? Review the Program Guidance and Application Instructions prior to submission: [cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/Rain-Check-Rebate-Application-Instructions\\_032122.pdf](http://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/Rain-Check-Rebate-Application-Instructions_032122.pdf)

Funds are available on a first come, first served basis; demand for the program this fiscal year has been high.

**Deadline:** Application acceptance is ongoing/rolling.



# May 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 (extension 505).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Town Election 7 am to 8 pm  Legislative Meeting 7:30 PM  Trash & Yard Waste Collection	Special Legislative Meeting & Tax Rate Public Hearing 7:30 PM	Recycling Collection	Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm  Trash Collection	Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Trash & Yard Waste Collection	RPSC (Green Team) 7:30 PM	Recycling Collection	Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm  Trash Collection	Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mother's Day 	Trash & Yard Waste Collection		Recycling Collection	Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm  Trash Collection	Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	Bulk Trash Drop-Off
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Work Session 7:30 PM  Trash & Yard Waste Collection	Ethics Commission Meeting 7:30 PM	Recycling Collection	Town Seal Design Committee Mtg. 7:30 PM  Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm  Trash Collection	Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
	Memorial Day  Town Hall & Public Works Operations Closed		Recycling Collection	Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-6:30pm  Trash Collection	Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	

## Notes

**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.** 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 [community\\_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:community_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov), and online at [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov). If you need immediate assistance at any time, please call 301-927-6381.

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)