

The Riverdale Park Town Crier

A Welcoming Community, Come Grow with Us!

September 2023

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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

Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year, National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. The observa-

tion started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.



The day of September 15 is significant because

it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period. According to the Census Bureau, the U.S. Hispanic population is 62.1 million as of 2020, "making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic or racial minority." Over 18% of our county's population has roots in El Salvador, Mexico, Spain, Chile, Guatemala, or one of the many other nations in the Spanish-speaking world. As Prince George's County grows and changes, we want to celebrate the amazing diversity of art and culture that people of Hispanic or Latin descent have added to the rich tapestry of our neighborhoods.



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Encanto Movie Night Kick-Off Thursday, September 21, 2023 Riverside Neighborhood Park 7:00 PM –9:30 PM

El Boletin de Riverdale Park esta disponible en Español! Asegurese de escanear el QR Code.



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 afaulx@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 Submission deadline: 15th of each month Send submissions to: towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

2023 Dates to Remember

Labor Day

September 4, 2023—Town Hall/DPW Operations Closed

WABA Youth Learn to Ride

September 9, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Legislative Meeting

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

Work Session

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

Encanto Movie Night

September 21, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Legislative Meeting

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

WABA Learn to Ride

October 21, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Work Session

October 30, 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 Actions

June 20, 2023

Special Legislative Meeting

1. Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-R-13 establishing a vision for and declaring an intent to acquire the former U.S. Army Reserve property - Adopted

2. Motion to approve the draft open letter from the Mayor and Council to the Riverdale Park community and others—Approved

3. Motion to authorize Mayor Thompson to send a letter to local, state, and federal officials-Approved

July 10, 2023

Special Legislative Meeting

1. Motion to appoint Erin Wright to the Board of Elections as the under 18 years of age member - Approved

2. Motion to adopt Prince George's County Vision Zero Action Plan - Adopted

3. Motion to approve request from Community Crisis Services, Inc. for \$1,000 for tables/chairs rental for Riverdale Park Community Day 2023 from Undesignated Social Concerns Line Item in FY2024 Approved Operating and Capital Improvement Budget - Approved

July 31, 2023

Special Legislative Meeting

1. Introduction of Emergency Ordinance 2023-OR-10 regarding Infrastructure Acceptance at Riverdale Park Station Development - Introduced

2. Motion to suspend provision that an ordinance may not be passed at the meeting at which it is introduced - Town Charter §210(b) - Approved

3. Motion to adopt Emergency Ordinance 2023-OR-10 regarding Infrastructure Acceptance at Riverdale Park Station Development - Adopted

4. Motion to authorize Town Manager to sign an agreement with Mead and Hunt in the amount not-toexceed \$80,086 for engineering of the 54th Place Pocket Park & Tot Lot Project (CIP 22PW04) - Approved

5. Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-R-14 regarding suspension of competitive bid requirements for Trolley Trail Lighting Project (CIP 20PP03) - Approved

6. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign a change order with Pennoni regarding CIP #20DS06 for a Municipal Parking Lot in the amount of \$22,801- Approved

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK FAIR SUMMARY OF **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2023-OR-10**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has adopted Emergency Ordinance 2023-OR-10.

Emergency Ordinance 2023-OR-10 modifies the acceptance pursuant to Ordinance 2023-OR-08 of certain public infrastructure in the Riverdale Park Station development.

Emergency Ordinance 2023-OR-10 is available for inspection by the public on the Town's website www.riverdaleparkmd.gov, by calling 301-927-6381, or by e-mail request to community input@riverdaleparkmd.gov.

FY2025 Budget—Community Input

As Town Staff begin to prepare for the FY2025 Operating and Capital Improvement Budget, community input is encouraged. If you have any initial thoughts regarding items or projects that should be included in the FY2025 Proposed Operating and Capital Improvement Budget, please send them to community input@riverdaleparkmd.gov.

As in previous years, there will be many other opportunities throughout the budget preparation process for community input, including two public hearings in April 2024.

Better Ways to Reach You

Over the coming months we will begin to transition to Constant Contact, a communication platform that will provide more functionality. In order to make sure that you receive important updates from us, we need to collect some information to build our database. Feel free to scan the QR Code below or register at <u>https://</u> forms.gle/kcKKnfJF2LpJUaqm7.





Mayor Thompson's Message—September 2023

The cooler weather I was enjoying so much in my last report gave way to the warm, muggy days of July and August, weather that is perfect for tomatoes and peaches, but not so much for me. Now, though, the days are shortening, the nights will soon be cooler, and the vivid colors of autumn will paint themselves on the leaves.

Army Reserve Center



In case you missed my July/August report, the Army Reserve Center at 6601 Baltimore

Alan Thompson, Mayor

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. During our outreach we discovered that the College Park Academy is also interested in the site, and we are discussing possible shared use of the space. Stay tuned!

COVID-19

As I mentioned in my last report, our main sources of actionable data on COVID-19 is wastewater (hospitalizations tell us what happened a few weeks prior, and it's hard to take action on that). Wastewater data in our area had leveled off but is now on the rise – levels of the virus have tripled since the end of June. I know this is real because of the roughly 16 people in my "close" family (my brothers, their families, my sister-in-law's family, and the last few in my parent's generation) two have come down with COVID-19 since July 1st – 1 in 8, and a first infection for both of them. As I recommended last month, keep opening your windows and socializing outdoors! As always, wearing a mask when you can helps reduce the chance of infection. 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 or fall.

There is news from the FDA that a new version of the vaccine (that targets newer variants of COVID-19) will be initially available in September, and I know that I will have my sleeve rolled up as quickly as I can make an appointment. Stay safe!

CLIMATE CHANGE

While the weather in our area has been, except for a few very hot days near the end of July, similar to recent years, the rest of the planet has not been that lucky. Averaged across the entire globe, July of 2023 was the hottest year ever recorded, and was 2° F above the average for the 1900s. While measurement records "only" go back to around 1850, scientists who study older weather believe it is the hottest month in over 100,000 years (to put that in perspective, the oldest pyramids in Egypt were built roughly 5,000 years ago, and Neanderthals still roamed the earth 40,000 years ago). All of this says that July was very, very hot.

While we were spared this heat in Riverdale Park, climate science tells us that the carbon we release into the air here by driving our cars, heating and cooling our homes, and producing the food that we eat contributes to the increasing temperature of the Earth (and to the terrible floods that have hit us in recent years). The town has been working to reduce our carbon emissions, but we still have far to go. July was a wake-up call, and we need to work harder, and quickly, to reduce those emissions.

Contact Me

If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of Town government, please contact me by e-mail (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 October as autumn settles in. Take care and stay safe until then!

Upcoming Virtual Meetings

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

TRP Board of Elections: Sept. 13, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88539182326? pwd=OVhZTTFyeGxNOURrT3NrMUFjTFBRZz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 885 3918 2326 Passcode: 8152023

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

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81345253157? pwd=VHZ4djVmaWFNOGZxN1EORythdU9DUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 813 4525 3157 Passcode: 20230615

Legislative Meeting: October 2, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81478242625? pwd=cGZkVjllQzVxZkNPdUdWQXVzRUJCQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 814 7824 2625 Passcode: 230615

Work Session: October 30, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82258879239? pwd=UFBZL2wxSDdtRDBPTVNDSDNSODdVUT09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 822 5887 9239 Passcode: 231506

Legislative Meeting: November 6, 2023, 7:30 p.m. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85077731174? pwd=K2FLK2w2T3VXRGJMcVM0QjVwVEdIdz09 Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 850-7773-1174 Passcode: 61523

Work Session: November 27, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83711731648? pwd=Rm95NjJyNmV3OWRXMmR3UnAwTTREQT09 Or call: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 837 173 1648 Passcode: 15623

National Night Out 2023

On August 1, the Town joined communities across the

nation held it's annual celebration as part of National Night Out. Riverdale Park Police Department held a community bike ride where they distributed helmets, lighting gear, and lots of smiles. National Night Out is an effort



to bring back a true sense of community in cities and towns across the US. Promoting camaraderie and police-community partnerships makes our neighborhoods safer, caring places to live. Plus, it brings police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.



2023 Road Improvement Projects

Over the course of the summer months, many road improvement projects took place. The Town is committed

to improving streets, increasing safety, and responding to TRP residents and their travel needs. To obtain a complete list of current projects please visit www.RiverdaleParkMD.gov or scan the QR Code.



Back to School Safety

Let's take a little time to get ourselves mentally prepared for the start of another great school year. Lowering your speed is the best way to prevent car crashes and keep yourself safe. This is especially important around crosswalks especially when school is in session.

Speed Limits: The speed limit in Riverdale Park is 20 MPH. In addition, school zones are marked with flashing signs. These flashing lights start 30



minutes prior to the start of school and remain on 30 minutes after dismissal. Do not ignore those signs; even if you do not see children crossing!

Stop Signs: Stop Signs are installed at locations where a **full stop** is necessary for everyone's safety. A full stop means that your wheels stop turning and you feel the weight of your vehicle shift. Always assume that the pedestrian is going to cross whether they have the right -of-way or not. Parents should remind their children that they need to make sure cars have stopped before entering the street, and to wait for crossing guards to wave them across a guarded crossing.

School Buses: Many drivers get confused about when they have to stop and when they can pass a school bus with flashing lights. Drivers must stop when the red lights are flashing on a school bus when there are no raised medians or walls between their travel lanes and the school bus.

Safe Stopping: Some drivers stop in the middle of the roadway to load and unload passengers. This is extremely dangerous, especially if children exit on the roadway side of a vehicle. State Law does not allow loading and unloading of passengers from a roadway. Please load and unload children in the designated Kiss and Ride locations, or from designated, safe parking locations. Tickets may be issued for illegal parking in and around schools because of the safety issues that are created.



JOIN NEIGHBORS AND TOWN OFFICIALS

- Walk and Talk through the community
- Discuss community concerns

Identify items that need attention

Participate in a micro-clean up along the way

TRP WALK & TALKS SCHEDULE





Starting at Town Hall

September 23, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Starting at Town Center

October 28, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.

Starting at Boys & Girls Club on 51st

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK





Things to Do Near Riverdale Park

Whether you are a teen looking for a pick-up basketball games or a senior interested in salsa classes, PG Co Parks and Rec has just what you want. From kayaking to painting... from elevating your SAT scores to improving your golf score... county residents can expect outstanding services, learning, and ways to have fun. Go to: mncppc.orgcalendar.aspx.

PG Parks Fall Guide



It's time to start planning out your Fall activities! Your Guide to Parks and Recreation classes, programs, and events for the Fall season is out! Registration for fall programs begins August 16 for Prince George's County residents and August 23 for non-residents. Check out the digital guide - <u>https://bt.e-ditionsbyfry.com/</u> publication/?i=796339

National Suicide Prevention Month

We can all help prevent suicide. Every year, the Lifeline and other mental health organizations and individuals across the U.S. and around the world raise awareness of suicide prevention during September, National Suicide Prevention Month. #BeThe1To is the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline's message for National Suicide Prevention Month and beyond, which helps spread the word about actions we can all take to prevent suicide. The Lifeline network and its partners are working to change the conversation from suicide to suicide prevention, to actions that can promote healing, help and give hope.





If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org

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 <u>precaution</u>, it is advised that resi-

dents 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 <u>301-422-5080</u> between 2-4 p.m. that day. Any unscheduled sprayings will be announced on the Maryland Department of Agriculture's webpage <u>www.mda.maryland.gov</u> or on Twitter <u>@MdAgMosquito</u> and <u>@MdAgDept</u>.

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 <u>https://</u> <u>mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/</u> <u>MosquitoControlExemptionForm.pdf</u>

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 <u>https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/seniorcall-check.aspx</u>

Report Streetlight Outages

Streetlight outages can be quickly and easily reported through the PEPCO website at <u>https://pepco.streetlightoutages.com/</u> 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 <u>http://</u> <u>www.riverdaleparkmd.info/residents/</u> <u>emergency_repair_grant.php</u> or contact ARPA Project Manager, LaVerne Peakes at <u>lpeakes@riverdaleparkmd.gov</u> 301-789-4141.



Washington Area Bicycle Association

WABA empowers people to ride bikes, build connections, and transform places. The organization fights for a just and sustainable transportation system where walking, biking, and transit are the best ways to get around. The Town has partnered with WABA to host two seminars later this year.



Youth Learn to Ride, Riverdale Park, September 9 at 10 a.m. (Riverdale ES)

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Learn to Ride, Riverdale Park, October 21 at 10 a.m. (Location TBD)

Metro Lift



Metro's new reduced fare program, Metro Lift, offers 50% off Metrobus and Metrorail trips for local customers living in DC, Maryland, and Virginia and enrolled in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). The program is designed to expand access, increase affordability, and advance equity for people across the region. Customers who qualify will need their Smar-Trip® card, an active SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card, a current government-issued photo ID card, a phone number.

Those interested in being a part of Metro Lift can enroll online at <u>wmata.com/metrolift.</u> Scheduling appointments online or by phone are highly encouraged to avoid long wait times. Visit <u>wmata.com/metrolift</u> or call 888-SMARTRIP to learn more.



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. 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.

Leaf Collection: Residents are encouraged to bag their leaves and/or mulch them during lawn mowing. It is

extremely important to keep storm drains clear of leaves to allow the system optimal performance during a rain event. To support leaf bagging, Public Works staff will distribute ten (10) leaf bags to each single-family residence in Town. FREE leaf bags will also be available for pick up on the



third Saturday of the month (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at the bulk trash drop off at the Public Works building until mid-January. Identification confirming residency is required.

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 and click on the Trash Concerns icon.

Food Forest and Community Garden

The Town's Food Forest and Community Garden have been busy with volunteers, Town officials, and staff planting a variety of produce that should be ready for harvest in the coming weeks. Residents are free to take fresh produce and the Town provides the materials necessary for the garden. The Food Forest and Community Garden help promote healthy food choices, providing free food resources to residents and it also helps boost the spirit of community! Residents are invited to stop by the Community Garden and Food Forest to harvest the ripe vegetables and fruits as they become available. The Food Forest will likely not generate a lot of fruit this season, but we expect to see more fruit from the Food Forest in the coming years. The Community Garden is expected to generate lots of vegetables for the community again this season.



The following list of vegetables and fruits have been planted at the Community Garden: tomatoes, cabbage, squash, brussels sprouts, lettuce, strawberries, watermelon, cantaloupe, green pepper, yellow pepper, cucumber, zucchini, eggplant, cilantro and basil.

The following have been planted at the Food Forest: chokecherry, persimmon, serviceberry highbush blueberry, beach plum, elderberry, eastern redbud, American hazelnut, pawpaw, fragrant sumac, lowbush blueberry, aronia melanocarpa.

Volunteers are always needed to help maintain the Food Forest and Community Garden. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Ryan Chelton at <u>rchel-</u> <u>ton@riverdaleparkmd.gov</u> for details. The Riverdale Park Food Forest and Community Garden are located at 6403 51st Avenue.

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, <u>www.riverdaleparkmd.gov</u>, 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- <u>ssmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov</u> or 301-927-6381 ext. 508

Robert Redman- <u>rredman@riverdaleparkmd.gov</u>or 301-927-6381 ext. 580

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, 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 September 12, 2023 via Zoom.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84004794706? pwd=ejkwSkpHQ3EzeWMrdFRqaHFhOGVxQT09

Or call: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 840 0479 4706 Passcode: 202301 TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

RENTAL LICENSES

TOWN RENTAL LICENSE APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY JULY 1, 2023

Applications available at:

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Contact us:

301-927-6381 licenses@riverdaleparkmd.gov



BEHIND ON YOUR WSSC WATER BILL?

You may qualify for up to

to help pay your past due

water/sewer bill.





The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) has funding for customers in Montgomery & Prince George's counties.

Apply by Sept. 30, 2023

Click here to see if you qualify

or visit dhs.maryland.gov/OHEP

Apply online at **dhs.maryland.gov/OHEP** or in person:

Montgomery County Dept. of Health and Human Services

1301 Piccard Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (240) 777-4450 ohep@montgomerycountymd.gov

Prince George's County Dept. of Social Services

425 Brightseat Road Landover, Md. 20785 (301) 909-6300 pgcdss.energy@maryland.gov

Rental Properties in Town

Guidelines for Property Owners

- All properties not occupied by the legal owners of record must be inspected and must obtain a Riverdale Park rental license.
- All bedrooms in rental dwellings must have a clear ceiling height of not less than 7 feet.
- Basements CANNOT be separated from the upstairs portion of a house by way of a key locked door or a separate entrance.
- All rental properties built prior to 1978 MUST have a lead paint certificate issued from the Maryland Department of the Environment (*www.MDE.state.md.us*).
- All bedrooms must have a secondary means of escape (window or door).
- Window must be openable from the inside "without the use of tools, keys, or special effort".
- A clear opening of 5 square feet for windows at or below grade (5.7 square feet if above grade)
- Bottom of the window sill must not exceed44 inches above the floor.

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a new program providing benefits for water and wastewater costs for lowincome households experiencing hardship with their water bills. LIHWAP will assist Maryland families who are behind on their drinking water and wastewater bills focusing on arrearage accounts that are 30 days or more past due.

(Approved by U.S. Department of Health & Human Service Administration for Children and Families)





September 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
27	28 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	29	30 Recycling Collection Summer Concert Series Town Center Market 7:00 PM	31 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-7:00pm Trash Collection	ا Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	2
3	4 Labor Day Town Hall & Public Works Operations Closed No Trash /Yard Waste Collection	5	6 Recycling Collection Summer Concert Series Town Center Market 7:00 PM	7 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-7:00pm Trash Collection	8 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	9 WABA Youth Learn to Ride Riverdale Elementary 10:00 AM
10	11 Legislative Meeting 7:30 PM Trash & Yard Waste Collection	12 RPSC (Green Team) 7:30 PM	13 Recycling Collection BOE Meeting 7:30 PM Summer Concert Series Town Center Market 7:00 PM	14 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-7:00pm Trash Collection	15 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	16 Bulk Trash Drop-Off
17	18 Work Session 7:30 PM Trash & Yard Waste Collection	19	20 Recycling Collection Summer Concert Series Town Center Market 7:00 PM	21 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-7:00pm Trash Collection Encanto Movie Night	22 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	23 TRP Walk & Talk 9:30 AM Town Center
24	25 Trash & Yard Waste Collection	26	27 Recycling Collection Summer Concert Series Town Center Market 7:00 PM Notes	28 Farmer's Market Town Center 3pm-7:00pm Trash Collection	29 Train Stop Tunes Town Center 5pm-7pm	30

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 communi-ty_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov, and online at www.riverdaleparkmd.gov. If you need immediate assistance at any time, please call 301-927-6381.

POSTAL PATRON RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND 20737

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

Important Phone Numbers

<u>Comcast</u>: www.comcast.com Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

Pepco: www.pepco.com To report an outage: 1-877-737-2662 Customer service: 202-833-7500

<u>Prince George's County</u>: 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 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

<u>Washington Gas</u>: 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 To report a water main break or sewage backup: 301-206-4002 Customer service: 301-206-4001 or 1-800-634-8400 PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID HYATTSVILLE, MD



Local Organizations

<u>Northern County Soccer Alliance</u> NCSA@soccer.net or 301-577-3559

<u>Riverdale Park Boy Scout Troop 252</u> Scoutmaster Bob Killen at 301-483-8455

Madison Hill Homeowners Association 301-583-8857

Riversdale Historical Society 301-864-0420

<u>Riverdale Park Farmer's Market</u> Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973

<u>Riverdale Park Business Association</u> www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com

<u>Riverdale Park Arts</u> Samuel Williams, Jr. at 909-380-4231

Riversdale Chamber Music Society

Robert DiLutis at rdilutis@umd.edu or www.riversdalechambermusic.com