

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

Our long hot summer is over and I am certain that we are all looking forward to Fall, a new school year, a national election in November, everything else that makes life and family sustainable, and enjoyable events. While most of our time is spent on issues related to work and family, community ties play a major role in how we feel about where we live, shop, and relate to our neighbors, friends, and the public at large. This Thanksgiving Day is a special time for family and friends and I hope it is a special one for you.

Making our community better and stronger is the full time job of all elected and appointed officials and it is here where we may tend to differ from time to time.

The fact that we do not all think alike is good for the community since the more ideas and proposals placed on the table tend to produce a much better outcome in the end. Since a community is made up of people of all ages and all walks of life, each with different interests and desires, we strive to find common ground that will benefit a majority of the community.

Over the past eight years, I have attempted to keep you informed of what is going on in Town in this column. Quite a lot has occurred in

Continued on page 2

Star Memorial Garden

Have you visited the Star Memorial Garden? It is located on Firehouse Street (behind Pizza Hotline and the Board of Elections). The garden is dedicated to all those who restored and rebuilt our Town following the April 2002 tornado.



Municipal Government Month

Since 1993, cities and towns throughout the state have been celebrating Municipal Government Works Month each November in an effort to educate their citizens about the role and function of the government closest to them.

To promote municipal government awareness, many cities and towns will recognize November as Municipal Government Works Month with local proclamations, such as the proclamation which will be adopted by the Town Council on October 25, 2016 and will the display a flag with the logo MGW, "Municipal Government Works," to promote local government.



TownofLaPlata LaPlataPD

Don't Forget November 6, 2016



Daylight Savings Time Ends
Set clocks back one hour

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilman Lynn Gilroy, Ward 3

Fall is here so quickly. Where did the summer go?

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves at all the events we had at Town Hall which included all the concerts and the children's shows during the week days. Mostly all of our concerts had great attendance even though we did have some cancellations due to rain. Our staff does a great job of organizing all of these events and we hope that we will see you at all the ones this fall.

For those of you that visit Wills Park you will notice some improvements there with new bathroom, new side-walks, and a new entranceway. We hope to have some additional parking in the not too distant future.

We are still working on the improvements to Tilghman Lake with the new exercise stations, shoreline restoration, and replacement of the floating dock. We are still applying for future State Community Park and Playground Grants and with any luck we will be successful. We appreciate all the hard work that our staff gives us on these

grants and the Public Works Department to make them a reality.

As you travel the town you may see some new town police officers. Retirements and workload increases has seen a need to add these new officers to our ranks. We welcome Officer James Buckles, Officer Ted Belleavoine, and most recently Officer Bradley Smith. We wish them well as they work to protect us all as we work, live, and play within the town we love.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events in the town that are within this Town Notes and also on our website. The La Plata Volunteer Fire Department will be having a Fire Prevention Open House on Sunday October 9, 2016 from 12:00 Noon until 4:00 p.m. at the fire station at 911 Washington Ave. Look for Sparky, McGruff, free hot dogs, sodas and water, fire truck rides, and other demonstrations and information focused on fire prevention.

I look forward in hearing from you so we can try and solve our future issues together. Please feel free to contact me at lgilroy@townoflaplata.org, or by calling Town Hall at (301) 934-8421 or by cell at (301) 653-1440.

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED

Commercial Building permits issued 7/1/16-8/31/16

Medical Physician's Office – 5 North La Plata Court #101

Fit out for Radiology/imaging – 5 North La Plata Court #104

Remove wall/Replace floor, ceiling – 201 Centennial St. C1 & D1

Dash In Food Stores, INC. – 6305 Crain Highway

Commercial Occupancy permits issued 7/1/16-8/31/16

Therapeutic Massage & Wellness LLC – 203 Centennial Street Suite 107

Law Office – 204 Washington Avenue Suite 300

The Discovery Academy – 3 La Grange Avenue

Community Bank - Bank Lending Center – 201 Centennial Street, Unit C-1

Avenues to Healing, LLC – 5 N Maple Avenue, Suite 206

Matula Elementary – 6025 Radio Station Road

Urban Bar-B-Que – 13 Shinning Willow Way

MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

this period of time and there is no reason to restate what would be a long list of items. The improvements and additions made are now in place and working to make La Plata a better place to live and work. The important thing is to keep this trend moving in the right direction: For example:

Transportation – Working with Maryland State Highway and the County to improve our traffic flow and pedestrian safety. This is always a top priority with the understanding that solutions are complex and expensive.

Parks and Recreation – Applying for grants wherever possible to make improvements and additions to Wills Park, Lake Tilghman, and Silver Linden Park (tennis court).

Public Works – Making improvements to our recycling service by obtaining a new contractor and offering different sized collection containers for people with different needs; restarting our streets and road overlay program; upgrading our equipment and utilizing more permanent Town employees in lieu of contract personnel for public works duties.

Events – Keeping our well-received events program moving throughout the year and adding new events and programs when appropriate. Please plan to attend our Fall Festival and our Veterans Day Parade. You will be glad you did attend.

Finance – Maintaining a strong financial position for the Town including paying off loans, when deemed advisable, which helps to sustain our outstanding credit ratings and remove current and future obligations of the Town.

All in all, doing what needs to be done for the benefit of the entire community.

As your Mayor, I am always receptive of your comments, be they positive or critical. You may reach me at Town Hall (301) 934-8421 or at home (301) 934-4850.

LOOSE LEAF PICK UP SCHEDULE

The Town of La Plata Public Works Department will be offering loose leaf collection from October 10, 2016 to December 9, 2016. The crews will be picking up this year on the same schedule as last year, so there will be no need to contact the Town Hall



for pick-up service. The Town would like to ask our residents to support our going green program by mulching your leaves and using it for fertilizer for your yards. For our residents who wish to bag their leaves, the pick-up will be on our yard waste schedule of Mondays and Fridays.

The loose leaf pick up schedule will be as follows and is subject to change:

- **October 10, 2016–October 14, 2016 and November 7, 2016–November 10, 2016**
Kings Grant, Agricopia, Quailwood, Port Tobacco Road, West Hawthorne Drive and adjacent side streets.
- **October 17, 2016–October 21, 2016 and November 14, 2016–November 18, 2016**
St. Mary's Avenue, Oak Avenue, Washington Avenue, Charles Street, Hickory Ridge and adjacent side streets.
- **October 24, 2016–November 4, 2016 and November 28, 2016–December 9, 2016**
Clarks Run.

There will be no pick-up on Friday, November 11, 2016 and the week of November 21, 2016.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Public Works Department at 301-934-8421 or mtrollinger@townoflaplata.org



To Do:

- Don't miss what is going on, post the pull out calendar on your refrigerator
- Help a neighbor in need
- Register to vote
- Call the police for suspected illegal activity

TOWN OF LA PLATA OFFICIALS

Mayor: Roy G. Hale

Council:

Wayne Winkler Ward 1
C. Keith Back Ward 2
Lynn D. Gilroy Ward 3
Joseph W. Norris Ward 4

Town Manager:

Daniel J. Mears

Treasurer: Robert W. Oliphant

Assistant Town Manager:

Michelle D. Miner

Town Clerk: Danielle Mandley

Police Chief: Carl H. Schinner

Director of Planning:

Jeremy D. Hurlbutt

Director of Operations: Robert F. Stahl, Jr.

Director of Public Works:

Jeffrey S. Garner

Manager of Inspections: James Q. Yates

305 Queen Anne Street,

La Plata, Maryland 20646

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Telephone: (301) 934-8421 / (301) 870-3377

La Plata Police Department: (301) 934-1500

Email: mminer@townoflaplata.org

Website: www.townoflaplata.org

NEW EMPLOYEE

Bradley Smith



The Town of La Plata would like to introduce Officer Bradley Smith who is the newest addition to the La Plata Police Department. Bradley grew up in Landover

Hills, Maryland and attended Parkdale High School. While attending Parkdale High School, Officer Smith was a member of the school's arts drama, football, and wrestling team. Bradley graduated High School with honors and continued his education by attending Bowie State University and the Prince Georges Community College.

Officer Smith played Semi-Pro Football for the DMV Knights as well as Arena Football for the Maryland Raiders from 2008-2016. He won a Championship in Arena Football in 2014 and a Championship in Semi-Pro Football in 2016. Officer Smith graduated from the Prince Georges Municipal Police Academy in 2015. Officer Smith in his spare time enjoys coaching and mentoring others in all facets of life.

Fill out the 2016 Summer Concert Survey and be entered to win a prize!

Your opinion matters to us and the Town wants the community to have an enjoyable experience so please take a few moments and tell us what you think. Complete the survey and include your email or name with phone number by October 14 and you will be entered to win a prize. Four winners will be randomly selected. The electronic version of the survey is available on the Town's website under the Events page and paper copies are available at Town Hall. Thank you to all who came out to enjoy a great concert season!

Special thank you to Chick-fil-A of La Plata for providing the meals for the bands and raffle prizes each week. A huge thank you to Joann Worden and Dan Merrick for manning the food trailer.

3rd Annual Kent Avenue Block Party

On Saturday August 20, 2016 the La Plata Police Department (LPPD) held its 3rd Annual Kent Avenue Block Party. Hundreds of folks showed up to celebrate the spirit of community.

Kids played on the waterslide and in the bounce house, while Motown filled the air. LPPD officers and family members served over 400 hot dogs, drinks, and snow cones. LPPD's community partners provided fresh produce, food staples, backpacks filled with school supplies, medical screenings, and information on a plethora of community and other services. Other community partners provided a lollypop tree, performed hairstyling, while others proved the crowd fresh ice cold tea. SMECO staff provided a safety demonstration so children and adults alike knew what to do around downed power lines.

The event also gave citizens of all ages the opportunity to interact with police officers from the La Plata Police Department, Charles County Sheriff's Office, and the Maryland State Police in non-threatening party like atmosphere. Everyone enjoyed the interaction!

This event would not be possible without our community partners listed below:

According to the Word Church
 Carroll La Plata/La Plata Grande
 Charles County Chapter of the NAACP
 Charles County Department of Social Services
 Charles County Sheriff's Office
 Chick-fil-A at La Plata
 College of Southern Maryland
 La Plata Baptist Church
 La Plata Business Association
 La Plata Public Works
 La Plata Town Council - Town of La Plata

La Plata United Methodist Church
 LifeStyles of Maryland, Inc.
 Maryland State Police - La Plata Barrack
 Sacred Heart Parish - Mary's Pantry
 SMECO
 Southern Maryland Tri-County Community Action Committee, Inc.
 State's Attorney's Office for Charles County
 University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center
 Willing Helpers Society, Inc.
 Zoe Outreach Ministries



Shop Small Saturday

American Express launched Small Business Saturday on November 27, 2010 as a way to encourage people across the country to support small, local businesses. Fast forward to November 26, 2016 where you have the chance to shop your small, local businesses in La Plata the entire holiday season and beyond.



OCTOBER 2016

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Loose Leaf Pick Up begins October 10.
See page 3 for complete schedule



1

Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Election Nomination Packages available



8

Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



2

Fire Prevention Week begins 10/3-10/9

3

Special Pick Up (call by 9/30 to be put on list)
Yard Waste Pick Up

4

Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 p.m.

5

Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 p.m.

6

Yard Waste Pick Up

9

Fall Festival; noon to 3:00 p.m.
La Plata Volunteer Fire Dept. Open House; noon to 4:00 p.m.

10

Yard Waste Pick Up
Loose Leaf Pick Up begins
Columbus Day

11

Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.

12

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting; 10:00 a.m.
Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 a.m.

13

Yard Waste Pick Up
Beautification Commission Meeting; 10:00 a.m.

14

Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



15

16

17

18

19

20

21



22

Yard Waste Pick Up

Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.

Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Yard Waste Pick Up

Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

23/30

24/31

25

26

27

28

29



Yard Waste Pick Up
Yard Waste Pick Up
Trick-or-Treat; 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mayor and Council Business Meeting; 7:00 p.m.

Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Yard Waste Pick Up
Harvest Halloween Party; 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



LA PLATA TOWN SERVICES

Special Trash Pickup

Bulk items are picked up the first Monday of each month, or the following Monday if the first one is a holiday. Large amounts of loose material (such as brush) should be bundled or bagged in such a manner that the weight is less than 50 lbs. The Town reserves the right not to pick up items too heavy to safely handle. General construction cleanup and hazardous materials are not eligible. Items must be at curbside by 7:30 a.m. on pickup day. Call Town Hall before pickup day to be placed on the list. Billing for special trash pickup is included on your quarterly utility bill.

Yard Waste Pick Up

Residential yard waste pick ups will only take place on Monday and Fridays. Containers of yard waste ONLY – leaves, grass and shrub clippings, brush or branches may be put out on Mondays and Fridays. The containers must be marked “Yard Waste”. Brush or branches must be bundled, weigh no more than 50lbs. per bundle, and the

branches may not be larger than 4 feet long. *Plastic bags are not allowed – if you bag yard waste you must use paper bags.*

You must contact the Town if you are interested in a wheeled recycling container. Due to a limited budget, wheeled recycling containers are only being ordered to meet demand. Thank you for your interest.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection



CHARLES COUNTY
**HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE
COLLECTION**

Household hazardous waste collection occurs on the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. from April through December. Upcoming 2016 collection dates are: Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3 in the parking lot of the County Department of Public

Works building, located at 10430 Audie Lane, off of Radio Station Road in La Plata. Household hazardous waste collection is a contracted service and items

cannot be accepted when the contractor is not on site.

Items accepted free of charge include pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer, gasoline, oil-based paint, cleaning supplies, pool chemicals, fluorescent lights, mercury thermometers, and other poisons found in the home. Please keep the materials in their original containers whenever possible, and bring them to the collection site in cardboard boxes to ease unloading.

Unacceptable materials include bio-medical waste (sharps, needles, anything with bodily fluids), latex paint, prescription drugs, and ammunition. Used motor oil, anti-freeze, propane tanks, and batteries are accepted on a regular basis at various collection sites. Latex paint is not considered hazardous waste and can be placed in your household trash as long as it is solidified. This can be accomplished by adding kitty litter, shredded paper, paint hardener, or sawdust to aid in drying it out.

For more information, call the Charles County Department of Public Facilities, Environmental Resources Division at (301) 932-3599.

Trash Collection Schedule Adjustment

If your regular trash collection day is:

Friday, November 11, 2016
Thursday, November 24, 2016
Friday, November 25, 2016

Trash will be picked up on:

Thursday, November 10, 2016
Wednesday, November 23, 2016
Wednesday, November 23, 2016

Special Pick Up

Monday, October 3, 2016
Monday, November 7, 2016

Recycling

Look for a separate notice for recycling changes.

Yard Waste Pick Up

No Yard Waste Pick Up, November 11, 2016
No Yard Waste Pick Up, November 25, 2016



Loose Leaf Collection

See complete schedule on page 3.

To Do:

- Contact Town Hall for a 95 gallon recycling container
- Compost your leaves
- Sign up for ACH utility payments
- Be in the know, sign up to be on the Town's Constant Contact email list



New Recycling Contractor

The Town has provided notice to the current recycling provider, Waste Management, its contract is terminated effective the end of October.

As of November 1, the Town will be providing recycling services with a new contractor. The Town is currently in the process of finalizing the details of collection with the new provider. The Town will provide notice in advance of any changes that would be necessary for recycling collection.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Photos from 2016 National Night Out Grant Awardees

Washington Square



Villages of Steeplechase



Hawthorne Greene



Clarks Run



Hickory Ridge



TESTING OF EARLY WARNING DEVICES/SIRENS

Town of La Plata Weather Sirens Activate for Confirmed Tornadoes

Provided in partnership with the Charles County Government and the Town of La Plata.

The Town of La Plata will test early warning devices/sirens on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Testing is done twice per year in early May and early December. The testing lasts about a half hour. The tests consist of both siren alerts and audible notifications. The tests are conducted in conjunction

with the Charles County 911 Communications Center, which controls and operates the system for the Town.

The devices are installed at the following locations:

- On Charles Street in front of the Charles County Courthouse
- On Curley Hall Road at the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant (near Quailwood Subdivision)
- In Clarks Run Subdivision
- In King's Grant Subdivision

- On Shining Willow Way next to the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department

Emergency Management Officials remind you that in the event of a real emergency to stay tuned to local radio stations for more information, to have emergency supplies on hand - including a radio which can be operated during a power outage, and to know where the safe haven is in your home. It is everyone's responsibility to plan for an emergency.

LA PLATA POLICE DEPARTMENT



La Plata Police Department Supporting the Community:

Over the Labor Day weekend, the Southern Maryland Century/The Indian Head 100 bicycle tour came through Town. LPPD officers worked to ensure the bicyclist safety during the event.

To Do:

- Dress up for Halloween
- Watch the Veteran's Parade downtown on November 6th
- Complete the latest Snap Poll question
- Watch a Council Business meeting on Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 11

Efficiency Corner

Making La Plata More Efficient

With resources strained by challenges in the economy, it is vital that the Town explore ways to make its operations more efficient to save money, time, and add value to the services provided. Town staff is charged with finding new ways to improve services, and the Town regularly invests in technology or implements process changes to drive efficiencies.

Occupancy Sensors

Whether a big idea or a small one, every change adds to the efficiencies in Town government. The Town Hall, while a public building, has most of its space used very similarly to other office buildings. Buildings tend to be large consumers of resources, so finding ways to reduce that is helpful. The building was designed to have large windows letting in lots of natural light, and a geothermal system to efficiently



heat and cool the building, however after moving in other opportunities for efficiency were available.

In place of some of the light switches in the building, the Town has installed occupancy sensors. The sensors detect motion, and when motion is detected the lights in the room are on. These sensors have been installed in rooms like the bathrooms, copy room, and kitchenette to turn lights on automatically when someone enters, but to also shut themselves off after just a few minutes when no longer needed, saving money on the cost of electricity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday October 9th: 12:00 noon to 3:00 PM

Live entertainment from Pork Donut

Craft and food vendors

Petting zoo

Pedal cars

Art tent for kids

Vote for your favorite Scarecrow at the Charles County Chamber of Commerce Booth

HARVEST HALLOWEEN PARTY

Stop by the Town Hall on **Friday, October 21st** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the Harvest Halloween Party. Come in costume and enjoy crafts, snacks, and treats for the little ones.

Trick or Treat Evening

Trick or Treat evening in La Plata is Monday, October 31, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. As an alternative to door to door trick or treating, the Town continues to encourage community parties as a means of providing safe fun for our children. However, for those who allow their children to go door-to-door, we ask that you limit this to the 12 and under age group, and encourage you to accompany your children as chaperones and keep your children in their own immediate neighborhood. We encourage these safety precautions for all children who go out trick or treating:



- ☺ Wear reflective tape or other reflective material on your costume so you are visible as you walk along the streets.
- ☺ Use a flashlight to help light your way.
- ☺ Don't wear a mask that would keep you from being able to easily see vehicles or other hazards as you walk from house to house.

All who are driving through Town during Trick or Treat Evening on October 31st are asked to be especially careful of the children walking through the neighborhoods.

Town of La Plata "Salute to Veterans" Parade

Come out on **Sunday, November 6th at 1:00 p.m.** for the Salute to Veterans Parade. Watch the parade make its way to Town Hall down Charles Street and La Grange Avenue. Registration forms are available on the Town's website or contact cwilson@townofaplata.org.



Town of La Plata Holidays 2016

Olde Tyme Holiday Gathering

Sunday, December 4th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Celebrate the season with music, children's activities, refreshments, horse-drawn carriage rides, and visit from Santa. The full event schedule will be posted on the Town's website soon!

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 10th

4 time slots: 8:00-8:45 a.m., 9:00-9:45 a.m., 10:00-10:45 a.m., and 11:00-11:45 a.m. (25 kids per slot)

Town residents can register for time slots starting Monday, November 7th and general public registration will open Wednesday, November 16th. To register, call Town Hall at (301) 934-8421.

WEBSITE POLL



Visit the Town of La Plata's website at <http://www.townoflaplata.org> to participate in an online poll. See the 'Snap Poll' on the left side of the web page to participate in the poll and see the results to date.

The current question is:

Does your neighborhood have a Home Owner's Association?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

August Website Poll Results

Below are the website 'Snap Poll' results from the last issue. The question and results are:

How have the challenges in the economy impacted La Plata, its residents, and businesses? Choose the response that best describes how La Plata has fared compared to 2007.

	2011	2016
Far better off than 2007	-15%	-4%
Better off than 2007	-0%	-40%
Slightly better off than 2007	-10%	-3%
Same as 2007	-15%	-3%
Slightly worse off than 2007	-30%	-3%
Worse off than 2007	-20%	-11%
Far worse off than 2007	-10%	-22%

It was five years ago when this question was first asked and it is now over nine years since the economy was at its peak. In 2008 the simultaneous erosion in both the stock market and housing market had a dramatic effect across the national and global economies. Locally, that impact was muted compared to other regions due to the high median household income, and large percentage of people employed by the federal government, the military, and their contractors.

La Plata was not immune to the effects of the economy. The most notable impact, other than those directly affected, was the impact on real estate. New home construction slowed considerably after 2007, and while there has been an increase in the past couple years, in La Plata it is still much slower than the years leading up to the downturn.

Some commercial construction continued right after the downturn, however those tended to be projects that were committed to before the downturn. Recently there

has been an increase in new commercial investment with new buildings being built, and a reduction in local vacancies.

Property taxes are the major source of revenue for the Town. The reduction of property value assessments, the stagnation of new investment, and the continued increase in costs for service have provided challenges for the provision of municipal services during these years. By seeking efficiencies in operations, investing in technology, and being judicious with the Town's tax revenue, La Plata has weathered the economic downturn without raising the Town's property tax rate. In fact, La Plata has maintained the same rate, at \$0.32 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation since 2001.

The economic strain was amplified by the State of Maryland when it cut shared revenues to local governments by up to 90% for many years. The money paid to Maryland in the form of motor fuel taxes and fines and violations continued, however the State fixed its budget problems

by not returning those funds to local governments for its responsibilities for years. While Police Aid has rebounded, the State still only funds road maintenance at about 55% of full funding, and most of that is considered a grant, or one time funding, not an annual guarantee.

The snap poll reveals the impact felt by members of this community has change over the past five years. The impacts have sharpened their focus with more people feeling they are doing much better and more people feeling they are doing much worse. Fewer are feeling like their well-being is similar to 2007. The challenges of the economy are not resolved for everyone, even as nearly a decade has passed since the economy dropped off its highs. The effects of this have been borne by residents, businesses, organizations, and local government as well.

Code Corner

67-3 – Prohibited Animals

No person shall keep or maintain any horse, goat, donkey, mule, cow, calf, cattle, sheep, swine, hoofed mammal, rooster, or poultry within the Town except under the following circumstances:

- A. Goats may only be maintained for the purpose of removing invasive plant species and other undesirable plants for a limited period of time, not to exceed five (5) days; and
- B. Female chickens may be maintained with a permit issued by the Chief Executive Officer or designee under the following circumstances:
 1. No more than six (6) female chickens shall be allowed for each residential property;
 2. Chickens shall not be permitted on multi-family dwelling property or properties having a residence sharing a common wall with another residence;
 3. Chickens housed outdoors shall be provided with a covered, predator-proof coop or cage that is well-ventilated and designed to be easily accessed for cleaning. The coop shall allow at least two (2) square feet per chicken. Chickens shall have access to an outdoor enclosure that is adequately fenced to contain the birds on the property and to prevent predators from access to the birds;
 4. Coops or cages housing chickens shall be located at least ten (10) feet from the property line and at least fifty (50) feet from any residential structure on each adjacent property at the time it is constructed. Coops and cages shall not be located in a front yard or side yard;
 5. The coop and outdoor enclosure must be kept in a sanitary condition and free from offensive odors. The coop and outdoor enclosure must be cleaned on a regular basis to prevent the accumulation of waste. Manure and droppings shall be disposed of in such manner to prevent unsanitary conditions and the cause of a nuisance such as odor or unsightly matter; and
 6. Chickens shall not be slaughtered at a residential property.

TOWN OF LA PLATA

305 Queen Anne Street
P. O. Box 2268
La Plata, Maryland 20646-2268

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Town Notes is a publication of the Town of La Plata.

Town of La Plata "Salute to Veterans" Parade Sunday, November 6th at 1

Join us to honor the men and women of the US Armed Forces. The Salute to Veterans Parade starts at 1:00 PM at the Courthouse on Charles Street in La Plata.

Bring the kids and come enjoy a hometown parade!



Parade registration form is available at the Town's website under the Events page. For more information contact Special Events Coordinator, Colleen Wilson at (301) 934-8421 ext. 142 or cwilson@townoflaplata.org.