

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

Our summer is over and fall has arrived with winter on the horizon. Time to look forward to the Holidays and time spent with family and friends. I wish everyone a wonderful Holiday Season and hope that your Thanksgiving was a time that was special for you and your family.

The Shop Small Campaign is being celebrated in La Plata as well as many other communities throughout the State, as well as the Nation. I trust that you will look local first when you begin your Holiday shopping. We have outstanding businesses in La Plata that work throughout the year to earn your support and provide excellent goods and services. They will earn your trust and business and if we give them the opportunity.

Our bi-annual citizen's survey was mailed recently. If you received a survey form I hope that you completed the survey and returned it expeditiously. The results of the survey provide your elected and appointed officials important information on key issues and questions concerning La Plata. We study the results of the survey carefully and use the data to establish priorities for the Town that impact financial and operational considerations. How you feel about your Town and your community is important and notwithstanding how some people feel, we do listen.

Work continues on many issues in the Town and improvements are being made on a regular basis. Improvements to Lake Tilghman Park and Wills Park, some

Continued on page 2

Stay in La Plata for the Holidays

La Plata businesses invest a lot to serve this community. When considering where to do business, it is important to support La Plata businesses with shopping, dining, and service dollars.

Our local businesses are a big part of the La Plata community and contribute to our daily lives and our sense of place. When faced with a choice of where to shop or where to dine, please consider La Plata businesses first. By investing in La Plata, these businesses add to property values and keep the tax base strong. The resources from local businesses help support law enforcement, utilities, special events, parks, and other valued municipal services. The choice to spend your money in La Plata gets the added benefit of investing back into the community.

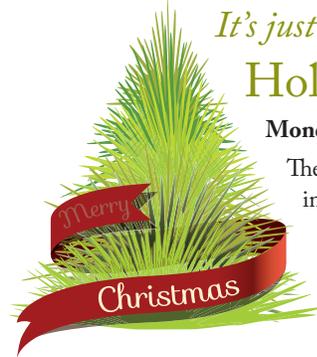
La Plata businesses are where you see the friendly faces of friends and family doing business in your hometown. Bring out of town guests with you to enjoy the unique places in La Plata. There are many great options to satisfy everyone on your shopping list. There are many businesses to choose from whether you support an independent business or a chain; the owners and employees of the businesses often live right in our community.

By shopping and dining in La Plata you help to support your neighbors and your community, keeping and multiplying our resources locally. The success of our local businesses helps maintain the success of our community. It adds to the character and vitality that all our establishments provide to the Town. Thank you and Happy Holidays.

It's just around the corner...

Holiday Decorations Contest

Monday, December 12– lights on by 5:30 p.m.



The Town's Beautification Commission will again be the judges in our annual Holiday Decorations Contest. All businesses will be considered, but individual homes must register to have their outdoor decorations judged in this contest. Contact Danielle Mandley by phone at (301) 934-8421, or email dmandley@townoflaplata.org by 4:00 p.m. Friday, December 9 if you want your outdoor Holiday decorations to be judged. You may also register a neighbor's home that you believe should be in the contest.

There are 1st and 2nd place winners in each of the following categories:

Residential – Traditional;
Commercial – Traditional;

Residential – Whimsical;
Commercial – Whimsical.

A People's Choice award will also be presented to the business who received the most votes during the Shop La Plata event on Saturday, November 26th.



TownofLaPlata



LaPlataPD

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilman Wayne Winkler, Ward 1

Hope everyone had a happy and safe Thanksgiving and all are looking forward to Christmas. Since 2016 is coming to an end I'll take a moment to tell you about some of the good things that happened this year and what the Town Staff will be working on next year.

Police Department

Our Department is fully staffed and we continue to have 24 hour 7 day a week coverage. All cars now have cameras and all officers will be getting body cameras. We continue to have National Night Out and Crime Watchers monthly meetings. If you want to have an officer come out and do a security check on your residence then please call Town Hall and an officer will come out and check it for you.

Sewer Treatment Plant

We are 100 % compliant with all State and Federal regulations and everything is running smoothly. The discharge from the plant goes into the Port Tobacco river and I think our discharge is cleaner than the actual water in the river. Staff can monitor and make changes to the plant's operations at the plant and also from their Ipad's wherever they are.

New Restaurants this year

We now have several new restaurants in La Plata. They are; Kaow Thai on Drury Drive as well as Urban Bar-B-Que, Spoon's Korean BBQ and Bollywood Masala an Indian Restaurant in the Rosewick shopping center, Sonic at the intersection of Route 6 and Route 301, and a new Dunkin Donuts off of Drury Drive.

New Residential Developments

- New townhouses are being built off of St. Mary's Avenue.
- 6 new townhouses near the Clark Senior

Center.

- Agricopia and Steeplechase continue to grow.
- Willow Woods now under construction on Willow Lane will have 27 homes.
- Hawthorne Green Senior Development will be constructing a mix of townhouses and single family units, approximately 50 units in all.

Sagepoint Senior Housing

- Doing a rehab so that patients in rehabilitation will have private rooms.
- Sagepoint is also planning to build more assisted living units on Washington Avenue south of the park and ride station.

Parks and Rec Commission

At Wills Park, on St. Mary's Ave we have a building that we rent out to multiple organizations plus La Plata residents. It needed new bathrooms that are ADA compliant. That project is just about complete. The old bathrooms could only be accessed from inside and we had a porta potty for outdoor use, now they can be accessed from either inside or outside.

We have a lake called Tilghman lake that adjoins Laurel Springs Park. Tilghman Lake was underutilized. We have put in parking, walking and bike trails, a pavilion, barbecue pits, new bathrooms, and have drained the lake down and are having the banks stabilized and years of silt removed. We also removed a fence so people can now walk to Laurel Springs park. Also, under a grant we have added exercise equipment along the walking paths. To get to the park go out Route 6, turn left on Route 488 then right on Box Elder Road and go to the end. This is a lovely park that belongs to all of us and is really worth visiting.

Next Year

Our Town Election will be held in May of next year. The Mayor is retiring so that slot

will be open. Also all 4 Council seats are up for grabs. In the past we have had low voter turnout. I hope you will take the time to look at all candidates and take a few minutes to come out and vote. If you think you would enjoy being on the council, then you will find the application on the Town website. It is www.townofaplata.org. Hope we all have a great and wonderful new year and I also hope we have a mild winter. Stay loose and God bless all of us.

Councilman Keith Back, Ward 2

Just a short note to all of the citizens of the Town of La Plata:

I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from me and my family to all of you. Hopefully the Holiday Season will be a time to step back from the craziness we just went through with the National elections and reflect on what really matters to you: your health, your loved ones, your friends, and your community. I hope it is a time of Peace, rest, and reflection for you all. As we move into 2017 and ultimately begin the election season for the Town Council and Mayor positions, let us all strive to make it a period of open and honest discussion of what is the best for all of the Citizens of the Town and not just what is best for a small group of special interests.

MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

street repaving, repairs to our sidewalks, a new recycling vendor with anticipated improved service, upgrade police services and continued Town events will lead us to the end of the year and into the new year. What the new year will bring, no one really knows. Based upon our history so far, La Plata is well situated to remain one of the best towns in the State. As it is today, so it will remain.

HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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

Town Hall Closed

The Town Hall will be closed on the following days:

Christmas Holiday
New Years Holiday
Martin Luther King's Birthday

Monday, December 26, 2016
Monday, January 2, 2017
Monday, January 16, 2017

If you have a **water or sewer emergency** after hours, call (301) 934-8421 and follow the instructions given to report your emergency. The automated response system will alert the appropriate department to respond to you.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT MINI-GRANT

Time to start thinking about a way to get all your neighbors together for some fun – throw a block party, health fair, or neighborhood clean up. Apply for the Neighborhood Event Mini-Grant today.

Town of La Plata Neighborhood Event Mini-Grant is designed to provide an opportunity for Town of La Plata residents to strengthen their neighborhoods through producing special events. The Town of La Plata invites neighborhood associations and communities to submit the neighborhood grant application for review. There will be 5 grants awarded up to \$500 each. Deadline to submit application is March 10, 2017. Grant applications are available for download from the Town's website or email Colleen Wilson, Special Events Coordinator at cwilson@townoflaplata.org or (301) 934-8421 ext. 4210. The Town will offer a grant opportunity specifically for National Night Out events in May.

Kris Kringle Christmas Market at the Charles County Fairgrounds



The 2016 Charles County Holiday Trail kicks off on December 9th with the Kris Kringle Christmas Market at the Charles County Fairgrounds (8440 Fairground Road, La Plata www.charlescountyfair.com). Modeled after the famous markets in Germany, this annual two-day event offers light displays, holiday food, handmade crafts from local artists and crafters, children activities, contest, shopping, music, and much more.

Dec 9th 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. * Dec 10th 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Visit www.charlescountyholidaytrail.org for a full list of sites participating in the weekend's festivities.

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:

Jeff ey 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 EMPLOYEES

Dwight Blaine



Dwight Blaine joined the Public Works Team in September. He was born and raised in Charles County. He is a Graduate of McDonough High School. In his spare time, he enjoys riding dirt bikes and hunting.

Charles Eckard



Charles Eckard the Public Works Team in September. He was born and raised in Charles County. He is a graduate of Lackey High School. Charles is a member of the La

Plata Volunteer Fire Department, where he is currently the Deputy Engineer, he is also a member of the Charles County Volunteer Rescue Squad. He enjoys spending time with his wife Pam of 16 years, hunting, and fishing.

TOYS FOR TOTS



The La Plata Police Department at 101 La Grange Avenue and the Town Hall at 305 Queen Anne Street will be drop off locations for Toys for Tots. If you would like to give please drop off a new unwrapped toy. All of the toys will be picked up by the Waldorf Jaycees and will be distributed by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to less fortunate children in Charles County for Christmas. The last day to drop off a toy is December 19, 2016.

Toys for Tots Foundation, 501(c)(3) is a non-profit organization.

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



Household hazardous waste collection occurs on the first Saturday of each month from 9 am to 3 pm from April through December. Dec. 3 is the last collection day until April 2017. Collection takes

place 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:

Monday, December 26, 2016

Monday, January 2, 2017

Monday, January 16, 2017

Trash will be picked up on:

Tuesday, December 27, 2016

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Recycling Collection

Recycling for Wednesday, December 21, 2016 will be picked up as scheduled.

Recycling for Wednesday, December 28, 2016 will be picked up as scheduled.

Recycling for Wednesday, January 4, 2017 will be picked up as scheduled.

Recycling for Wednesday, January 18, 2017 will be picked up as scheduled.

Yard Waste Pick Up Schedule Adjustment

There will be no Yard Waste pick up on:

Monday, December 26, 2017

Monday, January 2, 2017

Monday, January 16, 2017

Christmas Tree Pick Up

Tuesday, December 27, 2016 until Friday, January 13, 2017

Special Pick Up

Monday, December 5, 2016

Monday, January 9, 2017



New Recycling Contractor

As of November 1, the Town has contracted recycling services with Southern Maryland Recycling.

DECEMBER 2016

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

2

3



Yard Waste Pick Up

Early Warning Siren test;
10:00 a.m.

4

5

6

7

8

9

10



Olde Tyme Holiday;
3:00 p.m.

Yard Waste Pick Up

Special Pick Up
(please call by 4:00 p.m.
12/2 to be put on list)

Planning Commission
Meeting; 7:00 p.m.

Pearl Harbor Day
Crime Watch Council
Meeting; 7:00 p.m.



Yard Waste Pick Up

Breakfast with Santa
(reservations required)

11

12

13

14

15

16

17



Yard Waste Pick Up

Holiday Decoration
Contest (have lights on
by 5:30 p.m.)

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

Design Review Board
Meeting; 9:00 a.m.

Parks and Recreation
Commission Meeting;
10:00 a.m.

Yard Waste Pick Up

Deadline to donate to
Toys for Tots

18

19

20

21

22

23

24



Yard Waste Pick Up

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

Recycling Pick Up
as normal
Winter begins

Yard Waste Pick Up

25

26

27

28

29

30

31



Town Hall Closed
No Trash Pick Up
(pick up will be 12/27)
No Yard Waste Pick Up

Christmas Tree Pick Up
begins

Trash pick up from 12/26

Recycling Pick Up as
normal

Yard Waste Pick Up

JANUARY 2017

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1 Town Hall Closed No Trash Pick Up (Pick Up 1/3/17) No Yard Waste Pick Up No Special Pick Up	2 Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 p.m. Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 p.m. Recycling Pick Up as normal	3	4	5	6 Yard Waste Pick Up	7
8 Yard Waste Pick Up Special Pick Up (please call by 4 p.m. 1/6 to be put on list)	9 Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.	10	11 Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 a.m. Parks and Recreation Meeting; 10:00 a.m.	12	13 Yard Waste Pick Up Christmas Tree Pick Up ends	14
15 Town Hall Closed No Trash Pick Up (pick up 1/16) No Yard Waste Pick Up	16 Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.	17	18 Recycling Pick Up as normal	19	20 Yard Waste Pick Up	21
22	23 Yard Waste Pick Up	24 Mayor and Council Business Meeting; 7:00 p.m.	25	26	27 Yard Waste Pick Up	28
29 Yard Waste Pick Up	30	31				

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:



To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? La Plata has a good reputation for conservatively preparing a budget, given its revenue.

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

October Website Poll Results

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

Does your neighborhood have a Home Owner's Association?

- Yes – 64%
- No – 30%
- I don't know – 6%

Home Owner Associations are often set up by the developer of a neighborhood to provide a structure to maintain the common ground of a neighborhood after the developer sells out the neighborhood, and to put in place community standards to attract buyers. The community standards let people buying into the neighborhood know that certain activities, design, construction, or lack of maintenance can be enforced by the HOA in the event someone does not follow the adopted and accepted covenants.

Much like a Town Code, the covenants establish the neighborhood values of a community. The covenants are provided to, and accepted by a person buying a home, and they are expected to abide by them. HOA's are often governed by an HOA board, who are elected by the voting members of the community. The covenants may be enforced by the HOA, and there are many instances where HOA's have gone to court and prevailed to enforce their covenants.

Also, like the Town Code, those who were elected to represent the community may work within its rules to change the covenants. This provides for a community to evolve to respond to the desires of the community. For example, if a set of covenants restricted the installation of swimming pools when initially established, the members of the community could work with their HOA board to revise the covenants to remove that restriction.

HOA's are not part of the Town government. They are separate entities created and controlled by the people who build and live within their neighborhood. HOA's provide community standards, which if applied well, will enhance the quality of the neighborhood and help protect the values of investment in a home.

THINGS TO DO:

- Submit a Special Event Mini-Grant application
- Schedule a vacation patrol check with the Police Department
- Set up your utility bill for automatic payment
- Shop at La Plata stores
- Shovel snow from your sidewalk
- Register to vote for La Plata elections
- Receive Electronic Meeting Agendas
- Call the police for suspected illegal activity
- Complete the latest Snap Poll question
- Contact Town Hall for a 95, 65, or 35 gallon wheeled recycling container
- Get a second Town trash container for extra heavy trash days
- Help a neighbor in need
- Post the pull out calendar on your refrigerator
- Attend a Town Council meeting
- Visit <http://www.townoflaplata.org> for more information on all of these

SPECIAL EVENTS



LA PLATA Fall Festival

Despite the very windy conditions, the Fall Festival was a hit with the community on Sunday October 9th. Pork Donut entertained the crowd with live music and the food vendors served up some tasty treats. Special thanks to Art Smart Studio, Miss Busy Bee, and Mary's Go Round for providing fun activities for the children. Star 98.3 T-Bone and Heather were on hand to broadcast live from the event. The Charles County Chamber of Commerce sponsored the Annual Scarecrow Festival and people had the opportunity to vote for their favorite scarecrow at the Fall Festival. Thanks to all who came out to support the event!



HARVEST HALLOWEEN PARTY

Spooky time was had by all at the Harvest Halloween Party.



Town of La Plata "Salute to Veterans" Parade

Thank you to all the parade participants especially the Veterans and service members who marched on Sunday, November 6th. Thank you to Joann Worden, Dan Merrick, and the volunteers for manning the food tent at the parade. Thank you for supporting our veterans!



TOWN OF LA PLATA SNOW POLICY

County Plowed Roads	Town Plowed Roads	State Plowed Roads
<p>Glen Albin Road</p> <p>St. Mary's Avenue from Frederick Drive to Rt. 301</p> <p>Washington Avenue from Route 301 to Route 6</p> <p>Radio Station Road</p>	<p>St. Mary's Avenue from Rt. 6 to Frederick Drive</p> <p>Quailwood Parkway from Hawthorne to Route 6</p>	<p>Route 301</p> <p>Route 6 - Charles Street</p> <p>Route 225 - Hawthorne Drive west beginning at Route 301</p> <p>Route 488</p>

Snow Preparation Procedures

- Snow removal crews will be put into action at the call of the Director or Asst. Director of Public Works
- Snow removal will begin when 2" of snow has accumulated on roadways.
- Snow removal efforts will be ongoing during the event and will continue until all streets in the Town are cleared.
- It may be necessary to pile snow in front of mailboxes, especially in smaller courts and cul-de-sacs.

Plow Routes

- The Town will normally plow to provide better access to the higher traveled streets first (Primary Roads, Collector Streets and Major residential roads). In addition, the Town has agreed to provide snow removal and salting for treatment of ice accumulation from all roadways, parking areas, vehicle entrances, sidewalks, and bus stop location at the MTA lot located on Washington Avenue.
- Secondly secondary streets and municipal buildings are plowed.
- Lastly cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets are plowed.

Icy Conditions

- Salt distribution will be determined based on the following criteria and priority:
 - Main Collector Streets
 - Streets with Hills
 - Difficult intersections – stop lights and stop signs
 - Major residential roads
- Cul-de-sacs and courts may not receive salt treatment

Sidewalks

- Town crews are responsible for clearing sidewalks at public facilities, Town Hall and Parks.
- Town of La Plata property owners are responsible for keeping all sidewalks along their property clear and free of snow and ice.

Parking

- Residents are asked not to park vehicles on any street.
- If you must park on the street park as close to the curb as possible and on one side of the street.

Examples of Street designations:

Primary Roads	Collector Streets	Major Residential	Secondary
Agricopia Drive	St. Mary's Avenue	Llano Drive	Baltimore St.
East Patuxent Drive	Washington Avenue	Martin Drive	Cecil St.
Oriole Lane	Heritage Green Pkwy.	Laurelwood Court	Calvert St.
Shining Willow Way			Howard St.

Snow Emergency Routes

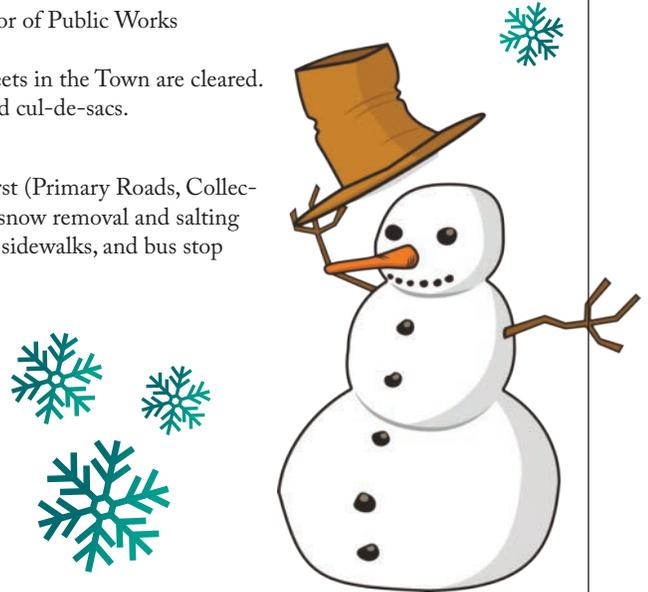
Parking of vehicles on marked snow emergency routes is prohibited when the snow emergency plan is in effect for Charles County. Parking shall continue to be prohibited until the snow emergency plan has been cleared. Any vehicles that are illegally parked, that are obstructing traffic, or interfering with the clearing of snow and/or ice are subject to a parking violation or the vehicle being towed at the owner's expense.

Mailbox Replacement Policy

Please contact the Public Works Department at (301) 934-8421, if your mailbox is damaged during snow removal. The Public Works Department will investigate the claim to determine if the damage was caused by the Town or contracted equipment making physical contact with the mailbox. If it is determined by the Public Works Department that the mailbox damage was at fault of the Town or contracted equipment the following options are available.

1. Replacement by the Town of existing mailbox with a standard wooden post and mailbox.
2. Property owners may be reimbursed at a flat rate of \$45.00. It will be the responsibility of the property owner to replace the mailbox.

Mailboxes damaged by snow flowing from plows will not be replaced or reimbursed.



TESTING OF EARLY WARNING DEVICES/SIRENS

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.

TOWN ELECTION 2017

Nomination for Candidacy packets are now available for download or pickup at Town Hall. The deadline for submittal of a completed nomination packet is Monday, March 6, 2017 by 4:00 p.m.

The Town will hold a Primary Election, Monday, March 20, 2017, between the hours of 12 noon to 8:00 p.m. if more than two (2) candidates file for any one of the five Town Council offices up for election. The General Election will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Elections are held at La Plata Town Hall, 305 Queen Anne Street, La Plata, MD.

Eligibility to vote in Town Elections requires registration with the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Charles County or with the Board of Supervisors of Elections of the Town of La Plata supplemental registration. You must be registered to vote prior to Monday, February 13, 2017 to vote in the Primary Election or by Monday, April 3, 2017 for the General Election.

The Board of Supervisors of Elections of the Town of La Plata will make available applications for Absentee Ballot. Applications must be received not later than seven (7) days prior to the Election.

Forms and information sheets can be located at the bottom of the Town Elections page on the Town web site www.townoflaplata.org, or for pickup at Town Hall. Please contact Danielle Mandley, Town Clerk by email at dmandley@townoflaplata.org or phone at (301) 934-8421, if you have any questions or need additional information.

Election Judges Needed

The Board of Supervisors of Elections for the Town of La Plata are seeking Applicants to serve as Election Judges during the 2017 Election season. If you are interested in serving your Town in this capacity, or if you have questions, or would like additional information please contact Danielle Mandley, Town Clerk via phone (301) 934-8421 or email dmandley@townoflaplata.org.

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.

Plastic Pipes

When the Sunoco at the corner of Port Tobacco and 301 was purchased, a new Sonic restaurant was proposed for the corner. The Town saw an opportunity to install a major sewage collection line that had been planned, and coordinate the work with the construction of the new restaurant.

Planned about ten years ago a major sewer line that would provide service to the southwest portion of La Plata has been awaiting development need. When the Sonic was proposed, an opportunity arose to take advantage of the construction occurring at that site to install a portion of the \$2.5 million project. Due to the impact on the operation of the Sunoco, construction in that area was estimated at \$750,000. With the cooperation of the property's new owners and the contractors, the Town was able to install a portion of the sewer line in that area for less than a third of the original cost, about \$200,000.

While working with another construction project to save over a half a million dollars was an excellent way to save money, it was not the only efficiency undertaken in the project. Historically sewer pipes have been made out of clay, metal, or concrete. These materials deteriorate over time resulting in cracks and breaks that allow groundwater to flow into them, or in worse cases sewage that flows out of them creating voids in the ground, collapsed roads or sidewalks, and sewage spills.

Today the Town constructs new sewer lines using plastic PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride) piping which is not susceptible to the significant corrosive impacts of a sewer collection system. The PVC pipe does not rust, it withstands hydrogen sulfide, and the material has an expected life hundreds of years longer than traditional materials.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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, horse-drawn carriage rides, refreshments, and a visit from Santa.

Event Schedule

Lighting Ceremony
3:10 p.m.

Horse Drawn Carriage Rides
3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Activities in the Tent

Crafts for children
3 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Th Balloon Nerd
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Make sure to come and see The Balloon Nerd. He will be making fun holiday balloons for you to wear and take home.

Story time with the Charles County
Public Library
3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Meet and Greet with Holiday Characters
Gracie's Guys and Gals Show Troupe
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Entertainment in the Council Chamber

Peace Ringers
3:20 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

La Plata United Methodist Church
Cherubs and Crimson Angels
4 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.



Southern Mix Barbershop Chorus
4:35 p.m. to 5:05 p.m.



Holiday Sing-Along
5:15 p.m. (outside)

Santa Arrives at 5:30 p.m.!
Refreshments served in the activities tent and in the atrium throughout the afternoon.



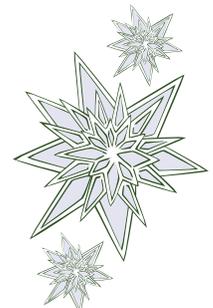
TOWN POSTS SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES

Old man winter is just around the corner, this means the possibility of snow. The Public Works Department has posted snow emergency routes throughout the Town. Parking will be prohibited on these streets while a snow emergency plan is in effect for Charles County. Vehicles parked along these roads will be ticketed or towed at the owner's expense during a snow emergency. To aid snow removal crews and improve safety, please do not park along streets when winter weather is in the forecast. Instead park in your garage, driveway, or designated parking space. The following is a list of the Town's snow emergency routes:

Agricopia Drive
Bath Drive
Clarks Run Road
Cornwall Drive
East Patuxent Drive
Fescue Circle
Garrett Avenue
Hawthorne Drive (between Rt. 301 and Washington Avenue)
Heritage Green Parkway
Hickory Circle
Hickory Lane

Kent Avenue
La Grange Avenue
Llano Drive
Magnolia Drive
Norfolk Drive
Oak Avenue
Oriole Lane
Quailwood Parkway
Queen Anne Street
Redwood Circle
Savanna Drive

Shining Willow Way (between Rt. 301 and Washington Avenue)
Somerset Street
St. Mary's Avenue
Suffolk Drive
Wales Drive
Wicomico Street
Willow Lane



TOWN OF LA PLATA

305 Queen Anne Street
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NEVER MISS ANOTHER TOWN EVENT
CALENDAR PULL-OUT ON PAGES 5 & 6. PUT ME ON YOUR
REFRIGERATOR FOR EASY REFERENCE.

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



OLDE TYME HOLIDAY GATHERING

SUNDAY, DECEMEBER 4TH FROM 3PM TO 6 PM



For more information on the Olde Tyme Holiday Gathering please contact Special Events Coordinator, Colleen Wilson at 301-934-8421 ext. 4210 or cwilson@townoflaplata.org.