

TOWN NOTES

News from La Plata Town Hall



MAYOR'S CORNER

On August 8, we celebrated our first 100 days in office since being sworn in as your Mayor and Council. These past months have been extremely busy as we have been hard at work to deliver real results on the issues you elected us to address.

In the past months, we passed our FY18 budget but are still constantly looking at ways to bring our expenditures in line with revenue. Being good stewards of taxpayer dollars is a top goal and is imperative that we are fiscally responsible in our decision making.

One thing that I am very passionate about is securing funding through grants to off-set the cost of redeveloping and revitalizing Downtown La Plata. If there is money out there to help our Town, I will apply for it.

I am also a firm believer that communication will be key to our success. We continue to reach out to our local business leaders, investors, developers, Senators, Commissioners, and our Congressman to see how they can play a vital role in our revitalization efforts. The process is slow but we are making progress.

Recently we partnered with our Police Department to offer a new community policing initiative, the Home Video Security Camera Mini Grant. Residents were able to apply for a \$250 mini-grant in an effort to increase

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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 24 and will the display a flag with the logo MGW, "Municipal Government Works," to promote local government.

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 25, 2017 where you have the chance to shop your small, local businesses in La Plata the entire holiday season and beyond.



TownofLaPlata



LaPlataPD

COUNCIL COLUMN

Councilman Matthew Simpson, Ward I

While the Council is working hard to get up to speed on many continuing issues, we have made some great strides in cementing new policies for our Farmers Market, Historic Preservation Commission, and the new Zoning Codes that will soon move into the next phase.

In Ward 1, we had amazing participation in National Night out, but we can do better. Hawthorne Green, Panquia Oaks, Washington Square, and La Plata Grande Apartments had great turnout and I was happy to stop by each celebration. When the time comes, I will work with each neighborhood in the Ward so that all can take advantage of the Mini-Grants the Town provides.

On the issue of Mini-Grants, I will be applying for each of the neighborhoods in the Ward that presently are not availing themselves this Spring. My hope is that beautification grants and event grants can be used to help us create the kind of community we have come to expect in Ward 1.

For the next few months, I will be looking to reinvigorate Homeowners Associations in neighborhoods across La Plata. If your neighborhood is currently operating with a defunct HOA, get in touch with me so that we can move forward in efforts to make our streets a little bit nicer, cleaner, and friendlier. The Town is willing to help, but we need the support of you and your neighbors. I can be reached at msimpson@townoflaplata.org.

This November, I will be hosting clean up days in Quailwood and at The Maples. Once the leaves are down and the weather cooled, let's get out there and tidy the place up so that when we return in the spring, it all seems a little bit easier. If you want to add your neighborhood to the list, get in touch, and pick a Saturday or Sunday so that we can get to work.

In December, I will hold a Town Hall meeting for residents of my ward, so be on the lookout for information and a date. Everyone is welcome, even if you do not live in Ward 1, as I can pass your message along to my fellow Councilmembers. I do not promise to have all the answers, but will seek them out once you give me all the questions.

Councilman Brent Finagin, Ward II

I hope this edition of the newsletter finds everyone well rested and ready for the busy fall season, which is nearly upon us. This summer has been both enjoyable and productive for your new Town Administration and this fall is certainly shaping up to be the same.

The Council kicked-off the unofficial start of summer with our annual Memorial Day Ceremony and the La Plata Summer Concert Series. In June, the Mayor and Council attended the annual Maryland Municipal League summer conference in Ocean City where we learned a great deal about best practices from municipalities throughout the State of Maryland. A well-attended Watermelon Bash at Town Hall on July 4th made for a great Independence Day celebration as well.

In addition to these activities, the Mayor and Council have been working diligently on many legislative issues of importance to our community. Most recently, we adopted a temporary sign code moratorium to grant

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MAYOR'S CORNER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

security in and around their homes. The response was overwhelming! Close to 50 mini-grants have been awarded thus far. These cameras not only give La Plata residents an extra measure of security in and around their homes but hopefully will also deter criminal activity in the Town's residential neighborhoods. They also serve as valuable tool in helping our police keep the Town safe. We will offer more mini-grants in the Spring.

The last few months haven't been all work. We've been able to have some fun too. I'm sure many of you have noticed us out and about in the community. We have been attending your HOA and neighborhood meetings to listen to your questions and concerns. We've also have been at many of your events. On August 1, we spent the evening celebrating National Night Out with you. What a great time we had! I am always so impressed with the fantastic activities each neighborhood plans as well as their delicious food.

On August 19, many of us attended the annual Kent Avenue Partnership Block

party. Although it was extremely hot, that didn't dissuade the crowds from attending. Those that came out were treated to free food, school supplies, and a very large water slide. They were also given the opportunity to connect with many valuable community outreach organizations. A big thanks to our Chief and the Police Department for hosting this party once again.

For the first time, your Council and the La Plata Police Department joined the Charles County Sherriff's Office in participating in their annual Cops-on-rooftop charitable event. We were out at Chick-fil-a interacting with the public while raising money for the Special Olympics. What fun! Somehow Gus Proctor was even able to get me up on the rooftop despite my fear of heights!

Although our summer concert series is coming to an end, that doesn't mean the fun stops. There are many Town events to look forward to. October 15, we will host our annual Fall Festival. This family friendly event will include free activities for children

of all ages, live entertainment, petting zoo, moon bounce, craft vendors, and delicious food for sale.

On November 5, we will have our annual old-fashioned hometown Veteran's Parade. This is a great way of honoring the men and women of the US Armed Forces who have given selflessly in service to our country.

As I have said on a number of occasions, we live in an amazing Town. It is up to all of us to work together to preserve our small-town charm while offering the amenities of the 21st century. I encourage you to become more involved with our revitalization efforts. Together we can make our community the premier place to Shop, Dine, and Live. Please feel free to call my office at (301) 934- 8421 or send me an e-mail at jjames@townoflaplata.org. Your opinion matters.

Enjoy the beautiful Maryland fall weather and I hope to see you at our events.

COUNCIL COLUMN (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

some immediate relief to those adversely impacted by the existing code while we continue our conversation about a permanent fix to this problem.

I am looking forward to continuing to work on the issues we are already tackling and any new issues that residents in the Town bring to our attention. I am also looking forward to the fall season (my favorite!) and the upcoming holidays (especially Halloween!). Please check the Town's calendar of events and try to make it out to any, or all, of our events. We would love to see you there!

If you would like to reach out to ask questions or apprise me of an issue you think the Town or I may be able to resolve, please don't hesitate to contact me at bfinagin@townofaplata.org.

Councilwoman Emily Mudd Hendricks, Ward III

It was a great summer and wonderful to see so many town residents enjoying the Friday night concerts and other town events. I also enjoyed meeting neighbors and residents during *National Night Out* in early August.

It is hard to believe summer is over and the fall season is already in full swing! Now that the cooler weather is upon us, it is a good time to visit the new floating dock at Tilghman Lake that was officially dedicated on September 24th. Prior to the dedication, the Parks and Recreation Commission and town staff worked hard to implement the dock project and park improvements. The improvements included shore restoration and exercise equipment stations.

The Parks and Recreation Commission welcomed a new member, Erin Ferriter, at

the September meeting. The Commission is hoping to secure another State Community Park and Playground grant to begin new projects in 2018. In the coming months we plan to research ways to improve additional park areas within the town. We welcome ideas and suggestions from town residents.

Please mark your calendar for the Town's Fall Festival on October 15. There is also the opportunity to start some holiday shopping during "Shop Small Saturday" which is November 25th this year. Our local businesses always make the shopping day festive and it is a great way to support small businesses within our town. As always, I look forward to seeing you around town!

Councilwoman Paddy Mudd, Ward IV

Our Town of La Plata has been hit hard with the Opioid Crisis that is sweeping our country! One death and several overdoses occurred in our Town just over Labor Day weekend. The La Plata Police and Crime Watch Council are hard at work teaching the public, young and old, the dangers of opioid use. Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford is leading our state's effort to combat this crisis.

Users are not just junkies shooting heroin up in a back alley scene from TV. They include kids stealing pain meds, adults hooked on the euphoric feeling from post surgical medications, and the buyers of street drugs brought into our Town. Many people do not understand that Percocet, Oxycontin, Dilaudid, and Vicodin, given for pain after many surgeries, are opioids and continued use can lead to addiction! Also Fentanyl and Carfentanil - once only used in hospital set-

tings - are now available in abundant supply on the street.

My message is BE AWARE! Call 911 with any suspicion of drug use! All our police officers, Crime Watch Council members, and others carry NARCAN - the emergency treatment for opioid overdose. You can help just by cleaning out your medicine cabinet and disposing of all in the drug disposal box at the Charles County Sheriff's Dept or your pharmacy. Do not flush medications!

The Holiday Season is almost here. Come out and enjoy our Town's activities with your family! Happy Fall! You can reach me anytime at pmudd@townofaplata.org or leave message at (301) 934-8421.

Don't forget November 5, 2017



**Daylight Savings Time Ends
Set clocks back one hour**

Code Corner

Chapter 117 Health and Sanitation

117-7 Location of Containers.

Unless otherwise provided by the Chief Executive Officer, where alleys are used by the refuse collectors, containers shall be placed on or within six (6) feet of the alley line in such a position as not to intrude upon the traveled portion of the alley. Where streets are used by the refuse collectors, containers shall be placed adjacent to and back to the curb or adjacent to and back to the ditch or street lines if there is no curb, at such times as shall be scheduled for the collection of refuse. As soon as practicable after such containers have been emptied, they shall be removed by the owner to within or to the rear of the premises and away from the street line until the next scheduled time for collection. Only containers provided by the town of La Plata for mechanical collection may be stored discretely in the front or on the side of the premises.

TOWN OF LA PLATA OFFICIALS

Mayor: Jeannine E. James

Council:

Matthew Simpson Ward 1

Brent Finagin Ward 2

Emily Mudd Hendricks Ward 3

Paddy Mudd 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:

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@townofaplata.org

Website: www.townofaplata.org

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 Fri-

days. 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.

Water or Sewer After Hours Emergency

If you have a water or sewer emergency, call (301) 932-3870

for Public Works and follow the instructions given to report your emergency. The automated response system will alert staff to respond to you.

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 in the parking lot of the 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.



CHARLES COUNTY
HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE
COLLECTION

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 10, 2017
Thursday, November 23, 2017
Friday, November 24, 2017

Trash will be picked up on:

Thursday, November 9, 2017
Wednesday, November 22, 2017
Wednesday, November 22, 2017

Special Pick Up:

Monday, October 2, 2017

Monday, November 6, 2017

Recycling:

No changes, regular pick up on Wednesday, November 22, 2017

Yard Waste Pick Up:

No Yard Waste Pick Up, November 10, 2017
No Yard Waste Pick Up, November 24, 2017

Loose Leaf Collection:

See complete schedule on page 7

No Trash or Yard Waste Pick Up on Friday November 10, 2017 – Trash Will Be Picked Up on Thursday November 9, 2017.

No Trash Pick Up on Thursday November 23, 2017, No Trash or Yard Waste Pick Up on Friday November 24, 2017 – Trash Will Be Picked Up on Wednesday November 22, 2017

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED

Commercial Building permits issued 7/1/17–8/31/17

Jersey Mike's – 105 Drury Dr., unit A
Bank of America – 705 Charles Street
105 Centennial Street
Charles Regional Medical Ctr. – 5
Garrett Avenue
Sprint – 105 Drury Drive, unit B
304 Charles Street

Baldus Retail Center – 6700 Crain
Highway

Commercial Occupancy permits issued 7/1/17–8/31/17

A & J's Barbershop
6643 Crain Highway
Old Skool Ink
3 Oak Avenue

OCTOBER 2017

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Yard Waste Pick Up Special Pick Up (please call by 4:00 p.m. 9/30 to be put on list)	Yard Waste Pick Up	Planning Commission Meeting; 9:00 a.m.	 Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 p.m. Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.			 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
 Columbus Day Yard Waste Pick Up *Loose Leaf Pick Up Begins	Yard Waste Pick Up	Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Parks and Recreation Commission meeting; 7:30 a.m. Design Review Board meeting; 9:00 a.m.		Yard Waste Pick Up Beautification Commission Meeting; 10:00 am	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
 FALL FESTIVAL Fall Festival; noon to 3:00 p.m.	Yard Waste Pick Up	Mayor and Council Work Session; 7:00 p.m.	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	 HARVEST HALLOWEEN PARTY Yard Waste Pick Up Harvest Halloween Party; 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.		 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Yard Waste Pick Up	Mayor and Council Business Meeting; 7:00 p.m.	 Farmers Market; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.		Yard Waste Pick Up	 Regular Farmers Market Season ends; 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
29	30	31				
Yard Waste Pick Up		 Trick or Treat; 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.				

*See page 7 for the full loose leaf pick up schedule.

NOVEMBER 2017

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Coming in December:
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3
OLD TYME HOLIDAY GATHERING
See page 12 for details



1

Farmers Off Peak Market begins, see page 9 for more details; 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
 Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 p.m.

2

Yard Waste Pick Up



4

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.



5

Daylight Savings (fall back 1 hour)

6

Special Pick Up (please call by 11/3 at 4:00 p.m.)

7

Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 p.m.



8

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting; 7:30 a.m.
 Design Review Board Meeting; 9:00 a.m.

9

Trash Pick Up for 11/10

10

Town Hall closed
 No Trash Pick Up
 No Yard Waste Pick Up



11

Veterans Day

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

12

Special Pick Up (please call by 11/3 at 4:00 p.m.)

13

Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 p.m.



15

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

16

Trash Pick Up for 11/10

17

Town Hall closed
 No Trash Pick Up
 No Yard Waste Pick Up



18

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

19

Yard Waste Pick Up

20

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

21

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

22

Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
 Trash pick up for 11/23 & 11/24
 Recycling Pick Up as normal

23

Thanksgiving
 Town Hall Closed
 No Trash Pick Up,
 Pick Up will be 11/22

24

Town Hall closed
 No Trash Pick Up
 (Pick Up 11/22)
 No Yard Waste Pick Up



25

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
 Shop La Plata



26

Yard Waste Pick Up

27

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

28

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



29

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

30

Thanksgiving
 Town Hall Closed
 No Trash Pick Up,
 Pick Up will be 11/22

DECEMBER 2

Yard Waste Pick Up

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

Farmers Off Peak Market; 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Siren Testing; 10:00 am

LA PLATA POLICE DEPARTMENT

From the Desk of the Chief

Traffic Safety is Public Safety! As you may have noticed, since school has been back in session La Plata police officers have been spending more time in the town's neighborhoods conducting traffic enforcement. Officers have been especially attentive to neighborhood speeding, pedestrian right-of-way-infractions and bus light violations. Keeping our youngest citizens in every neighborhood safe as they make their way to and from school is a priority.

It is important to remember that traffic citation fines are uniform throughout Maryland; they do not vary by county or municipality. The exact fine amount is posted in every payable citation. When a motorist "challenges" a traffic citation, the finder of fact is usually a Maryland district court judge. Occasionally, motorist requests a jury trial and the case is remanded to the Circuit Court. Both Circuit and District Court judges are appointed by the governor, not a local county executive or mayor.

Officer discretion is a part of traffic enforcement. The goal of traffic enforcement is to modify the behavior of motorists who violate traffic laws to make our community roadways safer. La Plata police officers citation to warning ratio is 30%/70%, meaning 30% of the traffic stops conducted by La Plata police officers result in a citation. Often-times, citations are issued for violations that

increase a motorist's possibility of being involved in a collision, such as red light violations, excessive speeding, distracted driving, reckless driving, and impaired driving.



For the first time in a decade, more than 40,000 Americans died on US roadways in 2016, according to the National Safety Council. Overall, roadway deaths increased 6% over 2015 and 14% over 2014. This is the sharpest two-year rise since 1964. The death rate in 2016 was 12.4 Americans per 100,000. Unfortunately, the trend line appears to show that US highway deaths in 2017 will eclipse those in 2016.

Over the years there have been lots of catchy slogans about traffic safety, such as "Click It or Ticket It," "Let's Not Meet by Accident," and "Never Drive Faster than Your Guardian Angel Can Fly." In an effort to keep La Plata roadways safe, the Department has adopted the slogan, Traffic Safety is Public Safety! Our officers want you and your family to arrive home every evening safe.

If you're stopped by an LPPD officer for a traffic violation, remember the officer has your safety and the safety of the motoring public in mind.

See you on the road!

Chief Carl Schinner

Wipes Clog Pipes!

There are many brands of disposable wipes are labeled "flushable". Don't flush them!

The clogs and backups they cause may result in expensive plumbing bills for your home, your neighbors' home, or increased maintenance costs for La Plata's sewer utility.



Disposable wipes — used for changing diapers, personal hygiene, housecleaning, and more — cause major problems when flushed down toilets. Because they don't break down the way toilet paper does, these wipes clog homeowner and municipal sewer pipes, put stress on community wastewater collection and treatment equipment, and costs the Town thousands on premature equipment repair and replacement.

Wipes snag on any imperfection in sewer pipes, catch passing debris and grease, and create a mass that will grow to clog the pipe. Wipes also get drawn into sewer-line and wastewater treatment plant pumps and clog and damage them. Town employees must manually clear wipes tangled in the pumps or remove clogs. This is a job that should not have to be done.

Dealing with wipes-related problems has increased the Town's resources of time and money as wipes use increases, and clogs and equipment problems proliferate. The resources wastewater facilities expend on wipes could be better spent on systems to improve water quality. Put your wipes in the trash — it matters more than you realize!

Remember: Wipes Clog Pipes!

LOOSE LEAF PICK UP SCHEDULE

The Town of La Plata Public Works Department will be offering loose leaf collection from October 9, 2017 to December 8, 2017. 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 9, 2017 – October 13, 2017 and November 6, 2017 – November 9, 2017
Kings Grant, Agricopia, Quailwood, Port Tobacco Road, West Hawthorne Drive and adjacent side streets.

October 16, 2017 – October 20, 2017 and November 13, 2017 – November 17, 2017
St. Mary's Avenue, Oak Avenue, Washington Avenue, Charles Street, Hickory Ridge, and adjacent side streets.

October 23, 2017 – November 3, 2017 and November 27, 2017 – December 8, 2017
Clarks Run.

There will be no pick-up on Friday, November 10, 2017 and the week of November 20, 2017.

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



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:

The 2000 Vision Plan for Greater La Plata is an accurate vision of what I would like to see in La Plata.

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't Know

August Website Poll Results

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

What was the last type of tree you planted?

- Evergreen.....18%
- Flowering32%
- Fruit26%
- Nut.....0%
- Ornamental.....13%
- Shade.....7%
- Other.....3%



Fall is a great time to plant a new tree. Trees are often planted for shade, aesthetics, and screening, however fruit and nut trees are good options as well. Producing fruit and nuts at home can be an enjoyable way to increase your access to fresh foods, cut down on the grocery budget, and have something to share with family and friends.

With the placement of trees be mindful of what may drop from trees during different seasons. Whether it is seed pods, fruit, nuts, cones, sap, or something else, be mindful of the impact it may have on walkways, driveways, or vehicles.

Whatever type of tree is best for you to plant, it can help enhance the natural environment of the community, provide oxygen, clean the air, absorb groundwater which reduces runoff, and shade grasses and homes keeping them cooler.



Consider planting a new tree for you and your community.

- 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.

The Town of La Plata will test early warning devices/sirens on **Saturday, December 2, 2017 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)



TO DO LIST

- Attend the La Plata's Fall Festival October 15th
- Dress up for Halloween
- Watch the Veteran's Parade downtown on November 5th
- Contact Town Hall for a 95, 65, or 35 gallon wheeled recycling container
- Get a second Town trash container for extra heavy trash days
- Sign up to be on the Town's Constant Contact email list
- Help a neighbor in need
- Pick up litter while you walk your neighborhood
- Receive Electronic Meeting Agendas
- Say hello to a La Plata Police Officer
- Sign up for ACH utility payments
- Mulch your leaves and grass instead of bagging them
- Stop at Stop Signs
- Visit <http://www.townoflaplata.org> for more information on these

Town Hall Closed

The Town Hall will be closed on the following days:

Friday, November 10, 2017
(Veterans Day observed)

No Trash pick up
No Yard Waste pick up

Thursday & Friday,
November 23-24, 2017
(Thanksgiving)

No Trash pick up (pick up 11/22)
No Yard Waste pick up (pick up 11/22)

Farmer's Market Off Peak Season



The beginning of the Town of La Plata Farmers Market's Off Peak Season is right around the corner and will start on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 and will run through February 24, 2017. This will be a continuation of the Farmers market you have enjoyed all summer but will focus more on gift items such as homemade or home baked foods, and hand crafted items, but will include fall and winter agricultural products when available. All vendors who would like to participate in the Off Peak Market Season must complete and submit a new application with the appropriate fees.

The time and locations will remain the same:

Wednesday

Location: Northwest corner of the intersection Talbot Street and Washington Avenue in the Charles County Courthouse Parking lot.

Hours: 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Saturday

Location: Southwest corner of the intersection Talbot Street and Washington Avenue in the Charles County Courthouse Parking lot.

Hours: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

The market may be closed in cases of inclement weather.

Vendors

If you are interested in becoming a vendor during the off peak season make please contact Planning Department at (301) 934-8811 or go to our Farmer's Market webpage <http://bit.ly/LPMarket> for more information.

PRIOR EVENTS

Community Partnership

On Saturday, August 19 the La Plata Police Department celebrated the Spirit of Community by hosting the Kent Avenue Corridor Block Party in conjunction with a large variety of community partners.



A great time was had by all!

Fill out the 2017 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 20th 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 and to Joann Worden and Dan Merrick for manning the food trailer.



PRIOR EVENTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

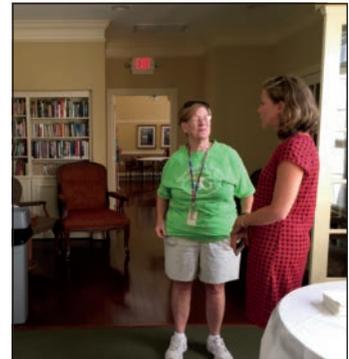
Photos from National Night Out Grant Awardees



Hickory Ridge



Hawthorne Greene



King's Grant



La Plata Grande Gardens I



Villages of Steeplechase



Washington Square



UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday October 15th: 12 PM to 3 PM

Live entertainment from Pork Donut

Craft and food vendors

Petting zoo

Trackless Train

Art tent for kids

Moon bounce and more!

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

HARVEST HALLOWEEN PARTY

Stop by the Town Hall on Friday, October 20th from 5 pm to 7 pm 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 Tuesday, 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 5th at 1 pm 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@townoflaplata.org.

Breakfast with Santa



Saturday, December 9th
4 time slots: 8-8:45 am, 9-9:45 am, 10-10:45 am
and 11-11:45 am (25 kids per slot)

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

TOWN OF LA PLATA

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



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

Olde Tyme Holiday Gathering
Sunday, December 3rd
3 PM to 6 PM

Celebrate the season with music, children's activities, refreshments, horse-drawn carriage rides by Suttler Post Farm and visit from Santa.