HAPPY SPRING! I love this time of year. Spring is all about getting a fresh start. You can feel the excitement in the air. It’s a time when the trees come back to life, the grass turns green, flowers begin to bloom, and our friends and neighbors come out of their winter hibernation. It’s also the start of many of our town events.

CELEBRATE LA PLATA: Saturday, April 27th we will be holding our 17th annual Celebrate La Plata Day. We have a special treat the year - the Historic Preservation Committee will be hosting a walking tour of some of our most treasured sites. There will also be live music; the Bed Races; and many craft and food vendors. This is a Family Fun event for all to enjoy!

The La Plata Business Association will also be hosting their Annual Shop La Plata Spring Celebration Event in the Downtown District of La Plata on April 27th. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to enjoy a little Spring shopping while supporting some of our local businesses!

SUMMER CONCERTS: What a line up we have for you this year! Beginning at 7:00 pm on Friday, May 24th, Backfin will kick off our summer concert series with a night filled with classic rock, soul, country, blues and funk! In addition to our beloved military bands, we will be entertained by Bobby McKey’s Dueling Piano Show; Trilogy and Sam Grow – just

Are you interested in police science? Maybe you want to be a future crime scene investigator or a detective. Last night LPPD’s explorers went hands on, learning how to process latent fingerprints.

Law Enforcement Exploring, a part of the Boy Scouts, is a hands-on program open to young men and women who have completed the 8th grade through 20 years of age, interested in a law enforcement or a related field in the criminal justice system.

The program offers young adults a personal awareness of the criminal justice system through training, practical experiences, competition and other activities. Additionally, the program promotes personal growth through character development, respect for the rule of law, physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism.

If your young adult has interest in becoming an explorer, please contact Sergeant Jason Posey at 301-934-1500.
Mayor’s Corner (continued from page 1)

to name a few! Check out the full schedule on our website: townoflaplata.org.

Farmer’s Market: Opening Day for the Farmer’s Market is SATURDAY, APRIL 6th. Under the direction and supervision of Market Master, Kelly Phipps, our Farmer’s Market has grown and is doing better than ever. In addition to our favorite vendors, this year we will see some new faces. The Farmer’s Market is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays and is a great way to support your local farmers, crafters, vendors and community.

New Artwork in the Atrium: Back again, by popular demand, the talented works of Addison Likins fill the walls of our Atrium. Addison has been a photographer for 45 years and his photographs have appeared in various newspapers and magazines over the years. He is a James Madison University graduate who studied photography and film making at the University of Virginia. Addison has worked as a journalist, English and Journalism teacher, Exhibit and technical designer, and government analyst. When you have a chance, please stop by Town Hall and visit our very own art gallery.

La Plata Business Anniversaries: The following business is celebrating a milestone anniversary in La Plata:

Children’s Learning Tree – On March 1, 2004, Director Attie Ward opened the doors to Children’s Learning Tree (CLT) right in the heart of La Plata. Located at 13 N. Maple Avenue, CLT is known for its caring, nurturing staff. Attie and her team believe that every child should have the ability to be a child. Each well-planned activity, whether it’s Spanish lessons, music instructions or gymnastics classes, is structured to help kids enjoy being kids. If you would like to find out more about CLT, please visit their website: cltree.net.

Congratulations and Happy Anniversary Children’s Learning Tree! We wish you many, many more years of success.

If you would like us to share a special business anniversary with our residents, please send me an email at jjames@townoflaplata.org.

Volunteer: Your Town Council and Staff continue to work hard to make La Plata the premiere place to dine, shop and live! We would love for you to become part of this journey. We are currently looking for volunteers for our newly formed Main Street Maryland Program and our Keep La Plata Beautiful Committee. Please contact Town Hall at (301) 934-8421 or send me an e-mail at jjames@townoflaplata.org if you are interested in being part of our growing Team. Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

Have a great Spring and I hope to see you at one of our many events!

Council Column

Councilwoman Emily Mudd Hendricks, Ward III

With warm weather on the way Ward 3 can expect the long-awaited repairs and paving to begin at Patuxent Court. I want to thank the residents of Patuxent Court who attended the public hearing in January—your questions and thoughtful comments were appreciated.

National Library week is April 7-13. I will celebrate this week at an event at Charles County’s La Plata Branch with library staff and members of the community. More details about the event will be announced soon.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meets once a month to consider project proposals and activities to enhance our community. If you have any suggestions for La Plata’s Parks and Recreation Commission please feel free to contact me at emuddhendricks@townoflaplata.org.

I look forward to serving La Plata in 2019 and wish you a prosperous new year!

Councilwoman Paddy Mudd, Ward IV

On Saturday April 27th we will again CELEBRATE LA PLATA’s renewal after our devastating losses 17 years ago in the tornado on Sunday, April 28th 2002. We invite you all to come out and enjoy the vendors/activities at the Town Hall culminating with the Bed Races at 3PM, our Farmers Market at the Courthouse parking lot and our Farmers Market at the Courthouse parking lot and Farmers Market at the Courthouse parking lot. The Port Tobacco Players Association’s Spring Shop Small Business Day with shops and restaurants open for your enjoyment.

Our Historic Preservation Commission has planned to have three historic buildings and our Star Memorial Garden open for you to visit as you walk around Town on that day.

1. La Plata Train Station
   The Baltimore and Potomac railroad scheduled a stop at La Plata Station and built a warehouse/passenger room in 1873. The Town grew up around it and La Plata was incorporated on April 4, 1888. The Charles County Courthouse was moved to La Plata and dedicated in 1896 making our “railroad town” the Charles County seat.

2. Christ Church
   Christ Episcopal Church Port Tobacco Parish was established in 1692. It was dismantled and moved stone-by-stone by oxcart to its location by the Courthouse in La Plata in 1904. Note the narthex windows and pipe organ as you visit this site.

3. The Port Tobacco Players Theater
   The Port Tobacco Players community theater group began in 1948 and performed for many years in schools and other venues around Charles County. In 1974 they moved to their permanent home - the old town movie theater on Charles Street. The engraved brick paving stones at the theater’s entrance were added in 2018 to commemorate loved ones on the Players’ 70th anniversary.

4. Star Memorial Garden
   The Star Memorial Garden was dedicated in 2007 as a memorial to the 5 people who were killed in the 2001 tornado. A new star was erected to replace the 1949 one on the water tower that was destroyed. This garden is maintained by the La Plata Garden Club.

I hope you will come out and enjoy your Town for Celebrate La Plata and often. Our Friday concerts begin on May 24th. See schedule for other Town events. I would love to hear from you. pmudd@townoflaplata.org, 301 934-8421.
The Town of La Plata will test early warning devices/sirens on May 4, 2019 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.

### Calendar of Events – Town of La Plata Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 26, 2019</td>
<td>Council/Staff Budget Retreat.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 14, 2019</td>
<td>Budget worksheets issued to Department Directors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 8, 2019</td>
<td>Deadline for all Department Directors to submit FY 2020 budget worksheets to Town Manager.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 11, 2019 – Friday, March 22, 2019</td>
<td>Town Manager and Town Treasurer meet with Department Directors to align their budgets with service priorities and available resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 29, 2019</td>
<td>Town Manager transmits Proposed Budget FY 2020 to the Council.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 3, 2019</td>
<td>Publication of notice of public hearing on Constant Yield Tax Rate tentatively scheduled for April 22, 2018.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, April 8, 2019</td>
<td>Work Session: Budget discussion focusing on Operating Funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 15, 2019</td>
<td>Work Session: Budget discussion focusing on Enterprise Funds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, April 22, 2019</td>
<td>Public Hearing and Public Comment on Constant Yield Tax.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 20, 2019</td>
<td>Special Meeting:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 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:** Brent Manuel  
**Treasurer:** Kevin Greenville  
**Assistant Town Manager:** Michelle D. Miner  
**Town Clerk:** Danielle Mandley  
**Police Chief:** Carl H. Schinner  
**Director of Planning:** Jeanine Harrington  
**Director of Operations:** Robert F. Stahl, Jr.  
**Director of Public Works:** Jeffrey S. Garner  
**305 Queen Anne Street, La Plata, Maryland 20646**  
**Telephone:** (301) 934-8421 / (301) 870-3377  
**La Plata Police Department:** (301) 934-1500  
**Email:** mminer@townoflaplata.org  
**Website:** www.townoflaplata.org
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. 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.

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 Charles 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.

Trash Collection Schedule Adjustment

If your regular trash collection day is: Thursday, April 18, 2019
Monday, May 28, 2019

Recycling Collection:
Recycling for Wednesday, May 29, 2019 will be picked up as scheduled

Yard Waste Pick Up Schedule Adjustment
There will be no Yard Waste pick up on:
Friday, April 19, 2019 and Monday, May 27, 2019

Special Pick Up:
Monday, April 1, 2019
Monday, May 6, 2019
Monday, June 3, 2019

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, antifreeze, 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.

Commercial Recycling

Many of our La Plata businesses have asked for commercial recycling and now we are happy to announce that the Town of La Plata now provides recycling to our commercial customers.

Applications are available on the Town’s web site at https://townoflaplata.org/.../Commercial_Recycling_Application.... Locations will be inspected to determine that there is reasonable access.

Please contact Mary Trollinger at 301-934-8421 or email at mtrollinger@townoflaplata.org with any inquiries.
From the Desk of the Chief

Wire Fraud is on the Rise. U.S. consumers lose millions of dollars each year to fraudsters using wire transfers as part of their scams. Any of the following “red flags” should signal a scam:

- You are asked to wire money.
- You are sent a check in connection with a payment request. Con artists often win their victims’ confidence by sending a fake check for more than the amount of purchase or to cover so-called processing fees, shipping costs or other expenses. It may be a cashier’s check, personal check or money order. They instruct the victim to cash the check or money order and send them a portion of the money by wire.
- The contact indicates a confirmation code or money transfer control number (MTCN) is needed before your money can be withdrawn. This is a blatant lie. Once you wire money, it can be picked up immediately.
- A caller or email appears to originate from overseas. The email message may be full of typing errors.
- The person communicates via TTY service. TTY is used by the hearing impaired. Cons prefer the service because it makes calls untraceable. Follow-up correspondence is by email.

Types of Scams

- Classified ad purchases – fake buyers: Scammers browse online classifieds, auto sales journals and newspapers for potential victims. They contact those advertising cars, electronics or just about anything of value, pretending to be an interested buyer. Payment arrives as a counterfeit check—often for more than the sale price. You are instructed to wire the extra amount to a third party or reimburse the difference. Typically, con artist claim the wired money is payment for an intermediary to ship the item. Other times, they may send a check for the correct amount, then back out of the deal and ask for a refund.
  
  **How to protect yourself:** Deal with local buyers. Only accept payment for the actual purchase price. When possible, accept only cash. If you accept a check, ask for one drawn on a local bank that you can visit to determine conclusively that the check is good. Don’t relinquish your car or other valuables until the issuing bank (the one listed on the check) has verified that the check has cleared.

- Classified ad purchases – fake sellers: Con Artist post bogus advertisements for cars or other high-ticket items then ask for payment via wire transfer. Other times, they may suggest use of a phony escrow company.
  
  **How to protect yourself:** Deal with local sellers. Question any seller who insists on using a particular form of payment and refuse requests to wire money.

- Fake lotteries and sweepstakes: You receive a certificate indicating you’ve won a big prize and a check. You’re told to keep some of the money and send a wire transfer to cover a “processing fee” or vague taxes. Once the money is wired, the victim never sees their prize. You can’t legally play a foreign lottery in the United States, so those pitches are always scams.
  
  **How to protect yourself:** Never pay or send money to anyone who claims you won a prize.

- “Relatives” in need of help: You receive a desperate phone call, email or even an instant message from someone posing as a grandchild or a friend. He was arrested overseas. She was mugged. Please send money right away. Except it’s not who you think—it’s a con artist.
  
  **How to protect yourself:** Call the friend or relative claiming to need your help to confirm whether the story is true, using a phone number you know to be genuine. If you aren’t able to contact the person, call other friends or family members to confirm the situation. Refuse to send money via wire transfer.

- Expensive food orders: The con artist (or possibly a ring of con artists) uses a stolen credit card to pay for a wedding cake or large catering order then instructs the business to wire money to a company that will pick up and deliver the food.

  **How to protect yourself:** Never accept a mystery shopping job that requires a wire transfer or one that requires that you pay money or use your own bank account. Also, be skeptical of mystery shopping promoters who guarantee a job, charge a fee, sell directories of companies that provide mystery shoppers, or advertise in a “help wanted” section or by email.

- Advance-fee loans: After submitting a loan application, you are asked to wire processing payments to a lender. Once you wire the money, you never receive the loan. In addition, the crooks have your bank account information and may rob your account.
  
  **How to protect yourself:** Don’t pay for the promise of mere loan or credit approval. Legitimate lenders may charge application, appraisal, or credit report fees, but these are paid after the loan is approved and generally are paid out of the proceeds of the loan.

- Secret shopper jobs: After responding to a “help wanted” ad to work as secret shopper, your first assignment is to wire money. You are sent a phony check with instructions to keep some for payment for your work and wire the rest.
  
  **How to protect yourself:** Never accept a mystery shopping job that requires a wire transfer or one that requires that you pay money or use your own bank account. Also, be skeptical of mystery shopping promoters who guarantee a job, charge a fee, sell directories of companies that provide mystery shoppers, or advertise in a “help wanted” section or by email.

- Work at home schemes: Consumers are offered part-time jobs as “international relayers.” Their task is to deposit checks into their personal bank accounts, keep a small percentage as a commission, and relay the rest by wire transfer to their new employer. The checks are often worthless. Other times, they are written by victims who purchased merchandise from an online auction but never got the goods. These same thieves, now armed with your banking information, can use the numbers to create a demand draft to make an unauthorized debit from your account.
  
  **How to protect yourself:** Avoid job listings that use the terms “money transfers,” “wiring funds,” and “foreign agent agreements.” Never forward or transfer money from any of your personal accounts on behalf of an employer. If a legitimate job requires you to make money transfers, the money should be withdrawn from the employer’s business account. Never provide your bank account information until you are hired, and then only to a legitimate employer if you choose to have your paycheck deposited electronically.

The above information was provided the State of Washington Office of the Attorney General. We ask that you share this information with friends, co-workers, and family.

See you on the road!
Chief Carl Schinner
For 40 years, the Town of La Plata Farmers Market has brought in vendors from all over Southern Maryland to provide you with high-quality local products. The market operates from the first Saturday of April through the Saturday immediately after Thanksgiving, so you can enjoy the freshest seasonal produce throughout the peak growing season and even have it on your Thanksgiving table.

The 2019 market season runs April 6–November 30.

Where and When is the Farmers Market?
The La Plata Farmers Market is open from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. on Wednesdays and 8 a.m.–3 p.m. on Saturdays. The market is located behind the Charles County Courthouse in the parking lot on the north side of Talbot St. on Wednesdays and in the parking lot on the south side of Talbot St. on Saturdays.

What is sold at the Market?
The Farmers Market vendors sells a wide variety of goods, from fresh fruits, vegetables, and home-baked goods, to jams, jellies, pickled vegetables, local spirits, and home-made crafts and beauty products. The market also features food trucks, many of which come with a large fan base.

How can I learn more about the Market?
If you need more information about the La Plata Farmer's Market, visit the La Plata Farmers Market webpage (townoflaplata.org/farmersmarket) or Facebook page (facebook.com/laplatafarmersmarket). If you can't find the information you need, please contact Kelly Phipps at lpmdmarketmaster@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the market!
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Town Council Work Session; 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 am</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Town Hall Closed – Good Friday</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Earth Day</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Yard Waste Pick Up</td>
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<td>Yard Waste Pick Up</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Planning Commission Meeting; 7:00 am</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Meetings 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Meeting; 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Yard Waste Collection</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Meeting; 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Meeting; 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Design Review Board</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Meetings 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
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<td>Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm</td>
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Beautification Grant

Do you know of an area around Town that could use some improvement? Have you ever thought about holding a community cleanup? We are here to help you bring your idea to life. Consider applying for a Beautification Grant. This is a great outlet for Home Owner Associations, school projects, scout groups, civic organizations, individuals, businesses, and other La Plata community members to do something that benefits you, the Town, and all who visit La Plata.

Grant applications will be available for download from the Town's website www.townoflaplata.org, or you may get them directly from Danielle Mandley at (301) 934 – 8421 or dmandley@townoflaplata.org. Grant applications will be reviewed by La Plata’s Beautification Commission following the next application deadline, May 2019, and successful projects will be awarded up to $500 to help bring the idea to life.

Thank you for your interest in helping our community to become an even better place. Please feel free to contact Danielle Mandley at (301) 934 – 8421 or dmandley@townoflaplata.org for more information or to receive an application. 打印
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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>May 19</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday, May 20</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 21</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wednesday, May 22</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 23</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday, May 24</strong></td>
<td><strong>Saturday, May 25</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mother's Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>Memorial Day 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yard Waste Pick Up</strong></td>
<td><strong>Design Review Board Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>Trash Pick Up</strong></td>
<td><strong>Farmers Market</strong></td>
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<td>June 1</td>
<td>First Day of Summer</td>
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<td>June 2</td>
<td>Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm</td>
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<td>June 3</td>
<td>Yard Waste Pick Up</td>
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<td>June 4</td>
<td>Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>Concert: &quot;Triology&quot;</td>
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<td>June 6</td>
<td>Yard Waste Pick Up</td>
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<td>June 7</td>
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<td>June 8</td>
<td>Concert: &quot;The Bradley Turner Band&quot;</td>
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<td>June 9</td>
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<td>June 10</td>
<td>Planning Commission Meeting: 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>June 13</td>
<td>Concert: &quot;Park Donut&quot;</td>
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<td>June 14</td>
<td>Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
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<td>June 16</td>
<td>Session; 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>June 17</td>
<td>Town Council Work</td>
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<td>June 18</td>
<td>Crime Watch Council Meeting; 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>June 19</td>
<td>Concert: &quot;U.S. Navy Band - The Sea Chanters&quot;</td>
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<td>June 20</td>
<td>Concert: &quot;Pork Donut&quot;</td>
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<td>June 21</td>
<td>Town Council Business Meeting; 7:00 pm</td>
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<td>June 22</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>Farmers Market; 8:00 am to 3:00 pm</td>
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Council of the Town of La Plata 2019 Meeting Schedule

Work Sessions are scheduled for 6:00 PM and Business Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 PM, unless otherwise stated. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JANUARY – Alternate Schedule</th>
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<tr>
<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<td>Business Meeting</td>
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<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<th>MAY – Alternate Schedule</th>
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<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<th>JUNE – Alternate Schedule</th>
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<tr>
<td>Work Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Meeting</td>
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<td>MML Conference</td>
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<tr>
<th>JULY</th>
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<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<td>Business Meeting</td>
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<th>AUGUST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<td>Business Meeting</td>
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<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
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<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<td>Business Meeting</td>
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<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<th>NOVEMBER – Alternate Schedule</th>
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<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<td>Business Meeting</td>
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<th>DECEMBER – Alternate Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Meeting</td>
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</table>

Work Sessions are the second and third Monday of each month and Business Meetings are the fourth Monday of each month, unless rescheduled or cancelled. Special Meetings and Closed Sessions may be scheduled as needed. When a meeting would fall on a scheduled holiday an alternate schedule has been adopted.

Agendas are published online and can be viewed on the Town’s Civic Web portal at https://laplata.civicweb.net/Portal/, and are subject to change. Printed copies are available upon request, by contacting the Town Clerk, Danielle Mandley via phone as listed below or email at dmandley@townoflaplata.org.

TREE-MENDOUS Maryland

"Helping Maryland Plant Trees on Public Lands Since 1989."

Spring 2019 Tree-Mendous Order Forms are now being accepted!

Program Summary

TREE-MENDOUS MARYLAND, a program of the Maryland Forest Service, remains one of our most popular programs aimed at helping citizens restore tree cover on public land and community open space in Maryland. To date, we have assisted more than 3,000 towns and communities, parks, and schools planting trees and shrubs to help clean the water, clean the air, and keep our towns and cities inviting, livable, and environmentally viable places to live.

Tree-mendous Maryland’s goal is to help Maryland residents have access to affordable trees to plant on their public lands. With permission from land owners, volunteers can plant trees at schools, in state and community parks, local open space, street trees and more. Gather your friends, scout troop or classmates and plant a tree today to clean your air, clean your water and beautify your home town!

Please visit http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/treemendous/default.aspx for more information.
**Director of Planning Appointment**

Jeannine Harrington, AICP, has been promoted to the position of Director of Planning for the Town of La Plata. Ms. Harrington has been employed with the Town for four years as the Senior Planner. In her new role as Director, Ms. Harrington will be responsible for the overall operation of the Planning Department. The Director provides responsible and complex leadership to demonstrate communication, problem solving, and coordination of municipal planning, inspections, engineering, and enforcement tasks with multi-department cooperation. The position is responsible for research and evaluation as part of strategic planning and will represent the Town to other agencies and organizations to develop partnerships to further the Comprehensive Plan and related planning policy documents. "It is with great pleasure that we announce the promotion of Jeanine Harrington to the position of Planning Director," Town Manager Brent Manuel said. "Jeanine has proven herself to be a valuable member of the town staff, and we look forward to her continuing with the town in the director position."

Ms. Harrington was raised in St. Mary’s County and is a graduate of Frostburg State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning. In December of 2017, she became a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). “I am grateful for this opportunity and I offer my commitment to improve the services we provide to the Town’s residents and business community.”

**Planning Department Updates**

In our continuing effort to best serve the residents and business owners of the Town, the Planning Department has updated our forms, applications, checklists and created FAQ guides. All of our forms and applications can be found on the Town’s website as well as at the front desk. We also have a new Planning Department Facebook page to provide the community with updates and Town News.

The Planning Department would like to remind homeowners that if you live in a community with a Homeowners Association (HOA), approvals may be required by the HOA for certain home improvements. The Town has prepared a new building permit checklist to help homeowners understand what documentation and/or any separate approvals may be required along with the building permit review. Every association has a different set of rules and policies detailed in the association's governing documents. If you are submitting a building permit to the Town, I encourage you to contact your HOA representative and ask them to highlight and explain the specific language that outlines any required approvals, as well as the review process. Your HOA representative should be able to provide excellent guidance to walk you through the process. It is also important to note that after a homeowner submits a completed application, most associations have a review period to reach a formal decision, so please plan accordingly and give yourself sufficient time for the review process before you jump into that next home-improvement project. Communities that may have an HOA include, but are not limited to:

1. Agricopia
2. Kent Square
3. Charleston Terrace
4. Kings Grant
5. Clarks Run II
6. Martin's Crossing
7. Dorchester
8. Quailwood
9. Edelen Station
10. St. Mary's Villas
11. Hawthorne Greene
12. Steeplechase
13. Hickory Ridge
14. Washington Square
15. Jamestowne
16. Willow Woods

As always, the Planning Department is available to assist with any additional questions or concerns you may have at (301) 934-8811 or by email at jharrington@townoflaplata.org

**Comprehensive Plan Update**

The Planning Department and the Planning Commission for the Town of La Plata are in the process of updating the Town’s Comprehensive Plan. To date, the Town has held a kick-off meeting and four listening sessions to obtain feedback from the public. If you missed any of the previous meetings, please visit the Town’s Comprehensive Plan webpage at bit.ly/ToLPCompUpdate where you can review the meeting results and participate in all of the activities.

The Town of La Plata recently invited proposals for professional consulting services to update the Town’s Comprehensive Plan. Sabra & Associates has been selected as the consultant for the Town of La Plata Comprehensive Plan update. The next step will be to start scheduling public forums and steering committee meetings. The Town will be posting regular updates on our website as well as our new Planning Department Facebook Page.

If you are interested in receiving updates or if you would like to participate in the Comprehensive Plan review and update process, please contact the Planning Department by phone at 301-934-8421 or by email at jharrington@townoflaplata.org.

**Partnership with Service Line Warranties of America**

The Town of La Plata is excited to announce a partnership with Service Line Warranties of America (SLWA) to help eligible homeowners be prepared and have the best possible service in case of a water service or sewer line emergency. Exterior sewer and water line laterals between the mainlines and the connection on residential private property are owned by individual residential property owners residing in the Town. If residents suffer a leak, break or clog in these lines it would be up to the individuals to find a service company and get the lines repaired. SLWA offers optional coverage to take care of the covered repair by dispatching a qualified technician to your home and paying the bill directly. For pricing and coverage details please contact SLWA directly toll-free at 1-844-257-8795, available Monday through Friday 8AM to 8PM and Saturday 10AM to 4PM eastern standard time. Additionally, SLWA will be sending out a direct mailer to eligible residents this Spring with more information.
The La Plata Garden Club presents Garden Design with “The Garden Guru,” Kent Russell from Bucks County, PA. Kent served as “The Garden Guru” on PBS and is listed as a preferred speaker by The Garden Club of America. Essentially born with a silver trowel in his hand, he started his life in horticulture at his family’s Nursery, Russell Gardens in Bucks County, PA. Kent designs gardens and container plantings for clients throughout the East Coast. A nationally recognized celebrity gardener, Kent will entertain and educate with his informative presentation served up with verve and humor and illustrated with a wide assortment of plant materials. He will focus on creating eye-catching drama in any garden setting. In addition to the abundant selection of plants, Kent will share stories about his recent gardening adventures. The Kent Russell Show will take place on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 1200 Charles Street, La Plata, MD. Tickets are $25.00 per person. Refreshments will be served. Learn more about Kent Russell at: TheGardenGuru.com.

For information contact Dianne Shisler at (301) 932-0251, dshisler@verizon.net.

**Spring Lawn Care**

There is an enormous amount of chemicals and yard waste associated with the spring season. The Town of La Plata has been working to provide public education concerning stormwater pollution during spring lawn care.

While you’re improving your yard this spring, you could be harming our environment, follow these steps to keep your lawns healthy, as well as rivers and streams.

1. **Obey the Maryland Fertilizer Law:** Everyone must follow University of Maryland fertilizer recommendations.
   - A single fertilizer application may not exceed 0.9 pounds total nitrogen per 1,000 square feet and 0.7 pound of soluble nitrogen per 1,000 square feet except when using enhanced efficiency fertilizer.
   - For additional guidance, homeowners should visit extension.umd.edu/hgc. For annual nitrogen recommendations, lawn care professionals should consult the Maryland Professional Lawn Care Management Manual at mda.maryland.gov/fertilizer.
   - Phosphorus may only be applied to lawns when a soil test indicates that it is needed or when a lawn is being established, patched or renovated.
   - Fertilizer may not be used to de-ice walkways and driveways.
   - It is against the law to apply fertilizer to sidewalks, driveways or paved surfaces. Fertilizer that lands on these surfaces must be swept back onto lawns or cleaned up.
   - Do not apply fertilizer if heavy rain is predicted.
   - Do not apply fertilizer within 15 feet of waterways. This setback is reduced to 10 feet if a drop spreader, rotary spreader with deflector or targeted spray liquid is used to apply fertilizer.
   - Lawn fertilizer may not be applied between November 15 and March 1.
   - Enhanced efficiency fertilizers may be applied at a rate of 2.5 pounds per 1,000 square feet or 80% of the annual University of Maryland nitrogen recommendation, whichever is less. The product must be approved as an enhanced efficiency fertilizer by the Maryland State Chemist.

2. **Do Not Put Leaves or Grass Clippings into the Storm Drain:** Covered or clogged drains significantly contribute to street and yard flooding. Storm drains are not meant to accept debris or garbage, but to take away overflow rainwater to prevent flooding of home and property.

3. **Remember— the Storm Drainage System is Different from the Sanitary Sewer System:** The storm drainage system is a separate system from the sanitary sewer system. Any material that flows into the storm drainage system flows directly to our local rivers and streams, whereas the sanitary sewer system takes wastewater from our homes and businesses and is treated at the wastewater treatment plans.

Please help the Town in its fight against stormwater pollution. Whenever it rains, all of the rain water flows to our local rivers and streams, carrying any pollutants that are picked up along the way. Questions Call Town of La Plata Stormwater Utility at 301-934-8421.
**Upcoming Events**

The Town of La Plata 2019 Special Events Schedule is now available. You can pick up copies of the new Special Events brochure at Town Hall or local businesses around town. A pdf version is available for downloading from our website. Go to www.TownofLaPlata.org and click on Events.

**Ice Cream with the Easter Bunny**

**Monday, April 22nd:** 11 AM to 1 PM  
Hop on in for ice cream with the Easter Bunny! Stop by the La Plata Town Hall on the Monday after Easter, April 22nd from 11 AM to 1 PM. Bring the kids for sweet treat, crafts and visit with the Easter Bunny.

**National Night Out Mini-Grant**

National Night Out (NNO) brings residents, law enforcement agencies, community groups, and businesses together to celebrate crime prevention awareness while sending a message that crime will not be tolerated in our community. Each year, on the first Tuesday in August, people across America gather in their own communities to take a stand against crime. Town of La Plata National Night Out Mini-Grant is designed to provide an opportunity for Town of La Plata residents to strengthen their neighborhoods through producing a National Night Out celebration for their community. National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2019.

The Town of La Plata invites neighborhood associations and communities to submit the National Night Out Mini-Grant application for review. Eligible grants will be awarded up to $200. Deadline to submit application is June 14, 2019. 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.

**Summer Fun at Town Hall**

The Town of La Plata will host five summer shows for kids at Town Hall. The shows are geared towards preschool and elementary age children and are approximately 45 minutes long. The shows are free and open to the public. Shows will be held outdoors on the West lawn where the Friday night concerts take place (weather permitting - shows will not be moved indoors). Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs for sitting. No concessions will be available, but you are welcome to bring drinks and snacks along.

**2019 Schedule**

- **Tuesday June 18th:** 10 AM  
  Blue Sky Puppet Show
- **Tuesday July 9th:** 10 AM  
  Dino Rock
- **Tuesday July 23rd:** 10 AM  
  Mr. Skip
- **Tuesday August 13th:** 10 AM  
  Bay K-9
- **Tuesday August 20th:** 10 AM  
  Rainbow Rock Band

If the show is cancelled due to the weather we will post the announcement on the Town’s website (home page and kids show page), face book page and information will be available by calling Town Hall at 301-934-8421.

**Ice Cream with the Easter Bunny**

**Monday, April 22nd:** 11 AM to 1 PM  
Hop on in for ice cream with the Easter Bunny! Stop by the La Plata Town Hall on the Monday after Easter, April 22nd from 11 AM to 1 PM. Bring the kids for sweet treat, crafts and visit with the Easter Bunny.

The members of the American Legion Post 82 invite the Town of La Plata citizens to join them on Thursday May 30th at 11 AM for a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Post, 6330 Crain Highway in La Plata.

**4th of July**

Celebrate the 4th of July at Town Hall!  
**Thursday, July 4th**  
10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Join us for water slides, hot dogs, and plenty of watermelon.

Continued on page 14
Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG)

- Grease blockages in sewer lines are common causes of overflows and basement backups.
- Grease is a byproduct of cooking and comes from meat fats, oils, shortening, butter, margarine, food scraps, sauces, and dairy products.
- Correcting a blockage is expensive. If it occurs on your property, it will be the owner's responsibility to contact a plumber to have it cleared.
- Sewage overflows can result in serious harm to the environment.

Help Prevent Blockages & Backups by Disposing of Grease Properly

- Do not pour grease, fats, and oils from cooking down the drain.
- Collect the grease in a metal can (soup cans work great).
- Once the grease has cooled and solidified, place it in the trash for disposal.

Common Myths about Grease

- Garbage disposals do nothing to protect your drain lines from accumulating grease.
- Dishwashing detergents do not protect your lines from grease buildup. While it is true that they initially break up grease, they eventually lose this ability and grease will begin to accumulate in sewer lines.
- Chasing grease down the drain with hot water only causes the grease to build-up elsewhere.

Upcoming Events (Continued from page 13)

MAY

Friday May 31st: 7 PM to 9 PM
Bobby McKey's Dueling Piano Show

JUNE

Friday June 7th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Pork Donut
Classic Rock 70s, 80s & 90s

Friday June 14th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Trilogy
Rock, Pop, Dance, Hip Hop & Country Covers with a twist

Friday June 21st: 7 PM
U.S. Navy Band The Sea Chanters
Traditional choral music, including sea chanters & patriotic fare, to opera, Broadway & contemporary

Friday June 28th: 7 PM to 9 PM
The Bradley Turner Band
Country/Rock

JULY

Friday July 5th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Flippin' Eyelids
Classic Rock, Modern Rock, Oldies and Dance

Friday July 12th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Ryan Forrester Band
R&B, Funk, Soul & Rock

Friday July 19th: 7 PM
U.S. Naval Academy Band Navy Blues and Gold
Blues

Friday July 26th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Funkzilla
Hits from the 60's to modern rock

AUGUST

Friday August 2nd: 7 PM
257th Army Band
"The Band of the Nation's Capital"

Friday August 9th: 7 PM
U.S. Navy Band The Commodores
Jazz

Friday August 16th: 7 PM to 9 PM
Bucket List Band
Classic & Modern Rock

Friday August 23rd: 7 PM to 9 PM
Southern Maryland Concert Band
Concert Band Favorites & Showtunes

Friday August 31st: 6 PM to 9 PM
Sam Grow with opening act
Country

Please note military concerts are usually about 1 hour to 1 hour 15 minutes due to their regulations.

If a concert has to be cancelled due to the weather we will post the information in the following locations:

- Town of La Plata website - on the home page and concert page
- Town of La Plata face book page
- Call 301-934-8421 for a recorded message, press #7 for special events
- Town of La Plata emails - to sign up please send your email address to cwilson@townoflaplata.org.

Help Prevent Blockages & Backups by Disposing of Grease Properly

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- Collect the grease in a metal can (soup cans work great).
- Once the grease has cooled and solidified, place it in the trash for disposal.

Common Myths about Grease

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- Dishwashing detergents do not protect your lines from grease buildup. While it is true that they initially break up grease, they eventually lose this ability and grease will begin to accumulate in sewer lines.
- Chasing grease down the drain with hot water only causes the grease to build-up elsewhere.
La Plata Beautification Commission

The La Plata Beautification Commission, with support from the Town Council, has applied to become an Affiliate of Keep Maryland Beautiful, recognized as the official state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. Keep Maryland Beautiful works in three key areas to expand funding opportunities and technical assistance to local governments, nonprofits, and community groups:

• **Clean Up & Green Up Maryland:** Provide funding, equipment, and resources to communities and volunteer groups to eliminate litter and implement beautification and greening initiatives. Funding for communities, nonprofits, schools and land trusts is available through the Maryland Environmental Trust’s Keep Maryland Beautiful grants.

• **Workforce Development:** Provide “on-the-job” training that will give program participants the skills needed to make them better candidates for employment opportunities with the private-sector landscape, construction and waste management industries.

• **Outreach, Education, and Technical Assistance:** Provide local governments and community nonprofits the tools that teach the fundamentals of litter prevention; preserving our resources; responsible solid waste management; and how to reduce, reuse and recycle.

If you would like to find out more please contact Danielle Mandley by phone at 301-934-8421 or email at dmandley@townoflaplata.org

### WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AND WHAT ARE THE TOWN’S RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN IT COMES TO REFUSE COLLECTION?

**Residents Responsibilities:**

All trash must be in the refuse container that has been provided to you by the town. (35, 65 or 95-gallon container.)

Trash and Recycling Containers shall be placed at the roadside no later than 7:30 a.m. on your collection day.

As soon as practicable after such containers have been emptied, they shall be removed to within or to the rear of the premises and away from the street until the next scheduled time for collection.

Have your recycling containers roadside on Wednesdays no later than 7:30 a.m. Please move emptied recycling containers to the rear of the property as soon as practicable.

The blue recycle bin is for “recycling only”.

Residents should utilize recycling service to reduce the amount of material that ends up in the landfill.

Yard waste must be in brown paper bags or a separate container marked “yard waste”, container shall not exceed thirty-two (32) gallons in size. The Town will not pickup yard waste that is in plastic bags or that has household trash, dirt or rocks mixed in it.

Bulk trash pick up must be scheduled by the Friday prior to the first Monday of the month, items must be roadside by 7:30 a.m. on the pickup day.

Brush or branches must be no longer than 4 foot sections, must be bundled and tied and weigh no more than 50 lbs., must be placed roadside for pickup.

Loose leaf pickup, residents must rank leaves to roadside, crews will not go onto the property to get them. Pickup schedule will be posted in the Oct./Nov./Dec. newsletter.

Christmas tree pickup services are for 2 weeks after Christmas Day. Trees must be placed roadside.

Household hazardous waste collection occurs on the first Saturday of each month from April through December in the parking lot of the Charles County Department of Public Works building, located at 10430 Audie Lane, off Radio Station Rd. in La Plata.

The town reserves the right to refuse pick up of any refuse that is not in the issued container and any yard waste or brush that does not meet the criteria that is listed.

**Town Responsibilities:**

Residential trash collection occurs once a week and begins at 7:30 a.m. (routes may change from time to time, which may cause your collection time to change).

Containers will be emptied, lids secured and containers placed back where they were retrieved.

All residential trash collection will be completed on the scheduled collection day, except for holidays or inclement weather where the landfill may be closed.

Recycling services are contracted out to Southern Maryland Recycling. They pick up residential recycling on Wednesdays and begin their routes at 7:30 a.m. (routes may change from time to time, which may cause your collection time to change).

Town will provide recycling containers at no charge to residents. Town offers 35, 65, 95-gallon containers and 18-gallon totes, an additional container may be requested for a cost of $50.00, you may also switch your container size for a cost of $35.00.

Town provides 35, 65 or 95-gallon trash containers, an additional container may be requested for a cost of $50.00, you may also switch your container size for a cost of $35.00.

The Town offers yard waste collection on Mondays & Fridays.

The Town offers a bulk trash pick up the first Monday of each month, should the need arise to dispose of large, non-hazardous items. There is a fee associated with this service.

Loose leaf pick up will be offered from Mid-October to Mid-December. Pickup schedule will be posted in Oct./Nov./Dec. newsletter.

Christmas tree pickup services are for 2 weeks after Christmas Day.

Household hazardous waste collection is provided by Charles County.
**Town of La Plata**

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

NEVER MISS ANOTHER TOWN EVENT  
PULL OUT THE CALENDAR ON PAGES 7, 8 & 9. PUT ME ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR FOR EASY REFERENCE.

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

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**Celebrate La Plata!**

Saturday, April 27th  
12 PM to 4 PM  
La Plata Town Hall

**Free Family Fun!**

- Craft & Food Vendors
- Face Painting
- Kids' Art Activities
- Moon Bounces
- Music by Flippin Eyelids
- Uncle Devin Show

**La Plata Bed Races start at 3 PM!**