



THE QUARTERLY

DECEMBER 2019 | VOLUME 51 | NUMBER 4

Section 5 Council

Greg Chernack, Chairman
Scott Livingston, Vice-Chairman
Patricia Xeller, Secretary
Philip Giordano, Member
Maryann Luongo, Member

Important Section Dates

- ◆ Tuesday, December 10
Council Meeting
at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall
- ◆ Tuesday, January 7
Council Meeting
at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall
- ◆ Tuesday, February 11
Council Meeting
at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall
- ◆ Saturday, March 7
Spring Bulk Trash Collection
- ◆ Tuesday, March 10
Council Meeting
at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall

A Message from the Town Council

As 2019 comes to a close, the Section 5 Council would like to wish all our residents a joyful holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year!

Section 5 Police Update

Captain Cokinos and Sergeant Pratt started as part-time police officers in Section 5 on October 1. We hope you have seen them out and about at some point over the past few months. They have been conducting both car and foot patrols, along with bus stop visits, rush hour watch, and generally making their presence known throughout the day.

Unfortunately, as we mentioned in a Section email alert a few weeks back, we still had several residents report packages being taken off their porches. With the holiday shopping season now in full swing, please continue to be vigilant and report any incidents to Montgomery County Police Department (non-emergency line) at 301-279-8000, and then reach out to Section 5.

MCPD also offers the following prevention tips:

-Be a great neighbor! If you're not able to be home when a package will be delivered, ask a trusted neighbor to hold it for you. If you see a package on your neighbor's doorstep, reach out to them and ask if they would like you to hold it until they are home.

-Use smart package lockers to avoid having your Amazon package being stolen from your front porch. Amazon allows you to pick up your delivery in an Amazon Locker at selected locations with a unique code. Amazon currently has numerous pick up locations including ones in

Friendship Heights, Bethesda, and Kensington.

-Have packages delivered to your workplace or other trusted site such as a close friend's house.

-Consider installing security cameras. A security camera will serve as a great deterrent for criminals, and it helps to prevent package theft, especially a highly visible HD security camera at your front door.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Continued from page 1...

-Require signature on delivery. If your package is delivered by UPS/DHL/FedEx, consult your sender and require delivery confirmation signature.

-Reroute or reschedule delivery. Both UPS and FedEx offer web apps to help reroute parcels to another address and/or reschedule your package delivery at your convenience for a fee.

UPS My Choice: <https://www.ups.com/us/en/services/tracking/mychoice.page>

FedEx's Delivery Manager: https://www.fedex.com/apps/fdmenrollment/?locale=en_US

Fire Board Vacancy

The Board of Directors of the Chevy Chase Fire Department is composed of representatives of the municipalities it serves. Section 5 has three seats on the Board, and one of these seats is now vacant.

The Board meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. at the fire station on Connecticut Avenue. The Board also helps with the Annual Fall Open Fire House. Participants receive a CCFD T-shirt and hat!

If you are interested in being considered for an appointment to the Fire Board, please contact the Town Manager.

IMPORTANT Section 5 Paper Directory

We are currently updating the Section 5 paper telephone directory. Please take a minute to review the 2019 directory, and email the Town Manager with any changes or additions.

If you are new to Section 5, this is especially important. We will print and distribute new directories in late January.

Welcome to New Residents

Section 5 extends a special welcome to new residents:

- ◆ Nina and Graham Gilkerson -
3709 Thornapple Street



Holiday Tips for Refuse Collection Crew

Traditionally, residents of Section 5 have expressed their appreciation to the employees of our refuse collection company, Montgomery Sanitation and Recycling, with contributions for the holiday season.

As we did last year, in lieu of collecting individual checks, the Section will instead make the full contribution on behalf of all residents. The main source of Section 5 revenue is derived from a percentage of our resident's income tax; therefore, the contribution truly does come from all residents. We understand there may be some that would like to give a gift directly to the crew, and of course, one should feel free to do so. We are thankful for the hard work of the crew all year.

Holiday Trash Collection

Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on Wednesdays this year so there will be no interruption to our regular trash collection.

As in past years, holiday greens and trees will be picked up by our refuse collection company along with yard debris on Mondays starting December 30.

Trees need to be curbside and visible. Greens must be placed in paper lawn and leaf bags.

Wreaths containing wires will not be accepted and should be disposed of in the regular household trash.

Building Permits

- ◆ 7605 Connecticut Avenue - Construct a two-story addition / Permit Approved
- ◆ 3610 Thornapple Street - Enclosure of existing porch / Permit Approved
- ◆ 3703 Thornapple Street - Place storage POD in private drive / Permit Approved
- ◆ 3705 Woodbine Street - Construct a two-story addition / Permit Approved
- ◆ 3805 Woodbine Street - Install a new fence / Permit Approved
- ◆ 3820 Woodbine Street - Place construction dumpster in private drive / Permit Approved

Do I Need a Section 5 Permit?

- The majority of renovations
- Sheds or accessory buildings
- Fences - including replacements and/or substantial repairs
- Driveway projects
- Patio projects
- Right-of-way projects
- Dumpsters or PODS
- Drainage projects, including sump pumps and new downspouts

ALL REQUIRE A PERMIT

Looking to take out a tree? Most public and private tree removal also **REQUIRES** a permit.

Please contact the Town office before you begin. We will work with you to make sure you have the necessary information and avoid a costly mishap.

Leaf Collection Reminder

The Section will hold one final leaf collection on Monday, December 16.

As a reminder, leaves should not be placed in the street, but raked just to the edge near the curb. Piling leaves into the street causes storm drains to clog, and it is against Montgomery County regulations. If you have a lawn service that handles your leaves, please make sure they are aware and in compliance.

Reporting a Loss of Power or a Street Light Outage

With winter weather on the horizon, it is a good time to remind residents about what to do if you experience a power outage.

First and foremost, if you come across a downed power line, always assume it is energized and stay away. Immediately report the downed wire by calling 1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662).

If your electric power is interrupted, report it right away. Never assume someone else has done it!

- ◆ You can do this by calling the phone number above.
- ◆ Or visit the Pepco website (pepco.com) and click on Outages.
- ◆ Or download the free Pepco mobile app. To download the app, visit Pepco.com/mobileapp.

Additionally, street light outages can be reported the same way. It is fast and easy!

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Tree Removal Permits

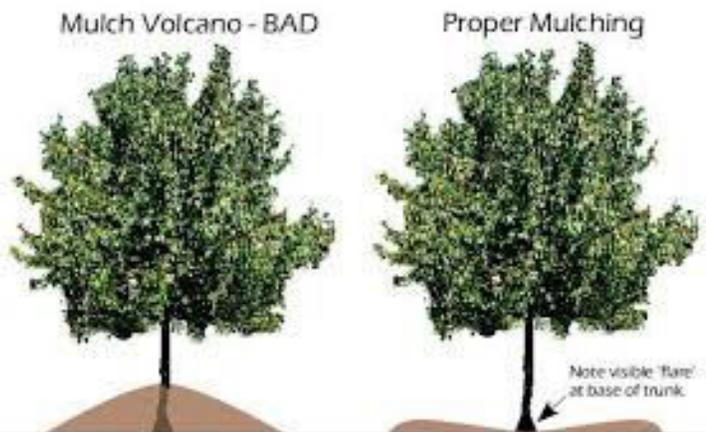
- ◆ 3606 Underwood Street - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3703/3705 Underwood Street - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3805 Underwood Street - Private Tree Removal

Winterizing Trees

By Dr. Tolbert Feather, Section Arborist

Trees have been overwintering in place for thousands of years. The main defense for broadleaf trees (maples, oaks, sycamore, etc.) is to shed leaves and slow down the movement of water and nutrients within the wood. We call this a deciduous tree. Evergreen trees (pines, spruce, hemlock, cedar, etc.) have a different strategy. Evergreen trees retain leaves (needles) throughout the winter and even are functional during the winter, at a reduced rate, transporting water and making photosynthates (food).

Deciduous trees can adapt and defend themselves against the winter elements. Established trees don't require any "help." Freezing and thawing of topsoil could harm newly planted trees. This can be mitigated by applying 2-3 inches of mulch around the base of the tree. The mulch can be shredded hardwood, pine bark, pine fines, or compost. Remember not to pile the mulch around the stem of the tree (see picture below.)



Evergreen trees are active during the winter, so they lose water through the leaves (needles.) "Winter burn" on evergreen trees is caused by the relatively lower humidity during the winter months combined with winds. These conditions can dry out and kill leaves. Usually established trees are acclimated to winter, but newly planted evergreens may be damaged. The best way to reduce damage is to keep the new evergreen trees moist by watering the base during the winter months with 3 -4 gallons of water once a week.

Winter is a good time to prune deciduous trees, not necessarily because they are dormant, but because the leaves are off and the structure of the tree is visible.

It is easy to prune smaller or newly planted trees, and it is important to do early pruning to shape trees. A great online guide for pruning trees can be found at <https://extension.umn.edu/planting-and-growing-guides/pruning-trees-and-shrubs>.

Lastly, the State of Maryland requires contractors that are performing tree work to be licensed through the Department of Natural Resources. Ask for your contractor's Licensed Tree Expert number before you hire them.

Free Tree Program 2019

Section 5 had a great response for its Annual Free Tree Program this fall. Thirty-four new trees will be planted in residents' private gardens or the Town public strip.

The trees when planted are dormant and do not require further care until the spring. At the appropriate time, the Section will distribute gator bags to assist in watering. The bags help to slowly and evenly deliver a high volume of water directly to the root system of a newly planted tree or shrub with no run-off or evaporation.

A big thanks to Dr. Feather, for assisting residents with questions and overseeing the plantings. It is a lot of work, and we are grateful to have him as a resource.

Snow!

Section 5 is getting ready for winter. Rolling Acres will once again be responsible for our streets with salt and sanding during winter conditions. Michael Cousins and his crew at Colonial Landscaping will also help with public sidewalk shoveling when necessary.

Residents are responsible for the regular treating (salt and sanding) of sidewalks near your home. As a reminder, Section 5's crew will shovel the public sidewalks (those that run in front of your home) if snowfall reaches more than two inches. In the case of freezing rain mixed with snow, the decision may be made NOT to shovel since snow mixed with ice provides much more traction than straight ice.



Shoveling will start once snowfall ceases. If snowfall stops early to late evening, crews will be out first thing the next morning. In the case of heavy snow, this may take time.

Montgomery County requires that property owners clear their driveways and entrances to their homes within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm. Residents are also encouraged to help neighbors who may not physically be able to do so.

If the snowfall is deep, please clear a safe path to your household trash or leave household trash curbside on trash collection days.

Snow Emergency Parking

During a snow event, the BEST place to park your car is in your driveway. If you must leave your vehicle on the street, please park on the EVEN house-numbered side of the streets. Signs will be posted accordingly. These two small steps go a long way in helping the snow and sanding plows do their job!

Calling All Snow Shovelers!

Able-bodied snow shovelers are always in high demand. If you are a Section teen who would like to be added to the list of Community Helpers for this Winter, please email the Town Manager. Babysitters, lawn help, and pet care are also welcome. The Section will maintain a master list and share upon request.

General Street Parking Reminders

With the Section's narrow streets, it is especially important to be careful where you park. Parking directly across from someone's driveway, or too close to a stop sign or intersection is both bothersome and dangerous.

Please take care to observe the following Montgomery County parking laws.

- ◆ Park at least 35 feet from an intersection.
- ◆ Park at least 30 feet from a stop sign.
- ◆ Park at least 15 feet from a fire hydrant.
- ◆ Park at least 5 feet from a private driveway.
- ◆ Park facing the way traffic flows. This is an important point.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

MVA on Wheels

Once a month, the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration's MVA bus comes to the Village of Friendship Heights located at 4433 South Park Avenue. The mobile office provides all the services that are available at the MVA Express Offices, including renewing driver's licenses, renewing vehicle registrations, renewing MD photo identifications, obtaining disability placards, and returning tags. Stop in from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.!

-January 28, February 25, March 24, April 21, May 19, and June 23

Be sure to check out the following websites for area events:

Chevy Chase Historical Society
www.chevychasehistory.org

Chevy Chase at Home
www.chevychaseathome.org

Chevy Chase Library
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/chevychase.html

Sights and Scenes in Section 5



SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

