



THE QUARTERLY

DECEMBER 2021 | VOLUME 53 | NUMBER 4

Section 5 Council

Greg Chernack, Chairman
Patricia Keller, Vice-Chairman
Maryann Luongo, Treasurer
Josh Galper, Member
Philip Giordano, Member

Important Section Dates

- ◆ Tuesday, December 14
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Monday, December 20
Final Leaf Collection
- ◆ Tuesday, January 11
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Tuesday, February 8
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Saturday, March 5
Spring Bulk Trash Collection

A Message from the Town Council

It is with mixed emotion that the Council announces the retirement of Section 5 Building Administrator Joe Toomey. If you have done a building project in the last few years, you have likely benefited from Joe's expertise, efficiency, and easy manner. Joe began his work in Section 5 in 2016 and has played an integral role ever since. Day-to-day, Joe's responsibilities include reviewing and assessing all Section building applications, but Joe also was essential to rewriting the Section's building regulations in 2017, overseeing the restoration work following a major Washington Gas project in 2018, and also helping to manage the Section's 2020 sidewalk replacement project.



We are happy for Joe and his family, but he will be greatly missed. The Section is in the process of looking for an appropriate replacement. On behalf of Section 5 residents, we wish Joe a well deserved break and time with his family.

And to all our residents, we send wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!

Upcoming WSSC Brookville Water Main Replacement Project

As part of an effort to enhance service and reliability to customers, WSSC Water is strategically replacing and rehabilitating aging water and sewer pipes throughout Chevy Chase. Section 5 streets that will be directly impacted are: Dalkeith Street, Thornapple Street, Thornapple Place, Williams Lane, and Windsor Place. As of now, work is scheduled to start March 1, 2022, although supply chain issues may delay the start. From start to finish, WSSC expects the project to take approximately 18 months.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Continued WSSC...

The project includes replacing approximately 2.6 miles of water mains and water house connections up to the property line. The current water pipes were installed in the 1920's and are near the end of their life cycle. The new water mains will be Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipe, giving the new pipes a life expectancy of at least 100 years. By replacing the existing pipes, there should be fewer disruptions due to leaks and breaks and enhanced emergency needs for our community.

Anticipated work hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Work may occasionally extend beyond these hours to complete specific tasks. Reliable water and sewer service will be maintained during construction. Short water shutdowns of up to eight hours may be required. Advance notification (48-72 hours) of these shutdowns will be provided. Access will be maintained to homes during construction. Access into homes is NOT required and access onto private property is generally NOT required. Final restoration of sidewalks, roadways, and landscaping will take place within 90 days of construction completion. The project requires an open-cut construction method, which involves cutting and excavating a section of the pavement. This construction method will create noise and dust. Section 5 will work with WSSC regarding any permitting considerations. Residents will hear directly from WSSC regarding work area and timing. All questions regarding the project should be directed to WSSC.

Nadine White, Design Project Manager
[301-206-8521](tel:301-206-8521); Nadine.White@wsscwater.com

Justin Wolfrey, Technical Contract Manager
(Construction)
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Brandon Stewart, Customer Advocate
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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.

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.

TRASH COLLECTION HOLIDAYS

Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on Saturdays 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 27. 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.

On a separate note, yard debris is collected on Mondays year-round.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Section 5 Composting Program

Section 5 partners with the Compost Crew to offer and pay for a resident composting program. As part of the program, Section 5 pays for the cost of the 5-gallon bucket/collection bin that is required as well as the monthly service/collection fee per household. Each participating household will also receive one bag of finished compost



each spring. Pickup occurs every Tuesday. Buckets must be placed curbside and lids closed tightly. Since collection may occur early, it is strongly recommended that residents put bins

out the night before.

The sign up link is <https://compostcrew.com/chevy-chase-section-5/>. After you enter your address in step one, select the monthly, 5-gallon service plan, which will be free. When signing up, you will need to provide a credit card, which enables you to use the Compost Crew store and pay for any upgrades you select. Optional larger 12-gallon collection bins and indoor kitchen scrap buckets may also be purchased separately for a slight upgrade fee. If you do not select upgrades, your credit card will not be charged.

Once you sign up, Compost Crew will deliver your bin. All new bin deliveries occur on Friday. Any questions regarding sign-up, services, and collection should be directed to the Compost Crew at (301) 202-4450 or info@compostcrew.com.

Never Leave Your Vehicle Unattended and Unlocked

Section 5 police remind residents who warm up their cars on cold winter mornings to make sure their doors are locked. It only takes five minutes to become a crime of opportunity!

Welcome to New Residents

Section 5 extends a special welcome to new residents:

- ◆ Genevieve Hernandez and Charles Collins-Chase
3608 Thornapple Street
- ◆ Joanna Navarro and Eric Williams
3710 Underwood Street

Did we miss someone? Be sure and let us know! We would love to greet you properly, and make sure you have all the information you need regarding Section services and events. Please take a minute to email the Town Manager at manager@chevychasesection5.org

Reporting a Street Light Outage

Reporting a street light outage on Pepco's website is fast and easy!

<https://pepco.streetlightoutages.com/public/default.html>

All you need is the address or the number located on the front of the pole. You will receive an automated response that your message was received and a follow-up email once the outage has been addressed. Outages are usually serviced in a week or less.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Building Permits

- ✦ 4 Leland Court - Replace existing sump pumps with no change to existing discharge locations / Permit Approved
- ✦ 8 Leland Court - Construction dumpster / Permit Approved
- ✦ 3609 Thornapple Street - Redirect gutter downspouts to an existing french drain / Permit Approved
- ✦ 3613 Underwood Street - Replace existing concrete driveway and replace it with a permeable pad / Permit Approved
- ✦ 3714 Underwood Street - Install a solar roof / Permit Approved
- ✦ 3808 Underwood Street - Install flagstone on existing outdoor porch, walk, and stairway / Permit approved
- ✦ 3710 Williams - Widen and upgrade existing driveway that includes stormwater drainage plans, build retaining wall, and replace rear entry steps / Permit Approved
- ✦ 3509 Windsor Place - Replace part of existing fence and install a new section / Permit Approved

Tree Removal Permits

- ✦ 7 Leland Court - Private Tree Removal
- ✦ 3703 Underwood Street - Private Tree Removal

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.

Free Tree Program 2021

Section 5 continues to have a great response for its Annual Free Tree Program. In late December, thirty-five new trees will be planted in residents' private gardens or the Town public strip.

When planted, the trees are dormant and do not require further care until the spring. In April, 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. When leaves emerge, you will fill the bag once every ten days. During periods of very hot dry weather, residents should water the tree one day per week. It is important not to overwater.

We are very fortunate to have our arborist, Dr. Feather, assist residents with questions and oversee the plantings. It is a lot of work, and we are grateful to have him as a resource.

Snow Reminders!

Section 5 is 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 walkways 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 it 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.