



THE QUARTERLY

MARCH 2023 / VOLUME 55 / NUMBER 1

SECTION 5 COUNCIL

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

IMPORTANT SECTION DATES

- Tuesday, April 18
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 9
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 10
Summer Bulk Trash Collection
- Tuesday, June 13
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 4
Annual Section 5 Parade and
Party 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.



A Message from the Town Council - Annual Election Notice

Three of the five seats on the Town Council are up for election this spring. Any person wishing to place his/her name on the ballot as a candidate must be a resident of Section 5, and a registered voter in the State of Maryland. All candidate nominations must be received in writing by the Town Manager on or before April 7.

Current Council members whose terms expire in May include: Greg Chernack, Patricia Xeller, and Philip Giordano. Greg and Philip are running for re-election. Patricia Xeller has decided not to run again.

Should the number of qualified candidates equal the number of available seats, the candidates will be declared elected at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 9. Please email the Town Manager with any questions.

Important Tax Return Information (MD Form 502)

Each year the most significant source of Section 5 revenue is received through our residents' paid income taxes. This money goes directly to services benefitting you and our community. To ensure that the state allocates the money correctly, it is critical when you complete the MD income tax return you list:

Section 5 as the *Maryland Political Subdivision*

1616 as the *Digit Political Subdivision Code*

Please make sure and share this information with anyone who might help you prepare your taxes.

Section 5 Paper Directory

Each resident should have received one paper copy of the new Section 5 paper phone directory. If you did not receive a copy, or if you would like to request an additional copy, please contact the Town Manager.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Community Meeting with our Section 5 Police Officers on Tuesday, March 14

In lieu of our regular March Council meeting, Section 5 hosted a community discussion with our part-time police officers, Captain Jason Cokinos and Sergeant Mike Pratt. They were also joined by 2D Lieutenant Ari Elkin. The meeting was held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. We had about 25 residents attend.

The officers led a wide-ranging question and answer discussion regarding current area crime trends, traffic concerns, and policing.

One of the topics discussed was the increased theft of catalytic converters. See the accompanying item in the newsletter for more information regarding a program MCPD is offering.

We are lucky to have Jason and Mike working in the Section! If you have not had a chance to meet them yet, please introduce yourself if you see them out and about patrolling.



Operation: Etch and Catch- Catalytic Converter Etching Launch Event

Saturday and Sunday, March 25 -26, 2023

Catalytic converter theft has become a serious issue in our region. To help combat this theft trend, the Montgomery County Department of Police is partnering with local dealerships and mechanics to provide FREE catalytic converter etching and painting to Montgomery County residents. This chemically etched identification number will be retained in our database and a national database in case of theft. The bright painting and window cling decal will be a deterrent to would-be thieves and a notification to those considering purchasing these stolen converters that this is now traceable. Appointments can be made by contacting your district Community Operations Unit through the method listed on the flyer. More dates and locations will be added in the coming weeks with expanding scheduling options.

A flyer for the 'Operation: Etch and Catch' event. The top section features the Montgomery County Police Department logo and the event title 'OPERATION: ETCH AND CATCH' in large, bold letters. Below the title, it says 'Launch Weekend: Sat. March 25 & Sun. March 26' and 'Catalytic converter thefts are on the rise.' A yellow box contains the text 'All Montgomery County residents can sign up to have your catalytic converter painted and serialized - FREE!' and a photo of a person working on a car. A central box lists sign-up methods: '1st/2nd District- Call (240) 773-6727', '3rd/4th District- E-mail ljeoma.enendu@montgomerycountymd.gov', and '5th/6th District- QR Code' with a QR code. At the bottom, it lists 'High risk vehicles for catalytic converter thefts: Toyota Prius (top vehicle for Montgomery County), Honda CR-V (top vehicle for Montgomery County), Honda Element, Ford F-250 | Jeep Grand Cherokee | Ford Econoline | Chevrolet Equinox'. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube are shown, along with the text '@MCPNews' and 'Marcus G. Jones Chief of Police'.

Council Adopts Ordinance and Right-of-Way Access Agreement to Regulate Small Cell/5G Technology

At its February meeting, the Section 5 Council formally voted to adopt Ordinance No. 1-23-1. This ordinance was an expected update to the Village's original 2019 small cell ordinance. The accompanying right-of-way agreement specifies permit application requirements, as well as the different standards for deployment. Including things such as: prohibiting the pruning of trees unless minimally reasonably necessary, requiring any replaced poles to be removed within a certain number of days, and stipulating equipment size, and annual certification requirements among other things. To date, Section 5, nor any of the area Chevy Chase municipalities, have received any 5G applications.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Street Parking Notice - WSSC Brookville Water Main Replacement Project

WSSC crews are now working on Underwood Street, Thornapple Street, Thornapple Place, and Dalkeith Street. Please be on the look out for all posted WSSC signs or door hanger notices. The Section will send out targeted emails to residents as needed.

Due to the nature of the project, at times, there will be no street parking in certain areas. If you plan to be away in the next month, and you live in the affected work area, please remember:

-The best place to park is always in your driveway.

-If driveway parking is not possible, please consider leaving a key with a trusted neighbor that could move your car if needed.

-Or talk directly to the WSSC crew, let them know your address, when you will be away, and ask for the best area to move your car.

Please reach out to the Manager at manager@chevychase5.org with concerns.

Section 5 Opt-in Composting Program

In December 2020, Section 5 introduced a new composting program in partnership with the Compost Crew. We are happy to report that we now have 70 homes participating. We hope that residents enjoy the service and find it worthwhile, but if for any reason you are not, or you find that you are regularly missing pick up, please consider discontinuing your service so that the Section will no longer be charged. We appreciate your help and cooperation!

For more information on the program or to sign up, use the link below: <https://compostcrew.com/chevy-chase5/>.

This information is also listed on the Section 5 website's home page.

Report Areas for Repair and Maintenance

While we are always on the lookout for areas of the Section that need to be addressed, we are also grateful for the support of observant residents!

Sidewalk Repairs — See a trip hazard or spot that has deteriorated over time. Please let the Manager know.

Tree Maintenance — The Section has over 400 Street trees that are located within the public right-of-way. Our Village arborist, Dr. Tolbert Feather, does regular assessments of the trees, and recommends pruning lists to be addressed by our Section tree contractor. Please let the Manager know if you see a Street tree that needs attention.

Do Not Put Plastic Bags in Recycling Bins

Our trash and recycling contractor asked that we remind residents to not place plastic bags of any kind in the recycling bins. This includes bags that are labeled as recyclable. Plastic bags get caught in the County's shredder and cause big problems. The County has notified contractors that municipalities will be fined in the future.

Recycling Bins and Wind!

The last few weeks the wind has been especially blustery on recycling days which leads to boxes and newspapers strewn all over yards and streets. Please be mindful when putting your bins out:



-Consider putting your recycling out early morning on Wednesdays to avoid it spilling into the road and neighbors' yards overnight.

-If necessary, purchase secure tops for your recycling bins. These are readily available at Home Depot and on Amazon.com.

-If your recycling does blow away, please be a helpful and courteous neighbor and do your best to clean it up.

SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

Welcome to New Residents

Are you new to Section 5? Please contact the Town Manager at manager@chevychasesection5.org so that we can welcome you appropriately!

Building Permits

- 3703 Underwood - Construct a two-story addition with the appropriate stormwater drainage plan / Permit Approved
- 3805 Underwood—Install a play set in their backyard / Permit Approved
- 3513 Windsor Place—Replace section of their fence / Permit Approved

Tree Removal Permits

- 7503 Glendale Road - 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.

Section 5 Email Alerts and Notices

Please make certain the Section has at least one current email address for your household on file. Email is often used to communicate timely and important information.

Learn More About Montgomery County's RainScapes Program and Ways to Combat Stormwater

The Village of Chevy Chase is hosting an information session on the County's RainScapes Gardening program. See below for full details. Section residents considering a stormwater landscaping project in the near future are encouraged to attend. The County program offers monetary incentives and rebates.

*Please remember that stormwater management projects require a Section 5 Building Permit. Contact manager@chevychasesection5.org for information.

**Save the Date:
Wednesday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m.
in the Chevy Chase Village Hall**

Celebrate Earth Week with a presentation on *RainScapes Gardening*

"How to design a beautiful space that captures stormwater and creates a haven for nature year round", presented by Ann English, RainScapes Program Manager at Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection.

RainScapes is a landscape or design technique that helps reduce stormwater runoff from individual properties. If you're interested in learning more about this program, please visit the RainScapes website: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/rainscapes/>

Reminder to Dog Owners

Please pick up after your dog, and do not allow dogs to defecate on another resident's private property. The public grass strip (between the sidewalk and the curb) is the appropriate place.



Also make sure to place all dog waste in bags and in the appropriate trash receptacle. Recycling bins should not be used for dog waste. Thank you for your continued cooperation!