



Town Bulletin

www.washingtongrovermd.org

301-926-2256

August 1, 2023

Table of Contents

- **Town Council News**
 - **News from Grove Boards and Commissions**
Historic Preservation Commission | Planning Commission
 - **News from Grove Committees**
 - *Dog Park | Emergency Preparedness and Safety | Forestry & Beautification | Gateway | Lake | Lighting | Racial and Social Equity | Recreation | Sustainability | Woods*
 - **News from Other Grove Organizations**
Film Society | WG Cares | WG Methodist Church | Woman's Club
 - **Other Notices**
 - **Coming Events Calendar**
-

Town Council News

Next meeting: Monday, August 14, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom meeting](#) (or dial in to 301-715-8592 using meeting ID: 297 850 640 and password 074385).

Actions at the July 2023 Town Council Meeting

- Approval to donate profits from 150th poster sale to Heritage Emory Grove Foundation.
- Approval to authorize the mayor to write a letter to the County Planning Board regarding plans for the Shared Use Pathway.
- Approval to exercise the opt-out option in the community solar energy contract.

Town Assistance by Individual Volunteers

Washington Grove residents have a long and proud history of voluntarily helping to meet the needs of the Town and its residents. This volunteer work may be done through our many commissions and committees, but also through the efforts of individual residents acting alone to improve the Town.

The tasks of maintaining and improving the Town generally involve the policies of the Town Council under the direction of the mayor, and often through committee planning and scheduled activities.

There are also those necessary and/or desirable tasks that aren't being addressed. Clearly no individual will be aware of all these efforts and plans, and it is prudent that volunteers coordinate their activities with any entities designated to address a particular function or situation.

To facilitate that coordination, the Town Council believes it will be most helpful if individual volunteers **contact one of the following responsible individuals *before beginning any non-emergency action, or as soon as possible in emergency situations:***

1. *Town Maintenance Coordinator:* Town Councilor Peter Nagrod by email at pnagrod@msn.com
2. *Town Clerk* Kathy Lehman at 301-926-2256 or at washgrove@comcast.net
3. *Mayor* John Compton at johncompton@me.com

Washington Grove 150th Celebration Meeting

Topic: 150th Celebration Zoom Events, August 10-11, 2023

Time: Aug 10, 2023 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 851 1262 2017

Passcode: 597123

[Return to the top of the document](#)

News from Grove Boards and Commissions

Historic Preservation Commission News

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 15, 2023, 7:30 pm. The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting via ZOOM. For a copy of the agenda, email Chair Bob Booher at

booherfamily@comcast.net.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

From the Town Archives

[Here's a story about the Prisoners' Relief Society found in the Town's WWII archives that may not be well known](#). It will also be featured in the exhibit hall at the archives table at the 150th Anniversary Commemoration.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Planning Commission News

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 2, 2023, 7:30 pm. The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting via ZOOM. As part of the Town's response to the COVID-19 crisis, this Planning Commission Meeting will be conducted online, rather than in person. Residents and the public may access these meetings [by Zoom videoconference](#), or dial in to 301-715-8592, meeting ID: 881 3713 5118 and following the audio instructions.

Please make sure your name is associated with your Zoom device in order to be admitted from the Waiting Room.

Building Permit Submission Deadline

The deadline to submit a building permit application for approval by the Planning Commission and review by the Historic Preservation Commission is **the 2nd Wednesday of the month** prior to the PC meeting at which the permit will be reviewed (this will be in the following month). This timing ensures the HPC will be able to complete a formal review before the PC meeting as this review is required for the PC to approve the permit in a timely fashion. If you are considering any renovation or building project at your house, be sure to get a copy of the procedures to apply for a Town Building Permit which will help you through the Town's process.

Building Permits Approved in July 2023

- 103 Brown Street Porch
- 406 Grove Avenue Fence

Public Ways & Property Permits (PW&PP) Approved in July 2023

- 103 Brown Street Washington Gas

[Return to the top of the document](#)

News from Grove Committees

Dog Park News

Join us for the **Washington Grove Yappy Hour** on Friday, August 11 at 5:30 pm at the Dog Spot in the West Woods. We'll have drinks, dog treats, and light snacks, but welcome refreshments to share! Dogs can register on site or in advance by [downloading and completing this form \(PDF\)](#). Dogs and well-behaved humans are welcome!

In the event of bad weather, we will send a cancellation notice on the listserv. For more information, reach out to Liz Gillanders or Ali Faupel.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Emergency Preparedness and Safety Committee News

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 24, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

By Phone: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 822 3794 4778

Passcode: 804224

Summer Heat Safety Guidance

During extremely hot and humid weather, it is important to know the symptoms of excessive heat exposure and the appropriate responses. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides a list of warning signs and symptoms of heat illness, and recommended first aid steps. [View more information on all of these heat-related illnesses.](#)

The EPA, NOAA, CDC, and DHS also have collaborated to provide guidance on excessive heat safety. [View the guidance.](#)

View guidance from the [Humane Society of the United States \(HSUS\)](#) and [ASPCA](#) to protect pets and other animals safe from excess heat.

Fireworks – Know the Law!

In Montgomery County, ALL fireworks are illegal to possess or discharge including gold label sparklers. Snap-and-pop noise makers, snakes and party poppers are the only exceptions to this law. [View more information.](#)

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Forestry & Beautification News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

[Join ZOOM Meeting](#)

All are welcome! Our agenda can be found on the Town web site by Monday August 7. We will be starting the planning process for new trees to be installed this fall. If you have a suggestion for where a new tree/s are needed, please contact one of the F&B Co-Chairs: Georgette Cole (georgettewg@gmail.com) or Audrey Maskery (trees.beautification@gmail.com) or our Council Liaison Barbara Raimondo (councilorbarb@gmail.com).

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Gateway Committee News

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 10, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Lake Committee News

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 8, 2023, 7:30 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

New members are welcome and encouraged! Call John Hutchinson or Tom Land if you have any questions or suggestions.

Change in the Gate Combination

The combination for the lock to the 'inner' gate of Maple Lake has been changed. Please contact Tom Land (240) 801-0646, or anyone on the Lake Committee, to get the new combination.

Please do not share the lock combination with non-residents of Washington Grove. We changed the combination because someone who lives outside of Town knew the combination and took the lock.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Lighting Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 7:30 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 961 798 0177

The Lighting Committee is working with other Maryland municipalities to work out a process to allow the option of municipal streetlight ownership. After months of negotiations, between the municipalities and Pepco; a status conference regarding the unresolved issues related to Pepco's Tariff Schedules SSL-OH and SSL-OH-LED discussed in front of the MD-PSC. In general, the municipalities felt that that this July 13, 2023 hearing had some very positive outcomes. The next status hearing will be on August 18, 2023.

Questions, ideas or concerns? Please contact Virginia Quesada at 301 706-7933 (cell) or vq@qmediainc.com, or Robert N. Johnson at rnj@elecdev.com.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Racial and Social Equity Committee News

Next meeting: Sunday, September 10, 2023, 2:00 pm.

There is no August RASEC meeting. The next regular meeting will be on September 10 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Recreation Committee News

Next meeting: TBD

Yoga in the Grove Continues for the Summer!

Town resident and certified yoga instructor Rachel Schwartz will continue to offer a free yoga class on Tuesday evenings from 6-7 pm in McCathran Hall.

For August, you will need to RSVP to Rachel at soferrs@gmail.com by noon on Tuesdays. Since people are often busy during the summer months, yoga class will be held each week as long as there is sufficient interest.

Rachel practices [Ashtanga yoga](#) and teaches a vinyasa (flow) class with modifications for all levels. Please bring your own mat and feel free to bring blocks if you use them. The class ends on our backs with a cooling relaxation, so consider bringing a sweatshirt or fleece. Be sure to print out and complete this [waiver form \(PDF\)](#) and bring it to your first class.

Yoga is free for Washington Grove residents, although donations are accepted. Non-residents may attend for \$10 a class (cash only, please).

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Sustainability Committee News

Next Meetings: Tuesday, August 1, 2023, 7:30 pm and Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

Tomlin House: Passive Solar and Heat Pump

The home at 358 Ridge Road was converted to passive solar heat in 1986. John Tomlin estimates that during the winter months passive solar heat accounts for 40-50% of his home's heat. Stroll by and take a look. The front windows are designed to let in winter's sunshine to heat the house, and the overhang above them keeps the summer sunshine away. It's all in the design; the system requires no moving parts. And, to become even more free of fossil fuels, the oil furnace was replaced with a heat pump in August 2022.

Climate Change Resources for Kids

If you'd like a handy site to help the young people in your life learn about climate issues before they head back to full days in school, check out the "[Kids' Climate Corner](#)". Explore the site with your kids: lots of books, short videos, and more resources that you can investigate together. And chats with "the Professor" ...try reading the Professor's part while your child reads the kid's part.

Use the Ride On Trip Planner and Leave Your Car Behind

A new app from the county's Department of Transportation helps you get from here to there via Ride On buses, Metrobuses, Metrorail, and bike- or scooter-sharing.

Among other features, the app:

- allows you to set departure or arrival times;
- shows you the current location of the bus you are waiting for and how long you'll be waiting;
- lets you know when to hop off the bus or train and gives you walking directions to your destination; and
- lets you set preferences such as walking speed, modes of transportation, and whether you'd like points of interest along your route to show on the map.

Download the Ride On Trip Planner from [Google Play](#) or the [Apple App Store](#).

Learn more at "[Ride On Trip Planner](#)".

County Electronics Recycling Program Expanded

You can now recycle almost any kind of electronic equipment at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station at 16101 Frederick Rd., including:

- Audio tapes
- Cameras
- Clocks
- Drones
- Empty printer ink and toner cartridges
- Remote controls
- Small handheld electric tools
- Small handheld vacuum cleaners
- Surveillance cameras
- VHS/cassette tapes

[View a complete list of recyclable equipment and additional information about recycling electronics.](#)

See you at the 150th Anniversary celebration August 10-13!

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Woods Committee News

Next meeting: Monday, August 7, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

By Phone: 301 715 8592

The date of our September meeting is still to be determined because of the Labor Day Holiday. Historic Whetstone Spring in the West Woods has been beautifully restored through the inspiration and efforts of Steve Werts and Jim Quinn of RJ Landscaping. We invite you to visit the Spring! The official dedication will be held at 3:00 pm on Sunday, August 13, as part of our 150th Celebration. There will be a slide show of this restoration and a Summer in the Parks visit to the Spring as part of the Friday, August 11 ZOOM activity featuring Phil Edwards.

Stormwater Management

The Woods Committee and Mayor are awaiting a preliminary analysis from Soltesz Engineering on recommendations for stormwater management in the western half of the residential portion of Town and in the West Woods. Once the report is reviewed by the Mayor and Town Council, RFPs will be prepared for initial projects to begin mitigation of stormwater runoff using available funding. The Woods Committee also will work with the Sustainability Committee's Green Team to gather data on Stormwater Management for the Town's Sustainable Maryland application.

Deer Management

The Woods Committee will prepare and submit to the Town Council for approval an updated (2023/2024) Town Deer Management Plan with BHFFMD (Bow Hunter Firefighters of Maryland) to manage deer in the East and West Woods, and, in coordination with MCP, in the Conservation Meadow and lower field (Piedmont Crossing Local Park). The 2023/2024 hunting season is scheduled between September and January and deer are frequently seen crossing between the meadows and the East Woods. Hopefully, this addition will make Washington Grove's Deer Management Program more effective. Bow hunting deer management signs are posted at the entrances to the meadows and the Wood Preserves.

Dumping

Lastly, there has been recent illegal dumping activity in the East and West Woods. Please help us to protect our Woods Preserves by calling the Town Office to report any suspicious activities. Please contact Joan or Patty if you have any questions. Stay healthy and safe and enjoy the beauty of nature in our enchanting East and West Woods Preserves!

[Return to the top of the document](#)

News from Other Grove Organizations

Film Society News

New 2023-2024 Season Announced!

[Learn about this season's full schedule of five incredible films!](#)

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Washington Grove Cares News

To request assistance or to volunteer, go to www.washingtongrovecares.org, or contact us by emailing washingtongrovecares@gmail.com or calling 301-944-2962.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

WG United Methodist Church News



Washington Grove United Methodist Church...Please join us at 11:00 AM Sundays

As part of the Town's 150th Anniversary Celebration, please join us on Sunday, August 13th at 11:00 AM for a joint service with Emory Grove United Methodist Church. We'll be meeting under the tent outside the Washington Grove Church.

WGUMC is a reconciling congregation. We believe that each person is a precious creation of God and is of sacred worth. We welcome people of every gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, and physical or mental ability into full participation in the life of this faith community. We celebrate the gift of love and affirm all loving relationships and marriages.

[Join our Zoom meetings](#)

Meeting ID: 964 361 1456 PW if requested is **Church**

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Woman's Club News

The New Town Directories are Here!

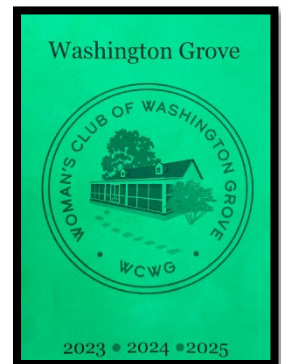
For a mere \$5, you can now get up to speed with all the latest important contact info for Town Government, residents, and community resources! The directory is available for purchase at the Town Office during working hours. You may pay by cash, or a check made out to "WCWG".



The directory will also be available for sale at the Clubhouse (316 Grove Ave.) at the following times:

- Saturday, August 5, from 10 am to Noon
- Saturday, August 12, from 4-6 pm (150th Celebration Weekend)
- Sunday, August 13, from 10:30 am to Noon (150th Celebration Weekend)

The directory is produced every three years by the WCWG, and credit for making it happen goes to Marilyn Frey and her team, including Mimi Bolotin and Sandra Gallagher; and the amazing proofreaders Sylvia Favret, Margo Cavenagh, Kathleen McCann, Meredith Horan, John and Betsy Klinger; and the many Club members who quietly lent a hand or a much-needed word of encouragement. Please convey your thanks to this group. What would we do without them?



If you can't pick up a copy at any of these venues, reach out to Marilyn directly at (301)351-4784 or marilynnf@comcast.net to arrange a pickup time. Or as Marilyn says, "Just flag me down as I'm driving by! I'll have plenty in my car."

You can also contact Cynthia Werts, (301)926-1668, cynthiawerts410@icloud.com, to request a copy.

Community Outreach

(Please drop off all goods donations at the Clubhouse or on the porch at 119 Grove Road).

Sign Up for Priscilla's House Meals

It's time to plan the last four months of our very popular **Meals for Priscilla's House**. This is a wonderful, meaningful, fun project for families, groups of friends or individuals 😊. [Please sign up using SignUp Genius.](#)

Appreciation for Archways Support

Throughout the year, WCWG supports eight Archways families and their 16 children. Archways is a permanent supportive housing program with several locations in Montgomery County. A parent recently sent us this note of appreciation:

"I wanted to thank you for the donations. I appreciate everything you do. My children always love the gifts you send!!!!"

We are still collecting fruit cups, individually wrapped bags of cookies, crackers, and other nutritious snacks for the kids in the Archways program. And as always, non-SNAP items that are always needed include diaper wipes, hand sanitizers, laundry detergent, paper towels, any flavor of Pedialyte, blue box Similac powder and toilet paper. Our monthly boxes of donated non-SNAP items mean that families don't have to stretch their budgets too far.

Despite the Summer Heat, Winter is Coming

At this time of year, Amazon, Macy's and other retailers are having great sales on the winter coats we collect for the kids from lower income families at Washington Grove Elementary School. Consider a little bargain shopping now for this much-needed item.

Clothing Partnership with Emory Grove United Methodist Church

We continue to have a great response to our partnership with Emory Grove Church to collect used clothing, in good condition, to give to people in the community on the third weekend of each month. The church will pick up and distribute clothes.

Prefer to Donate Financially?

If you prefer to contribute financially to these efforts, send your check to WCWG, c/o Cynthia Werts, 410 Oak Street, PO Box 354. Be sure to designate in the memo section the outreach effort of your choice or leave it blank to allow us to determine the area of greatest need at the time.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Other Notices

Gaithersburg Farmers Market

Come visit us at the Casey Community Center Farmers Market to enjoy some fresh locally grown fruits and vegetables. Come get some eggs, beef or pork ready to put on the grill. Bring home some savory homemade breads or artisan sweets. Get some fresh ground coffee. How about some made-to-order bags of trail mix? A different food truck vendor is there to serve lunch when open. Or, just come by and chat with all the friendly vendors and neighbors that are visiting that day. FMNP, eWIC and SNAP are accepted at the Casey Farmers Market through the Market Money Match Program. The Market is open every 3rd Thursday in December through April and every Thursday from May through November. We are there from 11:00am to 2:30pm. Casey Community Center, 810 South Frederick Avenue.



[View more information.](#)

Vacation!

The Town Office will be closed from August 7 – August 15, 2023.

[Return to the top of the document](#)

Coming Events Calendar

August 2	Planning Commission	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 2	Tai Chi	11:00 am	Town Hall
August 7	Woods Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 8	Sustainability Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 8	Lake Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 8	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
August 9	Forestry & Beautification	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 9	Tai Chi	11:00 am	Town Hall
August 9	BUILDING PERMIT SUBMISSION DEADLINE		

AUGUST 10 – Beginning of 150th Celebration. [See the full list of events.](#)

August 10	Gateway Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 14	Town Council	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 15	Historic Preservation Commission	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 15	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
August 16	Recreation Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 16	Tai Chi	11:00 am	Town Hall
August 22	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
August 23	Tai Chi	11:00 am	Town Hall
August 24	EPS Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
August 30	Tai Chi	10:30 am	Town Hall