



# Town Bulletin

[www.washingtongrovemd.org](http://www.washingtongrovemd.org)

301-926-2256

September 1, 2024

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## Town Council News

The new email address [mayorandcouncil@washingtongrovemd.org](mailto:mayorandcouncil@washingtongrovemd.org) can now be used to communicate directly with the Mayor and all Town Councilors.

**Next meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024, 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 August 2024 Town Council Meeting

- Approved the Film Society's proposal to drop FY25 admission fees for films to spur interest and attendance.
- Approved two diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) education programs from Leadership Montgomery to be offered to residents.

### Mayor's Kudos

- To Sustainability Committee volunteers for distributing compost from their pilot leaf mulch project to the Hall landscape beds, where they took care to remove and replace protective mulch.
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- To Meadow Committee volunteers who worked with Weed Warrior Program assistant Silvia Nuñez for hours removing non-native invasive plants.

### **Special Town Council Meeting Held August 13, 2024**

For the sole order of business, the Town Council went into closed session and met with SMI Environmental to discuss their proposal in response to the Stormwater Infrastructure Maintenance RFP.

### **Opportunity for Residents! Introduction to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging” Training for Residents of Washington Grove.**

Led by Leadership Montgomery. To be held in McCathran Hall on November 16, 9 a.m. – noon  
*Note that registration will be required. Details to be provided in October.*

In this training, participants will be introduced to key concepts related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) that will enhance their ability to create an atmosphere where all community members can thrive regardless of their backgrounds and identities. Participants will leave with practical takeaways to implement immediately.

### **Emergency Preparedness and Safety**

***Are you eager to see our community thrive with greater safety, resilience, and readiness for emergencies?*** Join the Town's Emergency Preparedness and Safety Committee (EPSC). Become a vital part to continue their significant achievements—such as securing an emergency generator at the Town Hall to protect it during winter power outages, getting a crosswalk light installed at the MARC Station, and tackling the ongoing, pressing issue of speeding on our town roads. The committee also engages with various county entities, along with fire and police, to advocate for Town interests and exchange information. Your participation can help build on these achievements and can propel even further improvements! Current plans are for the EPSC to meet quarterly and if you are interested, please contact Kriss Grisham, EPSC Councilor Liaison at [councilorkriss@gmail.com](mailto:councilorkriss@gmail.com), or 202-365-0399.

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## **News from Grove Boards and Commissions**

### **Historic Preservation Commission News**

**Next meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 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](mailto:booherfamily@comcast.net).

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

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## Planning Commission News

**Next meeting: Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 August 2024

- 204 Ridge Road - addition

### Public Ways & Property Permits (PW&PP) Approved in August 2024

- None

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## News from Grove Committees

### Forestry & Beautification News

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 7:30 p.m.**

PLEASE NOTE: our trees are stressed by the current drought and heat. F&B now has permission to increase the new tree watering to twice a week. If you also have new trees in your yard, please consider upping the watering frequency. Nobody wants to lose an investment like that. F&B has added some other trees which are not new but were obviously suffering from the current weather. If you notice a town tree in distress, please email one of the three contacts below with the tree location. Thanks!

The next Forestry and Beautification Committee meeting will be on Wednesday September 11 at 7:30 pm. The agenda and Zoom link will be posted by Sunday September 8 from a link on the F&B page of the Town's website. We'll continue to discuss new trees for fall planting. Please remember that the F&B Committee keeps a list of resident requests for town trees. If you have a

suggestion for where a new tree is needed, please contact one of the F&B Co-Chairs: Georgette Cole ([georgettewg@gmail.com](mailto:georgettewg@gmail.com)) or Audrey Maskery ([trees.beautification@gmail.com](mailto:trees.beautification@gmail.com)) or our Council Liaison Barbara Raimondo ([councilorbarb@gmail.com](mailto:councilorbarb@gmail.com)).

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## Lake Committee News

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 10, 2024, 7:30 pm**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Lake Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 10th, 2024, at 7:30 pm. The Lake Committee holds hybrid meetings -- in-person in the old Council Room and by Zoom. Please join us. New members are welcome and encouraged! Call Tom Land if you have any questions or suggestions.

## Contractor Appreciation Cookout at Maple Lake, Sunday, September 8th from 4 – 6 pm

Please invite your favorite contractor (lawn care, cleaning service, construction, roofing, etc., etc.) to a cookout at Maple Lake on Saturday, September 7th, from 4 – 6 pm to show our appreciation for their efforts. Food and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. The Lake Committee is organizing this cookout for our Town contractors and contractors who work for Town residents. Everyone's families are invited.

## Thanks for a Wonderful Summer at Maple Lake

Many thanks to everyone for supporting a fantastic summer at Maple Lake!!! We encourage you to continue enjoying the tranquil beauty of the lake and its surrounding area during the rest of the year. If swimming, please do so safely.

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## Lighting Committee News

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 7:30 pm**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 961 798 0177

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

We meet the fourth Wednesday of every month. All are welcome to attend!

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## **ad hoc Meadow Committee News**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 19, 2024 at 7:30 pm**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

### **Restoration Plan for the Conservation Park**

The Meadows Committee has voted to recommend to Town Council that we proceed with Phase 1 of the proposal prepared by Montgomery Parks to reduce the number of red cedars and remove any non-native invasive trees in the meadow. The work would either be done by Parks staff or by a contractor funded by an Environmental Stewardship grant from Sustainable Maryland.

### **Weed Warrior Events**

Volunteers from the Grove and beyond will periodically gather at the meadow to remove invasive plants by hand. If you would like to be on the list to be notified of the next event, please contact Bruce Daggy. You do not need to be a certified weed warrior to participate, but if you are interested in the training, contact Bruce or visit the [Montgomery Parks Weed Warrior web page](#) for more information.

### **Maintenance Requests**

Montgomery Parks Customer Service quickly responded to a request to remove a tree that fell across one of the walking paths. If you notice any maintenance needs in the Conservation Park, please contact someone on the committee.

### **Poison Ivy**

The committee is looking into a concern raised about poison ivy growing into the paths. Parks normally do not remove poison ivy, as it is a native plant useful to wildlife, but they do sometimes act when it is in a location that would likely result in human contact. Please be aware of [what poison ivy looks like](#), and should you come into contact, scrub the exposed skin with a washcloth, soap and water to remove the irritating oil before it takes effect.

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## **Recreation Committee News**

**Next meeting: Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 7:30 pm.**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

At this month's meeting, we will discuss Halloween plans. The Halloween Event (the haunted woods and other activities) will be held on Saturday, October 28, starting at 4 pm at the Gazebo. Want to help but can't make the meeting? Reach out to co-chairs Lisa Bielen and Kristina Kough: [lvbielen@gmail.com](mailto:lvbielen@gmail.com), [KKoughWG@gmail.com](mailto:KKoughWG@gmail.com)

### **Yoga in the Grove**

Certified yoga and fitness instructor **Ingeborg McCright** offers an all-levels yoga class on **Tuesdays from 6 - 7 pm in McCathran Hall**. Ingeborg has been teaching yoga and exercise

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classes for many years and is able to give modifications for those just starting out and those looking for extra challenge.

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 dressing in layers. If this is your first Grove Yoga class, be sure to print out and complete this [waiver form \(PDF\)](#) and bring it to class. Yoga is free for Washington Grove residents with a suggested \$5-10 donation. Non-residents may attend for \$10 a class. Ingeborg accepts cash or check.

**\*Please note that on Sept. 10, 17, and 24 Ingeborg will be out of the country, and we will have a substitute instructor, Lee Carubba.**

## Woodward Park

The results of the **Woodward Park Playground Improvement Survey** have been compiled and summarized. [Read the survey results and learn about the improvements that have been made to the park \(along with other info\) here.](#) Questions? Reach out to Eva Patrone at [counciloreva@gmail.com](mailto:counciloreva@gmail.com).

## Art Night Fall Session Starts September 18!

Bring your pencils, creativity, and love of fun to Art Night in Town Hall! We'll meet weekly to draw and paint from still life, artist's models, and more. The 2024 Fall Session runs September 18 to October 23, on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm in Town Hall. Attendees provide their own art supplies (paper, charcoal, pencils, color medium of choice, and a large drawing board). We will provide drawing easels and tables.

Art Night is organized by Marida Hines and sponsored by the Recreation Committee. There is no fee, but advance registration is required so we know how many easels are needed.

RSVP to [Marida Hines](#) by September 10, 2024.

## Calling Everyone Born in 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955...

We're having a 70's party to celebrate our 70 years.

**When:** Sunday, September 22, 2024, 2-6 pm

**Where:** McCathran Hall, Washington Grove

### Details:

- All Grove friends and family are invited to join the fun.
- We'll have tunes from the 60's and 70's for dancing and entertainment.
- Send 60's & 70's music requests to Tom Land
- BYOB and a finger-type food to share. We will provide ice and coolers.
- If you are a Grover born between 1952 and 1955 OR know of a Grover who was, please contact Renee Moloznik ([rmoloz@hotmail.com](mailto:rmoloz@hotmail.com))
- 70's costumes/clothing is encouraged
- Birthday cake will be consumed!



## Questions?

- Contact party organizers: Sharon Sisson, Margo Cavenagh, Jeff McCrehan, or Renee Moloznik
- Music Guru & DJ: Tom Land

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## Sustainability Committee News

**Next Meetings: Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 7:30 pm and Tuesday, October 1, 2024.**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

### Gaithersburg in 2080 Might Have the Climate of Louisiana Today

It's really not that far into the future. In 2080, as climate change continues, our kids and grandkids may be living in climate that is like Louisiana's today. That is the picture we can draw using a climate-analog mapping tool created by Matt Fitzpatrick at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Appalachian Lab.

Where will the young people in your family be living in 2080? Do you wonder what the climate will be like for them? You can experiment with this [interactive web application](#) to investigate what changes we can expect for cities of particular interest to you.

For example, using the mapping tool, we can see that if global warming continues unabated, in about 60 years, summer in Gaithersburg is expected to be 10.9° F warmer and 5.9% wetter. Winter will be 10° F warmer and 21.9% wetter than today. Our vegetation will shift from broadleaf & mixed forests to conifer forests. The best climate analog location for Gaithersburg's climate in 2080 is today's climate in the northwest corner of Louisiana.

A study by Matthew C. Fitzpatrick and Robert R. Dunn, "Contemporary climatic analogs for 540 North American urban areas in the late 21st century,"\* analyzes the impacts of climate change on the lives of people living in 530 urban areas in the United States and 30 in Canada. On average, the climate of North American urban areas is on a path to become like the climate now experienced in locations that are over 500 miles to the south. Some areas will experience climate that has no actual modern equivalent in North America.

The study anticipates that, "...by the 2080's climate of cities in the northeast will tend to feel more like the humid subtropical climates typical of parts of the Midwest or southeastern U.S. today (warmer and wetter in all seasons..." and "...the climates of western cities are expected to become more like those of the desert Southwest or Southern California (warmer in all seasons, with changes in the amount and seasonal distribution of precipitation."

As noted in the study, "It is difficult for individuals to detect and conceptualize gradual changes in climate, particularly where natural variability is high and when expected changes in climate



are couched solely in numbers (mean temperatures, precipitation variability, and so forth).” With that in mind, we encourage you to spend some time with the mapping tool, click on some urban areas, and think about the changes ahead and what we can do to lower the emissions that are driving climate change.

To see a rosier picture if policies were changed to lower emissions rapidly, choose a city to search for, click on "Settings," and select "What if we reduce emissions?" On the refreshed map, Gaithersburg's 2080 climate would be more like that of Goochland, VA, currently. So, advocate for strong climate change policies!

**\*Fitzpatrick, M.C., Dunn, R.R. Contemporary climatic analogs for 540 North American urban areas in the late 21st century. *Nature Communications* 10, 614 (2019).**

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## **Woods Committee News**

**Next meeting: Monday, September 2, 2024, 7:30 pm.**

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

By Phone: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 810 1546 7035

Passcode: 314520

We are always looking for new members to help protect our East and West Woods Forest Preserves. Please consider attending a Woods Committee meeting to learn about our projects and join us!

The Mayor and Town Council have been reviewing bids received for stormwater infrastructure maintenance and expect to approve one of the bids at the August TC meeting. The Town's goal is to control stormwater drainage in the residential part of Town and ultimately to reduce runoff into the West Woods.

A reminder the Bow Hunter Firefighters of Maryland (BHFFMD) will volunteer again for our deer management program in the East and West Woods, and the Conservation Meadow during the Maryland DNR 2024-2025 deer hunting season from September 6, 2024 to January 31, 2025.

The Woods Committee is planning a fall tree-planting project. We are open to suggestions of planting sites in the East Woods where the canopy is open to sunlight. If you have suggestions for planting areas, please contact Co-chair, Joan Mahaffey.

A public safety notice was posted at Whetstone Spring in the West Woods and sections of the stone path leading down to the spring were flagged where ground-nesting yellow jackets have been reported. Please do not attempt to spray or remove the yellow jackets. Their nests are underground and likely will require professional help to remove once cooler temperatures arrive. [Learn more about yellowjackets, hornets, and paper wasps.](#)



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## News from Other Grove Organizations

### Film Society News

#### Washington Grove Film Society's 22<sup>nd</sup> Season

*Free admission! No tickets! No commercials!*

*Varying weekend evenings at 7:00 pm in McCathran Hall*

*A stimulating discussion follows each film.*

**Code on out to the movies and bring your friends!**

#### **The Biggest Little Farm      Sunday, October 6, 2024**

*Directed by John Chester, 2019, US, in English, shown with English subtitles, 91 minutes.*

A California couple follows their dream to create a sustainable farm. Chronicling eight years of hard work, setbacks, and hope, this documentary's gorgeous cinematography makes stars of all the farm's creatures and of nature itself. Consider bringing your tweens and teens.



#### **Wings of Desire Friday, November 8, 2024**

*Directed by Wim Wenders, 1987, West Germany, in German with English subtitles, 128 minutes.*

In Wim Wenders's hauntingly beautiful and poetic masterpiece, angels roam the streets of Berlin, bearing silent witness. One such, Damiel, grows weary of merely observing and longs to experience life in all its tangible, messy glory. When he falls in love, Damiel faces a profound choice: remain an immortal observer or relinquish his celestial status to embrace human love and suffering.



#### **Game Night      Saturday, January 11, 2025**

*Directed by John Francis Daley & Jonathan Goldstein, 2018, US, in English and shown with English subtitles, 100 minutes.*

Max and Annie (Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams) enjoy having friends over for a weekly game night. But when a



murder-mystery game becomes too real, the partygoers turn out to be not quite what they had seemed. Part screwball comedy, part twisty thriller, this film features a crackerjack team of actors. A good time will be had by all.

### **Landfill Harmonic      Friday, February 7, 2025**

*Directed by Brad Algood & Graham Townsley, 2015, Paraguay & US, in Spanish, shown with English subtitles, 84 minutes.*

This inspiring documentary tells the story of the Recycled Orchestra of Cateura, a group of young musicians from Paraguay who create beautiful music using instruments made entirely from discarded materials found in a landfill. The orchestra gains international recognition, and we see how even the most impoverished communities can produce something remarkable.



### **Day for Night      Sunday, March 9, 2025**

*Directed by François Truffaut, 1973, France, in French, shown with English subtitles, 115 minutes.*

“Day for Night” captures the magic and madness that go into making a film. We follow director Ferrand (played by Truffaut himself) and his eclectic cast and crew as they navigate the multitudinous challenges. Humor, romance, and behind-the-scenes intrigue blend in an affectionate tribute to the art of cinema.



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## **WG United Methodist Church News**



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

Please join Minister Margie Matthews and our congregation on Sunday mornings at 11:00 AM at 303 Chestnut Road, Washington Grove, MD.

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.

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## Woman's Club News

### Back from Break: First Saturday Donuts and Coffee (and Milk and Cookies!)

Join us on Saturday, September 7, from 9-10:30 am, at the WCWG Clubhouse, for donuts, coffee, and some great neighborly conversation. If you'd like to make a contribution to our community outreach, bring along healthy, non-perishable after-school snacks for school-age children. We're thinking of individual packages of cookies, crackers, pretzels, dried fruit, shelf-stable milk, juice boxes, etc. Let's make sure kids have the energy they need to tackle their back-to-school activities!



### Gold Elephant Auction Promises to Be True to Its Name

Not a glass punchbowl in sight for this auction -- we guarantee it! We have a lineup of exciting items and experiences that we KNOW Grovers are going to love, including items by neighborhood artists, vintage furniture, homemade breads, a 4' x 8' raised garden bed, experiences for parents, and a very special experience for travelers. Be sure to add the date to your calendar -- Saturday, October 19. We're still working on the exact schedule for the evening, so please hold from 6-9 pm.

### September Outreach Programs

#### Back to School

One of the longstanding projects for our Club is keeping the Washington Grove Elementary School's Teachers Closet stocked with supplies. These are things that teachers would otherwise buy and pay for out of their own pockets. This school year we will be continuing the project and in fact, we've already delivered the first batch of donations. The secretary who accepted the supplies was so excited she was clapping her hands.

Right now, school supplies are often on sale, so please, think about the teachers when you see these bargains!

#### Winter is Coming! Soon!

With the annual return to school, the Woman's Club is again collecting coats, hats, scarves and mittens for the children of Washington Grove Elementary School. We're hoping to match or beat our past donations!

#### Our Cupboards are Almost Bare

We haven't been getting as many food donations lately, so our cupboard will soon be bare. We need shelf-stable things like cans or jars of pasta sauces and boxes of pasta like spaghetti, penne, bow ties, cans of vegetables, etc. Whatever you can give will help our eight Archways families.

#### The Easiest Ways to Donate

Your donations are always needed! Just drop them off either in the box on the Clubhouse porch or on Wendy Weisbard's porch at 119 Grove Road. And of course, monetary donations are always appreciated. Checks should be made-out-to the Woman's Club (WCWG) with a notation in

the Memo if you want the money to go towards something specific. Checks can be dropped off with Cynthia Werts at 410 Oak Street or mailed to Cynthia at PO Box 354.

Please remember that we can no longer accept clothing donations or food that has passed its expiration date.

Our outreach work can only happen with the continued support of our *Little Town with the Big Hearts*. We always need shelf-stable foods and non-snap items because those needs never stop!

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## Coming Events Calendar

September 1	Tennis	9:00 am	Tennis Courts
September 1	Family Soccer Game	11:00 am	ZOOM
September 2	Pickleball	9:00 am	Tennis Courts
September 2	Woods Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
September 3	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
September 3	Sustainability	7:30 pm	ZOOM
September 4	Planning Commission	7:30 pm	ZOOM
September 5	Swing Time Big Band	6:30 pm	Town Hall
September 7	Contractor Appreciation Day Cook-Out	4:00 pm	Maple Lake
<b>September 11</b>	<b>Building Permit Submission Deadline</b>		
September 9	Town Council meeting	7:30 pm	ZOOM
September 10	Lake Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
September 10	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
September 11	Forestry & Beautification	7:30 pm	Town Hall
September 12	Gateway Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
September 17	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
September 19	Swing Time Big Band	11:00 am	Town Hall
September 22	Private Hall Rental	7:30 pm	Town Hall
September 24	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
September 25	Lighting Committee	7:30 pm	Town Hall
September 28	Fall Festival	10:00 pm	WGUMC

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