August 2026 Town Bulletin

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Town Council News

The **NEW EMAIL ADDRESS for letters to the Mayor and Coucil** is mayorandcouncil@washingtongrovemd.gov. Please use this new email to communicate directly with the Mayor and all Town Councilors.

The next Regular Town Council meeting is Monday, August 10, 2026, 7:30 pm. This will be a hybrid meeting in the Coundil Room at McCathran Hall and on Zoom. The public is invited to attend in person or by Zoom.

Join the video meeting via Zoom, (or for audio only, dial 301-715-8592. Meeting ID: 297 850 640, Password 074385).

Actions at the July 13 Council Meeting

(all meeting documents found here)

- Held a Closed Session with the Town Attorney to discuss legal advice concerning 503 McCauley and granting an easement to Montgomery

County for the Washington Grove Connector.
- Held a Public Hearing on Ordinance 2026-06 "Authorizing The Sale of Land Occupied by a Porch at 203 2nd Avenue Constructed In Part On Land Owned by the Town of Washington Grove"
- Adopted Ordinance 2026-06 "203 Second Ave Sale of Town Land".
- Approved a revised cost ($27,294) and scope for the "Basketball Court Resurfacing" contract awarded to Mid Atlantic Asphalt in June.
- Approved court cleaning ($1,070) and crack repair ($3,050) of the hard tennis court by Jupiter Systems.
- Established a Town Council Communications Workgroup.
- Confirmed appointment of Morgan Black and Johnny Black (sharing the position) to the Playground Committee.
- Approved the "2026 Washington Grove Playground Renovation and Modernization RFP" for distribution.
- Introduced Ordinance 2026-10 "Authorizing an Easement to Montgomery County to Extend the Washington Grove Connector to the End of Brown Street" and set the Public Hearing for the Town Council meeting August 10, 2026
- Introduced and adopted Resolutions 2026-08 and 2026-09 "Authorizing Deer Management Bow Hunting Sessions".

Mayor's Kudos

- To the Recreation Committee for organizing the entertaining Music Weekend events June 13-14 enjoyed by many residents. The Magic Art Bus made its appearance with the Jazz Brunch Sunday morning, to the delight of young and old.
- And even more kudos to the many Recreation Committee volunteers, and the Muskrat Band for the well-orchestrated July Fourth Celebration in the 90 degree heat. A large crowd attended the costume judging, flag raising, parade (yes, with the Mayor on the tractor this year!), awards in tented shade, and plenty of libations and hot dogs for all.
- To Eva Patrone, SITP Program Director, and Laurel Goldberg, for their massive organizational and paperwork efforts to obtain the first ever permit and license to operate from the State and the County. Major appreciation due them for paving the way for our Summer in the Park camp to operate this year and in future years.

Have You Witnessed Suspicious Activity in Town?

When residents observe suspicious activity, they are urged to report it to the Montgomery County Police Department:

- **The non-emergency line, 301-279-8000, or**
- **The Tip Line, 240-773-TIPS (8477), or**
- **By Text to CRIMES (274637).**

Reports to the MCPD are essential to make the police aware of potential and actual crimes in the Grove.

The Bottom Line is, "See Something? Say Something!"

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Public Notices

Notice of Public Hearing August 10th

Ordinance 2026-10 "AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF PERPETUAL AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS AND RIGHT OF WAY TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY,

MARYLAND ON LAND OWNED BY THE TOWN OF WASHINGTON GROVE BEING OUTLOT A IN BLOCK NUMBERED THIRTY SIX (36), IN THE SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS "WARD'S ADDITION" TO WASHINGTON GROVE"

The Mayor and Town Council will hold a hybrid public hearing on Monday, August 10, 2026, at 7:30 pm (prior to the Town Council meeting) to hear public comment on Ordinance 2026-10. The Ordinance provides an Easement to Montgomery County on Town land to construct and maintain the portion of the Washington Grove Connector multiuse pathway that will connect it to the end of the Brown Street roadway. Access Ordinance 2026-10 online.

Summary of Ordinance 2026-10

- Declares and specifies certain Town property, subject to an Easement to enable the Project, is not needed for any other public purpose.
- Authorizes the Mayor to grant and execute Perpetual and Temporary Easements and Right of Way on said property.
- The Perpetual Easement may include specific expectations regarding use of the transferred Property.

Join the Public Hearing via ZOOM with video:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/297850640?pwd=czh3ODBEdEpTeXdkRTc5bDFmLzN2UT09
Or **Dial-in** 301-715-8592, Meeting ID: 297 850 640, Password: 074385

Town Updates

WSSC Sewer Replacement and Renovation Project

WSSC and the Town have been discussing their latest proposed sewer project around town. The work is anticipated to occur no earlier than Spring 2027. The work and areas affected include thefollowing.

Center Street from Ridge Road to Maple Avenue:

- Replace the 60+ year-old sewer line under Center with a larger pipe using the pipe-burst method to preserve several mature oak trees. Excavation will be limited to the manhole areas. Replace manholes.
- Replace certain lateral sewer lines to residences and install cleanouts by open trenching, requiring bushes and some trees in severe decline be removed.

Center Street from Hickory Road to the West Woods:

- Line the sewer under Center Street, excavating only at the manholes at Hickory and Washington Grove Lane. Replace manholes.
- Replace the lateral sewer line to 11 Center Street by open trenching.

346 Ridge Road to 358 Ridge Road:

- Seal the main sewer and lateral connections under Ridge Road by accessing through the manholes.

Brown Street from Cherry Avenue to 409 Brown Street:

- Line the sewer under Brown Street by accessing at the manholes.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Activities in Washington Grove

Many of you have participated in the DEIB workshops sponsored by the Town

and presented by Leadership Montgomery. We heard feedback that that those events were informative and enlightening, and that you wanted more. We are pleased to let you know that we have been in touch with Leadership Montgomery to plan the next session in the fall. We are still finalizing the specifics, so keep your eyes open for details. Thanks for your efforts to make Washington Grove a better place to live for all.

For more information, contact Paula Puglisi, Patty Klein or Barbara Raimondo.

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News from Grove Boards and Commissions

Historic Preservation Commission News

Next meeting: Tuesday August 18, 7:30 pm.
The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting via Zoom. For a copy of the agenda or to get the Zoom address, email Chair Bob Booher at booherfamily@comcast.net.

Montgomery County Agricultural Fair History -- Washington Grove Connection!

Recently, town resident Meredith Horan visited the Gaithersburg Library and came across Rosco Whipp's *1999 Montgomery County Agricultural Center: First Fifty Years.* In anticipation of the annual August fair, Meredith asked the HPC to post in this month's town bulletin her notes from review of the publication, as well as a reproduction of a page with a photograph taken by John Clark of the Maryland Farm Bureau. The reproduction is less than perfect, but includes the observation in the upper righthand corner, "*We were blessed with a beautiful day and an attendance of 2,000 people at the Montgomery Livestock show at the campgrounds in Washington Grove on Saturday August 5, 1945.*" Cottages can be seen in the photograph's background. See the publication firsthand at the library!

Meredith's Notes:
The first Montgomery County Agricultural Fair was held in our campground on a sunny August 5, 1945. There were swine, sheep, dairy cows, and beef cattle tied to ropes between trees or enclosed in snow fences. Bill King chaired the event to support 4-H exhibitors and the ag community. A horse pulling contest was included. Hot dogs, soft drinks, and ice cream were served. The 1946 Ag Fair was held at Hutton Farm, Clopper Road, after Washington Grove declined to repeat hosting the event. The Ag Center as we know it today was constructed in 1949.

2026 Preservation Award Goes to Ridge Road Home

For more than twenty years, the Town of Washington Grove has recognized the efforts of homeowners who have rehabilitated their homes, built compatible additions, or built a similarly appropriate auxiliary building on their property. Eligible for consideration are both contributing resources and noncontributing resources to the Washington Grove Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior. The award is announced at the Town's Annual Meeting, and a certificate is prepared and presented to the homeowner at that time. A more enduring, custom

bronze plaque is then cast at a foundry and presented to the homeowner some months later.

Some years, more than one award has been presented. Most often, it is the building permit application/HPC Review process that triggers consideration of a completed project for the award. In at least two instances, however, awards have been presented to homeowners whose projects required neither a building permit nor HPC review – rather, neighbors impressed with the rejuvenation of a formerly neglected home have made informal nominations for the HPC to consider.

This year, Marida Hines and Terri Johnson were honored with the 2026 Preservation Award at the Annual Town Meeting in McCathran Hall on May 10 for the work done on their home at 204 Ridge Road. The award certificate presented at the meeting commended them for the "renovation of, and addition to, a 1977 ranch style house that preserves its modest scale while modernizing its relation to its site. The house now freely opens the living areas to the yard with ample windows in well-proportioned additions."

A custom bronze plaque that serves as a permanent acknowledgment of this award was presented to them in July. In accepting the award, Marida expressed her and Terri's appreciation for HPC's suggestions and involvement in refining the details of their project; based on their positive experience, she encouraged other residents to consult with the HPC when planning changes to their homes.

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Planning Commission News

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 5, 7:30 pm.
The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting by Zoom videoconference. The agenda will be posted on the Town website one week prior to our meeting. Please make sure your name is associated with your Zoom device in order to be admitted from the Waiting Room. Residents and the public may access the meeting at:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88137135118
Dial by your location 1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
Meeting ID: 881 3713 5118

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. Permits are required for ALL structures on your property including fences, decks, walkways, and driveways. The HPC does not review fences so these applications can be submitted up to one week before the PC meeting. When you are considering a renovation or building project at your house, be sure to get a copy of the procedures to apply for a Town Building Permit (available on the website) which will help you through the Town's process. View more information at https://washingtongrovemd.gov/government/town-

commissions-boards/planning-commission/how-to-get-a-building-permit/.

Building Permits Approved in July:
330 Ridge Road – Subdivision Site Plan: awaiting plat recordation.

Public Ways & Property Permits (PW&PP) Approved in July:
WSSC sewer work on Brown Street, Center Street, and Ridge Road: Update. It was reported that the most recent paperwork from WSSC showed much greater impact on the three town trees near 301 Maple Avenue, i.e.: removals were recommended. We will have another onsite meeting with the contractor and the WSSC arborist.

203 Grove Avenue: a driveway permit was approved.

Additional Actions
406 5th Avenue non-complying structure: There is a 3-foot brick wall and 5-foot 8-inch grill on Town land on the Acorn Lane side of 406 5th Avenue. The Planning Commission recommended that the structure be removed when the property is sold to resolve the non-compliance.

503 McCauley Street Driveway on Town Land: An easement for the driveway has been requested on 5th Avenue, however, an easement is not physically necessary because the two buildable lots can use a shared driveway across lot 1 for driveway access as is routinely done on lower Ridge Road. An easement on a walkway sets a bad precedent when we are working to preserve our historic walkways as recommended in the 2022 Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission recommended restoration of 5th and 6th Avenues north of McCauley Street to Walkway-only status.

Historic Preservation Waiver Ordinance – Update: Discussion was deferred to our next meeting.

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News from Grove Committees

Emergency Preparedness and Safety Committee

Proposed Stop Sign at Brown and Chestnut
A stop sign is needed at the intersection of Brown and Chestnut, specifically on the approach coming from the "dead end" extension that leads from the Commercial Corner. There is currently no stop sign there. Without clear notice, cyclists and pedestrians traveling from Gaithersburg/Commercial Corner/Hickory have no indication that they must stop to check for fast-moving vehicles entering from Railroad Street. That risk has already led to near-collisions: last summer, a town resident pedaled through the intersection and narrowly avoided being crushed by a vehicle turning off Railroad—by millimeters. A similar near miss was also seen a couple weeks ago. With more cyclists using that extension, the chance of another serious encounter increases—possibly without the same lucky outcome. The proposed stop sign would primarily protect cyclists, but it also reinforces a broader safety expectation: cyclists are required to obey traffic signs, including stops at Chestnut, Grove, and Ridge when riding down Brown.

MCDOT to Install Pedestrian Crossing Sign at Lake Crossing

At the Town's request, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) will install a northbound pedestrian crossing sign at the Lake Crossing. Their estimated completion date is mid-August. Since this crossing is already being used by our SITP kids (this July), the MCDOT engineer was contacted to share this timing concern. The engineer advised he would do what he can to help expedite the sign installation.

Postential Deterrence for Ongoing Car Break-Ins

And lastly, an idea was floated to present to MCPD as a potential way to address the town's recurring car break-ins. Implement a "Focused Deterrence" approach by creating a small team to meet with the offending group. The plan involves having the team meet directly with members of the offending group:

- a police officer who informs them they have been identified,
- a prosecutor who explains the consequences if they do not stop,
- a community member who shares the real harm caused, and
- a social worker who connects them with a more positive way to spend their time.

This idea came from the following article –https://magazine.publichealth.jhu.edu/2026/baltimores-historic-homicide-reduction. Your thoughts on any of these ideas are welcome. Time permitting, some discussion on these topics can take place at our August 10 Town Council meeting.

Please feel free to contact Councilor Kriss Grisham at councilorkriss@gmail.com with any emergency preparedness or safety concerns.

We need volunteers to reinvigorate our Emergency Preparedness and Safety Committee (EPSC)! Please consider supporting this interesting and important Committee! Thank you!

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Forestry & Beautification Committee News

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday August 12 at 7:30 PM. 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 decorative tree/s, or any trees at all, 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).

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Lake Committee News

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 2026, 7:30 pm.
via Zoom and in person at Town Hall. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us05web.zoom.us/j/82167730076?pwd=qE3UbeK8gtY9bhxUgodLRMD84qitj8.1
Meeting ID: 821 6773 0076
Passcode: 8vcTKi

As summer begins to wind down, Maple Lake continues to be one of Washington Grove's favorite gathering places. Thank you to everyone who has

helped make this another safe, enjoyable season. From swimmers to volunteers and lifeguards, your cooperation helps keep Maple Lake a special community resource.

Lifeguard Program

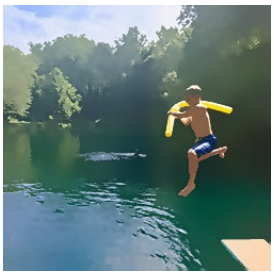
Lifeguards remain on duty daily from **12:00 noon until 6:00 p.m.** through Labor Day, weather permitting. Please remember that the lake remains **swim at your own risk**, even when lifeguards are on duty. Parents and guardians are reminded that they are ultimately responsible for supervising children in their care. As always, everyone must leave the water immediately when thunder is heard or lightning is observed. Swimming may resume only after conditions have been safe for at least 30 minutes.

Please Help Protect the Lake

A few reminders help ensure everyone enjoys their visit:

- Dogs are not permitted inside the lake area.
- There are no trash receptacles at the lake. Please carry out everything you bring in.
- Help keep the gate secure by making sure it closes completely behind you.

Fishing Reminder



Fishing continues to be available throughout the season. Please fish only from the **designated fishing locations** posted around the lake. This helps provide a safe environment for everyone enjoying the lake.

Planning a Gathering?

Planning a family gathering or birthday celebration? Groups of eight or more require a Maple Lake Party Permit. Please remember that permits do not reserve exclusive use of the lake, and larger parties held during lifeguard hours may require additional lifeguard coverage arranged through the Lake Committee. If alcohol will be served, a separate Town alcohol permit is also required.

Thank You

The Lake Committee would like to thank our outstanding lifeguards for another excellent season. Their professionalism, attentiveness, and dedication help keep Maple Lake safe and enjoyable for everyone. We would also like to thank the many residents who volunteer throughout the year by helping with maintenance, opening and closing the gates, reporting issues, and participating in committee activities. Your willingness to give your time and talents is what makes Maple Lake such a unique and valued community resource. As we head into the final weeks of summer, we hope everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the lake safely and responsibly.

Gate Combination

If you need the inner gate combination, please contact:

- Anna Burke, Town Administrator – 301-926-2256
- Steve Hanson, Lake Committee Chair – 240-654-2749
- John "Hutch" Hutchinson – 240-997-5820
- Peggy Koniz-Booher – 301-633-2400

Do not share the gate combination with nonresidents or children.
Always secure the lock after entering or leaving.

Spin the lock after use so the combination cannot be seen.
Leave the lock upside down for the next person.

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Lighting Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 at 7:30 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 893 1602 0615
Passcode: 194354

Due to advocacy work from a group of Maryland Municipalities over the years there have finally been some positive outcomes in providing a path to the option of municipal streetlight ownership in Maryland! This option of municipal streetlight ownership would give Maryland municipalities more choices on picking cost effective, environmentally friendly, and aesthetic designs for their streetlights.

Report a streetlight that is out or that has an issue with a sensor here. It is important to provide a pole number when reporting streetlight issues. Each streetlight is on a pole with a unique pole number, and this is how we identify each streetlight. Comments, suggestions and ideas are welcome! Contact Virginia Quesada vq@qmediainc.com or Robert N. Johnson rnj@elecdev.com with questions or comments.

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Meadows Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday August 19, at 7:30 pm
Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81284320450
Dial-in: +1 301 715 8592, Meeting ID: 812 8432 0450
Join Zoom Meeting

Meadow Restoration Project Status

Going forward, the main goal of the project is to continue shifting the Conservation Park's plant population in favor of native species. As stated in Montgomery Parks' Sept. 2025 update of restoration plan:

"This would be achieved through two mechanisms: the Weed Warriors and Park staff. Park staff will work in coordination with volunteers to identify strategic targets and coordinate work with staff to ensure noticeable progress. As invasive species are controlled and replaced with native wildflowers and grasses, the system will become more resilient to re-invasion. While upfront efforts are significant, over time effort should reduce as non-native invasive species are removed and native species begin to dominate."

Weed Warrior Activity

Most of the Weed Warrior activity to date has been in the understory, physically removing non-native invasive (NNI) plants such as English Ivy, Bittersweet, Bush Honeysuckle, Mile-a-Minute, Garlic Mustard, Japanese Barberry and Wineberry. Meanwhile Montgomery Parks has focused on eradicating Wisteria and controlling -- both by annual mowing and specific treatment -- woody seedlings in the meadow. Once the woody seedling problem is better under

control, Parks will shift the focus to other NNI plants in the meadow, such as Chinese Bush Clover. These actions open space and light for native species. Two planting events to date, one in the meadow and one in the understory, have introduced or expanded the presence of native plant species.

Flowering Plants Recently Observed in the Meadow

Here are a few you may wish to look for: Wild Basil; Wild Bergamot; Purple Coneflower; False Sunflower; Common Yarrow; Carolina Horsenettle; Wild Carrot (Queen Anne's Lace); and Chicory. The iNaturalist app can help with identification of plants,animals, and fungi.

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Playground Committee News

Next regular meeting: Monday, August 17, 7:30 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 837 6777 3121

The Playground Committee is excited to announce that the Town Council approved our RFP to modernize the playground! The RFP will be issued on August 1, and proposals will be due on September 4. The Playground Committee will share an update on the bids at the September Council meeting. The top three bidders will give oral presentations in late September/early October, and we anticipate that the Council will award the contract at the October Council meeting. If this timeline holds, we are expecting to see significant updates to the playground grounds and equipment by spring 2027.

In accordance with the Washington Grove Playground Comprehensive Plan and the RFP, the Playground Committee will develop a timeline for removing certain pieces of equipment in order to prepare for the renovation work. Those pieces will include the small metal slide and the equipment that sits in the same play area, the two wooden see-saws, and the large metal jungle gym near the baseball backstop. The small wooden fort next to the merry go round is also likely to be removed, as we anticipate being able to replace it with a new structure. Certain vintage pieces, such as the merry go round, the horse swing, and the metal horse near the metal jungle gym, will remain and will undergo continued maintenance and refurbishment. At our August meeting, we will discuss the ongoing bidding process.

If you would like to share your general thoughts on the playground, please email us at wg_playground@googlegroups.com. If you have comments or concerns regarding maintenance issues related to the playground, please contact Andy Bielen, our Maintenance and Record Keeper, at asbielen@gmail.com.

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Recreation Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 19, at 7:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to join and bring new ideas!

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Sustainability Committee News

Next Meetings: Tuesday, August 11, 2026, 7:30 pm. (NOTE: one week later than usual)
Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 7:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

WG Applies for Recertification as a Sustainable Maryland Community

On June 19, Washington Grove's Green Team, a working group under the Sustainability Committee, submitted an application for recertification as a Sustainable Maryland Community. There are 98 communities across the state that are registered with Sustainable Maryland, and 51, including our neighbors Gaithersburg and Rockville, that are currently certified. The Town was first certified in 2023 at the Bronze level; recertification is required every three years. The Green Team identified a set of actions that qualify towards certification, then met regularly to track completion and documentation of these actions. Independent reviewers are now assessing our application to determine if we achieved Bronze or Silver status. The Green Team and Sustainability Committee would like to recognize the significant support received in this effort by the actions of other committees, commissions, Town Council, the Mayor, and individual volunteers of Washington Grove. To learn more about this program, please visit the Sustainable Maryland website.

Energy WG Residents Comment on Public EV Charging Station Registration and Inspection Fees

Late last year, Maryland proposed the highest fees in the nation to cover the cost of registering and inspecting public EV charging stations, an action that was certain to slow the growth of the charging network and possibly cause Pepco to remove the Town's four charging ports at the end of our 5-year agreement. Pushback caused the state to reduce the fee from $150 per port per year (each cable counts as a port, so WG has four) to $75 per port per year, with equal funds pulled from the state's Strategic Energy Investment Fund. In comparison, the state charges only $20 per year per gas station meter. Gas meters are mechanical and are more likely to be inaccurate than electric meters, and there was already a requirement to report and repair or replace broken EV chargers. Gas pumps also typically generate far higher revenues in comparison to level 2 charging stations such as we have. The Sustainability Committee circulated a letter requesting that Maryland consider steps to further reduce these fees, and 70 Town residents signed on. The letter was submitted to the Maryland Dept. of Agriculture (which has responsibility for Weights & Measures) on June 23.

Contact Sustainability Chair Bob Booher for more information.

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Woods Committee News

IMPORTANT! The Woods Committee will not meet in August. The next meeting will be on Monday, September 7, at 7:30 PM via Zoom.
Join Zoom Meeting
By Phone: 301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 813 9794 8222
Passcode: 694596

All are invited to attend our meetings. We also welcome new volunteers and members who want to work with the Committee to help protect our East and West Woods Preserves ("The Woods"). Anytime is a good time to join the Woods Committee!

Woods' Work

The Woods Committee continues working with our contractor, IPC, to control

non-native invasive (NNI) plants in the East and West Woods. In July, IPC conducted targeted herbicide treatments along the East Woods walking trails to keep the paths open and reduce overgrown vegetation (especially stilt grass) that can harbor ticks and pose a public health risk to tickborne disease transmission. IPC also worked in the West Woods to 'physically cut and directly apply herbicide' to a dense section of Japanese honeysuckle and multifloral rose, and also treat wavy leaf basket grass. We will need your help to physically remove NNI plants such as Japanese barberry and keep our Woods safe and vibrant! Please watch for event dates in the Fall to be announced!

The Woods Committee is working with the town's contractor, Tom Laws Tree Service, to cut down dead trees in the East Woods near walking trails that pose public safety and private property concerns. Groups of young trees in the East Woods will be watered through August to support their survival. Thanks again to our summer hires, Cory Hix, Tomas Bernal, and Ted McCrehan (with Japhet Kironda) for their dedicated efforts.

A dedication to celebrate the completed Maple Spring restoration is planned for in the Fall 2026. Event dates and details will be forthcoming. Please take time to visit our restored natural Maple Spring and Whetstone Spring in the West Woods to enjoy their serenity and the cooler forest breezes during the hot summer.

Happy final days of summer to everyone!
Pat Klein and the Woods Committee

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News from Grove Organizations

Acorn Library

Weekly story time for kids is held at Acorn Library **at 3 pm on Sunday afternoons**. Visitors and neighbors from outside town are welcome to join us as well. Bring your friends to come enjoy the stories, stay a while to explore and choose some books to take home with you!

If you have never been to Acorn Library, you'll find it on Maple Road, the last driveway on the right as you drive toward Center Street. Acorn Library is never locked and visitors are welcome anytime. Lights are turned off at night, but you are welcome to turn them on. Just turn them off if it's dark when you leave.

Questions? Call Betsy Klinger at 301-325-1956 or email betsyklinger@aol.com.

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Washington Grove Cares

In early August, Washington Grove Cares will deliver our new refrigerator magnets to every house in town. If you have our old one, please discard it; the telephone number with a 240 area code no longer works. The shiny new magnet has the up-to-date phone number: 301-944-2962. It's also in our advertisement and listing in the new town directory. We'll also be distributing

a red magnetic pouch called File of Life, provided by the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service. Complete the form that fits in the magnet with your medical information so that the rescue squad can better care for you in an emergency. We don't have enough of these on hand for every household, but you can request a free one be mailed to you by calling 311. Read more about File of Life.

Washington Grove Cares connects town residents who need assistance with town residents who can provide it. Call us at 301-944-2962 or send an email to washingtongrovecares@gmail.org to request help. If you're already regularly helping a neighbor, reach out to us and we can help you. Finally, to join our crew of volunteers, just fill out our volunteer form and we'll be in touch with you.

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Woman's Club of Washington Grove News

Next meeting: Thursday, September 17, 7 pm. at the Woman's Club Clubhouse

Our Year of Looking Forward

Like so many organizations these days, the Woman's Club is suffering from a lack of active members. It's especially difficult for us to continue some of our special events without people to do the organizing, so we are searching for ideas of things we can do that don't require as much time and labor. We have a few fun ideas that we'll be discussing at our next at the Clubhouse). Please consider joining us!

If you haven't yet had a chance to pick up your complimentary copy of The Washington Grove Directory 2026 – 2027 -2028, we will be scheduling more times for you to come by the clubhouse, or you can text or call Marilynn Frey 301-351-4784 and we'll figure out a way to get yours to you. And of course you can buy additional copies for $6 each.

Our Year of Helping

SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) has been under attack and too many of these desperately needed items are no longer available to struggling families. The Woman's Club has long tried to provide non-SNAP items such as feminine hygiene products, laundry soap, shampoo and snacks for kids on a monthly basis. As the list of non-allowed SNAP items has grown, along with the even longer list of people deemed ineligible for SNAP, our supplies are almost exhausted. Try to imagine your life without these essentials! Imagine sending your children to school in dirty clothes because buying laundry detergent would mean having no food for your family. Imagine your teenage daughters forced to stay home once a month. On top of their grinding poverty, these are the sorts of things families face every day, We're asking for your help so that we can continue helping those in need. We can only do that through your donations. As always, you can leave items on the Clubhouse porch or on Wendy Weisbard's porch. To make it even easier, we have a new Amazon Wishlist which will deliver items directly to us. This link is https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SSYARK386SJV?

ref__=wl__share.

You can make such a difference in people's lives!

Our Year of Looking Back

by Meredith Horan

This year the Woman's Club of Washington Grove celebrates their centennial. The following is the seventh in a series of excerpts from A History of the Woman's Club of Washington Grove, as Recorded in the Minutes 1926 to 1998 by Sylvia Tate Horan, published 2001.

President Alice Mahaffey had a busy tenure. In January 1991, our favorite tee shirts with the peaked roof logo were ordered. These shirts in black or navy were seen everywhere. The first flower show was held in 1950. It was revived in May 1991 with the theme "Through the Garden Gate" to celebrate the Club's sixty-fifth year. There were 100 entries in the show. A new Neighborhood Committee, launched by Margo Cavenagh, distributed new resident welcome packets. Kitty Vogan's term as President in 1994 saw welcome renovations to the Clubhouse. Her husband, Sam Vogan, Vogan Associates, broke ground for a new Clubhouse addition in 1995.

The Easiest Ways to Donate

To make donating easier, we now have an Amazon Wishlist which will be updated for upcoming drives we will hold during the year. You can access the list through the following link:https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1SSYARK386SJV?ref__=wl__share

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. 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.

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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Addendum

Calendar for August 2026

View Online on the Town Website

August 2	Sunday	3 pm	Acorn Library Story Time
August 5	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Planning Commission
August 9	Sunday	3 pm	Acorn Library Story Time
August 10	Monday	7:30 pm	Public Hearing on Ordinance 2026-10
August 10	Monday	7:30 pm	Town Council Meeting
August 11	Tuesday	7:30 pm	Lake Committee
August 11	Tuesday	7:30 pm	Sustainability Committee
August 12	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Forestry & Beautification
August 13	Thursday	7:30 pm	Gateway Committee
August 16	Sunday	3 pm	Acorn Library Story Time
August 17	Monday	7:30 pm	Playground Committee
August 18	Tuesday	7:30 pm	Historic Preservation Committee
August 19	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Meadows Committee
August 19	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Recreation Committee
August 23	Sunday	3 pm	Acorn Library Story Time
August 26	Wednesday	7:30 pm	Lighting Committee
August 30	Sunday	3 pm	Acorn Library Story Time

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