



# Forecast

JULY 2014

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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## Emergency Numbers

**Emergency: 911**

**Police non-emergency:  
301-279-8000**

### Power Outages

To report a power outage at your home or to report street lights that are out, call 1-877-737-2662. To report downed wires or other emergencies to PEPCO, call [202-872-3432](tel:202-872-3432).

### Downed Trees

Report downed trees to the police by calling **911** if it is a life-threatening emergency. Call the non-emergency number for non-life threatening situations: [301-279-8000](tel:301-279-8000).

### Water Service

To report a water or sewer line break, sewer back-up or stoppage, or fire hydrant leak, call the WSSC Emergency Service line at [301-206-4002](tel:301-206-4002).

## Public Hearing on Proposed Lynn Drive Crossing of Purple Line

At its July 9 meeting, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on a proposal for a Lynn Drive crossing of the Purple Line transit way. Residents are encouraged to provide their comments on this proposal so that the Town can determine whether to request that the crossing be included in the Purple Line design plans.

Over the past four and a half years, the State has proposed various ways pedestrians could cross the Purple Line tracks from the Lynn Drive path when the Capital Crescent Trail is moved north of the tracks. The Town has rejected all ideas to date as either unworkable or unsafe.

Recently, working with the Town's Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group (MAG), the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) has proposed a design that would elevate the light-rail tracks to accommodate a pedestrian underpass from the Town to the north side of the transit way. Under this plan, Town residents would walk up the current Lynn Drive path, then turn left and walk towards Bethesda on a newly constructed 5-foot-wide sidewalk to enter an underpass beneath the Purple Line and Capital Crescent Trail.

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## MTA To Survey Property Lines

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued its Record of Decision (ROD) for the Purple Line project on March 19, indicating that the project has satisfied federal environmental requirements. While the project has not yet received its full funding agreement from FTA (signaling the project is officially approved to move forward), under the law, right-of-way acquisition for the project can begin now.

Property line surveys will begin soon, and Town residents along the alignment will be receiving letters from the State, alerting them that survey crews will be in the neighborhood. The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) says it will not need to buy any Town properties for the Purple Line project and will contact property owners in the next few months where temporary construction easements will be necessary.

Residents are welcome to attend the Town's Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group meetings, held the first Tuesday of every month.

# Mayor's Message

## Kathy Strom

Since the health of Town trees is important to all Town residents, I want to take this opportunity to summarize the numerous public and private tree programs and services offered by the Town.

The Town arborist performs inspections on a continuous basis of trees in the Town's right-of-way, identifying trees that need to be pruned, removed or treated. In addition, the arborist performs a comprehensive hazardous tree survey of public trees every two years. The last survey was done immediately after the derecho in June 2012, and all of the trees that were identified as hazardous have been removed. The arborist will undertake another such survey this summer.

To promote the care of trees on private property, the Town offers several programs to assist residents in keeping trees healthy. The Town's Consulting Arborist Program offers each homeowner one free hour of the Town arborist's time to evaluate the health of trees on their property. Following this evaluation, the arborist provides a written report of his findings to the requesting property owner. The Town also offers a Private Canopy Tree Maintenance Program that reimburses residents 75% of the total cost (up to \$1,000) to maintain trees (for example, by pruning and trimming trees) on their property. Information about how to take advantage of these programs is available on the Town website, [www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org).

I hope that Town residents will take advantage of the programs described above. The Council is also open to new ideas to promote good tree care and tree health.

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## Survey Work for Water Main Replacement Project

In advance of an extensive water main replacement project, WSSC has completed a survey to locate existing underground utilities. The painted markings on Town streets and rights-of-way reflect locations of the utilities. The engineering work is expected to take approximately one year, with the water main replacement starting in spring or summer of 2016. WSSC will coordinate the construction work with the Town. We will make sure that residents are aware of the project prior to the commencement of work.

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## Proposed Lynn Drive Crossing of Purple Line, *continued from page 1*

The underpass would require temporary construction easements, property acquisition and construction costs not currently included in State plans, and it is unclear how the State, County and Town would share these costs.

In June, the Town Council voted 4-0 (with John Bickerman absent) to request that MTA include the latest underpass design as a placeholder in the Request for Proposal issued to prospective Purple Line partners. The Town will explore costs, cost-sharing arrangements and alternative ways of accessing the underpass and hear residents' views before making a final decision. The Town Council can ask to have the underpass removed from Purple Line plans if the community and the Council decide it is not in the Town's best interest.

An illustrated description of the Lynn Drive crossing proposal, presented to the Town Council on June 11, can be viewed on the Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group page on the Town website.

If you cannot attend the July 9 Council meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall, you may submit comments to the Town Office at 4301 Willow Lane or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) prior to the meeting.

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## Calling All Town Authors!

The [Community Relations Committee](#) is organizing a Town Authors Night & Reception for residents this fall. If you have recently published a book (within the last two years) and are interested in participating, please contact the Town Office (301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org)).

# Town Updates

## Town Seeks Volunteers for Committees and Boards

The Council has extended the deadline to submit requests to serve on a Town committee or board. Information about the various committees and boards is posted on the Town website. If you are interested in volunteering, please submit a brief note expressing interest to the Town Office by [Wednesday, July 30](#). Your correspondence may be submitted by mail or e-mail to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) and should include your name, address, telephone number, email address and a few sentences about why you would like to volunteer to serve.

## Contribution Requests Accepted in September and March

According to a new contribution policy adopted by the Town Council in January, the Town will accept requests to contribute funds to charitable organizations twice each fiscal year, in both September and March. The deadlines for receiving contribution requests will be September 30 and March 31, respectively.

Once requests have been received by the deadlines noted above, the Town Council will schedule a discussion of the requests at its October and April meetings, held on the second Wednesday of the month. At these public meetings, the Council will determine if the requests meet the Town's criteria for contributions. If the Council determines that the requests meet the Town's criteria, the Council will schedule a public hearing on the requests. Final action by the Council will follow the public hearings. The Town's contribution policy, which outlines the criteria for contributions, is posted on the Town's website.

## Town Launches Facebook and Twitter

The Town has launched a [Facebook](#) page ([www.facebook.com/townofchevy Chase](http://www.facebook.com/townofchevy Chase)) and [Twitter](#) account ([@ChevyChaseTown](#)). These two social media applications will provide the Town with additional ways to connect with residents with important news and information.

Both Facebook and Twitter will receive automatic feeds from the Town's website, including Town news, agenda and calendar postings. In addition, staff will replicate Town Crier messages on both Facebook and Twitter. Initially, comments on Town Facebook postings will be allowed and moderated; however, public postings will not be allowed. Also, all Town tweets will be public, rather than be restricted to Town Twitter followers.

At its June meeting, the Town Council asked staff to develop a social media policy to establish a standard for oversight of all Town social media applications. This policy is posted on the Town's website.

We hope you enjoy these new ways of hearing from the Town, and we look forward to your feedback.

## Town to Offer Free Compost Products

In June, the Town Council approved a new program that will allow Town residents who participate in the organic waste collection program to receive two free compost soil products each year. The compost products available to be purchased through this program include compost soil, potting soil, worm castings and garden mix. Residents who currently participate in the organic waste collection program may order two free products each fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) by filling out the online form on the Town's website ([www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org)) or by contacting Eric Glidden at the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or [eglidden@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:eglidden@townofchevy Chase.org).

## Update on Electric Cars and No Cars: Options Here and Now

On June 7, the [Climate and Environment Committee](#) sponsored an informative program about electric vehicles and other options for getting from point A to point B. For a summary of the program and for information about electric vehicles, Zipcar, and Capital Bikeshare, visit the [Climate and Environment Committee](#) page on the Town website.

## Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

PRSRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Bethesda, MD  
Permit No. 418

### TOWN COUNCIL

*Kathy Strom, Mayor*

*Patricia Burda, Vice Mayor*

*Al Lang, Secretary*

*Vicky Taplin, Treasurer*

*John Bickerman, Community Liaison*

## Town Teen List

For the most current list, please email [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org) or call the Town office at 301-654-7144.

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## Chevy Chase at Home - In the Good Old Summertime

Brunch Bunch, Thursday, July 10, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road

Mix & Mingle, Tuesday, July 15, 2 p.m., Chevy Chase Village Hall

Mix & Mingle, Tuesday, August 12, 2 - 4 p.m., Chevy Chase Village Hall

For more details, visit the CC@H website, [www.chevychaseathome.org](http://www.chevychaseathome.org).

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## HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!

The FORECAST is not published in August. We encourage you to visit the Town's website, [www.townofchevychase.org](http://www.townofchevychase.org), for current Town news. The Town Council will not meet in August. The next monthly meeting will be on [Wednesday, September 10](#). To receive news alerts and other timely messages from the Town, we encourage you to join the residents who have signed up to receive [Town Crier](#) emails. Just visit the Town website and follow the prompts to sign up. For those who would like to be notified by voice messaging, please sign up for [Alert TOCC](#) via the Town website or by calling the Town Office at 301-654-7144.