



THE QUARTERLY

DECEMBER 2017 | VOLUME 49 | NUMBER 4

Section 5 Council

Chris Richardson, Chairman
Scott Livingston, Vice-Chairman
Greg Chernack, Treasurer
Patricia Xeller, Secretary
Nancy Pines, Building Inspector

Important Section Dates

- ◆ Saturday, December 2
Bulk Trash Collection
- ◆ Tuesday, December 12
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at
the Village Hall
- ◆ Monday, December 18
Last Fall Leaf Collection
- ◆ Tuesday, January 9
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at
the Village Hall
- ◆ Tuesday, February 13
Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at
the Village Hall

A Message from the Town Council

As noted in the September newsletter, the Council has been working for over a year on revisions to parts of the current Section 5 building regulations.

At the September meeting, the Town Manager and the Section Building Administrator, Joe Toomey, presented an initial overview of the proposed changes. Following the meeting, the proposed changes were sent by mail to all Section residents for review.

At the October meeting, Chairman Chris Richardson again led a discussion regarding the proposed changes and entertained questions from residents. The Council then formally introduced the ordinance for proposal, subject to a few minor (non-substantive) edits suggested.

At the November 14 Council meeting, the Council voted in favor of adopting the ordinance. The new regulations will go into effect December 4, 2017. A copy of the new ordinance in full was sent via email to residents. Additionally, the new ordinance is available to download on the home page of the Section 5 website.

The Council asks all residents to take a minute to review the new regulations.

Brookville Road Reclassification Update

The Montgomery County Planning Board is scheduled to meet December 21. The proposed reclassification of Brookville Road will be one of the many items discussed. The Town Manager will notify residents by email with the specific time and location for the meeting once they are made available. The Chevy Chase municipalities have been told by the Planning Department staff that when the staff presents the working draft recommendations to the full Planning Board at this meeting, they will withdraw their support for the original recommendation to reclassify Brookville Road.

The Section sent a letter to the Montgomery County Planning Board in September opposing the proposed reclassification. A copy of the letter was also shared by email with Section residents. We are cautiously optimistic regarding the outcome, but we will continue to monitor the situation and keep residents informed.

PLEASE READ - IMPORTANT - Washington Gas Project Update

The Section recently met with representatives from Washington Gas regarding the upcoming project scheduled for Section 5. Due to permitting issues with the state, the project timeline has shifted slightly. Things to know:

- ◆ The affected Section streets are: Dalkeith Street, Thornapple Place, Thornapple Street, and Underwood Street.
- ◆ It is a four-month project.
- ◆ Work on Connecticut Avenue (between Thornapple and Underwood) is required as part of the project. To avoid lane closures during the week, this work will be done on several consecutive Saturdays. This work will begin December 2. It will require two lanes to be closed. While the work will be concentrated between Thornapple and Underwood, areas before and after will be affected. Rain on Saturdays will delay their work.
- ◆ Work on Section 5 streets starts December 4. Work will begin at the top portion of Underwood (near Connecticut and move toward Brookville). Once they finish Underwood, they will start on Thornapple Street (again starting near Connecticut and moving toward Brookville).
- ◆ Washington Gas and its contractors are responsible for putting up No Parking Signs in the work zone areas. It is imperative that residents actively look for posted signs and comply. They will strive to give residents 48 hours notice. Cars that are left in work areas will be “relocated” by tow truck to another part of the street. The Section has zero say in this. If you plan to be gone overnight, please park in your driveway, or in an area you are certain is outside the work zone. If you will be away for any length of time and live on the streets scheduled for work, please contact the Town Manager.
- ◆ Washington Gas will contact you directly if/when they need access to your home’s gas line, or to do work on your private property. If there are areas on your property of special concern, such as things like irrigation systems, specific landscaping, etc., please make the Washington Gas representative aware during your initial contact. They will do their best to carefully work around these areas.
- ◆ A staging area for construction equipment and pipes is required for the duration of the project. Given the tight configuration of our streets, the best/only location suitable is the southwest corner of Thornapple Place. During the work week, construction vehicles may be parked on any of the work zone streets. Over the weekends, construction vehicles will be parked on Thornapple Place.



Building Permits

3611 Thornapple Street - Demolition of an accessory structure / Permit issued

Leaf Collection Reminder

The final leaf collection is scheduled for Monday, December 18.

As a reminder, leaves should be not be placed in the street, but raked just to the edge near the curb. Piling leaves into the street causes storm drains to clog, and is against Montgomery County regulations. If you have a lawn service that handles your leaves, please make sure they are aware and in compliance.

Section 5 Paper Directory

We are currently updating the Section 5 paper telephone directory. Please take a minute to review the 2017 directory, and email the Town Manager with any changes or additions. If you are new to Section 5, this is especially important. We will print and distribute new directories in late January.

New Recycling Bins

Has your recycling bin seen a better day? Replacements are available in both green (plastic/glass) and blue (paper). The Section provides small bins only. Email the Town Manager.

Special Notice Regarding Dogs

The Section continues to receive complaints about dog waste being left on the public side walk and rights-of-way. Please make certain you are not unknowingly contributing to this problem. If you have a dog walker, or your children walk your dog, be certain to have a conversation with them reminding them of the importance of picking up after dogs.

Additionally, dog owners should be sensitive to Montgomery County's quiet hours: 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. on weekends.

Dogs should also not be allowed to roam off-leash for any reason. Unless your dog is in a designated dog exercise area/dog park, Montgomery County considers a dog at large if it is outside the owner's premise and not leashed. Failure to follow these rules can lead to a \$100 - \$500 fine.

TRASH COLLECTION HOLIDAYS

The next Bulk Trash collection will be Saturday, December 2.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on Monday this year. Because of this, there will be no recycling collection those days. Recycling will instead be collected on Tuesday in addition to the trash. Recycling still needs to be left curbside. There will be a separate yard debris collection scheduled for these weeks. See page 4 for more details.

Tree Permit Removals

- ◆ 1 Alden Lane - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3612 Thornapple Street - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3718 Thornapple Street - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3601 Underwood Street - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3804 Underwood Street - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3715 Williams Lane - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3810 Williams Lane - Private Tree Removal
- ◆ 3701 Woodbine Street - Private Tree Removal

Successful Free Tree Program

Section 5 had a great response for its Annual Free Tree Program this fall. Seven new Town trees were planted in the right-of-way, and 27 trees were planted in resident's private gardens.

Currently, the trees are dormant and do not require further care until the spring. At the appropriate time, the Section will distribute gator bags to assist in watering. The bags help to slowly and evenly deliver a high volume of water directly to the root system of a newly planted tree or shrub with no run-off or evaporation.

A big thanks to our arborist, Dr. Tolbert Feather, for assisting residents with questions and overseeing the plantings.

Section 5 Website

Can't remember trash holidays? Looking for the next bulk trash date? When leaf collection ends? Building or tree removal applications?

Check the Section 5 website
www.chevychase5.org

We are working hard to keep it current and include relevant resident information, including archived newsletters, minutes, and other special reports and notifications.

Special Collection Dates for Christmas Tree and Greens Recycling



As in past years, holiday greens and trees will be picked up by our refuse collection company. Please note the special collection dates this year.

- Thursday, December 28
- Thursday, January 4
- Monday, January 8 (normal yard debris collection)
- Thursday, January 18

Greens must be placed in paper lawn and leaf bags. Trees need to be curbside and visible.

As a general reminder, loose tree limbs left at the curb will not be picked up. Please help the crews by correctly bundling them or placing them in lawn and leaf bags.

Holiday Tips for Refuse Collection Crew

Traditionally, residents of Section 5 have expressed their appreciation to the employees of our refuse collection company, Montgomery Sanitation and Recycling, with contributions for the holiday season.

This year, in lieu of collecting individual checks, the Section will instead make the full contribution on behalf of all residents. The main source of Section 5 revenue is derived from a percentage of our resident's income tax; therefore, the contribution truly does come from all residents. We understand there may be some that would like to give a gift directly to the crew, and of course, one should feel free to do so. We are thankful for the hard work of the crew all year.

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Snow!

Section 5 is ready for winter. Rolling Acres will once again be responsible for our streets with salt and sanding during winter conditions. Michael Cousins and his crew at Colonial Landscaping will also help with public sidewalk shoveling when necessary.

Residents are responsible for the regular treating (salt and sanding) of sidewalks near your home. As a reminder, Section 5's crew will shovel the public sidewalks (those that run in front of your home) if snowfall reaches more than two inches. In the case of freezing rain mixed with snow, the decision may be made NOT to shovel since snow mixed with ice provides much more traction, than straight ice.

Shoveling will start once snowfall ceases. If snowfall stops early to late evening, crews will be out first thing the next morning. In the case of heavy snow, this may take time.

Montgomery County requires that property owners clear their driveways and entrances to their homes within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm. Residents are also encouraged to help neighbors who may not physically be able to do so.

If the snowfall is deep, please clear a safe path to your household trash or leave household trash curbside on trash collection days.

Calling All Snow Shovelers!

Able-bodied snow shovelers are always in high demand. If you are a Section teen who would like to be added to a list of Community Helpers for this Winter, please email the Town Manager. Babysitters, lawn help, and pet care are also welcome. The Section will maintain a master list and share upon request.

Snow Emergency Parking

During a snow event, the BEST place to park your car is in your driveway. If you must leave your vehicle on the street, please park on the EVEN house-numbered side of the streets. Signs will be posted accordingly. With our narrow streets, these two small steps go a long way in helping the snow and sanding plows do their job!

General Street Parking Reminders

Take care to observe the following Montgomery County parking laws.

- ◆ Park at least 35 feet from an intersection.
- ◆ Park at least 30 feet from a stop sign.
- ◆ Park at least 15 feet from a fire hydrant.
- ◆ Park at least 5 feet from a private driveway.
- ◆ Park facing the way traffic flows. This is an important point.

Sights and Scenes in Section 5



Chevy Chase “Kit” Houses

In the June newsletter, we noted that the Chevy Chase Historical Society was surveying Chevy Chase, Maryland, for “kit” houses. Kit houses are the well-built and enduring pre-cut houses that were offered by companies like Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, and Aladdin Houses in the first half of the 20th century. The kit houses were shipped to Chevy Chase by rail between 1908-1941.

With the help of nationally recognized kit house scholar, Kathryn Holt Springston, 11 area homes were identified as kit houses, including two in Section 5. Both Section 5 homes are on Underwood Street, 3613 Underwood is a Sears #144, and 3807 Underwood is a Sears Rembrandt. See the full list of homes on the CCHS’s website www.chevychasehistory.org



Sears #144 - 3613 Underwood

Chevy Chase Fire Board

Thanks to Elizabeth Barrows of Connecticut Avenue, and Marjorie Radovsky of Underwood Street, for volunteering to serve on the Board of Directors of the Chevy Chase Fire Department. They join current board member, John Higgins, which now fills the three seats designated for our municipality. We appreciate their willingness to serve.

Be sure to check out the following websites for area events:

Chevy Chase at Home
<http://www.chevychaseathome.org>

Chevy Chase Library
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/chevychase.html>