



FOREST HEIGHTS MARYLAND NEWS



Let's keep kids safe on their walk to school

Introducing **#LetsDriveSafer**
Forest Heights' new initiative to protect students on our roadways

Read more at bottom of page 11



Town Hall
5508 Arapahoe Drive
Forest Heights, MD 20745
Monday - Friday
(301)839-1030
www.forestheightsmd.gov

Stay Connected With Us
f Instagram X
@forestheightsmd

WORKSHOP MEETINGS
EVERY 1ST MONDAY
AT 7:30 PM
ZOOM MEETING ID:
238 640 938
PASSCODE:
068108

TOWN MEETINGS
EVERY 3RD WEDNESDAY
AT 8:00 PM
ZOOM MEETING ID:
238 640 938
PASSCODE:
068108

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02 WELCOME!

Town of Forest Heights

Mayor and Council

Troy Barrington Lilly

Mayor

tlilly@forestheightsmd.gov

Paula Noble, Council President

Ward III

pnoble@forestheightsmd.gov

Jamila McDonald

Councilmember Ward I

jamcdonald@forestheightsmd.gov

Shaneese Little

Councilmember Ward I

slittle@forestheightsmd.gov

Jonathan Kennedy, II

Councilmember Ward II

jkennedy@forestheightsmd.gov

Theresa Brownson

Councilmember Ward II

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Taunya Hines

Councilmember Ward III

thines@forestheightsmd.gov

Municipal Staff

Victoria Holland

Administrative Assistant

vholland@forestheightsmd.gov

Clate D. Jackson, MPA, JM

Chief Administrative Officer

cjackson@forestheightsmd.gov

LaToya Chisolm

Town Clerk

lchisolm@forestheightsmd.gov

MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR

Fellow Forest Heighters,

As we begin a new year, I want to wish you and your family a happy, healthy, and hopeful 2026. The months ahead will be an important time for Forest Heights—one marked by planning, progress, and opportunities for residents to be directly involved in shaping our Town's future.

Get Involved: Committee Volunteers Needed

Community involvement remains at the heart of who we are. As we look ahead, the Town is seeking volunteers to serve on several key committees, including the **Beautification and Appearance Committee**, Emergency Planning Committee, and **Forest Heights Events Committee**. These committees help strengthen neighborhood pride, improve preparedness, and bring our community together through meaningful events. If you are interested in serving, please contact the Town Clerk at TownClerk@forestheightsmd.gov or **301-839-1030**.

Keeping Our Streets Safe

Public safety continues to be a priority. In the coming weeks, **stop sign camera poles will be installed at 11 intersections across the Town**. An **initial 30-day warning** period will take place before citations begin. This program is intended to improve driver behavior and enhance safety for pedestrians, residents, and visitors alike. To learn more and view examples of violations at Forest Heights intersections, visit LetsDriveSafer.com/Forest-Heights.

Planning for the Future

In the **first quarter of 2026**, the Town will launch **Strategic Planning activities**. The Strategic Planning Commission will review proposals and recommend a consultant to the Mayor and Council. That consultant will lead a community engagement process designed to gather resident input and help shape a shared vision for Forest Heights' future. Please be on the lookout for information on how you can participate—your ideas will play a critical role in guiding our path forward.

Development Updates: National View

Finally, residents are invited to attend the **National View Community Meeting on Wednesday, February 18 at 6:00 PM**, prior to our regular Town Meeting. This will be an opportunity to hear updates and ask questions about the new mixed-use development planned for Forest Heights.

As we step into 2026, I remain optimistic about what we can accomplish together. Thank you for your continued commitment to moving Forest Heights *Forward* in 2026.



RECYCLING

Recycling is handled by the Prince George's County Government. For all recycling needs or questions, please contact 301-883-4748 or 311.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

NO TRASH PICK UP ON THESE DAYS

New Year's Day MLK Day
July 4th Labor Day
Memorial Day Juneteenth
Thanksgiving Day Christmas Day

BULK TRASH PICKUP

The following will not be picked up:

- Construction Material like drywall or paint cans (empty or full)
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Fluorescent Light Bulbs

The above items may be disposed of at the nearest County Waste Facility located at:

Brown Station Road Landfill
11611 White House Road
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

The Town may schedule and pick up extra bulk trash separate from what the county offers for the following for a fee:

(\$45.00 per item) - Metal-Based items:

- Refrigerators
- Washers/Dryers
- Dishwashers
- Metal-based furniture

(\$40.00):

- Propane tanks (empty)

For bulk trash pickup, contact Town Hall to schedule a pickup date at 301-839-1030.

Mattress covers are required for any mattresses being disposed of.

Purchase one today at Town Hall - 2 for \$15

No Cash Accepted - Only debit/credit, checks, money orders, Apple Pay or Google Tap



TRASH PICK UP SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

- Recycling
- Yard Waste

EAST SIDE (MUNICIPAL CENTER SIDE ONLY)

- Trash
- Bulk Pick (Provided by the County - Limit to 4 items per household)

THURSDAYS

WEST SIDE (HENRY'S CAFE SIDE ONLY)

- Trash
- Bulk Pick (Provided by the County - Limit to 4 items per household)

***No metal items permitted for county bulk pickup**

YARD WASTE TIPS

Yard Waste **must** be in yard waste paper bags or in a trash bin marked "Yard Waste" or it **will not** be picked up. Goode will **not** pick up dirt or rocks!



Small tree limbs must be tied together in small bundles - not to exceed 4 feet in length. **Branches will not be picked up if they are they are untethered.**





DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

SUBMIT A TICKET

Anyone can report an issue for public works and follow the progress of the work order by scanning the QR code to the left, or you can give us a call anytime **Monday- Friday 9 AM - 5 PM at 301-839-1030**



CODE ENFORCEMENT

APPLY FOR PERMIT OR RENTAL LICENSE

Anyone can look up existing property licensing, building permits and code violation cases. Or give us a call anytime **Monday- Friday 9 am - 5 pm at 301-839-1030**. You can reach out to the Code Enforcement Officer at 301-839-4040.

FOREST HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT HOUSESAFE PROGRAM

Don't leave your home vulnerable while you're away! Let the Forest Heights Police Department keep an eye on your property with our **HouseSafe** Patrol.

Our officers will complete four checks a day, twice during the day shift and twice during the evening shift, to ensure your home is safe and secure. Enjoy your vacation with peace of mind, knowing your home is being looked after by the **#FHPD**.

To sign up, visit: www.FrontLinePSS.com/ForestHeightsTK or contact **FHPD, Monday - Friday 9 am - 5 pm at 301-839-4040** and complete the form with your information and the dates you'll be away

INTRODUCING THE
HouseSafe
PROGRAM

Don't leave your home vulnerable while you're away! Let the Forest Heights Police Department keep an eye on your property with our HouseSafe Patrol.

Our officers will complete four checks a day, twice during the day shift and twice during the evening shift, to ensure your home is safe and secure.

ENJOY YOUR VACATION WITH PEACE OF MIND KNOWING YOUR HOME IS BEING LOOKED AFTER BY THE FHPD.

CONTACT US AT 301-839-4040 WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS. YOUR SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY!

To sign up, visit www.FrontLinePSS.com/ForestHeightsTK and complete the form with your information and the dates you'll be away.

DANIEL E. RUFFIN,
CHIEF OF POLICE

@ForestHeightsPD
www.ForestHeightsMD.gov

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS



As we enter the winter months, please remember that it is each resident's responsibility to keep their walkways clear within 24 hours after any snowfall. Failure to do so will result in a Property Maintenance violation with a fine of \$300.00. We appreciate your cooperation in helping maintain a safe and clean neighborhood. Additionally, motor vehicles parked on public roadways must display current and valid registration plates matching the vehicle. Vehicles should not be parked longer than 72 hours on any town public roadway. Please be advised that the police department will issue parking violations for non-compliance.

Re-introducing Senior Programs

Take part in conversations with us to discuss senior activities in the town.

January
17th 2026

10:00AM-11:00AM

Town of Forest Heights | Municipal Hall



Discovery Awaits

M-NPPC Senior Connections Will Be In Attendance
Light Refreshments Will Be Served



The Areas Of Discussion Included:

- Game Day with Bingo, cards, etc.
- Fraud, Abuse Prevention and AI
- Trips / Excursions
- Chat and Chews before or after the workout sessions on Tuesday and Thursday
- Educational Health and Wellness Workshops



06 COMMUNITY ROOM EVENTS & RENTAL

Town of Forest Heights

Cards & the Community | Crochet & Chill



Every 3rd Friday of the month, residents gather for our popular Cards and the Community and Crochet and Chill events—two activities that bring neighbors together for fun, creativity, and connection.

At Cards and the Community, residents of all ages come out to enjoy friendly card games, laughter, and good conversation. It's a relaxed environment where newcomers are always welcome and long-time neighbors get a chance to reconnect.

Running at the same time, Crochet and Chill offers a warm, creative space where families—especially kids—learn simple crochet techniques and work on small projects. Participants create nifty pieces of clothing and accessories they can proudly wear around the house. Experienced crocheters often lend a hand, making it a supportive and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Both events foster the spirit of togetherness that makes Forest Heights special. We encourage all residents to come out, unwind, and enjoy an evening of fellowship and creativity.

Planning an event? Host it here!

Forest Heights Community Room Rentals

Looking for a place to host your next event, the Forest Heights Municipal Community Room is available to rent to the public... To book, stop by Town Hall or contact 301-839-1030.

RESERVE YOUR DATE TODAY AND CELEBRATE CLOSE TO HOME!





The Town of Forest Heights POLICE DEPARTMENT

Daniel E. Ruffin, Chief of Police

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT NOVEMBER 2025

Incident Type	Total	Incident Type	Total
911 DISCONNECT	15	GUNSHOTS	1
ACCIDENT	5	HIGHWAY ACCIDENT COMBINED	1
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	3	HIT AND RUN	2
ARMED PERSON	1	HIT AND RUN W/INJURY	1
ASSAULT	1	MISC POLICE INCIDENT	10
ASSIST	1	PREMISE CHECK	283
ASSIST FIRE EMS	1	PROPERTY ALARM COMMERCIAL	1
ATT SUICIDE COMBINED	1	PROPERTY DAMAGE	2
BLS COMBINED	1	REPORTED T/A ROBBERY	1
CHECK WELFARE	2	RESIDENTIAL ALARM	5
CHECK WELFARE COMBINED	1	SUBJECT STOP	2
CHECK WELFARE MENTAL	1	SUSPICIOUS AUTO	8
CPR COMBINED	1	SUSPICIOUS OCC AUTO	5
DEATH REPORT	1	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	2
DISORDERLY	12	THEFT J O	4
DISPUTE W/ WEAPONS	1	THEFT REPORT	2
DOMESTIC	5	THREATS COMPLAINT	1
FAMILY DISPUTE	7	TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	1
FIGHT	1	TRESPASSING COMPL	2
FOUND	1	UNKNOWN TROUBLE	9
		VEHICLE ACCIDENT COMBINED	2
		Total Calls -->	407

NOTABLES

T/A Robbery -5521 Indian Head Highway (7 Eleven) 11/23/25
 Fatal Accident - 11/22/25-6900 Block of Oxon Hill Rd.
 Last Fatal Accident - 10/26/25-6300 Block of Oxon Hill Rd
 Chief Ruffin attended Career Day (Beacon Heights Elementary) 11/21/25
 Deputy Chief Forster assisted Flintstone Elementary w/ a Food Giveaway (11/19/25)

STATISTICAL DATA

USMS Fugitive Task Force Stats:
 2 Search Warrants
 3 firearms recovered
 21 Arrest Warrants Served
 43.96 grams of Cocaine
 1 Vile of PCP
 Recovered \$684.00 US Currency

STATISTICAL DATA

Speed citations – 7, 296
 Redlight – 2,691
 Traffic Stops – 33
 Traffic Violations – 88
 Stolen /Recovered Vehicles – 2
 Recovered Firearms – 0
 Warrant Arrests – 2
 On-View Arrest – 5

Administrative Office: 301-839-4040 | Non-Emergency: (301) 352-1200 | Emergency Dial: 911

5410 Indian Head Highway, #100, Forest Heights, Maryland 20745 | Follow us [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) @ForestHeightsPD



SMART GARDENING | A Sustainable Maryland

Many different beneficial insect species overwinter (spend the winter months in one of their life stages) in Maryland. Many of these insects require plant debris like leaves, pithy woody stems, and flower stalks as winter habitat. Discover and check off actions you want to take this fall to support pollinators, beneficial insects, and other native wildlife.

Fall Actions for Conserving Beneficial Insects

By Madeline Potter, Faculty Specialist for Entomology & IPM

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
HOME & GARDEN INFORMATION CENTER

Many different beneficial insect species overwinter (spend the winter months in one of their life stages) in Maryland. Many of these insects require plant debris like leaves, pithy woody stems, and flower stalks as winter habitat. Discover and check off actions you want to take this fall to support pollinators, beneficial insects, and other native wildlife.

Add a new native plant

Leave the leaves

Wait to prune woody plants until late spring

Leave flower stalks & seed heads

Create a brush pile

Add an educational sign

To learn more:

HGIC Recorded Webinars

<https://tinyurl.com/y0Bktjyu>

Maryland Grows Blog

<https://tinyurl.com/u33bfnfk>

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Smart Gardening

Mulch leaves into turf for a smart lawn

Rebecca Finerman, Michigan State University Extension

Turfgrass specialists from Michigan State University know that the best dressed lawns begin in fall. After a long, hot summer, you may be thinking to yourself, "Why would I want to be thinking about my lawn when I just want to go inside and forget about it?"

Over 20 years of turf research has proven that fall is the optimum time to "invest" in the green you will enjoy next spring. If fertilization is on your dance card, then you are on the right track, but don't forget about a resource that may be staring you right in the face – tree leaves.

For years, turf managers and homeowners have been raking and bagging leaves because we all know that when leaves pile up with wet, heavy snow, it can mean disaster for the turf plant below. The ban on yard waste during the 90s prompted MSU turfgrass specialists to begin investigating how leaves would react to having ground up leaves left on the lawn and the results may surprise you!

Leaf it – and reap!
On those slightly dewy mornings during October, elevate your mower deck to the highest setting and set out on your merry way crossing over the leaves once or twice. Usually this can occur once a week, but if there is a heavy wind, you may find yourself moving twice in one week. There will be an obvious leaf residue on the surface of the lawn that only lasts for a few days. The tiny pieces will eventually sift down through the turf and provide future weed control and essential nutrients that can save you money and time. Come spring, you won't even notice the tiny leaf particles.

Up to 6 inches of leaves can be "mulched" at a time, depending on the type of mower you have. Push mowers will handle smaller amounts, but are still very effective. During the research, several years passed and turf scientists started noticing several benefits in doing less frequent mowing to achieve that spring green up. The second benefit was – what, no weeds?

The decomposing pieces of leaves cover up bare spots between turf plants that are an excellent opening for weed seeds to germinate. Experience has shown that nearly a 100 percent decrease in dandelions and crabgrass can be attained after a doping this practice of mulching leaves for just three years.

Another smart tip
If you have a bagging mower, you can also alternate between mulching into the turf one week and collecting

MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension and its related entities are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class. MSU Extension is an equal opportunity institution.

Mulch your leaves instead | A Sustainable Maryland

Mulching leaves with your lawn mower in the fall—by mowing over them once or twice each week—breaks them into tiny pieces that naturally decompose into the turf. This process improves lawn health by adding nutrients, reducing the need for fertilizer, and nearly eliminating weeds like dandelions and crabgrass over several years. Even thick layers of leaves can be mulched, and the leftover leaf residue disappears within days, leaving no trace by spring.



09 HOLIDAY FOOD RESOURCES

Town of Forest Heights

Are You Suffering from “Food Insecurity” – or Know Someone Who Is?

Food insecurity continues to affect many Marylanders, with nearly 684,000 residents – including more than 270,000 children – relying on SNAP benefits to help put food on the table. During Fiscal Year 2026, Maryland is projected to issue over \$1.6 billion in SNAP benefits, providing eligible households with an average of \$180 per month for groceries. Yet, as grocery costs rise, many families still struggle to afford nutritious meals and make their resources last through the month.

That’s where the SHARE (Self Help and Resource Exchange) Program comes in. SHARE offers monthly food packages at a fraction of typical grocery costs—without compromising nutrition or quality. Each package includes wholesome, family-friendly foods that can be used to prepare balanced meals throughout the month.

How SHARE Helps

- **Affordable options:** Nutritious food at low cost helps families stretch their budgets further.
- **Year-round support:** Packages are available monthly, providing consistent access to healthy food options.
- **Community connection:** SHARE partners with local organizations, churches, and volunteers to strengthen neighborhood support networks.

Working Together With SNAP

SHARE complements—not replaces—SNAP benefits by bridging the gap between assistance and affordability. Together, these programs help Maryland families put nutritious, reliable meals on the table while supporting over 3,800 local food retailers, including farmers and small grocers.

During the winter months, when expenses rise and incomes may dip, the SHARE Program can be a vital lifeline. By combining affordability, dignity, and community-driven support, SHARE helps Marylanders thrive—not just survive—through challenging times.

For more information, contact the SHARE Program Coordinator at **Saint Mark AME Church** at (301) 567-4129 or visit your local SHARE partner site.



COMMUNITY COMMITTEES 10

www.forestheightsmd.gov

Building a better Forest Heights with you

Forest Heights is taking bold steps to create real, meaningful change in our Town, and we want YOU to be part of the process from start to finish. We're seeking committee residents who care about making Forest Heights a better place to live, work, and thrive. Joining a committee means meeting quarterly, collaborating with neighbors, and helping turn ideas into action. This is your chance to play an active role in shaping the future of our community – not just talking about change but actually seeing it happen in real time. Take a moment to review the list of committees below and see which one speaks to you and the changes you'd like to see. When you're ready to commit, submit your selection to the Town, then keep an eye on your inbox for future emails about your committee's first meeting dates and next steps.

Together, we can build a strong, brighter Forest Heights!

COMMITTEE	COMMITTEE PURPOSE	DESCRIPTION GOAL
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	Recommends newsletter items based on residents' needs and interests	Provide accurate, timely, readable, and accessible resident updates on weather, seasonal reminders, and Town news
PLUS 60 COMMITTEE	Plans events and activities that address the needs of seniors in the Town and seeks grant opportunities and services that promote improved quality of life and social connectedness	Develop recommendations for activities and events for that will support seniors. Increase awareness of initiatives.
BEAUTIFICATION AND APPEARANCE COMMITTEE	Committee advises on programs/projects to improve Town appearance, seeks grants, coordinates volunteer beautification, including America In Bloom	Enhance appearance, including commercial properties, through structured improvements and resident input
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE	Identifies emergency vulnerabilities, recommends mitigation, contributes to the emergency response plan with the police department	Establish and disseminate a plan familiar to leadership, staff, and residents during an emergency
FOREST HEIGHTS DAY COMMITTEE	Committee plans and coordinates the annual community festival and assist with events throughout the year	Celebrate Town pride and heritage; promote events regionally; ensure continuous community engagement

**Contact Town Hall and ask for the Town Clerk to sign up for a committee!
301-839-1030**

11 NEW LAWS FOR 2026



Fact Sheet: Eric's ID Law



House Sponsors: Del. Jheanelle Wilkins & Del. Kym Taylor
Senate Sponsor: Sen. William C. Smith, Jr.

Bill Overview: Effective October 2025

Eric's ID Law creates a voluntary designation (butterfly logo) on a Maryland license, identification card, or moped operator's permit for those with non-apparent disabilities such as intellectual and developmental disabilities. This new law enhance the safety of people with disabilities and provide an additional resource for law enforcement and first responders, helping them recognize and respond appropriately to individuals with non-apparent disabilities during interactions.

Maryland Vehicle Administration (MVA)

- Specifies that the MVA shall create the designation, and it should be prominently on the front of the ID. The MVA will also be required to solicit input and feedback from the disability community about the designation design. The bill ensures that this designation would be available at no cost to an MVA applicant.
- Specifies that the voluntary designation and notation may not be part of a records request by insurance companies or the Maryland Insurance Administration.
- Specifies that having the voluntary designation will not be grounds for referral to the Medical Advisory Board.

- Requires the MVA to contact anyone who adds the designation as minor to confirm that they would like to continue the designation once they turn 18.
- Requires the MVA to create an awareness campaign to ensure people know about the designation and its availability.

Police Training:



- Requires expedited training for law enforcement to ensure all officers are made aware of the new designation and are provided with instruction about how to interact with an individual with a non-apparent disability.

Non-Apparent Disabilities:



- Eric's ID Law is narrowed to apply specifically *be* for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



The Problem on our Roadways



Town's recent traffic study showed **3800+ stop sign violations a day** – many during school hours.



Prince George's County leads the state with **91 traffic fatalities** last year alone.



We're also facing a **massive crossing guard shortage** – we need a new solution to keep our children safe.

A New Approach: #LetsDriveSafer

What:

Education + 11 stop sign cameras enforcing egregious driving behavior; \$40 citations

When:

Warning period begins TBD
Citations begin TBD

Proceeds:

All proceeds will cover program costs & go towards public safety improvements

Benefits:

70% reduction in unsafe driving; safer routes to school





THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION NOTICE 2026

On Wednesday, March 11, 2026 (the second Wednesday in March), Forest Heights residents vote for Councilmembers representing Ward I, Ward II, and Ward III.

Voting:

Voting will be held (in person) at Town Hall, located at 5508 Arapahoe Dr, Forest Heights, MD 20745. Only residents properly registered with the County Board of Elections will be qualified to vote in Town elections.

The Polling Location will be open on Election Day, **March 11, 2026, from 9:00AM to 8:00PM**

*****There are no options for mail-in or drop-off ballots during this (post-pandemic) election cycle. All voting (except by absentee ballot) must occur in person at the designated polling location*****

Request for Absentee Ballots:

To request an absentee ballot please email TownClerk@ForestHeightsmd.gov or contact the Town Clerk in person at Town Hall between the hours of 9:00AM – 5:00PM Monday – Friday. Please note that the Town Hall (Municipal Building) recognizes all Town and Federal Holidays and will be closed.

The absentee ballot application must be received on or before **March 4, 2026** (at least 7 days before the general election). Completed absentee ballots must be returned no later than the close of polls (8 PM) on Election Day.

Once the absentee ballot request is complete, please mail to:

Chairman of the Board of Registrations and Elections
The Town of Forest Heights
5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, Maryland, 20745

Request for Reasonable Accommodations:

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Forest Heights voters who require reasonable accommodations to participate in local elections can request assistance by contacting the Town Clerk's office well in advance of the election date. Accommodation may include accessible voting machines, assistance with completing a ballot, release of absentee ballot to agent or guardian, or other modifications to ensure equitable access to the voting process. Voters are encouraged to specify their needs early to allow sufficient time for arrangements to be made, ensuring a seamless and inclusive voting experience for all residents.

13 JANUARY CALENDAR 2026

Town of Forest Heights

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1 Town Hall Closed for New Year  2026	2	3	4
5	6 Senior Exercise Class 12 noon - 1 pm	7	8 Senior Exercise Class 12 noon - 1 pm	9	10	11
12	13 Senior Exercise Class 12 noon - 1 pm	14	15 Senior Exercise Class 12 noon - 1 pm	16 Crochet & Cards in the Community @ Town Hall 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	17	18
19 Town Hall Closed for Dr. MLK Jr. Day	20 Senior Exercise Class 12 noon - 1 pm	21 Town Council Meeting @ 8:00 PM	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Happy
New Year





Noticias de Forest MARYLAND Heights



FOREST HEIGHTS
MARYLAND



LetsDriveSafer

Mantengamos a los niños seguros en su camino a la escuela.

Presentamos **#LetsDriveSafer**

La nueva iniciativa de Forest Heights para
proteger a los estudiantes en nuestras vías.



Ayuntamiento

5508 Arapahoe Drive
Forest Heights, MD 20745

Lunes - Viernes
(301)839-1030

www.forestheightsmd.gov

Mantente Conectado Con Nosotros



@forestheightsmd

REUNIONES DEL TALLER

CADA PRIMER LUNES
A LAS 7:30 PM

ID DE REUNIÓN DE ZOOM:

238 640 938

CONTRASEÑA:

068108

REUNIONES DEL PUEBLO

CADA 3ER MIÉRCOLES
A LAS 8:00 PM

ID DE REUNIÓN EN ZOOM:

238 640 938

CÓDIGO DE ACCESO:

068108

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15 BIENVENIDA!

Town of Forest Heights

Alcalde y Concejales

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Theresa Brownson

Miembro del consejo del Distrito II

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Taunya Hines

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Clate D. Jackson, MPA, JM

Director Administrativo

cjackson@forestheightsmd.gov

LaToya Chisolm

Oficial del Ayuntamiento

lchisolm@forestheightsmd.gov

MENSAJE DE NUESTRO ALCALDE

Compañeros de Forest Heighters,

Al comenzar un nuevo año, quiero desearles a ustedes y a sus familias un 2026 feliz, saludable y lleno de esperanza. Los próximos meses serán un momento importante para Forest Heights, uno marcado por la planificación, el progreso y las oportunidades para que los residentes participen directamente en la configuración del futuro de nuestra ciudad.

Involúcrate: Se Necesitan Voluntarios para los Comités

La participación comunitaria sigue siendo el corazón de quienes somos. Mirando hacia el futuro, el Ayuntamiento está buscando voluntarios para servir en varios comités clave, incluidos **el Comité de Embellecimiento y Apariencia, el Comité de Planificación de Emergencias y el Comité de Eventos de Forest Heights**. Estos comités ayudan a fortalecer el orgullo vecinal, mejorar la preparación y unir a nuestra comunidad a través de eventos significativos. Si estás interesado en participar, por favor contacta al secretario del Ayuntamiento en TownClerk@forestheightsmd.gov o al **301-839-1030**.

Manteniendo Seguras Nuestras Calles La seguridad

Pública sigue siendo una prioridad. En las próximas semanas, **se instalarán postes con cámaras en señales de alto en 11 intersecciones de la ciudad**. Se llevará a cabo un **período inicial de advertencia de 30 días** antes de que comiencen las multas. Este programa tiene como objetivo mejorar el comportamiento de los conductores y aumentar la seguridad de peatones, residentes y visitantes por igual. Para obtener más información y ver ejemplos de infracciones en las intersecciones de Forest Heights, visite LetsDriveSafer.com/Forest-Heights.

Planificación para el Futuro

En el **primer trimestre de 2026**, el Municipio lanzará **actividades de Planificación Estratégica**. La Comisión de Planificación Estratégica revisará las propuestas y recomendará un consultor al Alcalde y al Concejo. Ese consultor liderará un proceso de participación comunitaria diseñado para recopilar opiniones de los residentes y ayudar a formar una visión compartida para el futuro de Forest Heights. Esté atento a la información sobre cómo puede participar: sus ideas serán clave para guiar nuestro camino hacia adelante.

Actualizaciones de Desarrollo: National View

Finalmente, se invita a los residentes a asistir a la **Reunión Comunitaria de National View el Miércoles 18 de Febrero a las 6:00 PM**, antes de nuestra reunión municipal regular. Esta será una oportunidad para conocer las actualizaciones y hacer preguntas sobre el nuevo desarrollo de uso mixto planeado para Forest Heights.

Al entrar en 2026, sigo siendo optimista sobre lo que podemos lograr juntos. Gracias por su continuo compromiso para impulsar Forest Heights hacia *adelante* en 2026.



RECICLAJE

El reciclaje es gestionado por el Gobierno del Condado de Prince George. Para todas las necesidades o preguntas sobre reciclaje, comuníquese al 301-883-4748 o al 311.

HORARIO DE VACACIONES

NO HABRÁ RECOGIDA DE BASURA EN ESTOS DÍAS

Año Nuevo Día de MLK 4 de julio Día del Trabajo Día de los Caídos Juneteenth Día de Acción de Gracias Navidad

RECOGIDA DE BASURA VOLUMINOSA

Lo siguiente no será recogido::

- Material de construcción como paneles de yeso o latas de pintura (vacías o llenas)
- Desechos peligrosos del hogar
- Bombillas fluorescentes

Los artículos anteriores pueden desecharse en la instalación de residuos del condado más cercana ubicada en:

Brown Station Road Landfill
11611 White House Road
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

El Ayuntamiento programará y recogerá la basura volumétrica extra por separado de lo que los oficiales del condado recojan, por una tarifa:

(\$45.00 per ítem) - Artículos de metal:

- Refrigeradores
- Lavadoras/Secadoras
- Lavavajillas
- Muebles de metal

(\$40.00):

- Tanques de propano (vacíos)

Para la recogida de basura volumétrica, comuníquese con el Ayuntamiento para programar una fecha de recogida al 301-839-1030..

Se requieren fundas para colchones para cualquier colchón que se vaya a desechar. Compra una hoy en el Ayuntamiento - 2 por \$15

No se acepta efectivo: solo débito/crédito, cheques, giros, Apple Pay o Google Tap



HORARIO DE RECOGIDA DE BASURA LUNES

- Reciclaje
- Desechos del jardín

LADO ESTE (SOLO LADO DEL CENTRO MUNICIPAL)

- Basura
- Recogida de objetos grandes (Proporcionado por el condado - Límite de 4 artículos por hogar)

JUEVES

WESTSIDE (SOLO LADO DE HENRY'S CAFÉ)

- Basura

Recolección de objetos voluminosos (Proporcionado por el condado - Límite de 4 artículos por hogar)

***No se permiten artículos de metal para la recolección de objetos voluminosos por el condado**

Consejos para desechos de jardín

Los desechos de jardín deben estar en bolsas de papel para desechos de jardín o en un contenedor de basura marcado como "Desechos de Jardín" o no serán recogidos. ¡Goode no recogerá tierra ni piedras!



Las ramas pequeñas de árboles deben estar atadas en pequeños paquetes, que no excedan los 4 pies de longitud. Las ramas no serán recogidas si no están atadas.





DEPARTAMENTO DE OBRAS PÚBLICAS

ENVIAR UN TICKET

Cualquier persona puede reportar un problema relacionado con obras públicas y seguir el progreso de la orden de trabajo escaneando el código QR, o puede llamarnos en cualquier momento **de lunes a viernes de 9 a. m. a 5 p. m. al 301-839-1030**



CUMPLIMIENTO DEL CÓDIGO

SOLICITAR PERMISO O LICENCIA DE ALQUILER

Cualquiera puede consultar las licencias de propiedad existentes, los permisos de construcción y los casos de violaciones de código. También puede llamarnos en cualquier momento **de lunes a viernes de 9 a.m. a 5 p.m. al 301-839-1030**, o ponerse en contacto con el Oficial de Cumplimiento del Código al 301-839-4040.

DEPARTAMENTO DE POLICÍA DE FOREST HEIGHTS

HOUSESAFE PROGRAMA

¡No dejes tu hogar vulnerable mientras estás fuera! Permite que el Departamento de Policía de Forest Heights cuide tu propiedad con nuestra Patrulla CasaSegura.

Nuestros oficiales realizarán cuatro inspecciones al día, dos durante el turno de día y dos durante el turno de noche, para asegurar que su hogar esté seguro y protegido. Disfrute de sus vacaciones con tranquilidad, sabiendo que su hogar está siendo cuidado por el **#FHPD**.

Para registrarse, visite: www.FrontLinePSS.com/ForestHeightsTK or contact **FHPD**, **De lunes a viernes de 9 a. m. a 5 p. m. al 301-839-4040** y complete el formulario con su información y las fechas en que estará ausente

PRESENTANDO EL

HouseSafe

P R O G R A M

¡No dejes tu hogar vulnerable mientras estás fuera! Deje que el Departamento de Policía de Forest Heights vigile su propiedad con nuestra Patrulla HouseSafe.

Nuestros agentes realizarán cuatro controles al día, dos veces durante el turno diurno y dos veces durante el turno nocturno, para garantizar que su hogar esté seguro y protegido.

Para inscribirse visite www.FrontLinePSS.com/ForestHeightsTK y complete el formulario con sus datos y las fechas en las que estará fuera.

DISFRUTE DE SUS VACACIONES CON LA TRANQUILIDAD DE SABER QUE EL FHPD CUIDA SU CASA.

CONTACTANOS EN 301-839-4040 CON CUALQUIER PREGUNTA O INQUIETUD. ¡TU SEGURIDAD ES NUESTRA PRIORIDAD!

DANIEL E. RUFFIN,
JEFE DE POLICÍA

www.ForestHeightsMD.gov



RECORDATORIOS DE CUMPLIMIENTO DE CÓDIGO

Con la llegada del invierno, recuerden que es responsabilidad de cada residente mantener sus aceras despejadas dentro de las 24 horas posteriores a cualquier nevada. De no hacerlo, se incurrirá en una infracción de mantenimiento de la propiedad con una multa de \$300.00. Agradecemos su cooperación para mantener un vecindario seguro y limpio. Además, los vehículos estacionados en la vía pública deben tener placas de matrícula vigentes y válidas. Los vehículos no deben estacionarse más de 72 horas en ninguna vía pública municipal. Tengan en cuenta que el departamento de policía emitirá multas de estacionamiento por incumplimiento.

ACTIVIDADES ADULTOS MAYORES 18

www.forestheightsmd.gov

Re-introducing Senior Programs

Take part in conversations with us to discuss senior activities in the town.

January
17th 2026

10:00AM-11:00AM

Town of Forest Heights | Municipal Hall



El Descubrimiento Te Espera

M-NPPC Estarán Presentes Contactos Senior
Se Servirán Refrescos Ligeros

El Area De Discusión Incluía:

- Dia de Juego con Bingo, Cartas, etc.
- Fraude, Prevención de Abusos, e A.I.
- Viajes/ Excursiones
- Chatea y Mastica antes o después de las sesiones de Martes y Jueves
- Talleres Educativos de Salud y Bienestar



Cartas y la Comunidad | Crochet y Relax

Cada tercer viernes del mes



Cada tercer viernes del mes, los residentes se reúnen para nuestros populares eventos Cartas y Comunidad y Crochet y Relájate, dos actividades que reúnen a los vecinos para divertirse, ser creativos y conectarse entre sí.

En Cartas y Comunidad, residentes de todas las edades disfrutan de amistosos juegos de cartas, risas y buena conversación. Es un ambiente relajado donde los recién llegados siempre son bienvenidos y los vecinos de toda la vida tienen la oportunidad de reconectarse.

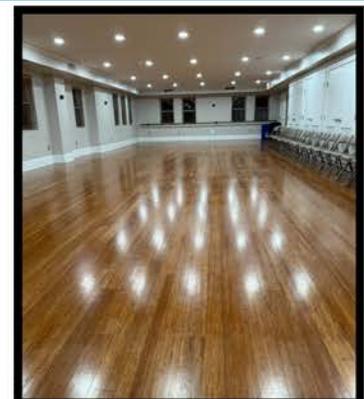
Al mismo tiempo, Crochet y Relájate ofrece un espacio cálido y creativo donde las familias, especialmente los niños, aprenden técnicas sencillas de crochet y trabajan en pequeños proyectos. Los participantes crean prendas y accesorios ingeniosos que pueden llevar con orgullo en casa. Los expertos en crochet a menudo ayudan, haciendo que la experiencia sea divertida y de apoyo para todos.

Ambos eventos fomentan el espíritu de comunidad que hace especial a Forest Heights. Animamos a todos los residentes a asistir, relajarse y disfrutar de una tarde de convivencia y creatividad.

¿Planeando un evento? ¡Organízalo aquí! Forest Heights Alquiler de Salas Comunitarias

¿Buscas un lugar para organizar tu próximo evento? La Sala Comunitaria Municipal de Forest Heights está disponible para alquilar al público... Para reservar, pasa por el Ayuntamiento o llama al 301-839-1030.

¡RESERVA TU FECHA HOY Y CELEBRA CERCA DE CASA!





JARDINERÍA INTELIGENTE | Un Maryland Sostenible

Muchas especies diferentes de insectos beneficiosos hibernan (pasan los meses de invierno en una de sus etapas de vida) en Maryland. Muchos de estos insectos necesitan restos de plantas como hojas, tallos lenosos esponjosos y tallos de flores como habitat invernal. Descubre y marca las acciones que quieres realizar este otoño para apoyar a los polinizadores, insectos beneficiosos y otra fauna nativa.

Fall Actions for Conserving Beneficial Insects

By Madeline Putter, Faculty Specialist for Entomology & IPM

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
MARYLAND EXTENSION
HOME & GARDEN INFORMATION CENTER

Many different beneficial insect species overwinter (spend the winter months in one of their life stages) in Maryland. Many of these insects require plant debris like leaves, pithy woody stems, and flower stalks as winter habitat. Discover and check off actions you want to take this fall to support pollinators, beneficial insects, and other native wildlife.

Add a new native plant 

Wait to prune woody plants until late spring 

Create a brush pile 

Leave the leaves 

Leave flower stalks & seed heads 

Add an educational sign 

To learn more:

HGIC Recorded Webinars



<https://flynar.com/y0iktjyu>

Maryland Grows Blog



<https://flynar.com/u33bfnfk>

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension



Smart Gardening

Mulch leaves into turf for a smart lawn

Rebecca Finerman, Michigan State University Extension

Turfgrass specialists from Michigan State University know that the best dressed lawns begin in fall. After a long, hot summer, you may be thinking to yourself, "Why would I want to be thinking about my lawn when I just want to go inside and forget about it?"

Over 20 years of turf research has proven that fall is the optimum time to "invest" in the green you will enjoy next spring. If fertilization is on your to-do list, then you are on the right track, but don't forget about a resource that may be staring you right in the face – tree leaves.

For years, turf managers and homeowners have been raking and bagging leaves because we all know that when leaves pile up with wet, heavy snow, it can mean disaster for the turf plant below. The ban on yard waste during the 90s prompted MSU turfgrass specialists to begin investigating how lawns would react to having ground up leaves left on the lawn and the results may surprise you!

Leaf it – and reap!

On those slightly dewy mornings during October, elevate your mower deck to the highest setting and set out on your merry way crossing over the leaves once or twice. Usually this can occur on a week, but if there is a heavy wind, you may find yourself mowing twice in one week. There will be an obvious leaf residue on the surface of the lawn that only lasts for a few days. The tiny pieces will eventually sift down through the turf and provide future weed control and essential nutrients that can save you money and time. Come spring, you won't even notice the tiny leaf particles.

Up to 6 inches of leaves can be "mulched" at a time, depending on the type of mower you have. Push mowers will handle smaller amounts, but are still very effective. During the research, several years passed and turf scientists starting noticing several benefits in reducing the need for fertilizer to achieve that spring green up. The second benefit was – what, no weeds?

The decomposing pieces of leaves cover up bare spots between turf plants that are an excellent opening for weed seeds to germinate. Experience has shown that nearly a 100 percent decrease in dandelions and crabgrass can be attained after adopting this practice of mulching leaves for just three years.

Another smart tip

If you have a bagging mower, you can also alternate between mulching into the turf one week and collecting




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Acolcha tus hojas en su lugar | Un Maryland sostenible

Triturando las hojas con tu cortacésped en otoño, pasando sobre ellas una o dos veces por semana, se descomponen en pequeñas partes que se integran naturalmente al césped. Este proceso mejora la salud del césped al añadir nutrientes, reducir la necesidad de fertilizantes y prácticamente eliminar las malezas como los dientes de león y la grama en unos años. Incluso capas gruesas de hojas pueden ser trituradas, y los restos de hojas desaparecen en pocos días, sin dejar rastro para la primavera.



Construyendo un mejor Forest Heights contigo

Forest Heights está tomando medidas audaces para crear un cambio real y significativo en nuestro pueblo, y queremos que TÚ seas parte del proceso de principio a fin. Estamos buscando residentes para los comités que se preocupen por hacer de Forest Heights un mejor lugar para vivir, trabajar y prosperar. Unirse a un comité significa reunirse trimestralmente, colaborar con los vecinos y ayudar a convertir las ideas en acción. Esta es tu oportunidad de desempeñar un papel activo en la construcción del futuro de nuestra comunidad, no solo hablando de cambio, sino viéndolo ocurrir en tiempo real. Tómate un momento para revisar la lista de comités a continuación y ver cuál te inspira y los cambios que te gustaría ver. Cuando estés listo para comprometerte, envía tu selección al Pueblo y luego mantente atento a tu bandeja de entrada para recibir correos electrónicos sobre las fechas de la primera reunión de tu comité y los próximos pasos.

¡Juntos, podemos construir un Forest Heights más fuerte y brillante!

COMITÉ	PROPÓSITO DEL COMITÉ	OBJETIVO DE LA DESCRIPCIÓN
COMITÉ DE BOLETINES	Recomienda artículos de boletines según las necesidades e intereses de los residentes	Proporcionar actualizaciones precisas, oportunas, comprensibles y accesibles a los residentes sobre el clima, recordatorios estacionales y noticias del municipio
COMITÉ PLUS 60	Planea eventos y actividades que aborden las necesidades de las personas mayores en la ciudad y busca oportunidades de subvenciones y servicios que promuevan la mejora de la calidad de vida y la conexión social	Desarrollar recomendaciones para actividades y eventos que apoyen a los adultos mayores. Incrementar la conciencia sobre las iniciativas.
COMITÉ DE EMBELLECIMIENTO Y APARIENCIA	El comité asesora sobre programas/proyectos para mejorar la apariencia del pueblo, busca subvenciones y coordina la embellecimiento voluntario, incluyendo America In Bloom	Mejorar la apariencia, incluidas las propiedades comerciales, mediante mejoras estructuradas y la participación de los residentes
COMITÉ DE PREPARACIÓN PARA EMERGENCIAS	Identifica vulnerabilidades de emergencia, recomienda medidas de mitigación y contribuye al plan de respuesta a emergencias con el departamento de policía	Establecer y difundir un plan conocido por la dirección, el personal y los residentes durante una emergencia
COMITÉ DEL DÍA DE FOREST HEIGHTS	El comité planifica y coordina el festival comunitario anual y ayuda con los eventos a lo largo del año	Celebra el orgullo y la herencia de la ciudad; promueve eventos a nivel regional; asegura un compromiso continuo de la comunidad

¡Contacta con el Ayuntamiento y pide al Secretario del Ayuntamiento que te inscriba en un comité!
301-839-1030

22 CALENDARIO DE ENERO

Town of Forest Heights

2026

LUN	MAR	MIE	JUE	VIE	SAB	DOM
			1 El Ayuntamiento Cerrado Por Año Nuevo  2026	2	3	4
5	Clase de Ejercicio para Mayores 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	7	Clase de Ejercicio para Mayores 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	9	10	11
12	Clase de Ejercicio para Mayores 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	14	Clase de Ejercicio para Mayores 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	16 Ganchillo Y Cartas en la Comunidad @Ayuntamiento 6:30PM-8:30PM	17	18
19 El Ayuntamiento Cerrado Por El Dia Del Dr. MLK Jr.	Clase de Ejercicio para Mayores 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	21 Reunión Del Concejo Municipal A Las 8:00 PM	22	23	24	25
26	Clase de Ejercicio para Mayores 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	28	29	30	31	1

