

Holidays/Community Events

Holiday Closure Calendar

Memorial Day Monday, May 27

City offices and facilities are closed.

Yard waste pick-up is cancelled.

Juneteenth Wednesday, June 19

City offices and facilities are closed.

Wednesday trash, recycling, and food waste collection will happen on Thursday.

Independence Day Thursday, July 4

City offices and facilities are closed.

Thursday trash, recycling, and food waste collection will happen on Friday.

Labor Day Monday, September 2

City offices and facilities are closed.

Yard waste pick-up is cancelled.

On the cover: Takoma Branch feeds vernal pools as it flows to Sligo Creek. The stream valley is under restoration by Takoma Park Public works. Photo by Eric Bond

Community Events

Please check organization websites and other sources, such as the City of Takoma Park website and monthly newsletter, ahead of events to see if there are any changes. Additional events will be added to the Takoma Park newsletter each month.

Let's Go Solar, TkPk!

Tuesday, March 12, 7–9 p.m. Takoma Park Municipal Building 7500 Maple Ave.

Community information session for both renters and homeowners. Learn about solar co-ops, community solar, renewable energy certificates, tax incentives, and more. More information at takomaparkmd. qov/sustainability. Free.

Annual Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30, 10 a.m. Ed Wilhelm Field 2 Darwin Ave.

Get your baskets ready and join the

Takoma Park Recreation Department for an egg-citing time! There are four age categories: 2 and under, 3–4, 5–6, and 7–8. Games will begin at 10 a.m. and the hunt will begin at 11 a.m. SHARP. More information at takomaparkmd.gov/recreation. Free.

Takoma Park Fitness Expo

Saturday, April 6, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Takoma Park Recreation Center 7315 New Hampshire Ave.

This exciting day will include demonstrations from Takoma Park Recreation fitness programs as well as presentations from local community health and wellness organizations. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Vincent Cain at 301-891-7289 or Vincentc@ takomaparkmd.gov. More information at takomaparkmd.gov/recreation. Free.

Continued on Page 5



Photo by Eric Bond

Celebrate spring with the Takoma Park Egg Hunt on March 30. Games begin at 10 a.m.

Check the City of Takoma Park website and the monthly newsletter for more events.

TAKOMAPARK ALERT

WEATHER • EMERGENCY INFO • TRAFFIC

www.takomaparkmd.gov/alert

The City of Takoma Park has an alert system that will deliver important emergency alerts, notifications and updates to you by whichever methods you choose. We encourage all residents to sign up. **Learn more at takomaparkmd.gov/alert.**

What's Inside

City Facilities

Community Center	14
Book an Event	15
Recreation Center	16
Parks	17
City Services	
Community Events	2
City Council	
City Department Directory	
City Communications	Q
Takoma Park Arts	
Library	12-13
City Facilities	14-17
Recreation Department	18-32
Registration and Policies	19
Tots	20
Youth	21-22
Teens	23-24
Adults	25-27
55+	28-30
Partners	31
Special Events	32
Police	33
Housing & Community Development	34-35
Public Works	36-38
City Careers	40

ADA



The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings and programs. For auxiliary aids or services at a City of Takoma Park event, contact Jessie Carpenter, city clerk, at jessiec@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7267 or Maryland Relay Service at 800-735-2258 TTY/Voice. Two weeks advance notice is requested.

City Council

City Council

All legislative powers of the City of Takoma Park are vested in a body designated as the Council of the City of Takoma Park, consisting of seven members. Six of these members are elected by ward and are called councilmembers, and one is elected at large and is called the mayor. The regular term of the councilmembers and the mayor is two years or until their successors have been elected and duly sworn. Elections take place in November of every even-numbered year.



Mayor Talisha Searcy talishas@takomaparkmd.gov



Council, Ward 1 Shana Fulcher shanaf@ takomaparkmd.gov



Council, Ward 2 Cindy Dyballa cindyd@ takomaparkmd.gov



Council, Ward 3 Randy Gibson randallg@ takomaparkmd.gov



Council, Ward 4
Terry J. Seamens
terrys@
takomaparkmd.gov



Council, Ward 5 Cara Honzak carah@ takomaparkmd.gov



Council, Ward 6 Jason Small jasons@ takomaparkmd.gov



Robert DiSpirito City Manager 301-891-7229 robertd@ takomaparkmd.gov

City Manager

Day-to-day management of the Takoma Park government is overseen by the city manager. The city manager is appointed by the city council, implements the policies it adopts, and proposes an annual budget.

City Public Meetings, Boards, Commissions, and Committees

City Council Meetings

Meetings are usually held on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., unless the City Council is on recess. The Takoma Park City Council generally takes a recess in December and August. City Council meetings are available to watch on City TV Cable and are available to view on the City website live. You can also watch the archives at the City of Takoma Park Youtube channel. The Wednesday meetings include a public comment period.

The City Council meets in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Meetings are conducted in a hybrid (in-person and remote) format. Public comments may be provided over Zoom with advance registration. Of course, members of the public can testify in person as well.

Open Meetings

All meetings of the City Council and Councilappointed boards, committees, commissions are open to the public unless noted otherwise. All are subject to the Maryland Open Meetings Act. Notice of meetings is provided on the City Calendar.

Many board and committee meetings continue to be held on Zoom or in a hybrid format. For the most current information, visit takomaparkmd.gov and click on "Events and Meetings." Information on any meetings taking place will be published there along with information on how the public can observe.

Opportunities to Serve

Takoma Park residents have many opportunities to be involved in their government. Serving on a City board, commission, or committee is one way to be involved while providing a service to the community. These groups are advisory to the City Council, and some have specific roles related to conducting hearings or carrying out certain activities: Arts and Humanities Committee, Board of Elections, Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs (COLTA), Emergency Preparedness Committee, Ethics Commission, Grants Review Committee, Sustainable Maryland Committee, Recreation and Community Engagement Committee, Tree Commission, and Youth Council.

Members are appointed by the City Council. Check the City website to see membership requirements and to find out the specifics of each group's mandate. Residents are encouraged to sit in on a meeting or two before applying to see if it is a good fit with their interests and skills.

Community Events

Continued from Page 2

Healthy Homes Fair

Saturday, April 6, noon-5 p.m. D.C. Armory 2001 E. Capitol St. SE, Washington, D.C.

The City of Takoma Park is a co-sponsor of this fair. Join the Department of Energy and Environment and Electrify DC, a leading nonprofit dedicated to home electrification, at the inaugural Healthy Homes Fair—a full-day expo and interactive learning experience for 1,000+ home renovation professionals, career seekers, homeowners, and renters. More information at doee.dc.gov/event/healthyhomes-fair. Free.

Takoma Park Earth Day/Arbor Day

Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sligo Creek Stream Valley Park Playground

Because there is no Planet B! Snowcones, art, games, guided tree walk . EV showcase. More information at takomaparkmd.gov/sustainability. Free.

City Nature Challenge

Friday, April 26, 1-3 p.m. Circle Woods (Poplar and Circle Avenues)

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m.-noon Stuart Armstrong Garden (Philadelphia and Holly Avenues)

The City Nature Challenge is a friendly global competition form of a bioblitzan opportunity to observe and document plants, insects, animals, and fungi on a particular site. This event is a fun way to get out and explore our natural world and meet neighbors. Learn more about how to join the 2024 City Nature Challenge at citynaturechallenge.org.

GreenFest 2024

Saturday, April 27, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Blackrock Center for the Arts 12901 Town Commons Drive Germantown, Maryland

Leap into action at GreenFest 2024, where people of all ages come together to celebrate, learn, and start or continue their journey to improving our community and the environment. The Montgomery County GreenFest is the largest annual environmental festival in

Montgomery County. More information at montgomerycountygreenfest.org. Free.

Mayur Dance Company: Anjali-An Offering

Friday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. Takoma Park Municipal Building 7500 Maple Ave.

With intricate rhythmic footwork and lyrical movements, dancers from the Mayur Dance Company will perform classical dances from the Odissi tradition which originated in Hindu temples in India. Free.

Takoma Park Children's **Business Fair**

Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Laurel Avenue

Takoma Park Children's Business Fair is a one-day marketplace that allows children ages 6-14 to develop a brand, create a product or service, build a marketing strategy, then showcase to the community. There will be 50 booths and up to 150 children. Rain date: May 11. Applications will be accepted online through March 15. More information at childrensbusinessfair. org/takomapark. Free.

Bike to School

Wednesday, May 8

Each year, students and parents ride to school together and learn about proper helmet fitting and basic bike safety. Participating schools include Takoma Park Middle, Takoma Park Elementary, Piney Branch Elementary, East Silver Spring Elementary, and Rolling Terrace Elementary. Check with your school administration, PTA, or May Takoma Park Newsletter for details. Free.

Takoma Flea

Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Grant Avenue

Takoma Flea is an outdoor market offering a unique mix of vintage, collectibles, antiques, salvage, and repurposed goods. Find clothing, jewelry, housewares, furniture, vinyl records, and more. More information at mainstreettakoma.org.

The Capitol Hillbillies

Friday, May 31, 7:30 p.m. Takoma Park Municipal Building 7500 Maple Ave.

The Capitol Hillbillies will raise the roof with their rousing mix of barrelhouse blues and jug band music from the 1920s and 30s. Don't miss it! Free.

Bike to Work

Friday, May 17

Whether you're working from the office or from your living room, celebrate bicycling as a fun, eco-friendly, and healthy way to exercise and commute. Come by Takoma Park's pit stops in Old Takoma, Takoma/Langley Crossroads, and on the Sligo Creek Trail at New Hampshire Avenue to receive a free T-shirt and bike safety swag. For more information and to register, visit biketoworkmetrodc.com. Free.

Takoma Trukgarten

Saturday, June 1, noon-5 p.m. Parking lot at Takoma Junction

This one-day beer festival features local breweries pouring craft beers and cider—plus local food and music! Tasting packages with commemorative glasses available. Non-drinkers and under 21 enter free. Music by WOWD-LP, Takoma Radio. More information at mainstreettakoma.org.

Family Outdoor Movie Night

Saturday, June 8, dusk Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School)

Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars with your family! The movie will be a family-friendly "G" or "PG" rated hit. The Recreation Department will provide one small bag of popcorn per person and water. Due to limited parking, walking to the event is encouraged. More information at takomaparkmd.gov/ recreation. Free.

Takoma Pride

Sunday, June 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Laurel Avenue

Celebrate our LGBTQ+ community during Takoma Pride Day. More information at mainstreettakoma.org.

10 a.m.—Kids Pride Parade, starting at the TPSS Co-op, 201 Ethan Allen Ave., marching to Laurel Avenue. To walk in the parade, arrive by 9:45 a.m.

10 a.m.-2 p.m.-Street Fair with face painting, a Pride photo board, chalking the street, community group tables.

Continued on Page 39

City Department Directory

City Departments

Administration

Takoma Park Community Center Third Floor

City Manager: 301-891-7229 **City Clerk:** 301-891-7267

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Administration Office includes the City Manager, City Clerk, City TV, Communications, and Information Systems.

Communications Department

301-891-7236

Hours: Monday—Friday, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m.

Communications employees manage all aspects of Takoma Park's outreach efforts to residents, the media and other stakeholders. Communications staff manage official social media channels, City's website: takomaparkmd.gov, the Takoma Park Newsletter, and the Takoma Insider (email newsletter), and partner with City TV and WOWD-LP 94.3 FM (Takoma Radio)

City TV

301-891-7118

Hours: City TV hours and availability are dependent on production schedules.

Takoma Park City TV is an award-winning government access channel in Montgomery County, Maryland, operated by the City of Takoma Park.

Finance

301-891-7212 finance@takomaparkmd.gov takomaparkmd.gov/finance

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Finance Office oversees the City's financial resources, processes payroll, pays bills, collects certain fees, and safeguards and invests City funds.

Payment of City Fees

The Finance Department collects payments for the following fees:

- Landlord Registration and Licensing
- Parking Fines
- Recreation Programs

Online Payment

Payments associated with a City-issued invoice may be made online or by phone by Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. A convenience fee of approximately 3% or \$1.50, whichever is greater, will be charged. E-check transaction users will have a \$1.50 convenience fee charged.

Takoma Park residents have the option to pay the following fees online:

- Landlord Registration and Licensing
- Parking Fines
- Recreation Programs

Phone Payment

Please call 301-891-7212 to talk to one of the finance staff if you wish to make a payment by credit card.

By Mai

Finance Department, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Avenue, 3rd Floor Takoma Park, MD 20912

Passport Services

Passport Services are available by appointment only Monday—Thursday, 9 a.m.—1 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center on the third floor. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 301-891-7100. Passport service hours are subject to change without notice. Whenever possible, office closures will be announced on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), and the City's website. Please note the following:

- The City of Takoma Park does not process the DS-82 Renewal Application, which is a mail-in only application.
- Effective with reopening post-COVID, we now only process passports via appointments.
- All forms must be written clearly with no mark outs, scratch outs, etc.

Questions?

Call the State Department at 1-877-487-2778



City Department Directory

Housing & Community Development

301-891-7119 econdev@takomaparkmd.gov housing@takomaparkmd.gov planning@takomaparkmd.gov codeenforcement@takomaparkmd.gov arts@takomaparkmd.gov

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Housing and Community Development Department is responsible for a wide range of housing, development, neighborhood revitalization, economic development and cultural programming, including Code Enforcement and Takoma Park Arts.

Human Resources

301-891-7203 hr@takomaparkmd.gov takomaparkmd.gov/government/ human-resources

For an up-to-date listing of current vacancies and employment opportunities with the City of Takoma Park, visit takomaparkmd.gov/ careers.

Police

911 (fire and rescue) 301-270-1100 (non-emergency) police@takomaparkmd.gov takomaparkmd.gov/police

Hours: Open 24/7

Whether online, in person, or on the phone, the Police Department is here to serve the people of Takoma Park.

Public Works

31 Oswego Ave. 301-891-7633 publicworks@takomaparkmd.gov takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of City-owned roads, buildings, stormwater management systems, gardens, parks, vehicles, and equipment. The department also provides solid waste collection and recycling services to single-family residential properties in the City and in the various business districts.

Food Waste Collection Program



The City's curbside food waste collection program is available to single family and multi-family properties with City collection and recycling pickup. Please register at takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks/food-waste-collection.

Large Item Pick Up



Heavy items, like appliances, mattresses and furniture, are picked up by appointment only. There is a \$15 charge for the collection of up to three items. Call 301-891-7633 to schedule a pickup.



Electronics and Computer Recycling Drop-off Bring your old or unwanted electronic equipment to be recycled to the Public Works facility. Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Trash Carts and Recycling Containers



Trash carts are available for sale. Purchase a 96-gallon trash carts for \$61.41 and 64-gallon for \$53.31 Carts have lids, wheels, and handles. Recycling containers are free and available at the Public Works facility for pick up

during office hours, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Battery Recycling Drop-Off Now Available



The City has partnered with Call2Recycle to provide battery recycling. Residents can now bring many types of used batteries to the Public Works Department,

located at 31 Oswego Avenue, during office hours, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Acceptable batteries include, AAA, AA, C, D, 9v, lithium ion, small- sealed lead acid, nickel cadmium, button cell, nickel metal hydride, and nickel zinc. See the City website for more information about what battery types can and cannot be accepted.

Recreation Department

Office: 7505 New Hampshire Ave.* 301-891-7290

recreation@takomaparkmd.gov takomaparkmd.gov/recreation

In person vistis: Monday—Thursday, 10:00 a.m.—5 p.m. Friday, 12-5 p.m.

The City of Takoma Park's Recreation Department provides recreational opportunities for all ages. Our facilities and programs are intended to refresh and rejuvenate our residents, improve our health, and connect us as families and as a community.

Takoma Park **Maryland Library**

7505 New Hampshire Ave.* 301-891-7259 takomapark.info/library facebook.com/takomaparklibrary

Library Hours: Monday—Thursday, 10 a.m.—8 p.m.; Friday-Sunday, 12-6 p.m.

Computer Center Hours: Monday—Thursday, 12—8 p.m.; Friday—Sunday, 12—6 p.m.

* The Recreation office and the Library are located at a temporary location on New Hampshire Avenue while the Library and sections of the Community Center on Maple Avenue undergo renovation.

City Department Directory

Takoma Park Community Center/Sam Abbott Citizens' Center

7500 Maple Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-891-7100

Standard Hours: Monday—Thursday, 8:30 a.m.—9:30 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m.—10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.—6 p.m.; Sunday, 12—5 p.m.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-891-7289

See page 16 for more information.

The Recreation Center is a hidden gem. Once inside you'll discover a basketball gym, community programs, and fantastic staff. Please stop by and see for yourself!



301-891-7118 cabletv@takomaparkmd.gov takomaparkmd.gov/citytv

Watch City TV online or in HD on RCN channel 1060, Comcast's Municipal Broadcast Network 997, or in SD, on channels 13 (RCN Comcast) and 28 (Verizon).

Also find us on





Watch City Council meetings, Snapshots, Takoma Park Arts and other community events on City TV.

iTenemos programación en Español! iVisítenos! Somos Takoma y El Barrio También Canta ahora en TeleCiudad.





Important City Department Phone Numbers



City Information	301-891-7100
City Clerk	301-891-7267
City Manager	301-891-7229
Communications	301-891-7236
Finance	301-891-7212
Housing & Community Development	301-891-7119
Library	301-891-7259
Neighborhood Services	301-891-7113
Police	. 301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
Public Works	301-891-7633
Recreation/Facilities Rental	301-891-7290

Takoma Park City TV

7500 Maple Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-891-7118

City TV hours and availability are dependent on production schedules

Takoma Park City TV is an award-winning government access channel in Montgomery County, Maryland, operated by the City of Takoma Park. Other entities in Montgomery County, such as Montgomery College, the Montgomery County Government, the Public Schools, and the City of Rockville, also operate PEG (Public, Educational, and Government) Access channels, which comprise of the Connect Montgomery Alliance (CMA). These channels offer cable subscribers the ultimate in local programming, with shows featuring local government, schools, teachers, soccer games, performances, hearings, classes, and events that the major broadcast programmers tend not to cover in a central metropolitan area like this.

Watch City TV

 Takoma Park City TV is available via local cable television providers.

Watch City TV on Cable

- RCN | Channel 13, HD Channel 1060
- Comcast/Xfinity | Channel 13
- Verizon Fios | Channel 28

Listen to TV on the Radio

 City TV also host a program, "We Are Takoma/Somos Takoma" on WOWD-LP 94.3 FM (streaming on takomaradio. org) every Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. "We Are Takoma/ Somos Takoma" is a bilingual radio show about city services and other important information.

City Council Meetings

- City TV now offers a hybrid format with City Council meetings.
- Video Live and Archives (since September 5, 2018)
- Video Archive (through July 25, 2018)

City TV Schedule

 For the latest schedule, check out the City TV two-week program schedule. The City TV schedule is subject to change without notice.

Watch the Municipal Broadcast Network

 Takoma Park City TV, Rockville 11, and Montgomery Municipal Cable share an HD channel, the Municipal Broadcast Network.

Municipal Broadcast Network Channels:

Comcast/xfinity | Channel 997

Watch City Council meetings, Snapshots, the Takoma Arts series and other community events on City TV.

¡Tenemos programación en Español! ¡Visítenos! Somos Takoma y El Barrio También Canta ahora en TeleCiudad.



City TV interviewing Bike to School Day participants.





Make Art or Take Art at the Free Little Art Gallery

You can share your artistic spirit or take some art home with you at the Free Little Art Gallery in Takoma Park.

In a concept similar to little free libraries, the Free Little Art Gallery (FLAG for short) is a large colorful box located at 7667 Maple Ave. near the Lincoln Avenue intersection where anyone can leave small pieces of their original artwork or take some art that they like home with them. The FLAG includes free art supplies and mini canvases as well as two floors of galleries where small figurines admire the

artwork just like in a museum or gallery.

The interactive public art project was co-sponsored by the City of Takoma Park's Arts and Humanities Division and the Operation ARTS Foundation.

"We're very excited about Takoma Park's first Free Little Art Gallery," says Brendan Smith, the city's arts and humanities coordinator. "It provides motivation for people of all ages to create artwork and a public space where they can share it. The design also celebrates our local Ethiopian

community."

The walls of the Free Little Art Gallery feature paintings of traditional Ethiopian woven reed bowls, burlap sections to highlight Ethiopia's centuries-old connection to coffee, and a font inspired by the Amharic language. Many Ethiopian residents live in the nearby apartment buildings so aspects of their culture were featured.

Chyna Mae, Operation ARTS' president and creative director, painted the designs

Takoma Park Arts





"We hope that by fostering the make art, take art movement, we can help bring people closer together by providing an arena where their stories can be heard and where they can experience the stories of their neighbors," she says. "This project brings beauty, community creativity, collaboration, education, culture, and tourism to Takoma Park."

The FLAG is regularly restocked with art supplies, and local residents can support the project by dropping off colored pencils, crayons, or markers.

"It's inspiring to see artwork made by people of all ages and backgrounds," Smith says. "You don't have to consider yourself an artist to display your work. Just







create some art and share it."

The project was inspired by artist Stacy Milrany who created a little art gallery outside her home in Seattle to share art when many public spaces were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The project has spread across the nation with more locations listed at findafreelittleartgallery.com.

Don't Miss Free Takoma **Park Arts Events**

The City's Arts and Humanities Division organizes the Takoma Park Arts series, which includes free film screenings, art exhibitions, theater, concerts, and other events at the Takoma Park Community Center at 7500 Maple Ave. No tickets or reservations are required.

You can sign up for our e-newsletter at takomaparkmd.gov/arts for more details about all of our upcoming events. We email the newsletter every Tuesday, and

we won't share your email address with anvone. Join us and celebrate the arts!

Takoma ARTery Artist Directory

The Takoma ARTery arts group maintains an online artist directory, featuring artwork and information about local artists: takomaartery.com. The directory, which was supported by a city grant, is a great place to find original art and crafts, to shop for art, and support our arts community.

The Takoma ARTery helps support the

livelihoods of local artists and improves the appearance of local business districts by filling vacant or underused storefront windows with artwork from Takoma Park's creative community. The ARTery also maintains an online artist directory with information about local artists and images of their artwork at takomaartery. com. The directory, which was supported by a city grant, is a great place to discover local artists and find original art and crafts. Artists who are interested in joining the directory should email takoma.artery@ amail.com.

Takoma Park Maryland Library

Website: takomapark.info/library

Phone: 301-891-7259

Email: library@takomaparkmd.gov



The Takoma Park Maryland Library is located in its interim space at 7505 New Hampshire Ave., in the Hampshire Place shopping center. We will be at this location during the construction of our new library building on Maple Avenue.

You can keep up to date with our progress and interim location in a variety of ways:

- subscribe to the Takoma Insider, an email update with fortnightly news about all the City of Takoma Park departments;
- · check the Takoma Park Newsletter, sent monthly to all residents;
- check our website at takomapark.info/library and read our blog and events pages.
- Follow us on Facebook (search Takoma Park) Maryland Library) and X (formerly Twitter) @ takoma.

Our phone number is 301-891-7259.

The hours are the same for both the library and computer center:

Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday-Sunday: noon-6 p.m.

The library and computer center will be CLOSED on the following holidays:

- May 26 and 27 (Memorial Day)
- June 19 (Juneteenth)
- July 4 (Independence Day)
- September 1 and 2 (Labor Day)
- November 11 (Veteran's Day)
- November 28—December 1 (Thanksgiving)
- December 24 and 25 (Christmas)

Books-to-go (curbside pickup) and books-to-you (delivery for City of Takoma Park residents) are available.

Email librarytakomapark@gmail.com to make a request.

Computer Center

Drop in for computer help, or call ahead for one-on-one computer skills coaching (free, ongoing, anytime). If you are interested in learning the basics of using the internet, setting up email, editing photos, even creating a website



or sharing videos, call the library and ask for a member of the computer center staff to set up a time to come in and learn. The computer center has the same hours as the library: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday-Sunday, noon-6 p.m.



We have regular programs for both adults and children. During the summer, some programs go on hiatus, so please check the website or the city newsletter for the latest information.

Regular children's programs:

Neighborhood Circle Time: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. The first Tuesday of each month, we welcome Jumpstart for the Arts to Neighborhood Circle

Canta Juego (Spanish Circle Time): Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

Sketch Club: Thursdays 4–5:30 p.m.

Chess for Kids: Sundays at noon

Kids Art, Lego Fun: Once a month on Sundays—check the online or newsletter calendar.

Check our website, the email news brief, the Takoma Insider, and our page in the city newsletter for programs through the summer.

Look for the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library (FTPML) twice-yearly book sale coming up in May! Date, time, and location to be determined. Refer to the May newsletter.

Electrify Your Life

Play Your Role in Climate Action While Plugging into New Incentives

By Dory Estrada Takoma Park Sustainability Manager

Electrification, decarbonization, tax incentives, rebates The climate action space is swirling with buzzwords these days, and while there is a feeling of excitement in the air about new federal funding unlocked by the landmark Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. there remains a lot of murkiness for the end consumer of energy. Many of us know that we need to move away from fossil fuels in order to reduce our emissions and truly make climate change progress, but where to start? That's where home electrification steps

In the City of Takoma Park, data from the last Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Greenhouse Gas Inventory found that 42% of our emissions come from buildings, both residential and commercial. The City's climate goal, based on the counciladopted Climate Emergency Response Framework, is to achieve net zero emissions by 2035. Montgomery County's goal is a 100% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. These goals are ambitious, and by first looking at our residential sector, require systematic changes in how we use energy in our homes.

What Is Electrification?

Electrification means replacing fossilfueled technologies, like internal combustion engines and gas boilers, with electrically powered equivalents. This is advantageous for several reasons: 1) electrifying increases efficiency, which cuts costs on utility bills for consumers; 2) electrification also reduces exposure to toxic gases and chemicals from appliances that burn gas, such as gas stoves, which is comprised of methane, a potent greenhouse gas; 3) electrification is a



move towards energy independence.

Data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration indicates that electricity pricing is cheaper and less volatile than fossil fuels. As an example, in 2022, prices for fossil fuels rose rapidly, but in contrast, electricity prices remained relatively low and stable—rising roughly three times less than even natural gas. Electricity markets are inherently local, not global, and better yet, consumers can have a choice on what sources that electricity comes from. This is where decarbonization steps in.

Perhaps as important as our journey towards electrification is our ability to obtain clean energy to power our homes. It's not enough to just electrify; we also need to decarbonize.

What is Decarbonization?

Decarbonization means to reduce or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, primarily carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄). This can be accomplished by selecting an energy provider that utilizes 100% renewable energy sources. Residents of Montgomery County will soon benefit from a new Community Choice Energy pilot program, born from a state bill that was championed by Del. Lorig Charkoudian. But in the meantime, pursuing rooftop solar, community solar, or sourcing electricity from a Green e-certified energy retailer in Maryland

are options that homeowners and renters alike can pursue. This topic will be shared in more detail at the Go Solar TkPk information session on Tuesday, March 12, 7–9 p.m. in that Community Center auditorium.

What Incentives Are Available to Electrify?

Electrification may be all well and good, but what's the cost involved? Well, there's great news on that front. Now is the time to take advantage of the number of direct incentives and rebates available from the Inflation Reduction Act! The team at Rewiring America, a leading electrification nonprofit, says this: "Think of the IRA as your own personal fund to help you go electric—swapping out your old, fossil-fueled appliances for new, clean electric ones—over the next ten vears."

Low- and moderate-income households have the most available funding allocated—with up to \$8,000 rebate for a heat pump, for example—but there are incentives available across all income levels. for both homeowners and renters. We highly encourage you to utilize Rewiring America's IRA Calculator to understand the personal savings available to you. You can find it at rewiringamerica.org.

There's something for everyone in this electrification transition. An additional incentive program from Montgomery County, Electrify MC, provides additional direct incentives to single family homeowners after an initial energy audit conducted by Elvsian Energy—and better vet, those incentives are stackable with federal

Continued on Page 38

Takoma Park Community Center/ Sam Abbott Citizens' Center Open During Library

7500 Maple Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-891-7100

Standard Hours:

Monday–Thursday 8:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Friday 8:30 a.m.–10 p.m. Saturday
10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Sunday
12–5 p.m.

Art Studio

- The art room, kiln, and easels are available to students enrolled in classes
- Not available for rentals

Auditorium

- 154 fixed chairs
- · Room for six wheelchairs
- Row of seven fixed chairs can be removed
- Food and beverage not permitted

Dance Studio

- Large studio with mirrors and wood floor
- No street shoes on dance floor

Game Room

- · Hours vary by age and time of year
- Ping pong, pool and foosball tables
- Basketball and arcade-style games

Notary Public

Notary service is available Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 a.m.—3 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Irma Nalvarte at Irman@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7214. The service is free for city residents.

Passport Service

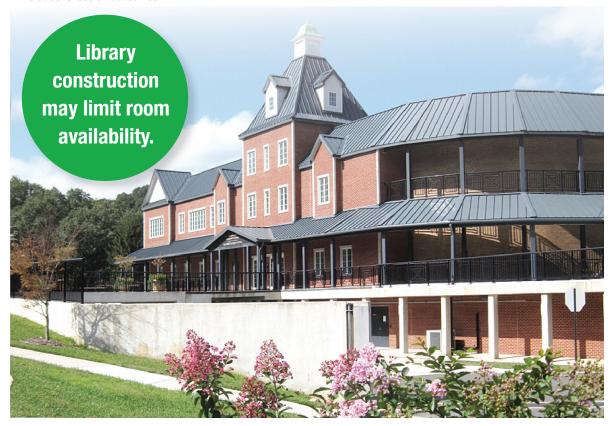
Passport Service is available at the Takoma Park Community Center (third floor). Appointments are required.

Please email Sofia Visurraga, Customer Service Representative, at sofiav@takomaparkmd.gov for information and appointments. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Construction!

Se puede aplicar por su pasaporte americano aquí, solo con cita. Solicite la cita enviando un correo electrónico sofiav@takomaparkmd.gov

Teen Lounge (Grades 6–12)
Comfortable, safe space for teens to socialize and enjoy a snack after school. Teens can also participate in daily activities and work on homework.



City Facilities

Book Your Next Event with Us!

To reserve a space: Go online through Active Net or come in person to our office at 7505 New Hampshire Ave. We are open Monday-Thursday, 10:00 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday, 12-5 p.m. Rentals can be made three months in advance, but no less than 10 days before the event. Full payment is due at the time of reservation.

Policies

Please visit us online at takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/parks-pavilionsand-athletic-fields and click on Administrative Regulation No. 2011-1 (PDF) for regulations governing public use, facilities rentals, and general responsibilities of the user. The renter is responsible for set-up and clean-up. This time should be included in the rental. Nothing can be affixed to the walls.

construction may limit room availability

Library

Standard Rental Hours

Takoma Park Community Center

Monday—Friday, 9 a.m.—9 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sunday, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Heffner Park Community Center

Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m.—8 p.m.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

- Call for availability: 301-891-7286

• See page 16 for prices * Business rate applies to all organizations, nonprofits, for-profit entities, or community groups.

City of Takoma Park rental policy and procedures are guided by the Council approved Administrative Regulations for Facilities that can be found on the City's website (takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/ rental-requests/). Updates to the Administrative Regulations are expected to be coming soon. For parties over 20 people, please contact Recreation staff prior to making your request.

Large Meeting Rooms

Lilac Room

Rooms

20 with tables Capacity

Small Meeting

25 without tables

Hydrangea Room

Capacity 20 with tables

Fees

T.P. resident \$35/hour Non-resident \$60/hour Business* \$80/hour

Azalea Room

Capacity 55 with tables 65 without tables

Heffner Park Community Center 42 Oswego Ave.

Capacity 40 with tables

50 without tables

Fees

T.P. resident \$45/hour Non-resident \$70/hour Business* \$90/hour

\$75 refundable deposit required for Heffner Park Community Center.

Auditorium

The Auditorium, located in the Takoma Park Community Center, is LEED-CI Silver Certified and has 154 fixed seats with two aisles and room for six wheelchairs. The floating wood stage is approximately 18 inches off the floor. 30 feet wide and 19 feet deep at the center. This environmentally friendly space has a state-of-the-art lighting system with colored LED washes, a sound system with two wireless microphones, and connections for up to 10 wired microphones. The presentation system has a 6' x 11' projection screen in the center of the stage and two small screens on either side of stage. Extra fees apply for staffing outside of normal hours of operation, specialized AV services, extraordinary maintenance demands, or required security. Insurance is required.

Hourly Rates

Nonprofit: \$150/hour Regular: \$220/hour

Minimum 4 hour rental

For more information about renting the Auditorium, contact Recreation Staff at 301-891-7290 or email recreation@ takomaparkmd.gov

During construction parking will be severely limited at 7500 Maple Ave. For events with more than 20 guests, a permit for parking at PBES next door can be obtained through Community Use of Public Facilities. Montgomery County MD at 240-777-2725.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912 301-891-7289

Spring Hours Mon., Wed., Fri.

Tues. & Thurs. 12-9 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. Closed * Tues. & Thurs. 12-2 p.m. are reserved for senior use only

2:30-9 p.m.

Summer Hours

(beginning 6/17)

Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun. Closed

The Recreation Center is a hidden gem. Once inside you'll discover a basketball gym, fitness room, community programs, and fantastic staff. Please stop by and see for yourself!

Membership Fees

Recreation Center General

(1 year membership; does not include Fitness Room)

	Resident	Non-resident
Youth (5 - 12 years)	\$5	\$15
Teen (13 - 17 years)	\$10	\$20
Adult (18+ years)	\$55	\$65

Fitness Room (Closes 30 minutes ahead of building) (Membership includes General Membership benefits)

	Resident	Non-resident
Adult (6 months)	\$85	\$95
Adult (1 year)	\$120	\$140
Senior 55+	Free	Free

Hourly Rental Information

Gym* (capacity 294)

TP Resident \$50/hour Non-resident \$75/hour Business \$95/hour After hours additional fee(s)* **Meeting Room FRONT** (capacity 30) Meeting Room BACK (capacity 40)

\$35/hour TP Resident Non-resident \$60/hour Business \$80/hour additional fee(s)* After hours

Call 301-891-7289 for availability.

* \$75 security deposit required. Business rate includes commercial and nonprofit organizations.

Join Us For:





What's in our parks?

Through Rec. Dept.

Parking Available

Public Transportation Accessible

Within Walking Distance

Fountain

Picnic Playground Pavilion

Basketball Court

Facility

Belle Ziegler Park 7350 Takoma Ave. Ward 1





















Colby Avenue Park Cherry & Colby Ave. Ward 2











Forest Park 598 Elm Ave. Ward 2















Heffner Park 42 Oswego Ave. Ward 4















Jackson-Bovd Park 7398 Jackson Ave. Ward 2















Spring Park 6999 Poplar Ave. Ward 3

Ward 5





















Toatley-Fraser Park Eastridge Ave.















In addition to the parks above, the city maintains

B.Y. Morrison Park Carroll & Ethan Allen Ave. Ward 3

Circle Woods Cockerille & Poplar Aves. Ward 3

Ed Wilhelm Field 2 Darwin Ave. Ward 4

Lee Jordan Field 7611 Piney Branch Rd Ward 4

Takoma Park Dog Park Darwin Ave. Ward 4

For information about other parks in our city, please visit montomgeryparks.org or call 301-495-2525.

Parks and Permits

It is highly recommended to secure permits for various events and activities held in public parks throughout the City. Permits guarantee location and time of a rental. Please contact the Recreation Department at 301-891-7290 before conducting business on park property.

Pavilion Rental Fees

\$105 per day

T.P. resident

\$125 per day

Non-resident/Business





FAQs

- In order to secure a park pavilion, it is highly recommended to have a permit. (See page 15).
- Moon bounces are not permitted on City property.
- Permits are honored rain or shine, with no refunds/ reschedules.
- To reserve a pavilion, see "Book Your Next Event with Us" on page 15.
- Sale of merchandise is prohibited on City property outside of scheduled City events.
- The sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in any facility/park/pavilion.
- Buildings and parks are not available on City holidays.
- Reserving a pavilion does not guarantee use of an adjacent field if applicable.

Recreation

Recreation Department

New/temporary office located at 7505 New Hampshire Ave. 301-891-7290 recreation@takomaparkmd.gov takomaparkmd.gov/recreation Spring & Summer Registration Opens: 3/15 for City Residents 3/8 for those with a current scholarship



The City of Takoma Park Recreation Department provides recreational opportunities for all ages! The department's facilities and programs are intended to refresh and rejuvenate residents, improve health and connect families and the community. Staff are continually working to improve our offerings while adding new and innovative programs and activities to meet the ever changing needs of our residents and community.

Rental Requests

For more information about local parks and room rentals, see pages 15-17. Availability is limited during construction.



Roscoe the Rooster

Roscoe the Rooster made Takoma Park his home for 10 years, roaming the city and staking his territory on the lawn in front of and behind the apartment houses near (now closed) Mark's Kitchen on Carroll Ave. Roscoe died in a hit-and-run in February 1999.

A life-sized statue of Roscoe the Rooster, crafted by local artist Normon Greene, stands on a pedestal in front of the clock tower in the center of downtown Takoma Park.

Roscoe makes special appearances throughout this section of the City Guide.

Is my class canceled due to weather?

The City of Takoma Park has several ways to let you know if City facilities are closed or classes are canceled: get notices via Takoma Park Alert (takomaparkmd.gov/alert), check the City's webpage, or call the Recreation Department's Inclement Weather Line (301-891-7101 x5605). Be sure to check for Recreation program updates, Morning and Afternoon Addition, updates, and/or any with other activity that may be canceled. In general, if the federal government closes or has a delayed opening in the morning, the City does the same. Classes that begin before a delayed opening are usually canceled. Morning and Afternoon Addition and After the Bell programs follow the Montgomery County Public Schools declarations. If there is a 2-hour delay in the morning, Morning Addition starts at 9:00 a.m.

Recreation Registration and Policies

visit us online @

http://apm.activecommunities.com/takomaparkrecreation

Spring & Summer Registration Opens March 15: **TP Residents** March 8: **Scholarship Awardees**



- 4. Click Create Account or enter other family members into the system at this time.
- 5. Click **Intro** and search for a course or facility.

Alternative registration

You can still register in person: 7500 Maple Ave. 7315 New Hampshire Ave. 7505 New Hampshire Ave.

> Make checks or money orders payable to: City of Takoma Park, List program name and participant's name on front of check. No phone registrations.

If you are having trouble registering or if you have questions concerning classes. please call 301-891-7290 or e-mail us at recreation@takomaparkmd.gov.

With ActiveNet® you can use a credit card to:

- Register for recreation classes 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!
- Request a park or recreation facility for an event.
- Receive class confirmation via e-mail.
- View and print class schedules.
- Purchase memberships to the gym and fitness room.
- Service fee applies online.

Instructions for creating an account

Contact the Recreation Department in advance if you currently have an account and need to verify your username and password.

- 1. Access apm.activecommunities. com/takomaparkrecreation
- 2. Click Create an Account.
- 3. Complete all necessary information; fields marked with an asterisk are required.

Wait list policy

In the event that a program has more interest than available space, we will keep a waiting list. Individuals on the waiting list will be accommodated on a first-come. first-served basis. In the event that another class is created, individuals from the waiting list will be contacted.

Registration policies

- The Recreation Department reserves the right to cancel any program/class due to insufficient enrollment or to substitute teachers without participant notification.
- · Classes may be canceled on school holidays, vacations, snow days or any other dates noted in the guide. If schools close midday due to a weather or other emergency, children's classes will also be canceled. Every attempt will be made to reschedule classes canceled due to weather emergencies.

- A resident of Takoma Park is any person who lives within the 2.4 square mile corporate limits. A nonresident lives outside the corporate limits. If you are not sure of your residency status, please call us and we will be happy to assist you. Or visit takomaparkmd.gov/ and search "ward
- · We require, for most programs, that participants are the required age as the date of the first class. All age requirements are set to benefit the participant and allow for more consistent program instruction. In some instances, the requirements have been set for the participant's safety.
- Customers can only register individuals listed on their household account for programs.

Refund policy

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- Registrants assume the risk of changes in personal affairs or health.
- Refunds will be approved with written/ email (recreation@takomaparkmd. gov) notification received seven (7) **business days** prior to scheduled start of the program, A \$15 cancellation fee will be deducted per participant/per class and may take up to 30 days to receive.
- · Registrant may choose to receive a credit for the remaining amount, which may be used for another program.
- Refunds after the program has begun will be considered only with medical verification (*no exceptions*). No refund after the program has ended.
- Membership passes are not eligible for a refund.
- The online processing fee will not be included in refunds.



WE DON'T SPAM

Periodically you will receive emails about upcoming registration dates, special events, weather closings, special promotions or new programs. It is important that you have a valid email address in our database. If you change email addresses, move, etc., please let us know.



REGISTER EARLY!

Nothing cancels a good class quicker than waiting until the last minute to register. If there aren't enough registrations by a certain date, the course may be canceled.

Spring & Summer Registration Opens: Scholarship Awardees: 3/8 TP Residents: 3/15

Tots Newborn-5



DANCE

Combo Tot Dance

Fun and energizing class for your little ones. This is the introductory foundational class consisting of rhythmic movements,

into basic tumbling and various styles of dance. So jam-packed with games and toys that your little ones won't even realize they are learning to dance. Instructor: **Dance Solutions**

Takoma Park Community Center

(Dance Studio) 7500 Maple Ave. 7-week sessions Sundays, 12:15-1 p.m. Spring: April 7-May 19

Summer: July 7-August 18 Resident: \$125 / non-resident: \$145







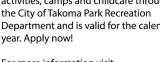








Recreation Department scholarships are available for Takoma Park residents in need. Scholarships can be used for activities, camps and childcare through the City of Takoma Park Recreation Department and is valid for the calendar



Las becas del Departamento de Recreación están disponibles para los residentes de Takoma Park que las necesiten. Las becas se pueden utilizar para actividades, campamentos y cuidado de niños a través del Departamento de Recreación de la Ciudad de Takoma Park y son válidas para el año calendario. ¡Aplique ya!





Des bourses du département des loisirs

Takoma Park dans le besoin. Les bourses

peuvent être utilisées pour des activités,

l'intermédiaire du département des loisirs

de la ville de Takoma Park et sont valables

sont disponibles pour les résidents de

des camps et la garde d'enfants par



የመዝናኛ ዲፓርትመንት ስኮላርሺፕ ለሚፈልን የታኮማ ፓርክ ነዋሪዎች ይ7ኛሉ። ስኮላርሺፖቹ በታኮማ ፓርክ መዝናኛ ዲፓርትመንት በኩል ስከንውኖች፣ ስካምፕ እና ስልጆች እንክብካቤ **አ**7ል**7**ሎት ሊውሉ የሚ**ች**ሉ ሲሆን ለዚህ የካላንደር ዓመት የሚሰራ ይሆናል። አሁን ያመልክቱ!

> Pour plus d'informations, visitez le site takomaparkmd.gov/recreation



ስበስጠ መረጃ takomaparkmd.gov/recreation ን ይንብኙ













Youth **5-12 years**

Spring & Summer Registration Opens: Scholarship Awardees: 3/8 **TP Residents: 3/15**



ART

Ceramics: Clay for Kids

In this class, children will receive instruction on how to utilize a variety of techniques (coil, pinch, slab work) to create one-of-a-kind sculptures and vessels out of clay. There is a nonrefundable \$25 materials fee (per child) due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio) 7500 Maple Ave.

Ages 7-13

4-week sessions

Mondays, 4–5 p.m. May 13-June 10

Wednesdays, 4-5 p.m. Session 1: April 17-May 8

Session 2: May 15-June 5

Fridays, 4-5 p.m.

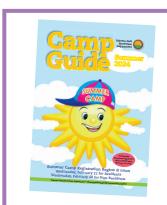
Session 1: April 19-May 10 Session 2: May 17-June 7

Resident: \$170 / non-resident: \$190

Materials Fee: \$25



CAMPS



See our Camp Guide for details on Spring Break and Summer Camps!

DANCE

Ballet & Stretch

This 45-minute class focuses on the basics of ballet, but highlights advanced concepts, including history, stage production, performance etiquette, and choreography. Students will explore the history of ballet and practice combinations from various Ballet choreographers. Instructor: Charonne Butler

Takoma Park Community Center (Dance Studio) 7500 Maple Ave. Ages 5-11 6-week session Saturdays, 12:30-1:15 p.m.

April 13-May 18

Resident: \$150 / non-resident: \$170

Hip-Hop Dance

This movement class focuses on the basics and culture of hip-hop. Students will learn basic b-boy and b-girl dance technique, practice temporal and spatial awareness, and learn choreography. Instructor: Charonne Butler

Takoma Park Community Center (Dance Studio) 7500 Maple Ave. Ages 5-11 6-week session Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. April 13-May 18

Resident: \$150 / non-resident: \$170

DROP-IN Kid Night

The Takoma Park Recreation Center provides affordable, safe and FUN activities for kids on the first and third Friday nights of the month. Come out to a night of games, activities and more. Bring your friends and meet new ones. Free with



Recreation: Youth

Recreation Center membership.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

(Gymnasium) 7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Ages 8–12

Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

April 19, May 3, May 17, June 7, June 21, July 5, July 19, August 2, August 16

Free with membership

SPORTS 2024 T-Ball League

This league allows kids to have fun while learning the basic fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning

to hit, running bases, and catching. No experience is necessary as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball glove. All teams will be formed by the Recreation Department. Games will be hosted at Belle Ziegler Field. Games are played on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. Volunteer coaches are needed.

Belle Ziegler Field 7350 Takoma Ave. Ages 5–8 8-game season Saturday, 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m. June 8–July 27 Resident: \$70 / non-resident: \$80

Y.E.S. League 2024 (Grades 5-8)

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed five games, and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League T-shirt.

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Grades 5–8
5-game Season
Mondays, 6–9 p.m.
June 24–August 5
Resident: \$35 / non-resident: \$45

School Year 2024-2025

The Recreation Department is pleased to again offer before care and after care at both of our facilities. Morning and Afternoon Addition are held at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue and Before and After the Bell is held at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue.

Our emphasis is on providing fun, leisure and recreation programs before and after the school day, while providing a safe environment for children grades K-5. Participants will engage in daily indoor/outdoor group activities and holiday based events. Children will have time for free play, homewor assignments, breakfast (not provided) or simply prepare for their upcoming day in before care. Each afternoon kids will receive a snack, have a time period to complete homework, and enjoy arts and crafts, sports, board games, plays, free play and more! Programs operate when MCPS schools are in session.

There is a payment plan available, with a 20% deposit due at the time of registration. The remaining balance will be divided into monthly payments beginning Oct 1st.

Morning Addition or Before the Bell

7-9 a.m.

Resident: \$1,700 / Non-resident: \$2,000

Afternoon Addition or After the Bell

3:30-6:30 p.m.

Resident: \$2,500 / Non-resident: \$3,000

Bundle Discount

Participants who register for both before care and after care at the same facility in one transaction will receive a discount.

Resident: \$3,570 /

Non-resident: \$4,250



Teens 13-17 years Spring & Summer Registration Opens: Scholarship Awardees: 3/8

TP Residents: 3/15



ART

Drawing & Watercolor

Have fun learning to draw with black, white, and colored drawing materials; paint with watercolors; use pen and ink; and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, self portrait, landscape (weather permitting), and floral studies. Beginning students are welcome. The skills focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School. Materials fee of \$20 paid directly to the instructor must be made on the first day of class. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman

Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio) 7500 Maple Ave. 6-week sessions

Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. April 30-June 4

Thursdays, 3:30–5:30 p.m. May 2-June 6

Resident: \$180 / non-resident: \$200

Materials Fee: \$20

See our Camp Guide for details on Spring Break and Summer Camps!

Takoma Park Middle School 7611 Piney Branch Road. Grades 6-8 8-week session Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m. April 3-May 22 Free

DRAMA & THEATER

Dungeons and Dragons

They creep through the twilight, guiet as shadows muttering a language long forgotten, a language only spoken by ghosts. Use your imagination and storytelling ability in this classic fantasy role-playing game. Roll dice to cast spells and battle monsters. Creativity and cooperation help the group survive. Instructor: Dave Burbank

Takoma Park Community Center (Auditorium)

Ages 10-17 4-week sessions Fridays, 4-6 p.m. Session 1: April 12-May 3

Session 2: May 10-June 7 Resident: \$60 / non-resident: \$70

DROP-IN

Teen Night

The Takoma Park Recreation Center provides quality, affordable, safe and FUN activities for teens. Nothing to do on the second and fourth Fridays of the month? Come on out to a night of games, activities and more, bring your friends for a night out of the house. Free with membership.

(Gymnasium) 7315 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 12-16 Fridays, 6:30-8:45 p.m. April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24, June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9, August 23 Free with membership

Takoma Park Recreation Center

DANCE

Afterschool Hip Hop Dance at TPMS

Hip-hop dance incorporates aspects of modern dance, tap, and swingintegrating music and complex movements to form artistry. Come and learn the fundamentals of hip-hop dance by trying fun routines! Teens will also have the opportunity to explore other types of dance, such as stepping, and can make their own routines. Class will be held at the Takoma Park Middle School



Recreation: Teens

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Counselor in Training (CIT)

Sign up for a three-day training to become a Certified CIT. Prior to volunteering for summer camp, each teen will be required to attend trainings hosted by the Takoma Park Recreation Department. During these training sessions, teens will have an opportunity to develop leadership skills while becoming first aid/CPR certified. During the summer camp sessions, the CIT will support all planned program activities on site as well as any regularly scheduled off site activities, such as swimming and field trips. This volunteer involves working directly with children by helping them to enjoy and feel successful in each activity. Training dates are listed below. Candidates must attend all training sessions to qualify. Once training is complete, teens will sign up for a twoweek session to volunteer with various camps. At orientation, youth will schedule their volunteer session. Each session is for two weeks; they do not have to be consecutive weeks. Main camp times: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

14-15 years

CIT Orientation: Wednesday, May 22 5-6:30 p.m.

Pre-Service: June 17, 18 & 20

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

First Aid/CPR Training: TBD

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Resident: \$40 / non-resident: \$50



Check out our paintings from a trip we went on!



Entrepreneurship for Teens

Ever thought about starting your own business? Even teens can do it! Entrepreneurship for Teens is an interactive virtual class that centers around a growth mindset, entrepreneurial skills, and business startup. The Zoom link will be sent the week before class starts. Instructor: Tyronda Boone of Zoey & Zander

Virtual Grades 6-12 8-week session Mondays, 6-7 p.m. April 8-June 3 Free

SPORTS

After Hours Basketball

This program will provide a drop-in service for the teens and young adults ages 16 - 24. The Recreation Department is partnering with the Takoma Park Police Department to offer basketball Tuesday and Thursday nights over the course of the summer. We are looking to provide safe but fun activities for the young adults

in our community as well as build the relationship between the community and the Takoma Park Police Department. Instructor: Greg Harris

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium) 7315 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 16-24 Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11 p.m. July 2-August 15

Y.E.S. League 2024: High School

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed five games and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League T-shirt.

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gvmnasium) 7315 New Hampshire Ave. Grades 9-12 5-game season Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. June 26-July 31 Resident: \$35 / non-resident: \$45



ART

Ceramics: Clay in the Studio

A great class for homeschoolers, preschoolers (with caregiver present), and people with flexible schedules. This class focuses on hand building techniques, including pinch, coil, and slab construction as well as surface treatment and glazing. Students can create functional items as well as sculptures. Dream something up and try it out in the studio. Experienced potters may use the studio's electric wheels to pursue independent projects. Registration in Wednesday class includes studio time on some Fridays, 12:30-1 p.m. A \$35 materials fee is due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio) 7500 Maple Ave.

Ages 4 and up 4 Week Sessions Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. Session 1: April 17-May 8 Session 2: May 22-June 26

(No class 6/19) Resident: \$180 / non-resident: \$200

Materials fee: \$35

Ceramics - Hand Building & Sculpture

In this class students will use handbuilding skills like pinch, slab and coil to create their own imaginative projects out of clay. Students are also encouraged to try out a variety of surface treatments on their one-of-a-kind vessels and sculptures. This course is great for both beginners and more seasoned ceramicists. Experienced wheel throwers are welcome to use the electric wheels. Dream something up and try it out in the studio! There is a

\$35 materials fee for the instructor due on the first day of class. There is drop-in studio time some Fridays from 1–1:30pm.

Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio)

7500 Maple Ave. Ages 16 and up

4-week session Mondays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

May 13-June 10

Resident: \$180 / non-resident: \$200

Materials fee: \$35

Ceramics: Wheel Throwing

In this class, we will learn the basic skills involved in creating functional forms on the pottery wheel. Centering, pulling, collaring, trimming, and glazing will all be covered. While our focus is on the basic formscups, bowls, and plates—an experimental and lively approach to the work is encouraged. No experience is required; students at an intermediate level are also welcome. A materials fee will cover one bag of clay, glazes and firing. A materials fee of \$40 is due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor: Leslie Milofsky

Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio) 7500 Maple Ave. Ages 16 and up 6-week session Wednesdays, 6:30-9 p.m. April 24-May 29 Resident: \$150 / non-resident: \$170 Materials fee: \$40



Recreation: Adults

Evening Drawing

The practice of drawing can be both relaxing and enriching. Participants in this class will draw with black and white and color media, such as charcoal, oil and chalk pastel, pen and ink, and colored pencils. Students will be supported by weekly lessons, with demos, involving proportion and perspective, ongoing feedback, and critique. Creative cropping. expressive mark making, exploration into limited value or color key, and other techniques will be discussed. Personal creativity will be encouraged. Come join the fun and camaraderie of drawing together and develop a practice that will enhance your life. Beginning to advanced students are welcome. Paper and drawing materials will be available for the \$20 materials fee due on the first day of class. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman

Takoma Park Community Center (Art Studio) 7500 Maple Ave. Ages 18 and up 6-week session Thursdays, 6:30–9 p.m. May 2–June 6 Resident: \$230 / non-resident: \$260 Materials fee: \$20

DRAMA & THEATER

Acting Technique for the Stage and Beyond

"Have you always wanted to take an acting class, but had no opportunity? Well here's your chance to learn the fundamentals of this fascinating artform. In the process, you'll utilize the Stanislavsky technique, which is a psycho-physical approach to acting that leads to a heightened emotional truth in performance. While experimenting with lively theatre exercises, you'll apply this technique to a monologue, which will be performed for an invited audience in the final class. It will be a fun and interesting journey, full of practical insights that will stay with you well beyond the stage! Instructor: W. Allen Taylor

Takoma Park Community Center (Auditorium)
7500 Maple Ave.
Ages 16 and up
10-week session
Mondays, 7–9 p.m.
April 1–June 10
Resident: \$195 / non-resident: \$210



and modifications. The class provides an environment for students to take a break from their busy schedules to nourish their mind, body, and spirit in a safe, noncompetitive, and supportive space. The class sessions are energizing, grounding, playful, and renewing. Instructor: Jill Skillcorn

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Room)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 16 and up
Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.
Spring (6 weeks): April 13–May 18
Summer

Session 1 (5 weeks): June 1–June 29 Session 2 (6 weeks): July 13–August 17 Resident: \$60 / non-resident: \$70

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Writing Life Stories

Do you want to share important life experiences through your writing and during class discussion? Our stories are part of what makes us human. Whether you are a lifelong writer or a beginner, this class is for you. This class will help you to jumpstart your memories, organize your ideas, and edit your work. Come and share your life experiences with the class. This class is held virtually. Prepare to have fun! Instructor: Barbara Rosenblatt

Virtual
Ages 16 and up
7-week session
Mondays, 7–8:30 p.m.
April 8–May 20
Resident: \$95 / non-resident: \$105

FITNESS

Flow Yoga

This class is a mixed-level hatha yoga class with flow sequences. Students who are new to yoga will learn what yoga is, get familiar with yoga poses and alignment, be introduced to basic breathing techniques, and become more grounded and mindful in their approach to yoga both on and off the mat. Students who have been practicing yoga for a while will also benefit from this class, as they will have the opportunity to deepen their practice and understanding of yoga and will learn more sequences, poses,

Foundation Fitness IIJoin us for an online group

exercise program that is appropriate for all age and skill levels, but especially for those who are new to fitness training. Foundation Fitness II is designed to improve health and skill-related fitness components, with focus on muscular strength and endurance. flexibility, agility, balance, coordination, speed variance, and power. The program is designed to enhance muscular definition and strength; decrease fall risks; improve cardiovascular capacity; increase physical fitness level: improve movement efficiency and range of motion; and enhance general sense of well-being. The exercises and movements can be modified to challenge all levels of fitness. This class utilizes a highback chair; light hand weights (1, 2, or 3 pound weights, depending on fitness level) and/or a resistance tube. Each participant should provide their own equipment, a towel, and a water bottle. Additionally participants should be able to perform floor exercises using a mat and various resistance tools. Instructor: Michael Williams

Virtual
Ages 18 and up
Saturdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Spring (13 weeks): April 6–June 29
Summer (8 weeks): July 6–August 24

Recreation: Adults

Ker De Zuri DanXercise Class: Afro Beat

We are a contemporary Afro Dance company specializing in African dancing. Zuri Sana'a DanXercise's mission is to bring you joy and memories through the art of dance. Zuris Sana'a DanXercise combines hip hop, salsa, dancehall, contemporary, and African dance moves within our choreography to create a memorable workout experience. Our moves are feasible and suitable for all ages. Participants will be able to shed calories and learn fun choreography all in one class. Instructor: Khady N'Diaye

Takoma Park Community Center (Dance Studio) 7500 Maple Ave. Ages 16 and up Thursdays, 7-8 p.m.

Spring (10 weeks): April 18-June 20 Resident: \$75 / non-resident: \$85 Summer (8 weeks): July 11-August 29 Resident: \$60 / non-resident: \$70

Drop-in: \$10 **Zumba New Ave**

Come get your weekend started right with this upbeat class! Zumba is a total workout, combining all elements of fitness with cardio, muscle conditioning, balance, and flexibility. Zumba takes the work out of workout by mixing low- and high-intensity moves. The class will incorporate Latin music that will easily move you through your workout. Instructor: Yesika Young

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium) 7315 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 16 and up Saturdays, 9-10 a.m. Spring (6 weeks): April 13-May 18 Summer

Session 1 (5 weeks): June 1–June 29 Session 2 (6 weeks): July 13-August 17 Resident: \$60 / non-resident: \$70

MARTIAL ARTS

Karate Self-Defense

Promote physical fitness, self-defense, leadership, and cultural exchange through the practice of a traditional Okinawan karate style, Isshinryu (one heart way). This class will consist of warm-ups, stretching, and learning and practicing Isshinrvu Karate upper and lower body basics. Free with a Recreation Center Membership.



Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Room)

7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Ages 16 and up

Mondays and Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m.

Spring: April 1-May 29 Summer: June 3-August 28 Free with membership

SPORTS

2024 Takoma Park Adult Summer **Basketball League**

Join our adult basketball league this summer! Put together your winning team, and go against other area teams in order to win the league championship. Teams will be provided uniforms. Games are played at Takoma Park Middle School on Wednesdays and/or Thursdays at 6 or 7

Takoma Park Middle School 7611 Piney Branch Rd. Ages 18 and up 6-week session Wednesday/Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. July 10-August 15 Team fee: resident: \$300 / non-resident: \$400

2024 TP Adult Summer Basketball League—Free Agents

Individual participants will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if space becomes available on a team.* If space becomes available on a team, you will be responsible to pay your registration and any other associated fees to that team. *Spaces not guaranteed.

Adult Drop-in Pickleball

Join other new players for pickleball practice and play. This activity is geared toward beginners. Two courts and limited paddles available. The entire magic and success of pickleball is the way it has been set up to be a welcoming sport in an informal setting, meaning, you can show up to the courts and pick up a game. It doesn't matter what your age is, you can just play!

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gvmnasium) 7315 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 16 and up 8-week session Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 1-May 20 Resident: \$20 / non-residents: \$30

Takoma Park Volleyball Club

Join the Takoma Park Volleyball Club! Grab a friend or make a new one on the court. The club will meet weekly at the Takoma Park Recreation Center for pick-up games of volleyball. Registration is required to participate. All skill levels are welcome.

Takoma Park Recreation Center Gvmnasium 7315 New Hampshire Ave Ages 16 and up 8-week session Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 3-May 22 Residents: \$20 / non-residents: \$30



ART

Arts and Crafts with Alice

Brighten the spring days and get creative. The class meets once a month to learn a new skill and create different projects. Enjoy the supportive and positive atmosphere. Instructor: Alice Sims, Art for the People

Heffner Park Community Center 42 Oswego Ave. Ages 55 and up Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m. April 17, May 15, June 12 \$6

CAMP

Pickleball Summer Camp Intermediate

Welcome to Forever Young's 2024 Intermediate Summer Camp for adults

SENIORS ARE ADULTS TOO!

Don't forget to check out the Adult class offerings on pages 25-27 for more options.

*Ask us about scholarship opportunities.

55+. The 2024 camp is Pickleball for Intermediate Players. You'll enjoy a week of pickleball designed to expand your skills and knowledge while having fun. This camp is for players who have some experience playing the game with other players or had some training such as taking a beginners class and are familiar with some basic knowledge of rules. Before registering please see camp details in the 2024 Spring/Summer (April— June) Forever Young newsletter to be distributed the first week in March. To see the newsletter online go to: takomaparkmd. gov/government/recreation

Takoma Park Recreation Center 7513 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 55 and up 1-week session Monday—Friday, 10 a.m.—3 p.m. August 19—August 23 Resident: \$95 / non-resident: \$105

DANCE

Hip Hop Move N' Groove

This new dance class gives participants a beat to start their day! Easy-to-follow hip hop, jazz, lyrical, and modern choreography that focuses on balance, range of motion, and coordination.

No equipment needed. No experience required. Instructor: Kokoe Divine

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Room) 7513 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 55 and up 10-week session Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. April 4—June 6 \$6



Recreation: 55+

Line Dance

Line dancing is an enjoyable social activity that provides great physical and mental exercise. It helps to strengthen bones and muscles. It also increases stamina and flexibility as well as supports weight loss and stress reduction. No experience necessary. Choose which day of the week you would like to attend class. If the option you would like is full, select the waiting list. Instructor: Barbara Brown

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gvmnasium) 7513 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 55 and up **Tuesdays**, 10:30–11:30 a.m. Spring (10 weeks): April 2-June 4 Summer (7 weeks): July 2-August 13 Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Spring (10 weeks): April 3-June 5 Summer (7 weeks): July 3-August 14

Zumba Gold

\$6

Active older adults who are looking for a modified Zumba class that recreates the original moves you love at a lower intensity. The design of the class introduces easy-to-follow Zumba choreography that focuses on balance. range of motion, and coordination, Choose which day of the week you would like to attend the in-person class. If the option you would like is full, select the waiting list. Instructor: Yesika Young

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium) 7513 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 55 and up **Wednesdays**, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Spring (9 weeks): April 12-June 5

Summer (7 weeks): July 3-August 14 Fridays, 10-11 a.m. (Virtual and inperson) Spring (10 weeks): April 5-June 7

Summer (7 weeks): July 5-August 16 \$6

DROP-IN

Bingo

Come and try your luck and win a prize! Drop-in—no registration required. Host: Paula Lisowski

Takoma Park MD Library 7505 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 55 and up Tuesdays, noon-2 p.m.



April 23, May 28, June 25 Free

Game Room Open Play

The game room is available for adults age 55 and older to play pool, table tennis, basketball arcade and other active games. The game room is a great place to join friends for active games. lively conversation, and just to hang out during the day. Very limited parking available. NOTE: Library and Community Center renovations may impact this program.

Takoma Park Community Center (Game Room) 7500 Maple Ave. Ages 55 and up

Spring Hours

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, 10 a.m.—noon p.m. **Summer Hours** (June 26-August 19) Monday-Friday, 9-11 a.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-noon Free

FITNESS

Enhance Your Fitness

A great total body workout using low-impact aerobic movement and gentle resistance training. This class focuses on increasing strength, balance and flexibility through stretching, breathing, core training, and proper posture alignment using standing and seated exercises including warm-up and cool-down routines. Registration is required for this virtual class. The Zoom link will be sent with your email receipt. Instructor: Adriene Buist

Virtual Ages 55 and up Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m. Spring (10 weeks): April 2-June 4 **Summer** (7 weeks): July 2–August 13

Foundational Fitness 55+

This virtual class is designed to improve health with focus on muscular strength, endurance, flexibility, balance, and coordination utilizing a high back chair, light hand weights, and/or resistance tubes. Have a towel and water nearby. Registration is required for this virtual class. Zoom link provided in registration receipt. Instructor: Michael Williams

Ages 55 and up Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10–11 a.m. Spring (10 weeks): April 2-June 6 **Summer** (7 weeks): July 2–August 15

Qigong 55+

Qigong is meditation via movement, standing and/or seated, that can benefit participants by lowering stress and anxiety, increasing focus, and improving balance and flexibility. It combines breathing, gentle movement and meditation to improve good mental, physical, and spiritual health. Instructor: Anne Harrison

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Room) 7513 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 55 and up Thursdays, 10–11 a.m. Spring (10 weeks): April 4-June 6 Summer (6 weeks): July 11-August 15

Recreation: 55+

Rhythmic Drumming 55+

Cardio fitness drumming lets the rhythmic beat move you through tapping and drumstick clapping while standing and/or sitting to exercise your mind and body. No drumming experience required. Instructor: Dance Solutions

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Room)
7513 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 55 and up
Tuesdays, 1:15–2:15 p.m.
Spring (10 weeks): April 2–June 4
Summer (7 weeks): July 2–August 13
\$6

Tai Chi Strength

Begin with meditation and stretching followed by Tai Chi forms and balance exercises to build strength and endurance. End with cool down exercises. Instructor: Master Robert Thompson

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Room) 7513 New Hampshire Ave. Ages 55 and up Tuesdays, noon—1 p.m. **Spring** (10 weeks): April 2—June 4 **Summer** (7 weeks): July 2—August 13 \$6

Yoga for 55+

This yoga class is about the gentle flow of yoga poses modified to an individual's needs depending on their balance level. Improve balance, flexibility, posture, and stamina and energize mind and spirit for better health and wellbeing. No experience needed. Students must bring their own yoga mat. Instructor Sarita Lama



Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium)
7513 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 55 and up
Tuesdays, noon—1 p.m. **Spring** (10 weeks): April 2—June 4 **Summer** (7 weeks): July 2—August 13
\$6

Yoga for Healthy Aging

This class helps build strength and endurance, increase flexibility and range of motion, improve posture and balance, and create a general sense of wellbeing. Special attention is paid to bone health. Work at your own pace in a series of seated, standing, and floor poses, incorporating breathing and relaxation techniques. Students need to provide their own yoga sticky mat, a yoga belt (or equivalent, e.g., a necktie), a tennis ball, and preferably a yoga block and blanket. Instructor: Carol Mermey

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Back Room)
7513 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 55 and up
Fridays, noon–1 p.m.

Spring (10 weeks): April 5–June 7
Summer (7 weeks): July 5–August 16

SPORTS



Pickleball Open Play 55+

Join other new players for pickleball practice and play in the gymnasium. This activity is geared toward beginners. Two courts and limited paddles available. This is a drop-in program—registration is not required; however a free 55+ Recreation Center membership is required for this activity. Sign up for a membership in person at 7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Takoma Park Recreation Center (Gymnasium)
7513 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 55 and up
10-week session
Thursdays, noon—2 p.m.
April 4—June 6
Free with Recreation membership



Partnerships

The Takoma Park Recreation Department has formal partnerships established with neighborhood, community, business and not-for-profit organizations. These partnerships allow our department to leverage resources and generate citywide interest and support for our facilities, programs and events. We appreciate your support!



Credit: Selena Malott

Pat Rumbaugh, The Play Lady, is joined by the volunteers who helped with the Seventh Annual Mid-Year Play Day on February 12, 2017.

Piney Branch Pool (Adventist Community Services)

The pool is located at Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Ave. Park behind the Community Center, and use side entrance to school on Grant Ave. For more information, contact Joyce Seamens at 301-565-0190, tjseamens@aol.com, or visit acsgw.org.

Pool Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 6:30-8:30 a.m. and 4-7:30 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m.-3:45 p.m.



Let's Play America

Let's Play America is a nonprofit that encourages people of all ages to play. Let's Play America and the Recreation Department co-sponsor four play events a year: a pool party and three play days. The dates are on the Let's Play America website under events. Residents who want to close their street for play: to help with the independent play events or would like to find more information are welcome to contact Let's Play America at info@ letsplayamerica.org or 301-928-9962 or visit letsplayamerica.org.

Takoma Soccer

Takoma Soccer is a volunteer program, the goal of which is to provide local kids with a fun, recreational soccer program close to home. Takoma Soccer strives to teach children the value and fun of teamwork. cooperation, practice, and sportsmanship. For more information, go to takomasoccer. org or contact Howard Kohn at kohn@erols. com.



Credit: takomasoccer.org

Children as young as 3 years old can play with Takoma Soccer.

Takoma Park Community Band

Join! Check out the Band's website: tkpkcommunityband.wordpress.com

Musicians at all levels of expertise are welcome. No audition necessary. The only requirements are the ability to read music and to have fun!

For more information, email takomaparkcommunityband@ gmail.com OR call Marcia Diehl, Conductor, at 240-424-2349.



Recreation





Annual Egg Hunt

Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an egg-citing time! There are 4 age categories: 2 and younger, 3–4, 5–6, and 7–8. Games will begin at 10 a.m., and the hunt will begin at 11 a.m. SHARP! Don't miss out. Don't forget to bring your basket to Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School) for a morning of fun. We will be collecting the eggs at the end of the event to reuse next year. Parking at the Community Center is limited, so walking is encouraged.

Ed Wilhelm Field 2 Darwin Ave. Ages 2–8 Saturday, March 30 Starting at 10 a.m. Free



Family Outdoor Movie Nights

Movie Night starts at dusk at Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School). Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars with your family! The movie will be a family-friendly "G" or "PG" rated hit. The Recreation Department will provide one small bag of popcorn per person and water. Due to limited parking, walking to the event is encouraged.

Ed Wilhelm Field 2 Darwin Ave. Saturdays, April 6 & June 8 Movie begins at dusk Free





Fitness Expo

The Takoma Park Recreation Center staff is preparing for our Annual Fitness Expo on Saturday April 6 at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. Come join us for an exciting day that will include demonstrations from our fitness programs as well as presentations from our local community health and wellness organizations. The expo will kick off at 10 a.m. For additional information or if you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Vincent Cain at 301-891-7289 or Vincentc@takomaparkmd.gov.

Takoma Park Recreation Center 7315 New Hampshire Ave. All ages Saturday April 6, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Police

911 (emergency) • 301-270-1100 (non-emergency) police@takomaparkmd.gov • takomaparkmd.gov/police Open 24/7

Whether online, in person, or by phone, the Police Department serves the people of Takoma Park. Here is a sample of the programs and services we provide.

Nationwide Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Saturday, April 27 Takoma Park Police Department 7500 Maple Ave.

This campaign allows the public to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Collection boxes will be set up in the firstfloor police lobby of the city building, or outside weather permitting. Prescription, over-the-counter, and pet medications will be accepted. In addition, vape pens and other e-cigarette devices are now accepted BUT only after the batteries are removed from such devices.

Although we continue to participate in this nationwide event, residents looking to dispose of excess and expired prescription and over-the-counter medications can visit the safe and secure permanent drop-off location at the City of Takoma Park Police Department anytime. The collection site is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Drugs can be dropped off with no questions asked. Items that CANNOT be left are liquids, inhalers, aerosol cans, regular household ointments/lotions, needles/sharps and/or thermometers.

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 6 National Night Out is a public safety event sponsored by the National Association



of Town Watch. The Takoma Park Police Department will be hosting its own community event in celebration of this campaign. The department's goal is to heighten safety and crime prevention awareness; to support locally based businesses, groups, and organizations; and to strengthen relationships among community members and between the community and local police department.

Look for more information in the July and August Takoma Park Newsletter. Free. Save the Date!

Etch & Catch Anti-Theft Catalytic Converter Program

In an effort to deter would-be thieves and to track stolen catalytic converters. the Takoma Park Police Department has teamed up with a local automotive business, RS Automotive. Our goal is to deter potential thieves looking to steal catalytic converters. If your catalytic



To receive notifications directly from the police department, register at takomaparkmd.gov/police. Notifications include, but are not limited to crime alerts, traffic, weather, missing persons, lost pets, etc. For more information, contact Cathy Plevy at cathyp@ takomaparkmd.gov.

> converter is stolen and recovered. law enforcement would be able to trace the converter based on the markings.

For an appointment to have your catalytic converter etched and painted for FREE, call RS Automotive directly at 301-270-4418. For more information on the program, visit the Takoma Park Police Department web page.

Vacant House Check

During the spring/summer, many people take vacations. Don't worry about your home while away; take advantage of the FREE vacant house check program offered by the Takoma Park Police Department for Takoma Park residents. A Takoma Park Police Officer will visit a resident's home once a day during their absence and inspect the premises for any signs of suspicious activity. It provides the residents with some peace of mind if they will be away from their property for an extended period of time.

Caring About Residents Every day (CARE)

During the spring/summer, we sometimes get thunderstorms that sometimes cause power outages. Please check out our CARE program for yourself or someone you love. CARE is a program directed at our residents who live alone with special needs, or just need to be checked on each day. CARE is another way we can give back to the community and take care of those in need.



Coffee with a Cop

Throughout the spring and summer months, Takoma Park Police hosts Coffee with a Cop at various times and places. There are no agendas or speeches—just a chance to ask guestions. voice concerns, and get to know the officers in your community. Be on the lookout for those announcements. We love to meet our residents and business owners!

Housing and Community Development

Housing and Community Development

Planning and Community Development • 301-891-7119 • planning@takomaparkmd.gov

Big Wheels Keep on Turning

May Is Bike Month

Takoma Park is working to make riding a bike a comfortable, convenient, connected, and enjoyable experience for all residents and visitors. The city maintains on-street bike routes, bicycle parking, and public bike repair stations across the city. You can access the Takoma Park Bike Map on the city website (search for "bike map"). Here are some key Bike Month dates:

Wednesday, May 8: Bike to School

Are your bikes ready to roll for Bike to School Day on Wednesday, May 8! Dust off your bikes and be sure to perform an **ABC** spin check before heading out:

- **A.** Make sure you have enough **A**ir in your tires.
- **B.** Check to see if your **B**rakes are working.
- **C.** Be sure that your **C**hain isn't loose or rusted.

Ride with friends, family, and your classmates to receive some bike safety swag! For more information on Bike to School Day and for resources on bike education and the "rules of the road", check out the "Bike and Walk to School" page on the city website (search "bike and walk to school").



Saturday, May 11: Adult Learn-to-Ride Bike Class

Want to enjoy the benefits of bike riding but don't know how to ride? Well the City of Takoma Park has partnered with The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) and the Washington Area Bicycle Association (WABA) to bring a bicycle class to residents. Class schedule and registration will open Monday, March 25. please check in at waba.org/learntoride/. Spaces are limited so register early! (Rain date is May 18.)

Friday, May 17: Bike to Work

Whether you're working from the office or from your living room, celebrate bicycling as a fun, eco-friendly, and healthy way to exercise and commute on Friday, May 17. Come by Takoma Park's pit stops in Old Takoma, Takoma/Langley Crossroads, and on the Sligo Creek Trail at New Hampshire Avenue to receive a free T-shirt and bike safety swag. For more information and to register, visit biketoworkmetrodc.com.

Join us in showing our appreciation for our wonderful crossing guards! Crossing Guard Appreciation Day is held on the first Tuesday of June each year. Watch for more information in early June.

We Want YOUR Feedback on New Bikeway Projects!

The City of Takoma Park is actively working on the designs for multiple bikeway projects, including 1) the New Ave Bikeway on New Hampshire Ave, 2) an upgrade to the Metropolitan Branch Trail, and 3) a redesign of Maple Avenue.

Follow along with each project on the city's website, where you can learn about public events and opportunities to participate in the planning process (search "bikeways").

Housing & Community Development

Housing and Community Development

Economic Development Division • 301-891-7119 econdev@takomaparkmd.gov

Community Feedback Opportunities

The City's Planning Division has a number of big projects in the works, and we will need your input! The following projects will have community meetings, workshops, and/or city council hearings this fall. They will have impacts on public space, pedestrian and bike safety, economic development, and more! To learn about each project and get details on how to get involved. search for following web pages on the City's website:

- Public Space Management Plan
- Minor Master Plan (County-led project)
- Maple Avenue Connectivity Project

Housing Division 301-891-7119 housing@takomaparkmd.gov

The Housing Division is responsible for monitoring Takoma Park's rental housing stock, ensuring compliance with the City's landlord tenant laws, and administering a variety of grant opportunities designed to further its goals to create and maintain a more fiscally and environmentally sustainable community and improve the quality of life for all residents. To find out more about the services and grant programs listed, visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-communitydevelopment...

Takoma Park Is Open for Business

The City's newest grant program encourages businesses to locate within Takoma Park or to expand their current Takoma Park space. Eligible businesses include those opening or expanding in the City with an ownership deed or a signed lease of at least three years for the property with a start date no earlier than October 1, 2023.

Grant funds can be applied where most needed, whether to support capital expenditures and hard costs related to new business fit-out, existing tenant

improvements, or serve as a one-time subsidy to offset cost of lease.

Ground-floor businesses outside of the Old Takoma commercial district may be funded at up to \$6/square foot. Old Takoma businesses, and upper-floor businesses elsewhere in Takoma Park may be funded at up to \$4/square foot. The maximum award to any single business is \$10,000.

Awards will be made on a rolling basis as long as funds are available. Fifty

percent of the grant amount will be given at the time of execution of grant agreement. The remaining 50% will be awarded at the time of the business's grand opening or re-opening, which must be within six months of approval.

Learn more about eligibility and the application process on the City of Takoma Park website (takomaparkmd. gov). Search for "open for business." If you have questions, contact the grants coordinator: grants@takomaparkmd. gov or 301-891-7235.

Join the City Nature Challenge 2024!

Friday, April 26, 1-3 p.m. Circle Woods

Poplar and Circle Aves.

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m.-noon Stuart Armstrong Memorial Garden Philadelphia and Holly Aves.

The City Nature Challenge is a friendly competition form of a bioblitz—an opportunity to observe and document plants, insects, animals, and fungi on a particular site.

In April 2023, the City hosted its first City Nature Challenge event. While



the City is new to hosting, some of our residents are veterans of the project are active in documenting living organisms through the iNaturalist website.

This event took place over one weekend, in 482 cities across 46 countries. Participation in the annual event has been steadily growing since 2018. The D.C. Metropolitan area ranked fifth worldwide for participants and ninth for the number of species logged!

This event is a fun way to get out and explore our natural world and meet neighbors! For more information on how to join the 2024 City Nature Challenge, visit citynaturechallenge.org/.

Public Works

Public Works

31 Oswego Ave.
301-891-7633
publicworks@takomaparkmd.gov
takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

SERVICES

Food Waste Collection

Interested in participating in the curbside food waste collection program? The program is accepting new participants.

To sign up, please visit: takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks/food-waste-collection

Once registered, pick up the curbside food waste container at Public Works, 31 Oswego Ave., open Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Electronics and Computer Recycling Drop-Off

Bring your old or unwanted electronic equipment and computer components for proper disposal to the Public Works facility, 31 Oswego Ave., open Monday—Friday, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m.

Trash Carts and Recycling Containers

Trash carts are available for sale. 64-gallon trash carts are \$53.30 and 96-gallon are \$58.10. Carts have lids, wheels, and handles.





Holiday Trash Schedule

Memorial Day

Monday, May 27 Yard waste pick-up is canceled.

Juneteenth

Wednesday, June 19

Wednesday trash, recycling, and food waste collection will happen on Thursday.

Independence Day

Thursday, July 4

Thursday trash, recycling, and food waste collection will happen on Friday.

Labor Day

Monday, Sept. 2

Yard waste pick-up is canceled.



Recycling containers are free and available at the Public Works Yard for pick up.

Large Item Pick Up

Heavy items, like appliances, mattresses, and furniture, are picked up by appointment only. There is a \$15 charge for the collection of up to three items. Call to schedule a pickup at 301 891-7633. Office hours are Monday—Friday, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off

Saturday, June 1, 10 a.m.—2 p.m. at the Public Works yard, 31 Oswego Ave.

City residents can drop off their household hazardous waste for free while non-

residents will be charged a \$10 fee. We will accept computer components as well as CFL and fluorescent tubes.





SAFE GROW Celebrates 10 Years!

Avoid Using Harmful Chemicals on Your Property

The Safe Grow Act places restrictions on the use of cosmetic pesticides for lawn care on public and private property. Effective March 2014, the City prohibited commercial pesticide applicators from applying restricted pesticides for lawn care purposes on private property or public rights-of-way in the City. Safe Grow went into effect for property owners and tenants as of January 1, 2015.

The Safe Grow Act was the end result of the combined efforts of two city residents who became concerned about the effects of lawn care chemicals and their effects on our health and environment. Their efforts to raise everyone's awareness of this threat to all of our lives spread throughout Montgomery County, resulting in the creation of the Montgomery County Healthy Lawns Bill.

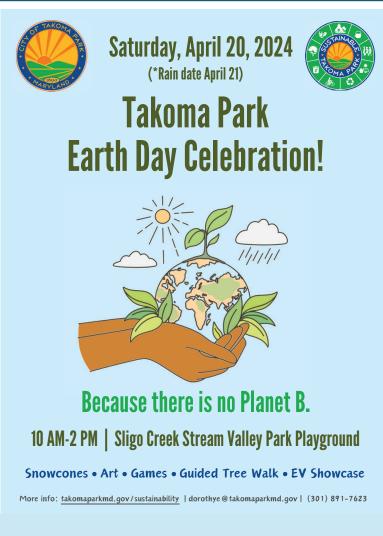
City of Takoma Park's list of restricted pesticides includes pesticide and pesticide products that are known to cause cancer or endocrine disruption and are identified by Canada, the European Union and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as having other toxicity characteristics. Exceptions exist for the control of certain noxious weeds, invasive species, and for public health pests.

The Safe Grow Advantage

Sustainable management practices result in better outcomes at a competitive cost. Takoma Park provides information on sustainable lawn care practices and products that can help residents maintain healthy lawns without the use of harmful chemicals.

Find resources on the City of Takoma Park website (search for "safegrow"). takomaparkmd.gov/safegrow





Borrow an Induction Cooktop Now

Residents of Takoma Park can now borrow a portable induction cooktop to see what all the hype is about. Cooktops are available to check out, for up to two weeks.

Pickup Location and Time Public Works Department

31 Oswego Ave. Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

The City encourages the use of induction cooktops to meet our 2035 net-zero emissions goals. Induction stoves, unlike gas stoves, use electricity and emit no on-site greenhouse gases. A reduction in the level of greenhouse gases is beneficial not just for the City's climate goals, but also for your respiratory health. Prolonged exposure to indoor air pollution, especially emissions related to cooking, can worsen asthma in those who have the disease and



increase the risk of childhood asthma.

Other benefits of induction cooktops are that they boil water faster than their gas counterparts, provide precise temperature control, and are easier to clean. Induction cooking uses electromagnetic waves, rather than a flame or electric coil to heat a pot or pan. For induction to work, you must use pots and pans that are magnetic, such as stainless steel and cast iron.

A compatible non-stick pan is included with all the City's cooktops in case your cookware is not compatible. Induction cooktops also have little to no residual heat — making them the safest cooktop option for people with children as there is no flame or hot surface.

The city encourages you to do a boil test and share your experience. Time how long it takes to boil cold tap water in a side-by-side comparison between your existing stove and the induction cooktop. Tag #SustainableTKPK on Twitter with your videos and results.

You can learn more about electrifying your cooking and other fossil fuel-based systems in your home at rewiringamerica. org and keep an eye on the City website.

You can call 301-891-7633 to check if a cooktop is available or join the waiting list for one.

Sustainability

Continued from Page 13

What About Multifamily Properties?

For multifamily properties, the City is excited to announce that we've launched the next round of Multifamily Building Improvement Grants, and have funding of up to \$250,000 for property owners engaging in weatherization, efficiency, and electrification upgrades. Tenants can directly benefit from these savings too with discounts to install portable electronic appliances, tax credits on community solar, or for an electric vehicle purchase.

Some people may feel the pressure to try and electrify all at once, but for many of us, this isn't realistic. While incentives are available, home electrification does involve upfront costs and can be a significant time investment in order to plan accordingly, obtain quotes from contractors, and then manage the installation process.

However, don't fear! The folks at Rewiring America have provided a Home Electrification Guide that will help you stepby-step on your electrification journey. Many appliances like stoves, water heaters, and HVAC systems have a 15-20 year life span. While most of research indicates that it is best to wait to make the switch when the appliances have reached the natural end of life, it is, of course, possible to make the switch sooner.

Our office has received questions about the carbon costs related to the removal of old appliances, and how to avoid them ending up in the waste stream. If you're in a position to be able to switch out the old stove before its natural end-of-life, we highly recommend linking up with a local entity who can upcycle it into another home. Organizations such as Community Forklift, Habitat for Humanity, and others usually welcome these types of donations, and are able to ensure it is placed with a family in need. Check out the Reuse DC tool for a full list of options.

The IRA incentives will be around until 2032, but let's not wait for this extraordinary opportunity to pass us by. Act now!

One of the best ways you can start is by attending the Healthy Home Fair, hosted by Electrify DC, on Saturday, April 6 at the D.C. Armory. This event will be the first of its kind in the region and is a free, full-day expo and interactive experience for homeowners, renters, home renovation

professionals and career seekers to learn about the products and services needed to improve our health, increase comfort, and reduce emissions from the homes of the DC region. The City will have a booth, and we hope to see you there!

Resources:

- City of Takoma Park Sustainability division: takomaparkmd.gov/ government/sustainability/
- Green-e certified energy: green-e.org/ certified-resources
- Healthy Homes Fair: healthyhomesfair. org/
- Montgomery County Department of Energy Sustainability division: montgomerycountymd.gov/green/
- Montgomery County Electrify MC: montgomerycountymd.gov/green/ energy/electrify-mc.html
- RMI Report on incentives stacking: https://rmi.org/wp-content/uploads/ dlm_uploads/2023/12/stacking_ federal_state_and_local_incentives. pdf
- ReUse DC: reuse.dc.gov/page/reusedirectory
- Rewiring America: rewiringamerica.org

Community Events

Community Events

Continued from Page 5

11 a.m.—Drag Queen Story Hour at Motorkat, 6939 Laurel Ave.

Takoma Park Independence Day Celebration

Thursday, July 4

Stav in town for the famous annual Takoma Park Independence Day Parade and evening festivities. Watch the parade—or march in it with a community group or other creative neighbors. Keep an eye on the Takoma Park newsletter in June and July for more details or check TakomaPark4th.org.

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 6

National Night Out is a public safety event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. The Takoma Park Police Department will be hosting its own community event in celebration of this campaign. The department's goal is to heighten safety and crime prevention awareness; to support locally based businesses, groups, and organizations; and to strengthen relationships among community members and between the community and local police department. Look for more information in the July and August Takoma Park Newsletter. Free.

Takoma Park Folk Festival

Sunday, September 8, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Takoma Park Middle School and Lee Jordan Field

The Takoma Park Folk Festival celebrates the music and arts and the Takoma Park-Silver Spring community. The event, which is held rain or shine, presents six stages of music, a juried crafts show, international food, community nonprofit tables, and children's games and activities. The Festival offers free shuttle buses (with wheelchair accessibility) to the Takoma Metro station. More information at tpff.org. Free.

ONGOING

The HalFSmokes

First Fridays, 7-10 p.m. VFW Post 350 in Hell's Bottom 6420 Orchard Ave.

Hear all your favorite tunes from WHFS radio's glory days. Combining melodic



Photo by Eric Bond

Declare independence with a Takoma 4th of July. Check TakomaPark4th.org.

pop with rootsy rock, their inspired performances of these eclectic classics will remind you of happier times. Featuring award-winning and long-time favorite Washington-Baltimore area musicians Billy Coulter (vocals/quitar). Bill Williams (vocals/quitar), Arch Alcantara (vocals/ bass) and Rich Nagel (vocals/drums). Open to the public. No cover charge—donations greatly appreciated. The Half Smokes.com

Historic Takoma Reading Room

First and third Sundays, 1-4 p.m. Historic Takoma 7328 Carroll Ave.

Visitors will have access to reference books on Takoma and Maryland history. the collection of *Takoma Voices* and city newsletters, historical journals, and more. Historic Takoma is also hosting the Maryland Reference Collection of the Takoma Park Maryland Library during the library's renovation. Historic Takoma volunteers will be available to answer questions about the collections and Historic Takoma, Find out more at historictakoma.org

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Every Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 6931 Laurel Ave.

Come out every Sunday behind the shops on Laurel Avenue for a mix of 25 vendors with seasonal produce, pasture raised meat and eggs, artisan cheese, grains, bread, baked goods, and more. Find breakfast and lunch at the market, including empanadas, egg sandwiches, burgers, pastries and more.

Crossroads Farmers Market

Opening in April Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Crossroads Farmers Market offers the season's freshest fruits and vegetables, as well as free-range eggs, honey, locally roasted coffee, healthy snacks, and fresh- cut flowers, all from no more than 50 miles away. The market is cultivating a more inclusive local food system in the Takoma/ Langley Crossroads. All federal nutrition benefits (SNAP, WIC, Senior/WIC FMNP) are accepted and matched dollar for dollar with Crossroads' Fresh Checks.

Takoma Spark Open Mic

Tuesdays, 7-9:30 p.m. School of Musical Traditions 7112 Willow Ave.

Hosted by Rob Hinkal of ilyAIMY and sponsored by Institute of Musical Traditions. Signup starts at 6 p.m. All musical genres and poetry and all abilities/ages welcome. No amps or drum kits. For updates, follow Rob's Open Mics on Facebook or visit ilyaimy.com/robsopenmics. Free.

Correspond with Incarcerated Artists

The 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, 6-8 p.m. 7112 Willow Ave.

Join The Justice Arts Coalition in gathering bi-monthly to respond to recently received art and mail from incarcerated artists in JAC's network. All materials, directions for the letters, and music will be provided. Pre-registration encouraged. Reach out to ava@thejusticeartscoalition.org with any questions.

Takoma Jazz

Saturdays, 7–10 p.m. Takoma Station Tavern 6914 4th St. NW Takoma DC

Weekly jazz at Takoma Station Tavern hosted by Jazz Kitchen Productions. For the schedule, check the website: ikproductions.org.

SAFE GROW ZONE

