

Takoma Park city guide

Winter 2025

CLASSES • PROGRAMS • SERVICES • & MORE!



takomaparkmd.gov

Holidays/City Events

City of Takoma Park Holiday Closure Calendar

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24

City offices and facilities are closed. Tuesday's trash, recycling, and food waste routes will be collected Thursday, December 26.

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25

City offices and facilities are closed. Wednesday's trash, recycling, and food waste routes will be collected Friday, December 27.

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1

City offices and facilities are closed. Wednesday's trash, recycling, and food waste routes will be collected Thursday, January 2.

Martin Luther King Jr Holiday

Sunday, January 19 and

Monday, January 20

City offices and facilities are closed. Yard waste collection is cancelled.

President's Day

Sunday, February 18 and

Monday, February 17

City offices and facilities are closed. Yard waste collection is cancelled.

On the cover: Hoping for Snow Day!

This year, forecasters are predicting a warmer, less snowy winter because of La Niña. But we are hoping for at least one good day of sledding. We've been told that if enough children wear their pajamas inside-out before they go to bed, they will get a snow day. It's worth a try!

Green Business Information Session

Tuesday, December 3, noon–1:30 pm, online via Zoom

Are you a business owner seeking more information on ways your business can be more sustainable? Then join us for a Green Business information session!

Partners from Pepco, the EV sector, Green Business Certification program, and more will help explain how you can take advantage of the number of incentive programs, tax credits, and free technical assistance, to help your businesses make the clean energy transition and reduce your carbon footprint. Registration is free at bit.ly/greenbiztakoma.

Celebrate Solstice

December 19, 6:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Maryland Library
7505 New Hampshire Ave.

Join us for dancing, storytelling, crafts, and refreshments as we celebrate winter and the return to the light. All ages, free.

15th Mid-Winter Play Day

Saturday, February 16, 1-4 p.m.
Piney Branch Elementary School
7510 Maple Ave.

Join Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department for a Play Day! It's time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to PLAY! To see a full listing of activities and performances visit letsplayamerica.org. All ages, free.

Annual Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 19, 10 a.m.
Ed Wilhem Field
2 Darwin Ave.

Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an egg-citing time! There are four age



Rock Creek Morris Women helped us celebrate Solstice last year at the library. Join us for this year's celebration on December 19. Photo by Eric Bond

categories: 2 and under, 3–4, 5–6, and 7–8. Games begin at 10 a.m., and the hunt begins 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. Ages 2–8, free.

Fitness Expo 2025

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Join us for an exciting day that will include demonstrations from our fitness programs as well as presentations from local community health and wellness organizations. 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. All ages, free.

Takoma Park Earth Day

Saturday, April 26

Because there is no Planet B. Look for details at takomaparkmd.gov/sustainability.

See your monthly copy of the Takoma Park newsletter for more city-sponsored events throughout the winter—or visit takomaparkmd.gov.

Find a list of some community events on page 38 of this guide.

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](http://takomaparkmd.gov/alert).

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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

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. November 5 marks the 2024 municipal election. See page 9 for more information about how, when, and where to vote.



Mayor Talisha Searcy
talishas@takomaparkmd.gov



**Council, Ward 1
Jessica Landman**
jessical@takomaparkmd.gov



**Council, Ward 2
Cindy Dyballa**
cindyd@takomaparkmd.gov



**Council, Ward 3
Roger Schlegel**
rogers@takomaparkmd.gov



**Council, Ward 4
Kurt Gilbert**
kurtg@takomaparkmd.gov



**Council, Ward 5
Cara Honzak**
carah@takomaparkmd.gov



**Council, Ward 6
Amy Wesolek**
amyw@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 Council-appointed 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.

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, the city website (takomaparkmd.gov), the Takoma Park Newsletter, and the Takoma Insider (email newsletter), and partners 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. The Finance department collects payments for landlord registration and licensing.

Online payment

Payments associated with a City-issued invoice may be made online or by phone by Visa, Mastercard, or Discover.

- A convenience fee of 3.75% or \$2.50, whichever is greater, will be charged.
- The fee is subject to change based on our Tyler's System Credit Card Services.
- Please call 301-891-7212 to talk to one of the finance staff if you wish to pay by credit card.

By mail or in-person payment

Finance Department
City of Takoma Park,
7500 Maple Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912



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

Code Enforcement 301-891-7113

Police301-270-1100 / Emergency 911

Public Works..... 301-891-7633

Recreation/Facilities
Rental..... 301-891-7290

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. Drop-off 24/7.



Trash Carts and Recycling Containers

Trash carts are available for sale. Purchase a 96-gallon trash cart for \$58.10 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 Ave., 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 visits: 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 and Computer Center Hours:

Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.;
Friday–Sunday, 12–6 p.m.

** The Recreation Department office and the Library are temporarily located on New Hampshire Avenue while the Library and sections of the Community Center on Maple Avenue undergo renovation.*

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 12 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.

¡Tenemos programación en Español!

*¡Visítenos! Somos Takoma y El Barrio También
Canta ahora en TeleCiudad.*

Let It Snow! But Then Grab a Shovel!

Although we can't say for sure, forecasts for our area are saying there is a chance for some snow this year. With the potential for snow comes an opportunity for residents and business owners to show what good neighbors they can be.

When it snows, we need to remove snow and ice from sidewalks so neighbors and visitors can travel safely. When sidewalks aren't clear, people have to walk in the street or try to navigate dangerous patches of ice, so please be considerate of neighbors and the community and keep your sidewalks clear.

Would you be willing to help out your neighbor? If your neighbor needs some assistance clearing off their sidewalk, offer to give them a hand after you finish clearing yours.

The City has regulations regarding snow removal. Residents have until noon on a day snow has fallen and accumulated in the night or until 9 p.m. on the day in



which it has accumulated.

Commercial establishments will need to keep their sidewalks clear between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The full width of your sidewalk must be clear unless full-width clearing is not feasible, in which case

at a minimum a continuous three-foot-wide path of the paved sidewalk must be cleared.

Last, to protect our sidewalks and trees, the use of rock salt is strictly prohibited on sidewalks or within 10 feet of trees.

Takoma Park Maryland Library

Website: takomapark.info/library
Phone: 301-891-7259
Email: library@takomaparkmd.gov

The Takoma Park Maryland Library is in its interim space at 7505 New Hampshire Ave., in the Hampshire Place shopping center. This is for the duration of construction on our new library building.



GETTING READY!

The new library building is almost complete! We are eagerly anticipating our move back to 101 Philadelphia Ave., but it won't happen just yet. We expect to begin our move in May or June 2025, and we will be closed for several weeks when it happens. At that time, off-site programs such as our presence at the Crossroads Farmers Market will continue, but indoor programming will be curtailed.

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

- subscribe to the Takoma Insider, an email newsletter with fortnightly news about all the city departments.

- check the Takoma Park Newsletter, sent monthly to all residents
- check our website at takomapark.info/library and read our blog posts and events pages.
- Follow us on Facebook (search Takoma Park Maryland Library)

The hours are the same for both the Library and Computer Center:

Monday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday through Sunday: noon to 6 p.m.

The Library and Computer Center will be **CLOSED** on the following holidays:

- January 1: New Year's Day
- January 19 and 20: Martin Luther King Day
- February 16 and 17: Presidents Day

Books-to-Go (curbside pickup) and **Books-to-You** (delivery for City of Takoma Park residents only) are still available. Email librarytakomapark@gmail.com to make a request.

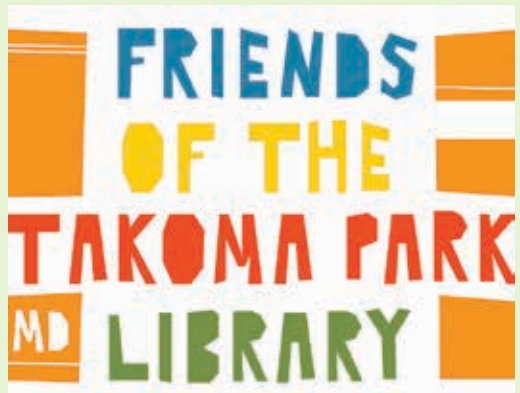
Cat Adoption Event: Sunday, January 26. Join the library for a fun afternoon of kitty cuddles and cozy reads! Local rescue group A Cat's Life Rescue will bring some of their adoptable cats, ready for you to meet and to find forever homes. The library will have a selection of cat-themed books ready for you to peruse and check out, perfect for a cold winter day!

Download our new app! Look in your app store for the free Aspen LiDA app. Have your library card and PIN handy to sign in (remember: your PIN is the four digits of your birthday month and day, MMDD). This application integrates our catalog with some of our electronic resources, such as Hoopla. You can easily see what you have checked out, when your items are due, and you can search our catalog and place holds (note: holds are available **ONLY** on items that are currently checked out).

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

The Friends have also been sponsoring monthly (approximately) Fixit Clinics! Keep your stuff out of the landfill—come in and mend and repair your things. Email fixittakoma@gmail.com for more information.

For more Friends information, visit ftpml.org.



Takoma Park Maryland Library



Computer Center

Help is available on a drop-in basis or call ahead for computer skills coaching (free, ongoing, anytime as staff has availability) 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. 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.

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

Chess for Kids: Sundays, noon

REGULAR ADULT PROGRAM

Crochet and Cozies: Mondays at 10:30 a.m.



Photo by Eric Bond

Celebrate Solstice

December 19, 6:30 p.m.
7505 New Hampshire Ave.

Join us for dancing, storytelling, crafts, and refreshments as we celebrate winter and the return to the light.

WinterQuest

Our annual wintertime reading program will begin on the last day of school in December. Stay tuned!



Read a Book and Cuddle with a Cat

Sunday, January 26.

Come to the library for a fun afternoon of kitty cuddles and cozy reads! Local rescue group, A Cat's Life Rescue will bring some of their adoptable cats, ready for you to meet and to find forever homes. The Library will have a selection of cat-themed books ready for you to peruse and check out—perfect for a cold winter day!

Takoma Park Community Center/ Sam Abbott Citizens' Center

Open During
Library
Construction!

7500 Maple Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912
301-891-7290

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

(Closed during renovation)

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

Game Room

(Closed during renovation)

- 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.

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

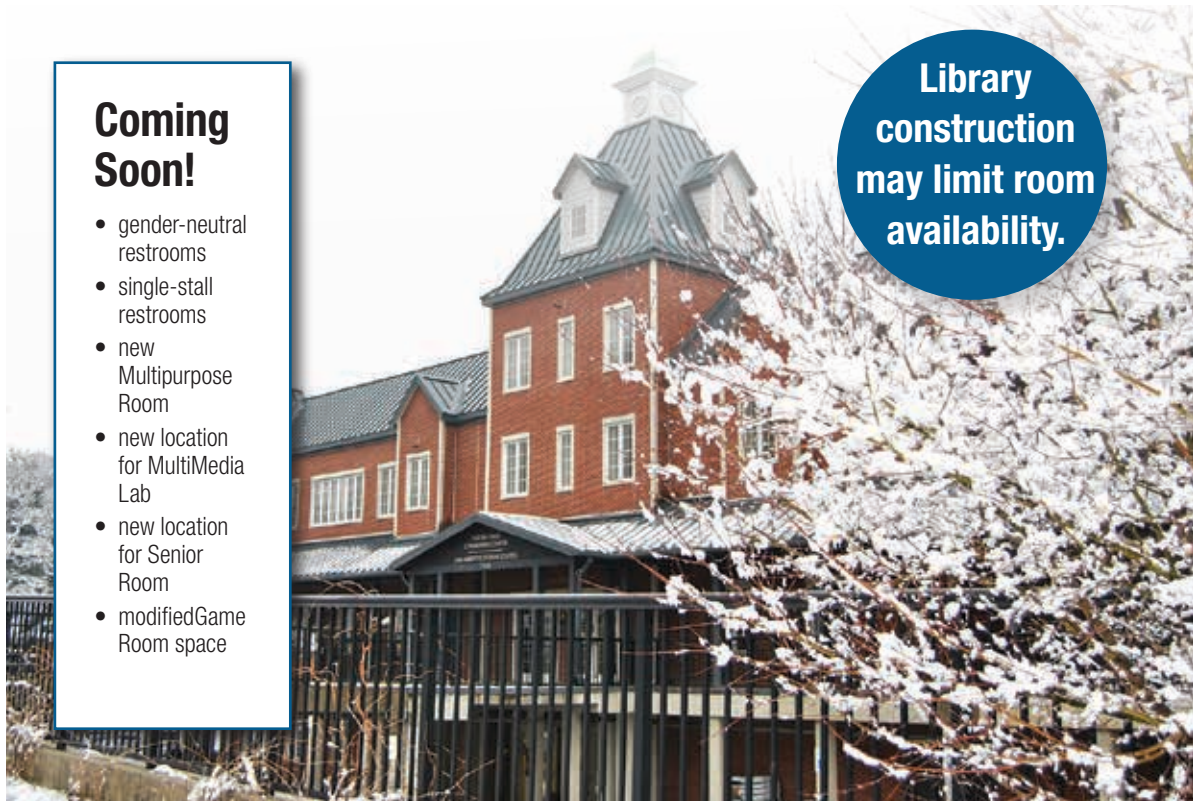
Teen Lounge (Grades 6–12)

Comfortable, safe space for teens to socialize and enjoy a snack after school. Teens can also participate in daily activities and work on homework.

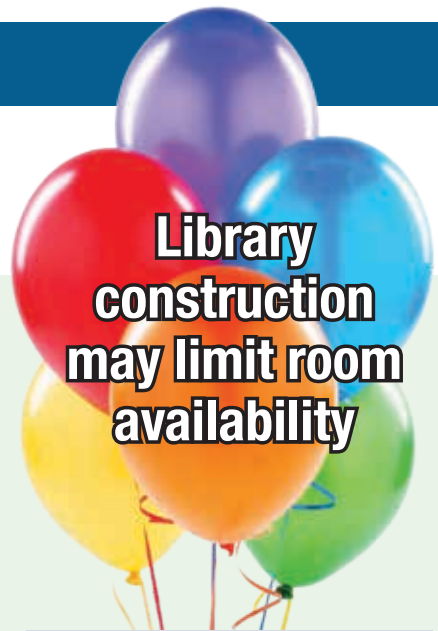
Coming Soon!

- gender-neutral restrooms
- single-stall restrooms
- new Multipurpose Room
- new location for MultiMedia Lab
- new location for Senior Room
- modified Game Room space

Library construction may limit room availability.



Book Your Next Event with Us!



Library construction may limit room availability

To reserve a space: Go online through ActiveNet 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 including deposit is due at the time of reservation.

Policies

Please visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/parks-pavilions-and-athletic-fields and click on Administrative Regulation (PDF) for recently updated regulations governing public use, facilities rentals, and general responsibilities of the user. Location, deposit amount and additional requirements are accessed per event based on anticipated attendance.

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.

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.

Takoma Park Recreation Center

- Call for availability: 301-891-7286
- See page 12 for prices

** Business rate applies to all organizations, nonprofits, for-profit entities, or community groups.*

Heffner Park Community Center

Monday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

Refundable Deposits: Effective 1/1/24 a minimum \$50 deposit is required for facility rentals. Refunded 30 days after event date as long as facility is left on time and clean.

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, plus additional fees listed above.

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

Small Meeting Rooms

Lilac Room

Capacity 20 with tables
25 without tables

Hydrangea Room

Capacity 20 with tables

Fees

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

Large Meeting Rooms

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

Event Cancellations: In the event of a cancellation, the City is to be notified in writing to recreation@takomaparkmd.gov at least seven business days (Mon.-Fri.) prior to the scheduled event. The rental fees will be refunded, minus a cancellation fee of \$25.

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**

Standard Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday	2:30–9 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	12–9 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

* Tuesday & Thursday 12–2 p.m. are reserved for senior use only

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)*

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

Call 301-891-7289 for availability.

*\$50 security deposit required per rental.
\$150 security deposit for rentals over 30 people
Business rate includes commercial and nonprofit organizations.*

Join Us For:

- Before & after school programs
- Classes for all ages
- Summer camps
- Senior programs
- Kids & Teen nights



All programs and classes at the Takoma Park Recreation Center are co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Department of Recreation. We thank them for the continued support.



Event Cancellations: In the event of a cancellation, the City is to be notified in writing to recreation@takomaparkmd.gov at least seven business days (Mon.-Fri.) prior to the scheduled event. The rental fees will be refunded, minus a cancellation fee of \$25.

What's in our parks?

	Reserve Through Rec. Dept.	On Street Parking Available	Public Transportation Accessible	Bike Station Within Walking Distance	Water Fountain	Picnic Tables	Playground	Pavilion	Grill	Half Basketball Court	Restroom 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-Boyd Park 7398 Jackson Ave. Ward 3											
Spring Park 6999 Poplar Ave. Ward 3											
Tootley-Fraser Park Eastridge Ave. Ward 5											

In addition to the parks above, the city maintains:

B. Y. Morrison Park Carroll & Ethan Allen Ave. Ward 3	Dorothy's Woods Woodland & Circle Ave. Ward 3	Ed Wilhelm Field 2 Darwin Ave. Ward 4	Lee Jordan Field 7611 Piney Branch Rd. Ward 4	Takoma Park Dog Park 2 Darwin Ave. Ward 4	Circle Woods Cockerville & Poplar Aves. Ward 3
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For information about other parks in our city, please visit montgomeryparks.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
 \$50 refundable deposit per rental

FAQs

- In order to secure a park pavilion, it is highly recommended to have a permit. Permits can be made online through ActiveNet or in person at our office.
- Moon bounces, stages ect must be approved in advance and only used in locations designated by the City.
- Permits are honored rain or shine, with no refunds/reschedules.
- 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.
- See cancellation policy on page 11.



Recreation Department

New/temporary office located at
7505 New Hampshire Ave. Suite 205
301-891-7290
recreation@takomaparkmd.gov
takomaparkmd.gov/recreation

Winter program registration
12/16 for city residents
12/9 for those with a current scholarship



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.

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 10-13. Availability is limited during construction.

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 (www.takomaparkmd.gov/alert); Be sure to select "Local Recreation Program Updates," "Childcare," and/or any other interested area for updated activity information through the page above; or call the Recreation Department's Inclement Weather Line (301-891-7101 x5605). 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. Before and After Care programs follow the Montgomery County Public Schools declarations. If there is a 2-hour delay in the morning, Before Care starts at 9:00 a.m.








SO THAT ALL TAKOMA PARK RESIDENTS CAN PLAY... SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR RECREATION PROGRAMMING

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 year. Apply now!

For more information visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation

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!

Para obtener más información, visite takomaparkmd.gov/recreation

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ለበለጠ መረጃ takomaparkmd.gov/recreation ጎ ይጎብኙ

Des bourses du département des loisirs sont disponibles pour les résidents de Takoma Park dans le besoin. Les bourses peuvent être utilisées pour des activités, des camps et la garde d'enfants par l'intermédiaire du département des loisirs de la ville de Takoma Park et sont valables pour l'année civile. Postulez dès maintenant!

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


























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 301-891-7204. 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.
- 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



Special Events



15th Mid-Winter Play Day

Saturday, February 16, 1-4 p.m.
Piney Branch Elementary School
7510 Maple Ave.
All ages, free

Join Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department as they present the 15th Annual Mid-Winter Play Day! It's time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to PLAY! To see a full listing of activities and performances visit letsplayamerica.org.

Fitness Expo 2025

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
All Ages, free

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. 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.



Annual Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 19, 10 a.m.
Ed Wilhem Field
2 Darwin Ave.
Ages 2–8, free

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 begin at 10 a.m. and the hunt begins 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.



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!



Photo by Selena Malott

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.
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 visit letsplayamerica.org

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.



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.

Recreation: Tots

NOTE: Due to Library and Community Center renovations, some of our classes have changed locations; please be sure to review the descriptions for updated information.

Winter Registration
Opens:
TP Residents: 12/16
Scholarship
Awardees: 12/9

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. Jam-packed with games and toys—your little ones won't even realize they are learning to dance. Instructor: Dance Solutions

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.
Azalea Room

Ages 3–5
6 Week Session
Sundays, 12:15–1 p.m.
January 12–March 2
Resident: \$125 / non-resident: \$145

Recess and Results

With only about 1 in 4 children meeting the daily recommendation of 60 minutes or more of physical activity per day, Recess and Results with Lynsey gives young children the opportunity to move their bodies in a way that is both fun and engaging. It combines age-appropriate strength,

NEW!

flexibility, and cardiovascular training through play. With Recess and Results, we're not just getting kids moving, we're helping them build a foundation for a healthy, active life—all while having fun along the way.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
(Gymnasium)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 3–5
6-week session
Saturdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
February 1–March 8
Resident: \$60 / non-resident: \$70

Recreation: Youth

NOTE: Due to Library and Community Center renovations, some of our classes have changed locations; please be sure to review the descriptions for updated information.

Youth

5-12 years



ART

Ceramics-Clay for Kids

In this class, children will receive instruction on how to utilize a variety of techniques (coil, pinch, slab) to create one-of-a-kind sculptures and vessels out of clay. There is a non-refundable \$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

6-week sessions

Mondays, 4–5 p.m.

January 6–February 24

Wednesdays, 4–5 p.m.

January 8–February 12

Fridays, 4–5 p.m.

January 10–February 21

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

Materials fee: \$25

Ceramics-Valentine's Day Gift-Making Workshop

Create brightly colored heart shaped ornaments, boxes and other keepsakes for family and friends over two Saturday mornings. A \$5 materials fee is due to the instructor on the first day of the workshop. Instructor: Caroline MacKinnon

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

Ages 7 and up

2-week session

Saturdays, 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

January 18 and January 25

Resident: \$45 / non-resident: \$55

Materials fee: \$5

CAMPS

Fundamentally Sound Spring Break Basketball Camp

Fundamentally Sound Basketball Camp will focus on the skills needed to elevate your performance. By the end of the camp you will understand the fundamentals of the game and how to apply them in game situations. Prior basketball experience

Recreation: Youth

NOTE: Due to Library and Community Center renovations, some of our classes have changed locations; please be sure to review the descriptions for updated information.



is not required, just a good attitude! Participants should bring a non-perishable lunch and water bottle. Additional paperwork required prior to the start of camp. Before and After Care is provided for an additional fee.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
(Gymnasium)

7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Ages 6–12

1-week session

Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

April 14–April 18

Resident: \$220 / non-resident: \$250

Before Care: 7–9 a.m.

After Care: 4–6 p.m.

Resident: \$45 / non-resident: \$55

Spring Break Camp: Wonder in the Wild

Get ready for an exciting, animal-themed spring break at Takoma Park's Spring Break Camp: Wonder in the Wild! This week-long camp invites young nature lovers to explore the wonders of the animal kingdom through engaging hands-on activities, interactive games, and creative crafts designed to inspire curiosity and foster respect for all creatures, great and small. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of camp. Please bring a non-perishable lunch every day. Camp sessions always fill—don't wait!

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.

Ages 6–12

1-week session

Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

April 14–April 18

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

Before Care: 7–9 a.m.

After Care: 4–6 p.m.

Resident: \$45 / non-resident: \$55

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
(Auditorium)

7500 Maple Ave.

Ages 5–12

8-week session

Saturdays, 12:30–1:15 p.m.

January 11–March 15

Resident: \$90 / non-resident: \$110



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
(Auditorium)

7500 Maple Ave.

Ages 5–12

8-week session

Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

January 11–March 15

Resident: \$90 / non-resident: \$110

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 Center membership.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
(Gymnasium)

7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Ages 5–12

Fridays, 4:30–6:30 p.m.

January 3, January 17, February 7,

February 21, March 7, March 21

Free with membership

EXTENDED CARE

Fun Day

Fun Days are offered on specific days when Montgomery County Public Schools are not in session. The program is designed to provide recreational activities for children enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade. Through structured, socially distanced activities, crafts and presenters, there are opportunities for socializing, unwinding, and releasing energy. Participants will meet at the Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave. Must bring a lunch, snacks and labeled water bottle. Activities and performers are subject to change. Registration is required. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of the program.

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.

Grades: K-5

Wednesday, January 29: Spy Museum

Monday, March 31: Monster Mini Golf

Resident: \$55 / non-resident: \$65

SPORTS

Basketball Skills Clinic

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of this skills clinic. Participants will be provided with excellent coaching which allows each person to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. This is a basketball class, not league play. Instructor: Greg Harris

Takoma Park Recreation Center
(Gymnasium)

7315 New Hampshire Ave.

8-week session

Saturdays, noon–1 p.m.

January 11–March 1

Resident: \$100 / non-resident: \$110

Teens

13-17 years

Winter Registration Opens:
 TP Residents: 12/16
 Scholarship Awardees: 12/9



ART



CRAFT!

Welcome to CRAFT!, Creative Recreational Arts for Teens! In this class, teens will explore mixed-media art projects that cater to a variety of interests. Participants will get to work on different art forms, including painting, collaging, illustration, and even sculpting! This class will scratch that creative itch and expose teens to the endless possibilities of art. All experience levels are welcome! There is a non-refundable \$20 materials fee due directly to the instructor on the first day. Instructed by: Kelsey Joyce

Takoma Park Community Center
 (Art Studio)
 7500 Maple Ave.
 Grades 8–11
 8-week session
 Mondays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
 January 27–March 24
 Resident: \$50 / non-resident: \$60
 Materials fee: \$20

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 \$20.00 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.
 Ages 11–14
 6-week sessions
Tuesdays, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
 Session 1: January 7–February 11
 Session 2: February 25–April 1
Thursdays, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
 Session 1: January 9–February 13
 Session 2: February 27–April 3
 Resident: \$185 / non-resident: \$205
 Materials fee: \$20

DANCE

Kolor Me Dance: Hip-Hop

Hip-hop dance incorporates aspects of modern dance, tap, and swing—integrating music and complex movements to form artistry. Come and learn the fundamentals of hip-hop dance by learning fun routines! Teens will also have the opportunity to make their own routines and explore other types of dance, such as ballet, jazz, and stepping. Instructor: Kokoe Abas

Takoma Park Recreation Center
 7315 New Hampshire Ave.
 Grades 6–12
 8-week session
 Saturdays, 1–2:30 p.m.
 January 11–March 1
 Free

DRAMA & THEATER

Dungeons and Dragons

They creep through the twilight; quiet 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." NOTE: Some dates this activity will meet in the Lilac Room. Instructor: Dave Burbank

Takoma Park Community Center
 (Auditorium)
 Ages 10–17
 4-week sessions
 Fridays, 4–6 p.m.
Session 1: January 10–January 31
Session 2: February 7–February 28
Session 3: March 7–March 28
 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 Friday nights? Come on out to a night of games, activities and more. Bring your friends for a night out of the house. Free with Recreation Center membership.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
 (Gymnasium)
 7315 New Hampshire Ave.
 Ages 12–16
 Fridays, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
 January 3–March 28
 Free with membership

Recreation: Teens

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Teen Money Management (Grades 6–12)

Money talks! Want to learn the language? This financial literacy program specifically focuses on basic finance skills that are relevant to the lives of teens. By learning the concepts listed below and putting them into practice, participants will be much better prepared when they begin building their own credit history and managing their own money. Topics include long-term saving goals, credit cards and credit reports, opening a bank account, and student loans. BudgetingClass will occur on Wednesdays, 6–7 p.m. Instructor: Tyronda Boone of Zoey & Zander.

Virtual on Zoom
Grades 6–12
8-week session
Wednesdays, 6–7 p.m.
January 15–March 5
Free

TRIPS

Teen Trip: Bowlero College Park

Join us for some bowling fun at Bowlero, 9021 Baltimore Ave. College Park, on this early release day! Teens will be able to enjoy some healthy competition while bowling and even play arcade games! Space is limited so register today! Food will not be provided, but participants can bring money to purchase food at the venue.



Takoma Park Community Center
(Meet at Teen Lounge)
7500 Maple Ave.
Grades 6–12
Friday, February 28, 1–5:30 p.m.
Resident: \$15 / non-resident: \$25

Recreation: Adults

NOTE: Due to Library and Community Center renovations, some of our classes have changed locations; please be sure to review the descriptions for updated information.

Adults

16+ years

Winter Registration Opens:
TP Residents: 12/16
Scholarship Awardees: 12/9



ART

Ceramics-Hand Building & Sculpture

In this class students will use hand-building 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, 1–1:30pm. Instructor: Caroline Mackinnon
Takoma Park Community Center
(Art Studio)
7500 Maple Ave.
Ages 16 and up
6-week session
Mondays, 9:30–11:30 a.m.
January 6–March 3
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 potter's wheel. Centering, pulling, collaring, trimming, and glazing will all be covered. While our focus is on the basic forms—cups, 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.

Recreation: Adults

Instructor: Leslie Milofsky

Takoma Park Community Center
(Art Studio)

7500 Maple Ave.

Ages 16 and up

8-week session

Wednesdays, 6:30–9 p.m.

January 8–February 26

Resident: \$220 / non-resident: \$240

Materials fee: \$40

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 jump-start 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 on Zoom

Ages 16 and up

10-week session

Mondays, 7–8:30 p.m.

January 6–March 24

Resident: \$95 / non-resident: \$105

FITNESS

Everyday Qi Gong



Simple gentle movements to improve health, mobility, flexibility, and general happiness and peace of mind. We will share exercises from many different classes, culling the ones that we practice regularly in the morning and throughout the day. You will find benefits quickly as these Qi Gong exercises invigorate energy systems, open up joints and relax our bodies, minds and spirits. Open to all—no experience needed. Your health is in your hands.
Instructor: Patrick Smith

Virtual on Zoom

Ages 18 and up

8-week session

Tuesdays, 7:30–8 p.m.

January 7–March 11

Resident: \$30 / non-resident: \$40



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, 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, non-competitive, and supportive space. The class sessions are energizing, grounding, playful and renewing. Instructor: Jen Skillcorn

Takoma Park Recreation Center

(Back Activity Room)

7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Ages 16 and up

6-week sessions

Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.

Session 1: January 11–February 15

Session 2: February 22–March 29

Resident: \$60 / non-resident: \$70

Foundation Fitness II



Foundation Fitness II (FFTII) is a group exercise program that is appropriate for all age and skill levels, but especially for those who are new to fitness training. FFTII 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. The class utilizes a high back chair, light hand weights and/or a resistance tube. Each participant should provide their own equipment, a towel and water bottle. Additionally participants should be able to perform floor exercises using a mat and various resistance tools.
Instructor: Michael Williams

Virtual on Zoom

Ages 18 and up

12-week session

Saturdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

January 11–March 29

Resident: \$6 / non-resident: \$16



Recreation: Adults



Zumba New Ave

Start your weekend off right and enjoy an hour of Zumba, Saturday mornings! This class is a total workout, combining all elements of fitness with cardio, muscle conditioning, balance, and flexibility. Zumba takes the work out of working out, 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
6-week sessions
Saturdays, 9–10 a.m.

Session 1: January 11–February 15

Session 2: February 22–March 29
Resident: \$60 / non-resident: \$70
Drop-in: \$12

MARTIAL ARTS

Karate Self-Defense

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

Takoma Park Recreation Center
(Back Activity Room)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 16 and up
13-week session
Mondays & Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m.
January 6–March 31
Free with membership

SPORTS

2025 Adult Kickball League Team

Join our Adult Kickball League this spring! Put together your winning team and go against other area teams in order to win the league championship. Games are

played at Belle Ziegler Field on Sundays. All games are double headers.

Belle Ziegler Field
Takoma and Albany Avenues
Ages 16 and up
8-week season
Sundays, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
April 6–June 15

(No games: April 20, May 11, and May 25)

Team Fee: Resident: \$200 /
non-resident: \$300

2025 Adult Kickball League - Free Agent Waitlist Individuals

If you do not have a team, sign up for the waiting list. You will be contacted if space becomes available on a team, and you will be responsible to pay your registration and any other associated fees to that team. Spaces not guaranteed.

2025 Adult Softball League Team

The Takoma Park Adult Softball League is a fun and exciting recreational program for competitive adults of all skill levels. Games will be played on Sundays. Team registrations must contain 50% of Takoma Park residents to qualify for resident team fee. Roster limit: 15. All games are double headers.

Various local fields
Ages 16 and up
6-week season
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
April 6–June 15

(No games: April 20, May 11, and May 25)

Team Fee: Resident: \$700 /
non-resident: \$800

2025 Adult Softball League - Free Agent Waitlist Individuals

If you do not have a team, sign up for the waiting list. You will be contacted if space becomes available on a team, and 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 in the Gymnasium. This activity is geared toward beginners. Two courts and limited paddles available. Please note that the area outside the court is less than what is recommended. The entire magic and success of pickleball is the way it has been setup to be a welcoming sport in an informal setting. It doesn't matter what your age is; you can just play.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
(Gymnasium)
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Ages 18 and up
9-week session
Mondays, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
January 27–March 31
Resident: \$20 / non-resident: \$30



55+

Winter Registration Opens:
TP Residents: 12/16
Scholarship Awardees: 12/9



SENIORS ARE ADULTS TOO!
Don't forget to check out the Adult class offerings on pages 21-23 for more options.
*Ask us about scholarship opportunities.

ART

Arts and Crafts with Alice

Brighten the winter 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 Community Center
42 Oswego Ave.

Ages 55 and up
Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m.
January 15, February 19, and March 19
\$6

DANCE

Hip Hop Move N' Groove

This 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
7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Back Activity Room
10-week session
Ages 55 and up
Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
January 16–March 20
\$6

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
7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Gymnasium
Ages 55 and up
10-week sessions
Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
January 14–March 18
Wednesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
January 15–March 19
\$6

Zumba Gold

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 in-person class. If the option you would like is full, select the waiting list. Instructor: Yesika Young

Takoma Park Recreation Center

7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Gymnasium

Ages 55 and up
10-week sessions
Wednesdays, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
January 15–March 19
Fridays, 10–11 a.m.
January 17–March 21
\$6

DROP-IN

Bingo

Come try your luck and win a prize! This activity is drop-in, no registration required. Host: Paula Lisowski

Takoma Park Maryland Library
7505 New Hampshire Ave.

Ages 55 and up
Fourth Tuesdays monthly, noon–2 p.m.
January 28, February 25, and March 25
Free

Walking Group 55+

Don't worry about the weather outside. Join others inside to walk around the perimeter of the Gymnasium. Go at your own pace. 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
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Gymnasium
Ages 55 and up



Fridays in person or virtual

Recreation: 55+

10-week session
Thursdays, 10–11 a.m.
January 16–March 20
Free with membership

EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS



Virus and Other Malware Removal

Did you know that viruses are only one type of malware that can harm your computer? In this lecture, we'll go over different types of malware and how they work. We'll also introduce some anti-virus programs and how malware remover software can prevent and get rid of malware infections to keep your device safe. Instructor: Aziz Hurtado Olson, University of Maryland Senior Planet Digital Literacy

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Back Room
Ages 55 and up
Thursday, March 13, 2–3:30 p.m.
Free

Tips for Being News Savvy Online

In this digital age, anyone can publish anything on the internet, even if it's completely false. This lecture will explain the way technology has made it easier to spread misinformation. We'll discuss tools to evaluate news sources and review helpful fact checking sites. You'll learn why it's important to check your sources before sharing! Instructor: Aziz Hurtado Olson, University of Maryland Senior Planet Digital Literacy

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Back Room
Ages 55 and up
Thursday, March 27, 2–3:30 p.m.
Free

FITNESS

Foundational Fitness 55 plus



Foundational Fitness for adults ages 55 and older 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. Equipment is not provided. Registration is required for this virtual Zoom class. Link is provided in the registration receipt. Instructor: Michael Williams

Virtual on Zoom
Ages 55 and up
10-week session
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10–11 a.m.
January 14–March 20
\$6

Iyengar Yoga for 55+

This class will introduce you to yoga as taught by the Iyengar method. The use of props and a step-by-step approach teaches alignment and brings strength and flexibility. The basic postures are introduced, whole body awareness is created, and energy is generated in order to bring into alignment the different parts of the body to associate the breath and mind and release tension and stress. No experience needed. Students must bring their own yoga mat. Instructor: Tehseen Chettri

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Gymnasium
Ages 55 and up
6-week session
Tuesdays, noon–1 p.m. }
February 11–March 18
\$6

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/7315
New Hampshire Ave.
Back Activity Room
Ages 55 and up
10-week session
Thursdays, 10–11 a.m.
January 16–March 20
\$6

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
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Back Activity Room
Ages 55 and up
10-week session
Tuesdays, 1:15–2:15 p.m.
January 14–March 18
\$6

Recreation: 55+

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. 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: Robert Thompson

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Gymnasium

Ages 55 and up
10-week sessions

Tuesdays, noon–1 p.m.

January 14–March 18

Wednesdays, 12–1 p.m.

January 15–March 19

\$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 well-being. Special attention is paid to bone health. Work at your own pace in a series of seated, standing, and floor poses and incorporates 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
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Back Activity Room

Ages 55 and up

10-week session



Fridays, noon–1 p.m.

January 17–March 21

\$6

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. Please note that the area outside the court is less than what is recommended. This

is a drop-in program, registration is not required, however a free 55+ Recreation Center membership is needed, sign up for a membership in person at 7315 New Hampshire Ave.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Gymnasium

Ages 55 and up
10-week session

Thursdays, noon–2 p.m.

January 16–March 20

Free with membership

Ping Pong Open Play 55+

Join other players for ping pong practice and play in the Gymnasium. 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
7315 New Hampshire Ave.
Gymnasium

Ages 55 and up
9-week session

Mondays, 10 a.m.–noon

January 13–March 24

(Closed January 20 and February 17)

Free with membership



visit us online @

<http://apm.activecommunities.com/takomaparkrecreation>

Winter program registration opens
12/16 for city residents
12/9 for those with a current scholarship



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.

- A resident of Takoma Park is any person who lives within the 2.4 square mile corporate limits. A non-resident 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 map."
- 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.

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.

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 business days (Mon - Fri)** prior to scheduled start of the program. A \$25 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.

Housing and Community Development

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

Housing

301-891-7119 • housing@takomaparkmd.gov

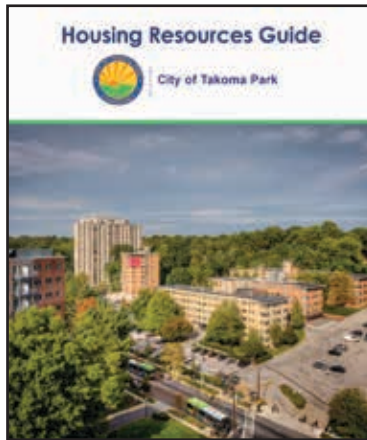
Tenant Resources

Whether you need assistance paying rent, information about the tenant displacement process, mediating issues with your landlord, or even working with a tenant association to purchase your building, the Housing Department has you covered.

Note that tenants have the right to purchase the rental property where they live in the event that it is placed on the market for sale.

Rent Stabilization

Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization Law was first adopted in 1981 and is one of the City's primary affordable housing programs. The program is designed to preserve the city's affordable housing stock and maintain economic and ethnic diversity by controlling the frequency and amount of rent increases that may be imposed by a landlord.



Home Stretch Down Payment Assistance

The City of Takoma Park's Down Payment Assistance Program, called the Home Stretch, provides financial assistance to eligible individuals and families seeking homeownership.

Housing Resource Guide

The Housing Department has put together a resource guide that provides a variety of services and opportunities for Takoma Park residents. The guide is available in English, Spanish, and Amharic at takomaparkmd.gov/government/housing-and-communitydevelopment.

Emergency Assistance Program

The City of Takoma Park Emergency Assistance program provides emergency financial assistance to homeowners facing a crisis related to eviction, foreclosure, or utility payments. Residents making 50% of the area median income are able to apply for funding through the City of Takoma Park.

Contact Housing staff if you have questions about any of these programs or resources. Or visit the Housing section of takomaparkmd.gov.

Planning And Community Development

301-891-7119 • planning@takomaparkmd.gov



Photo by Sam Kittner

The Planning and Community Development division manages a wide range of projects and activities including public space improvements, transportation projects, the Safe Routes to School program, site development review, grants management, and collaboration with county and state partners on master plans and regional planning efforts.

Learn more about these projects at takomaparkmd.gov.

- Bikeways Program
- Development Review
- Bus Stop Improvements
- Maple Avenue Connectivity Project
- Metropolitan Branch Trail Upgrade
- Minor Master Plan Amendment
- New Ave Bikeway
- Public Space Management Plan
- Safe Routes to School

Economic Development

301-891-7119

econdev@takomaparkmd.gov

Do you own a business located in Takoma Park or are a business owner looking to move to a thriving, diverse community? Are you a property owner or investor looking to explore your options in Takoma Park? Our Economic Development team

is here to help navigate the business and real estate development processes in the city. Our staff can provide various kinds of support, including technical support, site selection, and access to capital.

Visit the Housing and Community Development section of takomaparkmd.gov to find out more about local policies that impart doing business in Takoma Park.

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 in the upcoming months. 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:

- [New Ave Bikeway Purple Line Connection Study](#)
- [Maple Avenue Connectivity Project](#)

Code Enforcement

301-891-7113

codeenforcement@takomaparkmd.gov

The Code Enforcement division protects the health and well-being of Takoma Park residents through the preservation of its residential and commercial infrastructure. Enforcement efforts are coordinated with other city departments and county and state officials to the greatest extent possible.

Code Enforcement covers the following initiatives and bans

- Filing a Code Complaint
- Anti-Litter Initiative
- Noise Control
- Plastic Bag Ban
- Plastic Straws and Stirrers Ban
- Polystyrene Ban
- Property Maintenance Code
- Safe Grow
- Suburban Deer Management

Be Safe, Be Seen

A Winter Guide for Pedestrians, Cyclists, and Motorists!

As we head into a winter season that promises below-normal snowfall and drier conditions overall, it's essential to stay prepared for whatever Mother Nature has in store. While blizzard risks are lower than usual, there will still be periods of intense cold, and some storms may start as snow before transitioning to a mix or rain. With these factors in mind, here are essential safety tips for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists to navigate winter safely.

Whether you're walking, biking, or driving, adopting these proactive measures will enhance visibility, reduce risks, and contribute to a secure and enjoyable winter for all. Let's work together to ensure a season of safety on our city streets!

For Pedestrians

Visibility is Key: Wear bright and reflective clothing, especially during low-light hours. Carry a flashlight if possible.

Sidewalk Awareness: Watch for icy patches and walk carefully. Use designated crosswalks to ensure drivers see you.

Footwear Matters: Choose sturdy, slip-resistant shoes or boots to prevent slipping on icy surfaces.

For Cyclists

Lights and Reflectors: Ensure your bike has functioning lights and reflective materials for increased visibility.

Slow Down: Reduce your speed in icy conditions to maintain control of your bike.

Brake Carefully: Be gentle on the brakes to avoid skidding. Consider winter tires for better traction.

For Drivers

Increase Following Distance: Roads may be slippery, so give yourself extra space behind the vehicle in front of you.

Clear Snow and Ice: Keep your vehicle's windows, lights, and mirrors clear for optimal visibility.

Watch for Pedestrians and Cyclists: Be vigilant, especially at intersections and crosswalks. They may be harder to see in winter conditions.

TAKOMA PARK ARTS

301-891-7119 • arts@takomaparkmd.gov • takomaparkmd.gov/arts



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



and her team built and installed the Free Little Art Gallery as part of their Art MAGNET (Mini Art Gallery Neighborhood Entertainment Tour) project.

“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 anyone. 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@gmail.com.

Public Works

31 Oswego Ave.

301-891-7633

publicworks@takomaparkmd.gov

takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks

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



It's snow season: help us clear the streets!

The City's Public Works staff will be ready to respond to winter weather to keep city streets and sidewalks clear. You can help make this effort work better by following these suggestions:

- During snow events, please park your car off the street, if possible.
- If you must park on the street, make sure to pull your car as close to the curb as possible, and at least 25 feet from an intersection.
- Please clear your sidewalk of snow and debris.

For more information on snow removal, please visit takomaparkmd.gov/snow.

Electronics and computer recycling drop-off

Bring your old or unwanted electronic equipment and computer components to be recycled to the Public Works facility. Although the office is closed to the public, items can be dropped outside the front door.

Battery recycling drop-off

Bring your used household batteries for recycling to Public Works. Accepted types include AAA, AA, C, D, 9v, lithium ion, lead acid, nickel cadmium, button cell, nickel metal hydride, and nickel zinc. For more information on what can and cannot be recycled please visit the city website.

Trash carts and recycling containers

Trash carts can be purchased from Public Works. 64-gallon carts cost \$53.30 and 96-gallon carts cost \$58.10. Carts have lids, wheels, and handles. Recycling containers are free and available at the Public Works Yard for pick up during office hours.



Food waste collection program

The City's curbside food waste collection program is available to all the households within the City of Takoma Park. Single family and multi-family properties that receive City collection are eligible to participate in the food waste collection program. Please register at takomaparkmd.gov/publicworks/food-waste-collection. Food waste containers are available for pick up, at no charge, at Public Works during office hours.

Large item pick-up

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

Holiday Schedule

Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24

Tuesday's trash, recycling, and food waste routes will be collected Thursday, December 26

Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25

Wednesday's trash, recycling, and food waste routes will be collected Friday, December 27

New Year's Day Wednesday, January 1

Wednesday's trash, recycling, and food waste routes will be collected Thursday, January 2

Martin Luther King Jr Holiday Monday, January 20

Yard waste collection is cancelled

President's Day Monday, February 17

Yard waste collection is cancelled



THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK

Open for Business Grant Program

Learn more and apply online!

<https://bit.ly/3S6ZyAg>

The Open for Business grant program **encourages businesses to locate within the City**, or to **expand** their current Takoma Park space.

- Funding awards range from \$4-6/square foot and are capped at \$10,000
- Eligible businesses must have an ownership deed or signed lease of at least 3 years for the property with a start date no earlier than October 1, 2023



QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE CITY'S GRANTS COORDINATOR:

grants@takomaparkmd.gov | 301-891-7235

Sustainability

Since 2011, Takoma Park has been a certified Sustainable Maryland Community, but many residents may not know how to take full advantage of the city's green initiatives.

There are dozens of ways city residents can take advantage of the plethora of programs. Here's a look at a few the city initiatives and partnerships to make Takoma Park green.

Home Weatherization and Solar Installation

The Home Weatherization and Solar Installation program is a partnership with Edge Energy/Building Change Inc. to assist low-to-moderate Homeowners with weatherization repairs and electrification changes, including rooftop solar for those who qualify. For more, visit buildingchange.net.

Electrify MC

Electrify MC is an electrification program for homeowners. This one-stop option to electrify their homes includes scheduling an energy audit, choosing improvements based on findings, and receiving direct incentives. Visit montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/energy/homes/electrify-mc.html.

Go Solar

With the growth of the solar industry in recent years, it's time to shine a light on this wonderful renewable energy opportunity for our residents! There are options for residents to enroll in Community Solar or to install solar on your roof. The drastic decline in solar prices has made it extremely competitive, and there are now numerous financing or leasing options that make the jump to solar easier than ever!

Takoma Park and Montgomery County collaborate with Solar United Neighbors to promote their co-op campaign, which typically gives buyers around a 17% discount on the cost of installation. For more, visit solarunitedneighbors.org.

Community Solar is a way to buy locally sourced solar power that doesn't involve installing any panels on your house. The company connects you with solar projects in your area and provides you with clean energy through your normal



utility. One such company is Neighborhood Sun, a community solar organization based in Maryland. For more, visit neighborhoodsun.solar.

Renewable Energy Options

The City of Takoma Park has long purchased 100% wind electricity through renewable energy credits for its own operations, and while residents and businesses have also been able to purchase renewable energy through a number of suppliers in Maryland, choosing the right supplier has been a barrier for many. Shopping the various suppliers, navigating confusing contract terms, misleading advertising, high rates, and unclear sources of power have led only a small percentage of businesses and households in the city actually to choose clean power.

There is now a wide market of clean energy providers. For a full list of providers, visit psc.state.md.us/electricity/electric-supplier. Additionally, we



recommend looking into Green-e certified companies. Green-e independently verifies that companies offer verified clean energy. Learn more at green-e.org.

Transportation

As of 2019, 45% of Takoma Park's total emissions came from transportation. Transportation emissions are broken down into commercial, personal, municipal, and transit—with personal and commercial having the largest emissions. Takoma Park is committed to lowering transportation emissions, and has helped do so by increasing bike lanes, car free challenges, and assisting in the deployment of charging stations for electric vehicles around the city.

Biking

Biking is a great way to move about the city, whether it is for pleasure, errands or transportation we encourage residents to get out and hit the pavement. There are a multitude of projects that Takoma Park has been implementing to make the city more bike friendly.

With access to the Sligo Creek Trail and Metropolitan Branch Trail, downtown Washington, D.C., and nature are all easily within reach. Takoma Park is currently improving bike routes, installing bike parking and bike repair stands, and working to expand bike sharing.

Need a bike? There are seven Capital Bikeshare stations in Takoma Park connecting to those in nearby Silver Spring and Washington D.C. Pick up one of the iconic red bikes in the city and ride to any of Capital Bikeshare's 370+ stations in the Metropolitan Washington area.

You can pick up a printed bike map at the Community Center (7500 Maple Ave.) that shows shared used trails, designated bike lanes, and other route options in Takoma Park as well as in lower Montgomery County, western Prince George's County, and the northern portion of Washington, D.C. That map is also available online at takomaparkmd.gov/about-takoma-park/getting-around.

There are more resources for cyclists the Washington Area Bicycle Association website: waba.org.

Continued on next page

Don't Trash It—Fix It!

In the second half of the 20th Century, with the acceleration of consumer culture, it became more commonplace for Americans to throw away broken household and personal items rather than repairing them. Not only is this an issue of cutting into the household budget, but it also wastes resources and results in appliances, electronics, and clothing taking up space in a landfill.

And yet, many of us do not know how to repair basic items—or we lack the confidence. Walter Mulbry from the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library is trying to fix that problem here in Takoma Park through Fixit clinics, which have been held at the city library throughout the spring and summer. Bolstered by an army of handy volunteers, Mulbry has been staging these free clinics about once a month, based on the availability of his cohort.

“The idea is that [people] not bringing in stuff and dropping it off,” says Mulbry. “They could take it to repair shop. The idea is actually to show them how to do things—so they become fixers themselves. You show ‘em how to repair a lamp so they can repair the next lamp. Once you’ve



Photo by Eric Bond

A Fixit volunteer examines an old Corona typewriter with its owner.

replaced cords or switches or plugs, you’re like, ‘okay, yeah, no big deal.’”

“Now, indeed, it’s a continuum,” says Mulbry.

The assembled volunteers walk in with a variety of fixing expertise, including the ability to work on electronics like stereo systems and computers, small appliances, lamps, bicycles, and furniture. The library has a congregation of sewing machines and skilled tailors who can help repair clothing and other cloth items, while showing the owner how to make such repairs themselves. Even knives and lawn mower blades can be sharpened.

Ahead of a Fixit clinic, people can sign up online at SignUpGenius.com, with information about the item that they are bringing in so that volunteers can prepare. At times, another part is needed, so the Fixit volunteer will help their client order a part and come back to the next clinic.

Information about the Fixit clinics is announced on the Friends of Takoma Park Maryland Library website: ftpml.org. Community members can sign up for the Friends newsletter, which will announce the date and time ahead of the clinic. In addition, the monthly Takoma Park Newsletter will announce the dates on the library page.

Continued from previous page

Walking

Due to the size of Takoma Park, only 2.5 square miles, everything within the city is in walking distance. We encourage residents to walk to where they need to go in Takoma Park or to connect different public transportation routes.

Accessibility is a citywide priority; sidewalks are being built and upgraded for ADA-compliance. Details of ongoing infrastructure work, including sidewalk improvements, can be found at takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/project-directory. Information on how to request a sidewalk can be found through the Public Works page at takomaparkmd.org.

A walking map is available for exploring the cultural diversity and unique shopping opportunities of the New Hampshire Avenue corridor at thenewwave.org

Public Transportation

Commuting by public transportation is a

great way to get to and from work. Relaxing on the bus, not having to worry about parking in D.C., saving the wear and tear on your vehicle, or limiting fuel emissions are all great reasons to pick the public option versus driving.

Takoma Park is served by multiple public transportation options, making it easy to get around southern Montgomery County, western Prince George’s County, and the District of Columbia. Bus operators include

- **Metrobus** and Metrorail, provided by WMATA (wmata.com)
- **Ride On**, provided by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit)
- **Shuttle UM**, provided by the University of Maryland (transportation.umd.edu/shuttle-um)

The Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center, at New Hampshire Avenue and University Boulevard, accommodates up to 12,000 daily bus passengers on 11 different bus routes, providing passengers with a waiting area, restrooms, and bus

information. Find out more at wmata.com/service/bus/takoma-langley.cfm.

Electric Vehicles and Plug-In Hybrids

Electric vehicle (EV) adoption is increasing throughout the country and Takoma Park is no exception. Range anxiety is the number one reason people don’t purchase EV’s. Takoma Park is trying to help quell this by providing free charging stations throughout the city. The city currently has 22 public charging stations within 10 miles, including 11 free charging stations. You can find out the locations of charging stations and other EV resources at chargeHub.com.

Charging at home is the most common way that EV owners replenish their battery. Understanding the balance between charging at home and around town can help eliminate range anxiety.

In the market for a new or used EV? There may be some great tax incentives waiting for you! Check out the latest info sheet from the Electric Vehicle Association of Washington DC: evadc.wildapricot.org/.

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.

Help Provide Shelter from the Cold

If you need or see someone who needs shelter, call the Community Crisis Center, 240-777-4000; Shelter Services, 240-777-3289; the Takoma Park Police non-emergency number, 301-270-1100; or the Montgomery County Police non-emergency number, 301-279-8000.

Donate Winter Clothes

Do you have coats, gloves or scarves that you don't need anymore? Donate them!

The Takoma Park Police Department, in partnership with Adventist Church, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department,

and others, is collecting clean, gently used warm coats in any size from infant to adult. The coats will be donated to people in need. We will also accept clean, gently used gloves/mittens and scarves.

A large box will be in the lobby of the Takoma Park Police Department, 7500 Maple Ave. through Friday, December 27. If you have questions, please contact Cathy Plevy at cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov.

Join the Community Police Academy

The Community Police Academy begins on Tuesday, March 4. Look in the January newsletter and online for an application to register.

Stay Informed

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.

Thwart Porch Pirates

Online shopping has become a normal part of our lives. Having items delivered to your doorstep saves time and effort. But with the rise in packages being delivered, there is also a rise in package thefts. To help you protect your valuable deliveries and ensure they reach you safely, we've put together a set of tips and strategies.

- **Request a Signature:** This ensures that packages aren't left unattended.
- **Install a Security Camera:** Install security cameras that provide real-time alerts and allow you to communicate with delivery personnel remotely.
- **Track your Deliveries:** Keep track of your packages by using tracking numbers and delivery notifications to know when they'll arrive.
- **Choose In-Store Pickup:** Opt for in-store pickup if the retailer offers this option. You can collect your packages at your convenience.
- **Schedule Deliveries:** Many delivery services allow you to schedule specific delivery times when you'll be at home. Opt for same-day or on-demand delivery services that reduce the time your package spends outside.
- **Install smart locks** that allow delivery personnel to access a secure storage area for packages (some people have this on their garages for packages to be left inside the garage doors out of sight).
- **Delivery to Workplace:** If your workplace permits it, have packages delivered to your office, where they can be stored securely.
- **Neighbor Networks:** Coordinate with your neighbors to create a shared delivery drop-off point or neighborhood

package hub.

- **Smart Locks:** Install smart locks that allow delivery personnel to access a

Alternative Delivery Locations in Takoma Park Takoma Postal and Business Center

7304 Carroll Ave., takomapostal.com

Takoma Postal and Business Center will sign for your shipments when they arrive; record packages in their package-receiving management system, notify you via phone, text, or email when you have a package and safely secure and store your packages until you pick them up at your convenience.

If you're also worried about mail theft from your mailbox, they also allow you to rent a private mailbox and receive all of your mail and packages as part of the service without the extra package fees.

Amazon Lockers

Shipping to an Amazon Locker is free for Prime Amazon members (they only accept Amazon packages). You will need to contact the company to check on pricing if you are not a Prime Amazon member. There are places in or near Takoma Park that offer this service. Find information at amazon.com.

UPS Access Point

6315 New Hampshire Ave. (inside Dennis Express).
For more information, visit locations.ups.com.

FedEx On-site

There are places in or near Takoma Park that offer this service. For more information, visit fedex.com.

The Community Police Academy is a 12-week program consisting of one class a week on Tuesday evenings, 7–9:30 p.m. The classes cover topics such as patrol, traffic enforcement, use-of-force, criminal investigations, firearms, and crime analyses. There are multiple opportunities for hands-on learning through equipment demonstrations, practical scenarios, field trips, and ride-alongs with patrol officers.

Through the Community Police Academy, members of the community gain insight into how law enforcement officers perform their duties. To hear what others have said about the Academy, please search for “community police academy” on takomaparkmd.gov.

The Community Police Academy is free to the public. Seats are limited to the first 25 students and are filled on a first-come-first-served basis. The Takoma Park Police Department asks that all applicants commit to the full 12 weeks to get the most out of the program.

You must be age 16 or older and live or work in Takoma Park. You may not have any serious misdemeanor or felony offenses.

Any questions about the Community Police Academy can be directed to the Police Public Information Manager Cathy Plevy at 301-891-7142 or cathyp@takomaparkmd.gov.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

If someone you know is elderly or dependent on life-sustaining or health-related equipment, such as a ventilator, respirator, or oxygen concentrator, you should make plans now to ensure their needs are met during severe winter weather and possible power outages.

- Help them stock a home disaster kit, including a flashlight and extra batteries, a battery-operated radio, bottled water, non-perishable foods, essential medicines, and extra blankets or sleeping bags.
- Check on them after a storm or power outage. Register them as a special needs customer with their utility companies so they will become a priority customer. Notify others who could provide help such as neighbors, relatives, nearby friends, and local emergency responders, such as the fire department.
- Have a list of emergency numbers readily available.
- Have a standby generator or an alternative source of power available. Be aware of the safety rules for use.

Stay Safe While You Keep Warm

More home fires are started by heating equipment than any other cause. Portable and electric heaters are the most dangerous. But it is possible to be warm and safe this winter by following these tips on space heaters:

- Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn—including furniture, people, pets, and curtains.
- There should always be an adult in the room when a space heater is on.
- Turn off the space heaters before leaving a room or going to sleep.
- Never use space heaters to dry clothing or blankets.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning Precautions

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is known as “the silent killer.” You cannot see it, smell it or taste it. CO claims the lives of nearly 300 people in their homes each year, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). CO is a deadly gas that is produced by fuel-burning heating equipment, such as furnaces, wood stoves, fireplaces, and kerosene heaters. Follow these guidelines to help keep your family safer:

Install at least one CO alarm near sleeping areas.

Have a trained professional inspect, clean, and tune-up your home’s central heating system and repair leaks or other problems. Fireplaces and woodstoves should also be inspected each year and cleaned or repaired as needed.

- Keep gas appliances properly adjusted and serviced.
- Never use an oven or range to heat your home.
- Never use a gas or charcoal grill inside your home or in a closed garage.
- Portable electric generators must be used outside only. Never use them indoors, in a garage, or in any confined area that can allow CO to collect. Follow usage directions closely.

Protect Your Pets

Winter is a time we should pay close attention to the safety of our pets. Here are some tips:

- If your pet goes outdoors, be aware of the temperature. Pets can get frostbite very easily on the ears, tail, and paws.
- When walking your dog, check the paws to make sure that ice is not building up between the toes and that salt from the road is not irritating the skin.
- If your dog is a swimmer, keep it on a leash around open water or unstable ice. Hypothermia can set in quickly and the dog may be unable to get out of the water.
- Before you start your car, you should honk the horn to make sure that a cat has not decided to nap in a warm spot under the hood of the vehicle, or underneath the vehicle.
- If you have left your holiday decorations up after Christmas, keep ornaments out of reach of your pets. Remember that poinsettias, holly, mistletoe, and other plants can be toxic if ingested.



Donate to Montgomery County Animal Shelters

From Monday, January 6 through Friday, February 7, Takoma Park Police will be collecting new/gently used bath towels, beach towels, bathroom rugs, hand towels, washcloths, and blankets to help the Montgomery County Animal Shelters. We are also collecting beds, toys, and unopened food. Please bring your donations to the Takoma Park Police Department lobby, 7500 Maple Ave.,

NOTE: For the safety of the animals, do not donate fitted sheets, items with zippers or snaps, and/or other fabrics with rips or frayed edges.

Community Events

Green Business Information Session

Tuesday, December 3, noon–1:30 pm,
online via Zoom

Are you a business owner seeking more information on ways your business can be more sustainable? Then join us for a Green Business information session! Sector partners from Pepco, the EV sector, Green Business Certification program and more will help explain how you can take advantage of the number of incentive programs, tax credits, and free technical assistance, to help your businesses make the clean energy transition and reduce your carbon footprint. Registration is free at bit.ly/greenbiztakoma.

Takoma Park Crafters' 42nd Holiday Sale

Friday, December 6, noon–8 p.m.
Saturday, December 7, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Seekers Church
276 Carroll St. NW, Takoma D.C.

Celebrate the joy of the holidays with handcrafted gifts by local artists at the Takoma Park Crafters' 42nd Holiday Sale the first Friday and Saturday in December. Featured crafts include handmade yarn arts, textiles, woodworks, paper, ornaments, jewelry, upcycled objects, mosaics, pottery, soaps, honey, and baked goods. For more information, email tpholidaycrafts@gmail.com or call **301-455-5765**.

Alternative Gift Fair

Saturday, December 7, noon–4 p.m.
Takoma Park Presbyterian Church
310 Tulip Ave.
Online through January 3 at aggw.org

Enjoy the true meaning of giving and savor this local tradition. With the Alternative Gift Fair, holiday "shopping" means donating to nonprofits in the name of your loved ones. Celebrate with family and friends at this in-person holiday festival as you listen to live music, purchase a delicious treat from our bake sale, play to win your favorite Downtown Takoma Shops raffle item, or receive a free 15-minute seated massage! Bring your children—at the Alternative Gift Fair, they'll learn firsthand how nonprofits make a difference and explore ways they can get involved. You will be able to speak with the volunteers from our 14 participating small nonprofits and learn fascinating details about the work they do in the world. **aggw.org**.



*Kick off the December holidays with a concert from the Takoma Park Municipal Band on December 8 at 3 p.m. They will be playing a medley of Hanukkah favorites, selections from *The Nutcracker*, *Bugler's Holiday*, a rollicking *Sleigh Ride*, a flute feature, and more. This free concert will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave.*

Pajamarama Holiday Market

Sunday, December 8, 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Participating Mainstreet Takoma businesses

Takoma Park's Roscoe the Rooster crows for this annual holiday shopping event. Pajama-wearing shoppers are rewarded with early morning discounts at participating Takoma businesses. Shopping is fueled with coffee, donuts, breakfast sandwiches and huevos rancheros at local restaurants. Holiday shopping continues into the afternoon at the Pajamarama Holiday Market at the Takoma Theater. Local artists, makers, and collectors set up outdoors with unique, handmade holiday gifts. **mainstreettakoma.org**.

Holiday Band Concert—Takoma Park Community Band

Sunday, December 8, 3–4 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Ave.

The Takoma Park Community Band will present a holiday program to celebrate the season! A rousing medley of Hanukkah tunes! Don't miss the featured trumpets playing *Bugler's Holiday* and a flute ensemble, which includes the alto and bass flute, a very interesting sound! A narrator will take you through Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* with sound effects! And much more!

An Afternoon of Board Games

Thursday, December 12, 1–3 p.m.
Hefner Park Community Center
42 Oswege Ave.

Join us for an afternoon of board games, with festive food and drink to celebrate the season. With an assortment of board games to choose from, there's something for everyone. **villageoftakomapark.com**.

Takoma Park Gift Market

Friday, December 13, 5–9 p.m.
201 Ethan Allen Ave.

Celebrate the holiday season under the stars and surrounded by holiday lights at the Takoma Park Gift Market, a curated guide to shopping small this holiday season. Enjoy a special evening with a variety of local and handmade gifts, delicious foods, and festive libations. **mainstreettakoma.org**.

Takoma Cocoa Crawl

December 14, 1–4 p.m.

Enjoy cocoa at area restaurants and cafes during the Takoma Cocoa Crawl! Make one stop or many. Adult versions available too. Businesses will provide single use mugs or to-go cups. Prices and sizes vary by business. Cocoa Crawl is also a great day for holiday shopping. **mainstreettakoma.org**.

14th Annual Takoma Park Book Fair

December 14, 1–3:30 p.m.
Busboys and Poets
235 Carroll St., Takoma D.C.

Help us build our community of local authors and buy some great local books.

Community Events

Old Town Holiday Brass

December 15, noon–1:30 p.m.

A wind ensemble featuring young musicians from in and around the Takoma Park are playing holiday classics under the Gazebo.

Celebrate Solstice at the Library

December 19, 6:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Maryland Library
7505 New Hampshire Ave.

Join us for dancing, storytelling, crafts, and refreshments as we celebrate winter and the return to the light. All ages, free.

Celebrate Solstice at the Gazebo

December 21, 5–6 p.m.
Takoma Park Gazebo

The Foggy Bottom Morris Men, the Washington region's longest-running Morris Dance team, will celebrate the Winter Solstice at the Takoma Park Gazebo, continuing a long annual tradition. They will perform a variety of traditional winter dances from England, including the Abbots Bromley Horn Dance, sword dances and more! They will also reprise their annual Mummer's play with traditional characters, including an appearance by Father Christmas!

15th Mid-Winter Play Day

Saturday, February 16, 1–4 p.m.
Piney Branch Elementary School
7510 Maple Ave.

Join Let's Play America and the Takoma Park Recreation Department for a Play Day! It's time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to PLAY! To see a full listing of activities and performances visit letsplayamerica.org. All ages, free.

Takoma Park Middle School Book Sale

Friday, February 28, 5–7 p.m.
Saturday, March 1, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Takoma Park Middle School cafeteria
7611 Piney Branch Road

Organized by the Takoma Park Middle School PTA, with a wide range of children's books, chapter books and young adult books. Also adult fiction and nonfiction. All at bargain prices! There will also be music performances, book readings, a bake sale, and other fun activities.

ONGOING

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Sundays, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
6931 Laurel Ave.

Come out every Sunday behind the shops on Laurel Ave. 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.

Historic Takoma Reading Room

First and third Sundays, 1–4 p.m.
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. historictakoma.org.

Correspond with Incarcerated Artists

First and third Mondays of each month, 6–8 p.m.
7112 Willow Ave.

Join The Justice Arts Coalition in gathering 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 Spark Open Mic

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

Hosted by Rob Hinkal of [ilyAIMY](https://ilyAIMY.com) and sponsored by Institute of Musical Traditions. Signup starts at 6 p.m. Performance slots are two songs or 10 minutes. All musical and poetic genres. All abilities and ages welcome. No amps or drum kits. The evening is also livestreamed on Rob's Open Mics Facebook and YouTube channels. No refreshments on site, but you are welcome to bring in your own food and non-alcoholic beverages (please support our local restaurants!). For updates, follow

Rob's Open Mics on Facebook or visit ilyaimy.com/robsopenmics.

Parents of Special Needs Adult (POSNA) Support Group

First Thursdays, 7 p.m.
Via Zoom

We advocate for supportive housing, jobs with dignity, safety, and recreation for adults with special needs, including those with autism and/or chronic/severe mental illness. For information about the meeting or about POSNA, please contact infoPOSNA@gmail.com.

Takoma Village Walking Group

Third Thursdays, 11 a.m.
gather at Takoma Park Community Center, inside front entrance
7500 Maple Ave.

Join others for a one-hour walk on Sligo Creek. Pace to be determined by walkers. Walks will be cancelled when temperatures are below 35 degrees, or in case of inclement weather. No need to sign up in advance—just show up in walking shoes! Check the Village calendar for cancellation information. villageoftakomaprk.com.

Takoma Jazz

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

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

Vote for Where to Spend Community Dollars

The Takoma Foundation has partnered with a group of young people in Wards 4 and 5 to develop proposals and budgets for spending \$20,000 in the community. Now it is your turn to vote on the two final proposals. Voting will continue until January 15, 2025. The winning proposal will be announced in early 2025. To learn more and to vote, visit takomafoundation.org/stories/about-community-dollars.html.

If you'd like to support *Community Dollars* (either through a financial contribution or supplying project materials) please contact us.

See your monthly copy of the *Takoma Park newsletter* for more community events each month.

Takoma Park City TV

Watch Takoma Park City TV on Your Phone!

You can now watch live city council meetings, Takoma Park Arts performances, public service announcement and much more on the new Takoma Park City TV App.

The app is available for download at Android Mobile, Apple TV and Apple Apps, Roku, and Fire TV.



City TV on Social Media

Stay in tune with your community! Takoma Park City TV posts original material and news updates on its social media accounts. Watch City TV on YouTube and like us on Facebook for news and updates from the City of Takoma Park's official community TV station!



**Facebook |
Takoma Park City TV**



**YouTube |
Takoma Park City TV**

2024 Hometown Media Award Winner

City TV received two 2024 Hometown Media Awards from the Alliance for the Community Media Foundation. City TV won the Overall Excellence in Governmental Access Programming. This award recognizes the outstanding operational activities and programming efforts of access organizations.



This year, City TV's submission featured over 20 projects and programs. City TV was also recognized for its outstanding Children's Programming with its submission of the Takoma Park Children's Business Fair.