

# The Brookeville Times

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July 2009

## Brookeville Schoolhouse

The Brookeville Commissioners are working with the Maryland Historic Trust and Sandy Spring Museum to obtain advice on more affordable ways to repair the Schoolhouse. During renovation, the roof was improperly installed causing moisture and drainage problems. The roofing contractor who installed the roof is no longer in business and repairs are necessary to prevent any further deterioration to the Schoolhouse. One repair recommendation is the installation of galvanized aluminum half round gutters and full round downspouts sized for the roof. After the gutters are installed and the walls are dry, loose paint would need to be scraped off to bare wood, treated with a preservative sealant and then recoat with primer and paint.

More information regarding the Schoolhouse will be made available in the coming weeks.

## Landscaping

Due to the quality of work provided, the Town will be looking for a new landscaping contractor when our current contract expires. Also, budgetary concerns have the Town Commissioners considering the need to reduce the scope of landscaping the Town currently provides.

The option being considered to reduce cost is to have a "Volunteer Day" in the Spring and Fall, where Residents will do some tidying up around our community. The main areas of concern would be the Brookeville Schoolhouse grounds and the 2 welcome sign areas coming into Brookeville.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like to volunteer your time and talents, please contact one of your Town Commissioners.

## Infrastructure Update

Due to the recent heavy rains, you may have noticed a few potholes on the gravel road. The Town's contractor will be around in the coming weeks to make repairs. Thank you for your patience.

Pepco has finally erected a new light pole at the intersection of Market and High Streets. This light pole was run down a few months ago by a wayward driver. While Pepco was in Town, they repaired a string of lights that were out along the eastern portion of Market Street.

The "High Street" are missing. A few years back these "High Street" signs were installed at: (1) the northbound entrance into Town, just across from 28 High Street, (2) the intersection of Church & High Streets, and (3) the intersection of Market, High, and Water Streets. Three new cast aluminum street signs have been ordered and will be re-installed.

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## GREEN LIVING TIPS

### WATER CONSERVATION

*There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with you.*

1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
2. Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
3. Adjust your sprinkler so only your lawn is watered, not your house or sidewalk.
4. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.
5. Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.
6. For cold drinks keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. This way, every drop goes down you and not the drain.
7. Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.
8. Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
9. Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.
10. Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water, time and money.
11. Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap.
12. Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
13. We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
14. Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models.
15. Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
16. Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
17. Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
18. Collect water from your roof to water your garden.

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## Electricity Usage Monitor

The Town has a *Kill A Watt EZ* Electricity Usage Monitor, model P4460. It will be loaned to Town Residents who would like to find out how much power they are using in their day to day lives and to check the quality of your power by monitoring Voltage, Line Frequency, and Power Factor.

For more information, please contact Cate McDonald, Town Clerk at 301.570.4465 or [townofbrookville@comcast.net](mailto:townofbrookville@comcast.net)

## NEWS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS

[http://action.farmland.org/site/PageNavigator/Americas-Favorite-Farmers-Markets/best\\_local\\_farmers\\_market\\_vote](http://action.farmland.org/site/PageNavigator/Americas-Favorite-Farmers-Markets/best_local_farmers_market_vote)

The above website is to vote for Olney Farmer's Market as one of "America's Favorite Farmers Markets." Here is your opportunity to put our local market -- where Brookevillers can now be found at some point on Sunday mornings with breakfast burrito and coffee in hand, or bags of produce and flowers, or their goat cheese and bread for the next meal, or their shea butter moisturizer .....and so much more!

Last time I checked, there were 3 votes for Olney. Brookeville alone can bring our growing market to 25!! Thanks to Brookeville's Debbie Wagner and other locals for bringing this to our area. Show our thanks with your vote and comments about OFM.

Katherine Farquhar



## Are You Prepared for Storm Season?



*Lighting, heavy rain and strong winds can bring tree limbs and branches down onto power line, which can cause electric service interruption. Here are some steps from Pepco to help you take charge now:*

- Make sure you have a **telephone with a cord or cell phone** to use as a backup. Cordless telephones require electricity to operate, and won't work if there is an outage.
- **Keep at least a three-day supply of nonperishable foods and bottled water** and have a hand-operated can opener available.
- **Assemble an emergency "storm kit."** Include a battery-powered radio or television, flashlight, a first-aid kit, battery-powered or windup clock, extra batteries, special needs items, an insulated cooler and a list of important and emergency phone numbers.
- **Protect your electronic equipment.** Plug computers and other sensitive equipment into surge suppressors.
- **Keep Pepco's Outage Reporting Number handy: 1-877-Pepco-62 (1-877-737-2662).**

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## Upcoming 2009 Dates

<b>Planning Commission</b>	07July 7:30pm
<b>Commissioners Meeting</b>	13July 8:00pm
<b>Commissioners Meeting</b>	10Aug 8:00pm
<b>Annual Town Picnic</b>	23Aug

All meetings and elections are held at the Brookeville Academy and are open to the public.

Town of Brookeville  
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*The Commissioners of Brookeville  
wish all a Safe and Happy Independence Day.*

