

# The Brookeville Times

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January 2010

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BROOKEVILLE, MD**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of Brookeville, MD will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 9th at 7:30 P.M., at the Brookeville Academy, 5 High Street Brookeville, MD for proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Brookeville.

The proposed changes include the new elements of a Municipal Growth Element and a Water Resources Element per requirements of Maryland State Law along with other updates to the current Comprehensive Plan.

Any questions, written comments, or requests to review a copy of the plan should be directed to Margaret VanGelder, Town of Brookeville, P.O. Box 67, Brookeville, MD 20833, Phone: 301-570-4465 Fax: 301-570-0355. All written comments must be received no later than Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be addressed at the public hearing along with any oral testimony.

## **Record Snow Fall in Brookeville**

As a result of the Severe Snow/Blizzard Conditions experienced in Maryland December 19-20, 2009, the State may be seeking potential federal assistance which also may be made available to the local jurisdictions. The Town of Brookeville is coordinating with Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management to provide an estimate of our expenses for snow removal. Potential federal assistance will help the Town of Brookeville pay for snow removal for this record snowfall. Back in August Maryland's Board of Public Works approved cuts in the Highway User Revenue funds (HUR) allocated to local governments. Brookeville received \$803 instead of the projected amount of \$8030 - a 90% reduction. The HUR fund pays for snow removal and road repairs, among other things. Road maintenance and snow removal for this current fiscal year has far exceeded the \$803 we have received.

## **Fire Department visits the Brookeville Academy**

You may have heard the Academy fire alarm ringing and seen a fire truck at the Academy on Saturday morning, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>. The fire sprinkler system suffered a failure, which resulted in the alarm and an automatic call to the fire department. Fortunately there was no damage, just some water on the basement floor. The sprinkler problem was fixed and the system returned to normal operation. The Academy monitoring systems constantly check for fire and verify the integrity of the fire sprinkler system. An alarm results in a call to the fire department and a call to the Academy Manger or Town Commissioners.

# Green Tips

## Federal Tax Credits for Consumer Energy Efficiency

If you purchase an energy-efficient product or renewable energy system for your home, you may be eligible for a federal tax credit. **Please note, not all ENERGY STAR qualified products qualify for a tax credit.**

ENERGY STAR distinguishes energy efficient products which, although they may cost more to purchase than standard models, will pay you back in lower energy bills within a reasonable amount of time, without a tax credit.

The Energy Star website ([www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)) provides more detailed information as well as resources to help you choose the right products for your home. By phone call (9:00 am - 5:00 pm Eastern time) ENERGY STAR Hotline (888) STAR-YES / (888-782-7937).

What is included in the Tax Credit?

**Tax Credit:** 30% of cost up to \$1,500

**Expires:** December 31, 2010

**Details:** Must be an existing home & your principal residence. New construction and rentals **do not** qualify.

- **Windows and doors.** All Energy Star-rated products installed before June 1, 2009, are eligible. After June 1, qualifying products must meet more stringent criteria, with a value of 0.3 or lower for both U-factor (heat transfer rate) and solar heat gain coefficient (fraction of incoming solar radiation admitted). Certain heat-blocking window films also qualify; eligible films must have a certification statement, available on manufacturers' websites, noting their eligibility for the tax credit.
- **Insulation.** Adding adequate insulation is one of the most cost-effective home improvements that you can do. Most types of bulk insulation (e.g., rolls, batts, blow-in) and air leak sealants (e.g., weather-stripping, caulk) qualify.
- **Roofing.** All Energy Star-qualified metal roofs and reflective asphalt shingles are eligible.
- **Space heating and cooling systems (HVAC).** Central air conditioners, air-source heat pumps, furnaces, and boilers must meet specific efficiency criteria, which vary depending on the system and fuel type
- **Water heaters (non-solar).** Gas, Oil, Propane Water Heater. Water heating can account for 14%–25% of the energy consumed in your home.
- **Biomass stoves.** Units using plant-derived fuel (e.g., wood, wood pellets, grasses) with a thermal efficiency rating of at least 75 percent qualify.

## Thank You!

Much fun was had at the Annual Town Party on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to everyone who trekked out in the snow to attend! Much fun was had by all who attended and everyone had a chance to catch up with neighbors who had not been seen in a while. Stay tuned in the coming months and save the date for the Annual Town Picnic in August and Town Holiday Party in December 2010.

### Bagged Leaf Collection Success!

To save money this fiscal year, the vacuum leaf collection was replaced with a bagged leaf collection. The Town of Brookeville saved \$1275 – a 77% reduction in cost! Thank you to everyone who used the bagged leaf collection or alternative, environmentally- friendly methods (mulch or compost) for getting rid of leaves.

### STREET LIGHTS

If you notice a Pepco street light that is out, please look for a metal strip on the wooden pole that has the pole number and report the location of the street light to the Town Clerk. If the wooden pole does not have a pole number, please report the location of the street light.

The Town also operates several cast iron ornamental street lights and 3 wooden ornamental street lights. These ornamental street lights do not have pole numbers. If you notice an ornamental street light that is out, please report the location to the Town Clerk.

### Have an Item for The Brookeville Times?

Let us know!! We want to hear about happenings in the Town of Brookeville. You can submit articles/photos about places you've been, work you've done, new neighbors, weddings, birth announcements, anything of interest to you and your neighbors. Contact the Town Clerk at 301-570-4465 or [townofbrookeville@comcast.net](mailto:townofbrookeville@comcast.net)

## Snow Removal Information



The Town of Brookeville contracts with a snow plowing service for North, South, Water and Church Streets. During a snowstorm, no plowing begins until an accumulation of 4 inches of snow as fallen on the streets. The Maryland State Highway Administration clears Georgia Avenue (Maryland Route 97) - the Town's High Street and western Market Street and Montgomery County does the same for eastern Market Street where it switches from Brighton Dam Road.

Those residents and businesses with abutting sidewalks are responsible for clearing their sidewalks, driveways and entrances within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm. All residents are strongly encouraged to be good neighbors by clearing the sidewalks in front of their homes, as well as assisting those who may not be physically able to do so.

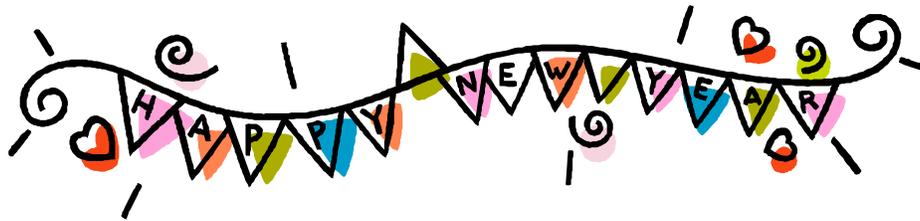
# Upcoming Dates

<b>Planning Commission</b>	5Jan 7:30pm
<b>Commissioners Meeting</b>	11Jan 8:00pm
<b>Planning Commission</b>	2Feb 7:30pm
<b>Commissioners Meeting</b>	8Feb 8:00pm
<b>Comprehensive Plan Hearing</b>	9Feb 7:30pm

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

Town of Brookeville  
P.O. Box 67  
Brookeville, MD 20833

President of Commissioners	Michael Acierno	301.260.2897
Commissioner	Bob Heritage	301.774.0457
Commissioner	Katherine Farquhar	240.752.2121
Treasurer	Susan Johnson	301.924.5979
Clerk	Cate McDonald	301.570.9119
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*THE COMMISSIONERS OF BROOKEVILLE WISH ALL A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR.*