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Issue #458

GPCA Newsletter

June 2026



PLANT SWAP **Prior to JUNE 8 Meeting**



GPCA ANNUAL PLANT SWAP – MONDAY JUNE 8

6:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

It's that time again, our annual plant swap starts ½ hour before our June General Meeting. Bring your "extras" to share and / or feel free to rehome whatever you like!



GPCA General Meeting **Monday June 8, 2026 7:00 pm**



Social Hall, Granite Presbyterian Church
10637 Old Court Road

Topic: Wells and Septic – Ensuring safe well water and maintaining your septic system

Speaker: Andrew Lazur, Ph. D – MD State Extension Water Quality Specialist

GPCA ANNUAL PLANT SWAP – 6:30 PM TO 7:00 PM Just prior the the General Meeting

Please come join us

CALENDAR

July to August – No meetings, no newsletter. Have a great summer!

September 14 – General Meeting, 7 pm

September 26 – GPCA Picnic, 40th Anniversary Celebration

12pm to 4 pm Civil Air Patrol, MD Wing Headquarters 3085 Hernwood Rd.

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President's Note June 2026



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we welcome June and the start of summer, I want to take a moment to thank everyone who has helped make the first half of 2026 such a success for GPCA. From informative meetings and community discussions to cleanup efforts and volunteer activities, it's been wonderful to see so many neighbors coming together to stay engaged and connected.

Our May meeting featured an excellent presentation from the Baltimore County Office of the People's Counsel, providing valuable insight into zoning, land use issues, and how residents can participate in decisions that affect our community. We appreciate Emily Jolicouer and Stephanie Mathioudakis for taking the time to meet with us and answer questions from our members.

Spring has also been a busy season for our committees. The Small Watershed Conservation Committee continues its important monitoring and educational efforts, while our Communications team has been expanding outreach through social media and community announcements. It is encouraging to see so many volunteers contributing their time and talents to strengthen our organization.

As we look ahead, GPCA will soon be entering its traditional summer break before resuming General Meetings in September. While our meetings pause for July and August, our work does not stop. Planning continues for future programs, community events, and an exciting milestone on the horizon—GPCA's upcoming 40th Anniversary celebration.

I encourage everyone to enjoy the summer months, support local events,

spend time with neighbors, and take advantage of the many opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty of our community. Whether you're attending a local hike, volunteering, or simply enjoying a summer evening on your porch, remember that strong communities are built through the connections we make every day.

Thank you for your continued support of GPCA. I wish you and your families a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone again in September.

We may be small, but we are mighty.

Warmly,

Chris Brock

President, Greater Patapsco Community Association (GPCA)

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.....A Note From the Editor: See You in September!

As the days grow longer and the school year winds down, the Greater Patapsco Community Association is officially heading into our annual summer recess. We will not publish a newsletter in July or August.

We want to wish every one of our neighbors a safe, healthy, and absolutely wonderful summer. Take care of each other, enjoy the sunshine, and we will see you right back here with our next full issue in September!

To keep your calendars full while we are gone, please look into to our Facebook Page. [GPCA Facebook](#)

Bob Reisdorf
Editor GPCA Newsletter
[*editorgpcanewsletter@gmail.com*](mailto:editorgpcanewsletter@gmail.com)

MAY GENERAL MEETING – GUEST SPEAKERS

Dear Members,

We welcomed Emily Jolicouer, People's Counsel and Stephanie Mathioudakis Deputy People's Counsel of the Baltimore County Office of the People's Counsel who explained the role of the Office of the People's Counsel in reviewing zoning petitions, variances, special exceptions, and other land use matters affecting Baltimore County residents.

The standards for their involvement in those matters are based on:

- Adverse effects on the public health, safety and welfare
- Establishment of important precedent for the future
- The existence of significant legal issues
- The possibility of broad public impact

The purpose of the Office is to act on the behalf of the general public interest and it cannot represent individuals or associations. However, the Office does represent the public interest and may participate in cases that can establish broader legal or zoning precedents, such as the petition for a special exception to permit a campground on Old Court Road in 2025. The denial of that petition was upheld by the Board of Appeals. The Office can and does notify community associations of applications for changes in land use that it receives which can impact them locally and we appreciate that partnership.

Also on May 11th, Ruben Amaya came out to talk about his candidacy for Baltimore County Council District 2, the district that encompasses the GPCA area. A lifelong resident of District 2 who came into politics via political activism, Amaya currently works as an Admissions Counselor for Stevenson University. His leadership background includes serving as President of the Baltimore County Student Councils and as a Commissioner on the Baltimore County School Board Nominating Commission. He currently holds party leadership roles as Third Vice Chair of the Maryland Democratic Party and President of the Young Democrats of Maryland.

Amaya is running on a platform centered on affordability, aiming to ensure that young people have a viable future in Baltimore County. He contends that the County Council has historically neglected the county's west side. Environmental and land preservation are central to his platform; he

strongly supports the Urban Rural Demarcation Line (URDL) and champions the preservation of agricultural land alongside support for local farmers including agritourism. He opposes the data center proposal in Woodlawn and stated that "if residents aren't asking for a project... it shouldn't be there." He also noted that because of regional utility impacts, the whole county should have a say.

He is part of a publicly financed campaign and "cannot legally accept money from corporations or major special interests". On economic development, Amaya intends to market Baltimore County as a premier investment hub, leveraging its strategic proximity to both Tradepoint Atlantic (Sparrows Point) and BWI airport. For local infrastructure, he proposes utilizing the Woodstock Job Corps center for trade training programs, coordinated through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Amaya is also calling for structural political reform. He actively opposes "councilmanic courtesy", the unwritten tradition where the full council defers entirely to an individual member on local zoning and projects, effectively creating unchecked "zoning czars." Furthermore, he opposes the "pocket veto," an informal maneuver historically utilized by individual council members to rubber-stamping each other's commercial or industrial district projects that have county-wide impacts.

Amaya's candidacy has secured several high-profile endorsements. His supporters include Maryland Speaker Emerita Adrienne Jones, Senator Benjamin Brooks, Delegate N. Scott Phillips, and Delegate Jennifer White Holland, alongside advocacy organizations such as Progressive Maryland, CASA in Action, and the Sierra Club.

And A Late Report!

On January 12th, 2026, Dr. Danita Tolson came to our Membership meeting and spoke about her work and candidacy for Baltimore County Council District 2. Dr. Tolson is a healthcare educator at Coppin State University and a longtime community advocate with more than 25 years of experience. She previously served as President of the Baltimore County NAACP, where she led efforts focused on civil rights, community safety, and equitable representation. Her work has included organizing gun buyback programs, advocating for affordable prescription drug access, and leading COVID-19 vaccine outreach in underserved communities.

Dr. Tolson is running on a platform centered on healthcare access, stronger schools, safer communities, and economic opportunity. She emphasized that the issues facing Baltimore County—such as affordability, public safety, and education—are the same ones she has worked on throughout her career, bringing a practical, service-oriented approach to leadership.

Danita has been endorsed among others by the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, MD State Senators Shirley Nathan-Pulliam and Carl W. Jackson and Metropolitan Baltimore Council AFL-CIO (federation of local unions).

GPCA has an open-door policy for candidates to speak at our monthly General Meetings. (2nd Monday of the month, except July and August). If you are a candidate and want to speak at one of our meetings, please contact the GPCA.

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Public Affairs

BALTIMORE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD HEARS TESTIMONY ON DATA CENTERS

The Baltimore County Planning Board heard public testimony on May 21 regarding proposed data centers. Residents raised concerns about the proximity of the proposed Windsor Mill site to Morningstar Baptist Church on Woodlawn Drive, as well as the large amounts of water required and the noise generated by the cooling fans. The Board must submit its report to the County Council by October 1, 2026.

The meeting drew many concerned residents, including representatives from GPCA. Local reporter Joy Tsao also attended. Through her Joy of Ptap stories, she covers Patapsco and the surrounding communities of Catonsville and Ellicott City.

Tsao published an article that accurately covered the hearing and provided additional background that GPCA newsletter readers should find especially valuable. With the author's permission, her story is reprinted below.



The JOY of Ptap

A Proposed Data Center in a Baltimore County Neighborhood

Hyperscale data centers promise massive tax revenues, but their digital infrastructure demands leave residents asking who truly pays the price.

[Joy Tsao](#)

May 27, 2026



Data Center Alley,” Loudoun County, Virginia

Loudoun County, Virginia, has been dubbed “Data Center Alley” for good reason. It is one of the largest and densest data center hubs in the world, handling an enormous share of the internet traffic people generate every day. When you save a file to the cloud, stream a movie, or open a mobile app, there is a good chance that data is being processed or stored on a server in Loudoun County.

Early on, Loudoun County treated data centers much like office buildings under its zoning rules. That meant they could be built “by right” in areas where office parks were permitted, without the public hearings required for a more rigorous legislative review process. From the outside, a data center looks like a massive, warehouse-like, windowless block.

But data centers are anything but standard office buildings. Inside, thousands of servers run around the clock, generating heat that has to be removed continuously to keep the equipment from failing. That cooling requires vast amounts of energy. And depending on how the facility is engineered, it can also require large quantities of water.

The rapid growth of the industry, along with the community concerns and backlash that have followed, has put new pressure on local governments to address data centers’ environmental impact and the strain they can place on resources.

In Baltimore County, the debate was prompted by a proposed 150-megawatt data center on the site of the vacant Social Security building in Woodlawn, just a few miles from the Pickall Area of Patapsco Valley State Park.

Running 24/7, a 150-megawatt data center could consume roughly 1.3 billion kilowatt-hours annually. Based on average U.S. residential electricity consumption figures from the Energy Information Administration, that is roughly equivalent to the annual electricity use of 120,000 homes. To put that in perspective, that translates to the residential demand of about 300,000 people—roughly the combined populations of Columbia, Ellicott City, Catonsville, Woodlawn, and Elkridge based on the 2020 Census data. To handle these substantial electricity needs, project developer Security Land and Development LP has reportedly offered to donate five acres of the 42-acre site to BGE for the construction of a dedicated electrical substation.

Construction of the hyperscale data center was originally expected to begin in summer 2026. However, in February, the County Council passed

a temporary moratorium on new data center approvals while the Planning Board studies how the county should regulate them.

The company or agency that would use the system in the data center has not been publicly identified.

The Planning Board's report, due Oct. 1, is meant to answer questions such as how much electricity and public water do data centers use; what economic benefits do they bring compared with other land uses, where should they be located and how should nearby communities be notified. The report must also recommend zoning and permitting rules, consider labor requirements and weigh whether the county should offer public incentives such as grants, loans or tax credits.

Under the legislation, the county cannot issue permits, approve plans or act on zoning petitions for data centers until Jan. 1, 2027, or 90 days after the planning board submits its report.

Last week's public input meeting offered the public an opportunity to weigh in on the issue. The hybrid session allowed people to attend virtually or in person. I attended the full two-hour session virtually, during which roughly 50 people testified.

Steve Lafferty, director of the Department of Planning, opened the forum by describing the issue as complicated.

"We know this is a complicated issue since we, as a community, state and country, come to rely on greater and greater access to data and faster access to that data as well," Lafferty said, "while at the same time, very large hyperscale data centers have raised a number of serious questions for the community."

Environmental concerns dominated the testimony. Speakers continually mentioned the impact hyperscale data centers can have on energy, water, and local land use.

Delegate Sheila Ruth, who represents District 44B, including Woodlawn, said data centers themselves are not new. What has changed, she said, is the scale of newer hyperscale facilities, their resource demand, and the impact on communities. She urged Baltimore County to adopt "common sense guardrails" rather than allow "unrestrained development" of large data centers.

She stressed that the site in Woodlawn where a developer wants to build a data center is zoned ML-IM [Manufacturing, Light - Implied/Major], but is right next to a residential community and one of the biggest churches in

the county. Hyperscale data centers, she argued, “should not be allowed by-right anywhere in the county.”

Faith leaders also pressed the county to consider the broader environmental consequences. Rev. Dell Hinton, a pastor with the Northwest Baltimore Cooperative Parish, said the effects of a Woodlawn project would not stop at the neighborhood’s borders.

“What happens in Woodlawn does not just stay in Woodlawn,” Hinton said. “What religious groups are looking at is the preservation of our environment and the enhancement of it. Knowing that if we don’t have a good environment, we do not have a good population.”

She added that the burden of proof should not fall on the citizens. “Why do the residents have to determine what is good when actually it needs to be put back on the data centers to figure it out—how they will not negatively impact the environment, the community, and the economics. Those are the things we should be asking of any organization that comes into our communities.”

Others urged the county not to reject data centers outright. One Towson resident argued that because of the way energy markets are structured, Baltimore County ratepayers could bear some costs tied to regional energy demand regardless of where data centers are built. If the county can regulate the projects responsibly, he said, we should at least benefit financially.

“We can craft sensible, taxpayer-focused rules that allow us to enjoy the benefits and minimize the impact,” he said.

Chris Modello, representing the United Association of plumbers, pipefitters, sprinkler-fitters, and HVAC technicians, urged the board to base their decisions on facts rather than fear. He noted that the industry has evolved considerably over the past 30 years and that “a lot of the environmental impacts have been mitigated through construction.”

Modello pointed to closed-loop cooling systems, sound barriers, and emissions controls used in Northern Virginia as examples of modern safeguards that he said successfully reduce water use, noise, and environmental risks. He also presented the board with a financial reality: local governments have “only two ways to meet that budget”—bring in outside revenue or “have the residents pay for that budget.”

“The data center industry has given them so much tax revenue that the residents of Loudoun County have seen their property taxes decrease for

10 years in a row,” Modello said. Urging the board to embrace the development, he added, “I’m saying from firsthand knowledge, I have seen the impact that the data centers can have in a positive way to a community.”

Opponents, however, pushed back on the actual effectiveness of those safeguards. Susan Weerman urged the board to strengthen the county’s noise requirements for data centers, particularly around low-frequency noise from cooling systems and fans.

Weerman described herself as a retired environmental planner and manager with a master’s degree in urban planning, and said her career included eight years as deputy director of the Maryland Department of the Environment’s Air Quality Administration and 21 years as executive director of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Air Management Association.

“It’s not just diesel generators that cause noise complaints,” Weerman said. “Air cooling equipment and fans generate constant low-frequency noise able to penetrate into surrounding homes.”

She urged the county to regulate both high-frequency noise, measured in dBA, and low-frequency noise, measured in dBC, and to require qualified acoustic engineers to conduct background noise surveys before and after construction.

Jeff Dixon, who drove two hours from Calvert County to testify, also warned that industrial noise easily bypasses barrier walls. Drawing on his experience living a mile away from a heavy industrial site with 60-foot concrete sound walls, he cautioned the board that “sound can go for miles.”

To illustrate the specific noise pollution of data center cooling fans, Dixon played an NBC News broadcast investigating noise complaints in Loudoun County, Virginia—the same region Modello cited. According to the clip, the noise outside the facility registered at 90 decibels, a level that requires ear protection for sustained exposure.

“So would you like this in your neighborhood?” Dixon asked the board. “I don’t think so.”

Beyond the noise, several speakers argued that the resource costs to the community remain too high. A Baltimore County resident and technology executive who heads AI governance for a large financial institution framed the debate as a “clear choice between corporate interests and the interests of the public.”

Warning that data centers built to power artificial intelligence could severely strain local water and electricity systems, he cautioned against unchecked AI expansion driven by a “never-ending pursuit for profit.”

“We have a moral and human obligation to regulate its use to protect public interest wherever possible,” he said. He emphasized the direct financial toll on residents, noting that Maryland is already the least affordable state in the country for utility costs—a burden he warned “will only worsen” if massive data centers are added to the grid.

An agricultural engineer and 20-year Baltimore County resident described the strain data centers’ water demands could place on local households and farms. She said that “on the low end,” data centers use 300,000 gallons of water a day for cooling — about 9 million gallons a month, or 108 million gallons a year. Farms, she said, need quality water for families, livestock and irrigation, while data centers’ water use “cuts into residential use.”

“Water sustains life,” she said, urging the board to value people over profit.

Offering direct policy advice to the board, Marylanders for Data Center Reform co-chair Angie McCarthy laid out several specific recommendations. She urged the county to define hyperscale data centers as facilities of 20 megawatts or more, require developers to use locally owned contractors and union labor, and ensure projects source their power from new renewable energy.

“These sources should be encouraged to be developed within Baltimore County, which the planning board should consider when they start thinking about when and where to site data centers,” McCarthy said.

She noted that if new renewable energy infrastructure cannot be built locally, developers should prioritize within the PJM Interconnection—the regional grid serving Maryland and 12 other states—to help limit impacts on ratepayers. To further shield ratepayers, her group is firmly advocating that developers cover the costs of any new construction, infrastructure, and maintenance associated with the data centers.

McCarthy also called for backup power plans that rely on clean alternatives like battery storage, demand response and load-shifting technologies instead of diesel generators. She pointed to a recent public health study showing the staggering health costs tied to generator emissions from Virginia data centers, noting that those costs

“disproportionately impact underinsured and under-resourced residents by a rate of 200 times.”

Banning diesel generators would not “close the door” on economic development, she argued, noting that recent studies and existing facilities demonstrate that developers can pursue a less harmful model.

The Planning Board intends to factor in all testimony from the public input meeting into a report. The report is tentatively scheduled for introduction on July 16, followed by another public hearing on September 3 and a final vote on September 17.



Welcome to *The Joy of Ptap*. I live near Patapsco Valley State Park and share weekly stories from the park and surrounding communities: Catonsville, Ellicott City, Elkridge, Woodstock, and Granite. Subscribe for free or become a paid subscriber to get new posts delivered straight to your inbox.

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Granite Historical Society

The Granite Historical Society (GHS) invites you to join us at our **GHS annual picnic**, a long-standing event since the 1990's, on **Tuesday, July 21st at 6:00 pm**. Thanks again to the hospitality of Stacy and Doug Wolinski we will be gathering at the Stanfield Pavilion located at [9512 Old Court Road](#). As in the past, we will ask all to bring a dish to share; the meats will be provided by GHS for the event.

If you are interested in attending the picnic, please RSVP no later than June 30th to

email vicepresident@granitehistoricalsociety.org, or to GHS Vice President Roy Danz at 410-905-2244. Once we receive RSVPs, someone will be in touch with you to coordinate your dish for sharing.

Thanks and hope to see you at the picnic!

***Nate Brantley
GHS President***

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Field Trip to the Baltimore County Materials Recovery Facility

On May 15th, eight members of the GPCA including members of the SWCC attended a field trip to the Baltimore County Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Participants were told to prepare for the trip by wearing closed-toe shoes and no high heels. When we arrived, we were greeted by Will and Kevin who ushered us into the welcome area. There we donned additional gear; a hard hat, a reflective safety vest, a set of earphones, and a transmitter.

Once inside we walked past a labyrinth of conveyor belts, and up to a classroom overlooking the loading bay of the facility. We were introduced to how the facility functions. We learned that this facility in Cockeysville accepts 750 tons of waste each year and processes 65,000 tons of recyclable material.



We were given some guidelines for recycling as members of the community.

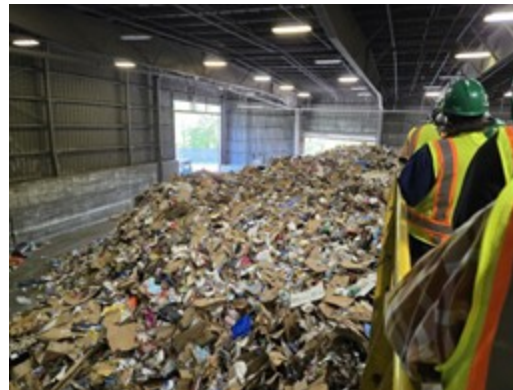
- First, when in doubt, throw it out.
- Any material smaller than the palm of your hand is too small for recycling. No shredded paper.
- No Styrofoam.
- Cardboard eggcartons are ok.
- The clean part of a pizza box is fine to recycle; throw the greasy part in the trash.
- Any plastic you can poke a hole through with your finger is not the quality to be recycled so throw it out.
- Leave the caps on plastic jugs and containers such as glass. Labels on plastic do not have to be removed prior to recycling.
- Spray cans are welcome **except** spray paint cans. Throw spray paint cans away.
- Throw away hoses, light strings, and anything stretchy or stringy- this fouls the equipment.

As we traveled from the classroom area, we could see the mass of mixed recyclables that had arrived that day. Recyclables enter the facility in trucks that we see on the street but also in long tractor trailers full of material. From this mountain of material, bucket-loaders feed hoppers that move the mixed material to the spin screens. Spin screens look like tires from riding mowers except they have a very pronounced tread.

Cardboard and paper float over these screens and are directed away to another part of the facility to be bundled. Plastic, glass and metal move on. Magnets attract steel and it is separated from the stream.

Aluminum passes through a field created by magnets arranged so the poles repel each other. The aluminum

is flipped out of the stream in this area. Plastic and glass are separated by density. The recovered glass is ground. The plastic is sorted manually and high density plastic is bundled. Poor quality plastic is landfilled.



After walking through the sorting complex, we emerged to the holding bay and loading dock area. There we saw stacked bundles of plastic and metal awaiting sale.



The Baltimore County MRF is proud of the quality of its product. Once per month a bale is selected, broken open and inspected for contamination. The bales have a contamination rate of around 1.4%.

What is the fate of these sorted materials? High quality, high density plastic is used to make tee shirts and tote bags. The metal is sold to a firm in Kentucky and made into cans that will be on store shelves in 40 short days. Ground glass is recycled into wine bottles. Bicycles collected at the facility are refurbished by a private organization and go to Africa.



After the tour attendees received; a tee shirt made from 6 plastic water bottles, information on composting, a reuse directory, "grasscycling" information, reminders on Baltimore County recycling, a brown paper bag to be used to support food banks, an insulated lunch bag and two reusable tote bags.

Profits from the sale of these recovered products go to fund recovery initiatives in the county such as the bi-annual bulk trash pick-up.

Thank you to Laurie Donnelly and Pamela Germain who contributed to

this article.

~Judy Plaskowitz
Small Watershed Conservation Committee

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**SAVE THE DATE – CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF GPCA -
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26**

Please plan to join us from 1 to 4 at our [annual GPCA picnic](#) at the Civil Air Patrol Headquarters (Former Nike Base) on Hernwood Road. This year marks 40 years of GPCA mission to “to preserve and enhance the tranquility and beauty of our rural environment” within our boundaries in Granite, Woodstock and Windsor Mill. Once again this event will be catered by The Sawmill Café and all are welcome. What do you bring? GPCA memories and a dish or dessert to share if you like. We look forward to seeing you there!

Need more information?

Contact the picnic committee at gpcac21163@gmail.com or call or text
Cathy Wolfson at 410-245-8708.

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MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to all of you who have joined or renewed your GPCA membership this year. It is never too late to join and it is as easy



as using this qr code! If you prefer to mail a check please include your address and email and/or phone number and send to:

GPCA
PO Box 31
Woodstock, MD 212163

Dues are \$20 for a single membership and \$30 for a joint membership. Your contact information will not be shared with anyone without your permission.

GPCA protecting our resources and preserving our future since 1986!

Cathy Wolfson, Treasurer/Membership Chair

gpcatreasurer@hotmail.com

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Third Annual Patapsco Heritage Greenway/Nike Missile Site BA-79 Open House

June 28, 2026 from 12 to 4 pm

Missiles in your backyard! During the Cold War, Project Nike stood as a silent guardian, ready to intercept Soviet bombers targeting Baltimore and DC. Today, site BA-79 is one of only five remaining Nike bases in the country open to the public. Take a step back in time and explore a fascinating, and almost forgotten chapter of American history.

Join us to:

- Take a tour of the Cold War Nike missile base and learn about its history
- Go underground into the missile magazines (ages 6 and up)

- Learn more about the activities of local history, preservation, and conservation organizations
- See model rocket launches (weather pending)
- Eat at Strohmer's Farm to Table Food Truck
- Enjoy a day of family learning and fun
- And more!

Sign up here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-phg-nike-missile-site-ba-79-open-house-tickets-1986272677046>

Thanks!

Dave Zuchero

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Around the Neighborhood

June 2026 brings a wide variety of community, outdoor, and historical events across the Woodstock, Granite, and Patapsco Valley areas, community festivals, historic open houses, yard sales, and food trucks highlight the upcoming month.

Beyond the Trail Day: National Trails Day Celebration

Date & Time: Saturday, June 6, 2026 | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Venue: Patapsco Valley State Park – McKeldin Area (11676 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville, MD)

Description: Organized by the [Patapsco Heritage Greenway](#) and local bird clubs, this family-friendly event features guided nature hikes, environmental education, and park stewardship.

Cost: Free (Advanced registration on Eventbrite recommended) [Register here](#)

Granite Presbyterian Church (GPC) Yard Sale

Date & Time: Saturday June 6, 8 am until 2 pm

(see attached flyer for details)

Pollinator Fest

Date & Time: Sunday, June 7, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Venue: Howard County Conservancy (10520 Old Frederick Road, Woodstock, MD)

Description: Celebrate native butterflies, bees, and birds with hands-on activity stations, insect crafts, live music, and local food trucks.

Cost: Free (Advanced registration required). [LiveGreenHoward](#)

GPC Food Truck

Date & Time: Wednesday June 17, 4 pm until 8 pm

(see attached flyer for details)

Nike Missile Site BA-79 Open House

Date & Time: Sunday, June 28, 2026 | 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Venue: Maryland Wing Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol (3085 Hernwood Road, Woodstock, MD)

And for the Woodlawn Precinct latest news and information

visit: www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/police/community/precincts/2-woodlawn

Upcoming Events in July and August

While our printing presses take a summer break, our vibrant community certainly does not! Our local Patapsco, Woodstock, and Granite areas are packed with incredible events over the next two months.

Keep your hands dirty and your mind engaged with an interactive local preservation project right in our backyard.

Patapsco Valley Archaeology Project

When: Daily/weekly slots throughout July and August 2026

Where: Patapsco Valley State Park

What: The Patapsco Heritage Greenway is hosting volunteer archaeology digs. Help researchers uncover 18th- and 19th-century historic structures tied to the old Baltimore Company. It is highly educational and family-friendly.

Details: Free, but registration is required. Contact Kyla Cools at heritage@patapsco.org to sign up.

Faerie Picnic Party

When: July 26, 2026, 11:00 AM to 5 PM

Where: Patapsco Valley State Park – Pickall Area (8125 Johnnycake Rd)

What: A whimsical, budget-friendly, bring-your-own-food community picnic organized by the Myth Makers Society. Attendees are encouraged to dress in faerie attire to enjoy a maypole dance and local fae vendors.

[Information and Sign-up](#)

Sykesville Sunset Concert Series

When: July 17 & July 25, 2026, starting at 6:00 PM

Where: Patapsco Distilling Co. patio (7609-7615 Main St, Sykesville)

What: Outdoor live music right on Main Street. On July 17, local favorite Freezer Burn performs, followed by Bottom of the Fifth on July 25. Perfect for an adult evening out.

Details: Free admission; food and local spirits are available for purchase.

Summer Stargazing Highlights

August 12 (Peak): The Perseid Meteor Shower—the most dazzling meteor display of the year—reaches peak activity. You can expect to see up to 60–100 fireballs and shooting stars per hour after midnight.

What's going on around the neighborhood, along the roads or near you?

Let your community know!

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Baltimore County Government News

A Message From Yolanda Gregory Our District 4 Planner

Community Events and Resources

- **America's 250th Anniversary**

About MD TWO FIFTY

In observance of America's 250th anniversary, we're looking back at our state's contributions to American history through the eyes and experiences of fellow Marylanders. This commemoration is for every

one of us, from the Chesapeake Bay to the mountain peaks out west. Attend events, get involved, give back, and gain perspective. Learn more: <https://mdtwofifty.maryland.gov/>

- **Rebuilding Together Baltimore County**

Rebuilding Together Baltimore (RTB) is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization devoted to repairing homes, revitalizing communities and rebuilding lives by providing no cost home repairs to homeowners earning less than area median income. In our service areas we operate four initiatives with an overall goal to make homes warmer, safer, and drier. **Adults 65 years old or older are encouraged to apply.** The program is no cost to help homeowners age in place. **Contact the** Maryland Access Point of Baltimore County at 410-887-2594 or Grace Parente: grace@rtbaltimore.org and be sure to ask about the BCAUSE program. Learn more here: <https://www.rtbaltimore.org/>

- **Maryland Nonprofits**

Maryland Nonprofits now offers something called the **Nonprofit Development Center** with free assistance to small and start-up organizations.

<https://marylandnonprofits.org/assistance/nonprofit-development-center/> The best thing any organization can do to help themselves and their long term capacity is the join Maryland Nonprofits. Their Nonprofit Development Center makes these resources even more accessible and affordable. Please share this resource with organizations you encounter.

PUBLIC MEETINGS & HEARINGS

Department of Recreation and Parks

- Help shape the future of **Baltimore County parks, programs, and open space!** Community input is a key part of the planning process. **Share your feedback in two ways:**

Take the [online survey](#) anytime

Your voice matters join us and be part of the plan! More information can be found on the [website](#)

Additional Hearings & Participation Information

Click here for [District 4 Hearings](#). For the full, updated schedule of Baltimore County Zoning and Development Hearings, visit the [Zoning and Development Hearings Calendar](#)

Kindest Regards,

Yolanda Gregory

District 4 Community Planner
Baltimore County Department of Planning
Community Planning Division
Jefferson Building
105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 101
Towson, Maryland 21204
P: 410.887.3480 ext. 7939

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Granite Presbyterian Church

Granite Grace & Goods

INDOOR YARD SALE

JUNE 6
8 AM - 2 PM

FURNITURE **BOOKS** **HOUSEWARES** **TOYS**

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something for everyone!

Hotdogs, chips, drinks & cookies
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FOOD & TRUCK YARD SALE EVENT

Granite Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, June 17 | 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

 **Granite Presbyterian Church**
10637 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD 21163

 **Baked Goods & Raffles**

LIVE MUSIC by the **Fruit Jar Howlers!**

 **ONCE UPON
A POTATO**

Meat Shack II

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