

Kensington Around Town



October 2024

Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative

The Town will be hosting an event with Montgomery Planning on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, in an effort to provide further information to the community about the proposed Attainable Housing Strategies (AHS) initiative. Information related to the AHS initiative may be found at the link or QR code below left.



[MontgomeryPlanning.org/planning/housing/attainable-housing-strategies-initiative](https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/housing/attainable-housing-strategies-initiative)



[YouTube.com/@MontgomeryMunicipalCable/videos](https://www.youtube.com/@MontgomeryMunicipalCable/videos)



The event will be held at Town Hall (3710 Mitchell Street) and will include an overview of the AHS initiative by Lisa Govoni, Housing Planner with Montgomery Planning, along with our Mid-County Planning Chief, Carrie Sanders.

We encourage all residents to attend, to allow them an opportunity to ask questions about the proposed housing strategy from Planning staff.

If you cannot attend in person, the event will also be streamed live on Montgomery Municipal Cable's YouTube Channel, (link and QR code above right). You may submit questions in advance to alex.marini@tok.md.gov by 4pm on October 15.

SMALL SCALE	MEDIUM SCALE	LARGE SCALE
<p>Within single-family zoned neighborhoods with pattern book conformance.</p> <p>Examples: House-scale duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes</p> <p>Size: 2-2.5 stories</p>	<p>New optional method of development allowed along growth corridors.</p> <p>Examples: Stacked flats, townhouses, small apartment buildings</p> <p>Size: 3-4 stories</p>	<p>Through the master plan process or the creation of a new zone.</p> <p>Examples: Live/work units, stacked flats, apartments, townhouses</p> <p>Size: 4 stories and above</p>

October Events

KHS Summer Concert
October 5 • 10-11 am

KTown Chess Festival
October 5 • 12:30-3:30 pm

Vintage Car Show
October 6 • 11:30 - 2:30pm

KVFD Open House
October 6 • 11am - 3pm

Art Talk with Jason Swain
October 6 • 3 - 5 pm

GIGS Andrew Deerin
October 12 • 6-9pm

Spirit Club Fitness Festival
October 13 • 1-4pm

Girls Who Paint - Pumpkins
October 16 • 6-8pm

4th Annual WALKtober
October 19 • 1-2pm

KTown Ladies Happy Hour
October 23 • 7-9pm

Pumpkin Rock N Roll
October 26 • 12-4pm

Halloween-Iversary Party!
October 26 • 12-11:55pm

For more information on all Town Events visit TOK.md.gov/events

4th Annual WALKtober

Kensington's 4th Annual WALKtober Event!

Celebrate WALKtober with a one hour guided walking tour through Kensington.



Saturday
Oct 19, 2024
1 - 2 pm

Raindate Oct 20

PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Learn about recent and planned “walkability” and “bikeability” improvements made by the Town
- Receive a discount coupon (\$10 value) that can be used at participating Kensington businesses
- Receive a commemorative t-shirt
- Interact with neighbors, community leaders and pedestrian and bicycling advocates
- Have an opportunity to share ideas for making Kensington more walk/bike friendly.

LOCATION

The walking tour will depart from Reinhardt Park (next to Safeway) at 1pm.

RSVP Encouraged

By October 9 via email to:
Alex.Marini@tok.md.gov.

WALKtober is coordinated by the Pedestrian and Bicycling Access and Safety Group (TOK.md.gov/pedestrian-and-bicycling-access-and-safety), working to increase pedestrian and bike access and safety in and around Kensington through education and advocacy.

The Town has partnered with Carmen's to provide a sweet treat at the end of the walk for everyone participating in the event.

Pedestrian and Bicycling Access and Safety Working Group

Chess & Explore Kensington

Join us for the Inaugural KTown Chess Festival!

Kids Chess Tournament

...

CHESS festival

Saturday October 5th, 2024 12:30 - 3:30pm
Flinn Fountain Park, Kensington Parkway in Kensington, MD

Explore KENSINGTON
Unique Shopping, Dining, Arts & Events

MAKE KENSINGTON
YOUR #1 DESTINATION FOR
SERVICES, SHOPPING & DINING!



UNIQUE SHOPPING



DIVERSE DINING



ART WALK & ARTISTS



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HISTORIC TOUR



SALONS & SPAS



PARKS



SERVICES



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EVENTS

EXPLOREKENSINGTON.COM

Kensington Historical Society



New Board Member: Kensington Historical Society (KHS) is pleased to announce that Kyle Richards has been recently appointed as a member of the KHS Board of Directors.

Kyle Richards is a Vice President of Compass Realty and has been a realtor in the Kensington area for over twenty years. One of her real estate specialties is selling historic homes. Developer EYA has engaged her to sell historic properties they have acquired including the Riggs Thompson mansion built for George Washington Riggs, founder of Riggs Bank, in Silver Spring as well as the caretaker's cottage on the Shriver Property. She is well versed on local and County issues related to historic properties and districts and will strengthen KHS initiatives related to preservation issues. She is a long-time board member of KTown Ladies, is the head of their Welcome Committee, and enjoys sponsoring and managing Light Up KTown each year among other events she is associated with.

Kyle is a graduate of Yale University and has co-chaired her last three college reunions and just broke Yale's record for reunion attendance. Prior to embarking on a real-estate career, she was a Vice President of JP Morgan Chase and an international protocol consultant.

Kyle grew up in historic Madison, Ct and lived in the historic district of Southport, Connecticut prior to moving to Kensington in 1991. She lived in and renovated three historic homes in Kensington and currently lives on Fawcett Street in the home purchased from Edith Saul who housed the Kensington Historical Society in her home for many years before moving it to Town Hall. Please welcome Kyle in her new role.

Conservation Fund: Thank you **Mayor Tracey** for your creative and personal approach to raising contributions for the Conservation Fund. For those of you who didn't get to the Train Show, Tracey raffled off a wonderful Halloween display that was apparently coveted by all the kids who saw it which meant that a lot of parents bought tickets. The proceeds greatly increased the fund from the initial contribution by KHS. This is an example for those of you who are interested in the future of the Kensington Town Archives in creative ways that you can raise money for the Fund to benefit the Archives.

Train Show: KHS again thanks **Gary and Diane Ditto** for their continued support by pledging a portion of the proceeds of the Train Show ticket sales to KHS. These monies provide support to KHS initiatives. We hope you stopped by the KHS table to see some great visuals of the Town.

Member renewals: If you are a current member, you will be hearing from KHS shortly about your membership renewal. You will want to get your renewal in early so that you can enjoy holiday-related events and be eligible to get the 2025 calendar as it's hot off the press. This year's calendar will be a keeper as we are honoring one of Kensington's favorite organizations.

If you are not yet a member, you will want to join to support the activities of the Society and so you can be included in member events and get your own calendar. If you join between now and the end of the year your membership will extend through 12.31.2025.

Visit KensingtonHistory.org/become-a-member.

Greenscape Committee



By Carolyn Morrissey

We've all heard many times that we need to pick up our dog's waste on a public site. After all, nobody wants to see it or step in it--and it's the law. We're fortunate in Kensington to have 21 pet waste stations installed and maintained by the town crew, making disposal quick and easy on town streets. So why do we need another article about this topic?

There may be a good deal more you need to know about why and how to dispose of your pet's waste on public and on private property (yes, even in your own yard). Do you know that the average dog produces about 248 pounds of waste a year?

Pet waste carries bacteria, including salmonellosis, toxocariasis and toxoplasmosis. Other pets, children playing outside and adults gardening are at risk for infection from these bacteria and from parasites found in pet waste.

Pet waste does not fertilize your yard or "disappear" over time. Every time it rains, pet waste is dispersed into our soil, storm drains and waterways. Bacteria and parasites in it are spread and more animals

There's no such thing as the poop fairy.



Only you can make your pet's waste disappear.

Pet waste contains harmful bacteria and parasites that make people and pets sick. When it is left on the ground, it washes down storm drains and contaminates our streams and rivers.

Scoop it. Bag it. Trash it.



21 pet waste stations denoted in red dots

and people are put at risk. The nutrients in it also affect water quality, encouraging excess weed and algae growth and contributing to making the water cloudier and greener. These excess nutrients also use up oxygen and can release ammonia, adding to water quality decline that is killing fish and other aquatic life.

A study by the USGS in Kansas City recently shows that bacteria associated with pet waste was the source of approximately one-quarter of the bacteria in samples collected from local waterways. While these points may seem alarmist, think about how many pounds of waste are produced just on your street and can add to water quality decline!

So what should you do instead of leaving it where your dog chooses? Carry disposable bags (preferably biodegradable) and pick up your dog's waste. Wrap it up tightly and put it in one of the public dog waste bins or carry it home and put it in your trash (still wrapped up), not the recycling bin or compost. Never put it in a storm drain. Your actions can help make your pet, your family, our community and our environment safer.

Woman's Club of Kensington



Woman's Club of Kensington 125 Years of Continuous Service To Kensington

As reported in the 1900 Census, there were about 1.2 million people living in Maryland with the population of Montgomery County at about 30,000 and the Town of Kensington with a population of 477. The Town had no paved roads, no electricity, no telephones, no street signs or house numbers. But, of those 477 Kensington residents, approximately 30 (the membership was capped to permit meetings in members' homes) were members of the Woman's Club of Kensington (WCK) which was formed in October, 1899 and has been active since that date. WCK is celebrating this 125th anniversary at the October Club meeting with a panel presentation which will be filmed by MMC. Many names of the early members of the Club are immediately recognizable today as founders of the Town.

The WCK will share that amazing history over the next several issues of the Town Journal. The WCK Collection in the Kensington Town Archives is complete with records from the very first meeting of the WCK. Not only did the ladies (who declared they would refer to themselves as women in 1902) have a very active Club whose initiatives help build the fabric of Kensington, they knew the value of recording and archiving the Club history. This installment will chronicle the Club from inception to about 1930.

The first meeting was at the Cummingham home at the corner of Howard and Fawcett. From the onset they observed Roberts Rules of Order and had what was called Parliamentary Drills regularly. When roll call was done each member had to respond with a literary quote. Some of the first-year programming (written and presented by members) included such topics as Prehistoric America; Life among the Zunis; Spanish Conquests and Settlements; Indians and early Indian Wars; War with Tripoli and purchase of Louisiana etc. In the days before Google and Wikipedia that represented a lot of research. The first annual banquet was in 1900 with the theme of the Causes of the Revolution.

Early on the Club met twice a month with each agenda packed with substantive presentations and discussions. In addition to pursuing intellectual matters, the efforts of the Club extended throughout the Kensington community and beyond.

In Kensington, for example, they installed the first ashcan at the Post Office, landscaped around the Post Office and sought to save the Kensington Cabin, and saw that the Town installed cinder streets and street signs. They made nurses and social workers available to residents of Town and KenGar. They worked to improve the schools (including segregated schools) by paying for janitors, improving kitchens and creating school libraries and funding art teachers and school lunches. The Club supported compulsory education. They were very active in working with the school in KenGar to improve the facility on many levels. They helped to start the Town library. They were also concerned with saving songbirds in Town and debated the wearing of feathers in hats. They pressured the trolley company to build protection from the elements for motormen and conductors.

The Club took on many initiatives in Town that improved living conditions for all residents but the scope of the Clubs interest did not stop there. They advocated at the County, State and National level on a variety of issues. In 1916 the Club endorsed the National Park Service. In 1920 they lobbied for kindergarten in the schools and a juvenile court. In 1924 they were part of the World Court movement and advocated for special buildings for women prisoners, opposed a dam in Yellowstone and supported the preservation of the upper Mississippi River. They worked for change in child labor laws, universal peace, uniform marriage and divorce laws, jury service for women, old age pensions and police protection for Kensington, advocated to have a woman on the school board and to have women's wards in hospitals. In 1913 they supported raising the legal age to marry from 16-18 years.

Woman's Club of Kensington

They endorsed a bill against "expectoration in street cars".

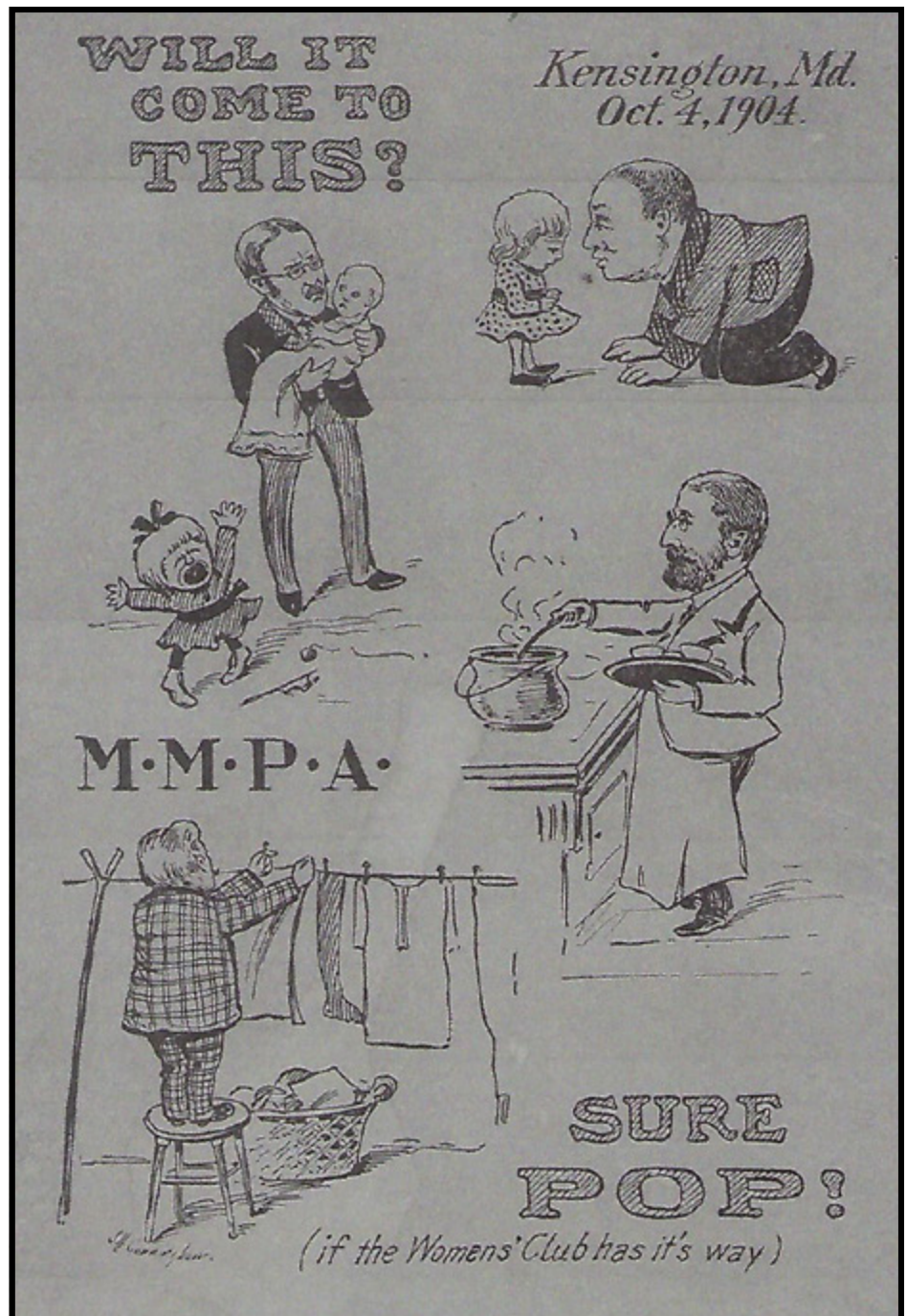
In addition to the charitable and civic work the Club did directly, the benevolence work started very early on. As early as 1907 they established a scholarship fund. They worked on many social service projects through the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the Social Service League. Much of the work focused on schools, libraries and the judicial system. They raised money for the fire department, the Thrift Shop in Town, the building fund of Children's Hospital and supported children in the County home. They donated to causes outside the area such as historic preservation, famine and earthquake relief.

During WW1 the Club women were very active in supporting the war effort. They regularly provided the 1st Maryland Infantry with various supplies shipped overseas, maintained victory gardens, supported care for war orphans and financed Liberty Bonds.

The creation of the Club and the dedication of the members to Town and other causes represented a shift in the family dynamics – to say the least. In 1904 the husbands responded (with good humor) by forming the Married Men's Protective Association. and producing the flyer you see in the article and sending the youngest of one of the members five sons to sing a song pleading "O, Mother, dear Mother, come home". The women responded with a ditty performed at a banquet.

Right from the beginning, the women of the Woman's Club of Kensington exercised their intellect, took action when they saw ways to improve the Town for all residents and to advocate where they saw change was necessary at a much broader level. The Town felt the benefit of their efforts immediately and tangibly.

Next issue: The 1930's to the 1960's



Kensington Town Archives



Dispatch from the Archivist: Celebrating One Year of the Kensington Town Archives

As I mark my first year as archivist for the Kensington Town Archives on October 3rd, I'm proud of the strides we've made in preserving Kensington's history and making it accessible for future generations.

This past year's key achievements include:

- A fresh new look: updated paint, flooring, and shelves meeting archival standards.
- Formalized policies and procedures for long-term custodianship and care.
- Comprehensive collections assessment to review documentation and prioritize processing.
- Rehousing of collections into protective folders and boxes to safeguard against damage.
- Hosting a successful Open House on July 11th, featured on Montgomery Municipal Cable.
- Over 100 hours dedicated to remote reference and in-person research support.
- Creation of exhibits and posters for educational outreach.

Collaborating with the Kensington Historical Society, we've:

- Provided digital access to Kensington: A Picture History in a searchable PDF format.
- Developed a new oral history program and digitized previous recordings on cassette.
- Launched a Conservation Fund to support specialized conservation efforts.

Looking ahead, my goals for 2024-2025 include:

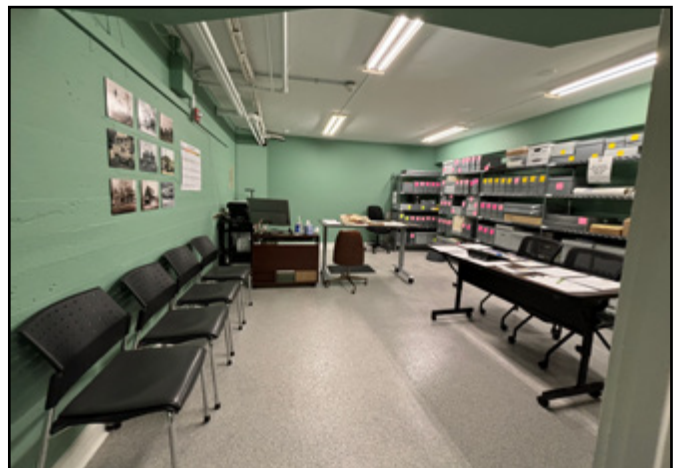
- **Rehousing:** Further improve storage with specialized materials.
- **Accessioning:** Complete formal transfer of collection custody, identifying origins, donors, and access restrictions.
- **Finding Aids:** Create a website featuring collection listings for enhanced research support.

This work is possible thanks to the incredible support of the Kensington community. Thank you!

Display of Woman's Club of Kensington collection during July 11 Open House



Kensington Town Archives new look



Parking Task Force Nomination

Kensington's Parking Task Force: Addressing Our Growing Community's Needs

The recent growth of Kensington's commercial district has brought many benefits to our town, including new businesses, jobs, and services. However, this growth has also increased demand for parking, sometimes causing congestion and conflicts between residents and visitors, especially where commercial areas meet residential streets.

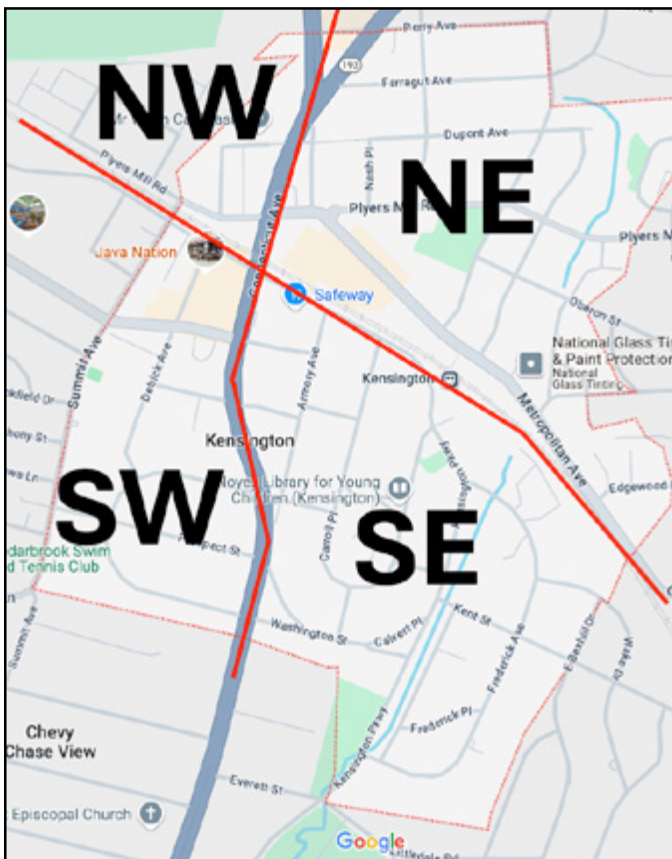
To address these challenges, the Mayor and Town Council have established a Parking Task Force. Its mission is to:

1. Research and analyze current parking capacity and needs, especially on the town's southeast quadrant.
2. Develop recommendations for the Town Council on managing current and future parking demand.
3. Identify strategies to alleviate parking congestion and conflicts, and improve mobility in Kensington.

The Parking Task Force will consider short-, medium-, and long-term solutions to ensure our town can accommodate growth while maintaining its character and livability.

Join Kensington's Parking Task Force

Councilmembers Conor Crimmins and Ann Lichter will co-chair the Parking Task Force. To ensure diverse representation, we're seeking nominations from Town residents and business representatives, with a desire to have representation from each quadrant of the Town (please see map for explanation of quadrants).



- NW:** North of CSX tracks, West of Connecticut Avenue
- NE:** North of CSX tracks, East of Connecticut Avenue
- SW:** South of CSX tracks, West of Connecticut Avenue
- SE:** South of CSX tracks, East of Connecticut Avenue

To apply, please complete and submit this nomination form by October 11, 2024.

The co-chairs plan to select 12-15 members for the Parking Task Force. Meetings are expected to begin in late October or early November.

We encourage all interested parties to apply and contribute to shaping Kensington's parking solutions.

NOTE: *If selected for the Parking Task Force, you will be required to fill out a financial disclosure form so that the Town can identify any potential conflicts of interest related to the Task Force's work.*

SCAN THE QR CODE below to complete and submit the nomination form.

[Bit.ly/47CGiBT](https://bit.ly/47CGiBT)



Town Council Summary



September 10, 2024 Town Council Meeting

- Approved the Town Organizational Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2024.
- Approved the Town Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2024.
- Held a Variance Hearing for 3417 Plyers Mill Road to allow a six-foot (6') fence to be placed within the front plane of the property, in accordance with Section 5-109, "Fences, Walls and Retaining Walls", of the Town Code.
- A Resolution in support of the Variance will be prepared for the October 10, 2024, Council Meeting.
- Approved Extending a month-to-month Lease with SERVPRO, until January 31, 2025, for the property located at 10528 St. Paul Street.
- The Town has acquired 10528 St. Paul Street, Ordinance O-01-2024, and will take possession on November 1, 2024.
- SERVPRO will be moving to a new location on Plyers Mill Road in January 2025.

Urgent Need for Blood

The **NIH Blood Bank** is in urgent need of platelet donations at our Donor Center located at 5625 Fishers Lane in Rockville. Our patients at the NIH Clinical Center are depending on your support!

We are currently facing an acute shortage of platelets, which are vital for patients undergoing medical treatments and procedures. Your donation could provide life-saving transfusions and make a profound difference in their recovery and well-being.

Call: 301-496-4321

Email: nihplatelets@cc.nih.gov

Visit: [CC.nih.gov/blooddonor](https://cc.nih.gov/blooddonor)

Please consider donating anytime this week or next week. Your timely contribution is crucial during this critical period.

Spread the Word: Share this urgent need on your social media, email lists, and community groups. Encourage your friends, family, and colleagues to join you in this vital cause.

Together, we can ensure that our patients receive the care they need. Thank you for your generosity and support. Your donation truly makes a life-saving difference.

Give Blood, Give Hope

DONATE BLOOD

URGENT NEED!

O- A+ A-

Platelet Donors Needed

Contact the NIH Blood Bank or Walk-in Today!

Building & Town Permits

Please be reminded that both a Town and County permit are needed for any interior or exterior structural changes, with the exception of landscaping and general repairs. Historic District properties will also require a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). Please contact the Town staff at 301-949-2424 with any questions.

3512 Perry Avenue - Addition
3750 University Boulevard - Sign Replacement Panel
3750 University Boulevard - Illuminated Wall Sign

10241 Kensington Parkway - Wall Sign
10619 Connecticut Avenue - Wall Sign
10619 Connecticut Avenue - Wall Sign
3706 Farragut Avenue - Interior Alteration
3608 Decatur Avenue - Interior Alteration
10506 Connecticut Avenue - Interior Alteration
Baltimore Street - Pepco
3509 Perry Avenue - Solar Panels
3417 Plyers Mill Road - Fence

Fall Leaf Pick-up Schedule

The Town will begin its annual leaf collection **Monday, November 4, which runs through Friday, December 13**. There are no scheduled collection zones, as the Public Works Crew will monitor each street on a daily basis.

Please gather leaves **INSIDE THE CURB** as shown with a green check.

Please **DO NOT** put leaf piles in the streets. **DO NOT** include grass clippings, mulch, twigs, or small branches within leaf piles, as this may damage our leaf vacuum. If your leaf pile contains any materials besides leaves, the Crew will not collect your pile, and you will be responsible for bagging the leaves on your own.



YES!

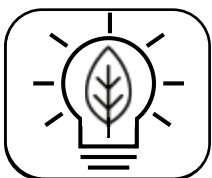
THANK YOU!

NO!

No leaf piles in streets
No branches or trash



Leaf Composting!



As an alternative to bagging up your leaves or piling them at the curb, consider using a mower to chop up the leaves and either leave them on your lawn or move them to your garden to nourish the soil. You can also put the leaves in your garden beds to insulate perennials and provide an important habitat for pollinating insects through the winter.

Kensington Around Town October 2024



3710 Mitchell Street Office: 301.949.2424
Kensington, MD 20895 TOK.md.gov

To:

KENSINGTON



FARMERS' MARKET

OPEN YEAR ROUND!

Every Saturday 9am-1pm
Howard Avenue Train Station

21+ Vendors

Pets Welcome!

ExploreKensington.com/farmers-market

PREVENT THEFT FROM YOUR VEHICLE



Remove all valuables from seats,
dashboard and floor.

- Phone
- Backpack
- Briefcase
- Purse
- Electronics
- Computer
- Wallet
- Money
- Keys



KEYS TO SAFETY

- Vehicle doors locked
- Valuables out of sight
- Park in well-lit areas if possible