

theMessage Newsletter

Let us know if you have ideas for an upcoming story, business news, free event, or neighborhood star to feature in an upcoming issue of the Newsletter.

Contact the Editor: Veronica Owens at vowens@mountrainiermd.org

www.mountrainiermd.org

coming soon >>>

Special Election Edition

Economic Development

The Buzz around the City

Deadline for the April edition is March 30, 2015

In this issue >>>

Welcome

Election Central News

The Buzz around the City

Green & Healthy Living

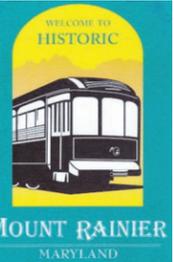


Issue 324

March 2015

Mount Rainier — The City on the Move

TheMessage



Community Survey >>>

ELECTION 2015

Are you registered to Vote?

Are you interesting in volunteering ?

Meet the 2015 Candidates
Forum #1 – April 18, 2015
Forum #2 – April 25, 2015

Election Day is May 4,
2015

March 20th is
the first day of
Spring!



Mark your Calendar!
City Council Meeting
March 3, 2015 7 pm
Live stream—www.mountrainiermd.org

Spring Forward

Mayor Malinda Miles

The countdown to Spring is on and we have so much happening in the City of Mount Rainier. We have beautiful flowers and trees that are just waiting to bloom. Our trees continue reducing our carbon footprint which makes us a healthy city.

As a (HEAL) Healthy Eating, Active Living designated City we continue to incorporate initiatives that create a healthy lifestyle for our residents.

We welcome Councilwoman Jacquyn Riposa from Ward 1, to the council who contributes to our sustainable efforts with a garden green thumb!

We invite you to embrace the Healthy Eating Active Living principles in the following ways:

1) Join in the discussions with the Garden Committee held once a month. The Garden Committee Open House—March 14, 2015 at Richardson Park.

2) Embark on a fitness “Let’s Move” campaign with your entire family or block.

Enroll in a fitness, yoga, swing dance classes or start a walking group.

3) Purchase a compost bin from Department of Public Works.

4) Join the Youth & Recreation Committee to assist us with finding opportunities for our young people and recreational activities for all ages.

5) Continue the City of Mount Rainier’s sustainable efforts by utilizing the Reduce, Reuse & Recycle guide. (No plastic bags, please) This will to continue to reduce the carbon footprint for the City of Mount Rainier!

6) Register your block to vote or hold a voter registration party. Every vote counts in having a voice of the community to represent all of the healthy and sustainable initiatives to move this City forward.

7) Plan a Spring Clean - up in your home or block and donate materials or furniture to others.

Happy Spring!

Set the stage >>> Green and Healthy Living

City of Mount Rainier Green Team

Reduce, Reuse & Recycle GUIDE

City Recycling Programs

Curbside Recycling Pickup
The City picks up recycling every Friday. If there is a holiday, it will be picked up the following Monday. Accepted materials include aluminum and steel food and beverage cans, glass bottles and jars, mixed paper and cardboard, plastics #1 through #7. All materials should be placed in the City's yellow recycling bins before 7AM on the day of pickup. **DPW**

Curbside Yard Waste Pickup

Biodegradable yard waste is collected every Monday March through November. Yard waste must be in biodegradable paper bags or in reusable containers—no plastic bags. Residents are allowed 3 cubic yards per pickup, anyone going over the limit will be asked to pay for the overage. Bamboo and wood are not yard waste, these are collected as bulk trash. Yard waste such as brush and branches must be tied in bundles not more than 4' in length and/or 50 pounds. **DPW**

Backyard Composting Program

The City launched a program to help residents compost by offering compost bins for residents at a subsidized cost of \$20. The bins generally retail for more than \$80. The City has a three-year goal to get 225 new Mount Rainier single family homes turning food scraps and paper products into useful compost for their gardens. **DPW**

Electronic Waste Days

The City generally has a few electronic waste recycling days a year where residents can bring their items to Public Works. Acceptable items include: computers, tablets, keyboards, mice, printers, scanners, fax machines, TVs, VCRs, DVD/CD/MP3 players, stereos, radios, turntables, telephones, cell phones, cables/cords, and ink jet and toner cartridges. **DPW**

Other Recycling Options

Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners

Pepco has an appliance recycling program and will recycle old, working refrigerators or freezers and give you \$50. Through this program you can also recycle working window air conditioners and get an extra \$25 at the same time. You can schedule a pickup by calling 877-395-5540 or visit the Pepco Appliance Recycling Program website.

Building Materials & Furniture

Community Forklift
Community Forklift in Edmonston accepts donations of mostly new and salvaged building & landscaping materials, appliances, and tools, as well as antique and vintage housewares. They also accept furniture and commercial materials on a case by case basis. More information is available by contacting the donations coordinator at 301-832-0781 or by visiting <http://communityforklift.org/donate/donate-materials/>

Habitat For Humanity

The Habitat for Humanity Restore accepts donations of household goods, building supplies and furniture donations. All household goods and furniture donations are sold to the public at deep discounts and all proceeds are used to fund the building of affordable housing in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. You can drop off items or they will pickup. More info at <http://habitatmm.org/furniture-donations>

Concrete

Do you have concrete, bricks or chunks of clay and rubble in your yard you don't know what to do with? Welcome to Mount Rainier! Luckily there is a local business that will recycle this material for a small price at 3334 Kenilworth Avenue in Hyattsville. Contact DC Materials at 301-403-0200 or <http://www.dcmaterials.com/>

Scrap Metal

Scrap metal is a hot commodity in Mount Rainier. One option is to place it on the curb and likely it will disappear within hours. However, if you'd like to get some cash for your metal, you can bring it to Metro Re-Uz-It Co., Inc. at 3401 Kenilworth Ave in Hyattsville. More information is available at <http://www.metroreuzit.com/>

Did you know the average Maryland resident generates 6 pounds of waste each day? The City of Mount Rainier totaled close to \$75,000 in landfill costs in 2013. Reducing waste, recycling and composting can help save the planet and save money. The purpose of this guide is to help residents find alternatives and beneficial uses of your waste.

Clothing, Housewares, Etc.

Goodwill
Find a local Goodwill to donate items to: <http://www.goodwill.org/donate-and-shop/donate-stuff/> Charity Pickups—Find a charity that will pick up your donations for free: <http://www.donatontown.org/donation-pick-up.html>

Freecycle

Freecycle is a moderated listserv for people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Each local group is moderated by local volunteers: <https://www.freecycle.org/>

Mount Rainier Listserv

If you have something to get rid of, consider posting it to the Mount Rainier listserv. If you aren't on the list you can join by contacting: subscribe@yahoo.com

Something else not listed? Check out this great website to search for recycling/reuse locations: <http://search.earth911.com/>
The City of Mount Rainier (DPW) Department of Public Works is open Monday—Friday 9-5pm 301.985.6583



The Buzz around the City

The Mount Rainier Garden Committee is hosting an **Open House**
Reserve your Garden spot!
Meet us at the Richardson Park



(31st and Arundel Road)
March 14, 2015
10:00 am—2:00 pm

"IF I WERE MAYOR, I WOULD..."

Have your parents ever said, "they, be nice" when they see their you speaking too roughly to a sibling or friend? Remember to be polite, respectful, reasonable and respectful behavior... is something everyone has to practice. School officials deal with issues that are important to their community and it can be tough to keep every conversation civil. So imagine you're the Mayor of Happy Town, share how you would handle this challenge.

Happy Town wants to turn a vacant lot into a playground. Citizens want it to be a skate park. The town can only afford to make it one or the other. How the entire town is divided. Everyone thinks their solution is best and the discussions about it are loud, angry and sometimes mean. In the end, the council votes to turn the lot into a playground!

CONTEST RULES

- The contest is open to all Maryland students enrolled in the 4th grade during the 2014-2015 school year.
- All essays must begin with the opening line: "If I were Mayor, I would..."
- Essays may not exceed 205 words.
- Only one essay may be submitted per student.
- Essays will be judged by contest sponsors in the following areas: ability to address the contest topic, displayed knowledge about municipal government and the role of a mayor, creativity, and proper use of grammar.
- Students must include their first and last names, school and teacher's name at the top of their essays.
- Essays must be received no later than March 31, 2015. Winners will be notified by the end of April 2015.

THEME: RESPECT
If you were Mayor...

- How would you get both sides to work together to build the playground?
- What would you do to keep the citizens and elected officials from being mean to each other because some dislike the final decision?
- What would you do, after the decision is made, to make sure the whole town supports the playground?

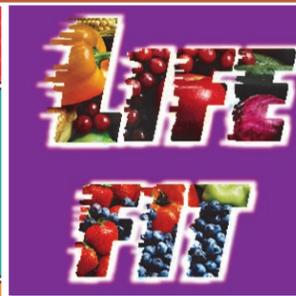
BE CREATIVE!

ESSAY CONTEST

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

School: _____
School Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
County: _____
Name of Sponsoring Teacher: _____
Email: _____
Total number of essays submitted: _____
All entry information is mandatory.

Calling ALL 4th GRADERS
For full details on "If I were Mayor, I would..." Essay Contest call: **800.492.7121**



OPEN HOUSE
AGES 18 and above!
Mount Rainier Nature Ctr.
4701 31st Place, Mount Rainier, MD



March 4, 2015
6:00—8:00 pm
FREE EVENT
Helping you meet your Fitness Goals!

Community Toolshed
has your tools for
your next project!

301-660-7433

Will work for Bikes!!

Volunteer + Community Service = **BIKE**
3501 Bunker Hill Road

301.277.2110
Open Tuesdays
Thursday 4-7pm & Sun 1-4

Trash & Recycle Schedule



DATE	Trash / Recycle
March 2	Bulk Trash (Appointment only) Yard Waste Collection
March 4	Regular Trash Collection
March 6	Recycle Collection
March 9	Yard Waste Collection
March 11	Regular Trash Collection
March 13	Recycle Collection
March 16	Bulk Trash (Appointment only) Yard Waste Collection
March 18	Regular Trash Collection
March 20	Recycle Collection
March 21	Electronic Drop Off Event
March 23	Yard Waste Collection
March 25	Regular Trash Collection
March 27	Recycle Collection
March 30	Yard Waste Collection
Place all Recycle materials in Recycle Bins!	NO PLASTIC BAGS ON Recycle DAY!
	DPW 301.985.6583

★ Shining Stars of Mount Rainier >>>

City of Mount Rainier DPW Director, Michael Barnes for plowing our streets!
Brooke Kidd, Executive Director of Joe's Movement Emporium for becoming the Art Advocate of the Year!
Alex Brown, City of Mount Rainier Code Enforcement for all of his hard work in enforcing codes throughout the City!
City of Mount Rainier Residents Barry Stahl and Steve McKindley Ward donated their time to show how to trim trees!
PFC Michael Ferebee for being named MRPD's Police Officer of the Year for 2014; CPL Eddie T. Murphy for being named Community Policing Officer of the Year for 2014; and PEO Clarence Weathers for being named Civilian Employee of the Year for 2014!

SAVE the DATE

Mount Rainier DAY

Vendors Wanted
May 16, 2015

Mount Rainier Annual

Seed and Plant SWAP!

Date: April 25, 2015
Place: Community Toolshed
3601 Bunker Hill Road



The Mount Rainier Business Association

2015 SPEAKER SERIES

mountrainierbusiness.com

MARCH 11TH, 8:30 A.M.
Mount Rainier Police Station
3249 Rhode Island Avenue
SAVE ENERGY, SAVE MONEY

Business owners get tips on ways to save money and reduce energy use. Guest speaker Lamont Powell of Energy Watchdog Pro will also schedule energy audits so that you can learn where your business is losing energy and what to do about it.

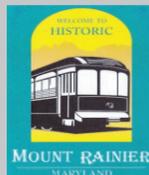
APRIL 8TH, 7:00-8:30 P.M.
Mediterranean Cafe and Hookah Bar
3237 Rhode Island Avenue
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Mount Rainier City Council candidates are invited to share their vision for the city and ideas on small business and economic development. Attendees receive a 15% discount on orders at the Cafe.

MAY 13TH, 8:30 A.M.
Mount Rainier Police Station
3249 Rhode Island Avenue
SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT

Need a Storefront Makeover? The City of Mount Rainier will present an overview of their Business Improvement Programs and Economic Development plans for 2015/2016.





Mount Rainier Election 2015



The City of Mount Rainier, Maryland will hold its Municipal Election on Monday, **May 4, 2015** at the City of Mount Rainier Municipal Building, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, Maryland.

Polls will be open 7:00am until 8:00pm on Election Day. The Election will be conducted to fill the seats of three (3) Council Members, two of which are four year terms and one is a two year term.

The 2015 Mount Rainier Election Board Committee

Maxine Drakeford, Supervisor
Maxinesbox1@verizon.net

Abby Greenwell:
algreenwell@gmail.com

Dina Williams:
missdinae@gmail.com

Karl Jones Jr.:
kjones489@comcast.net

Matthew Weber :
mattdweber@gmail.com

Nichole Logan:
nicholeslogan@aol.com

Ophelia Baxter:
opheliarbaxter@gmail.com

Telephone: 301.985.6585

Contact any of the Mount Rainier Board of Election Board Members to obtain your community service hours or to volunteer!



- 1—Volunteer
- 2—Become a Candidate
- 3—Attend a Candidate Forum
- 4 —VOTE



Registering is a required step to voting and you can register on-line to be included in the local, state, and federal elections.

To register online: <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>
OR contact any of the following Election Board members.

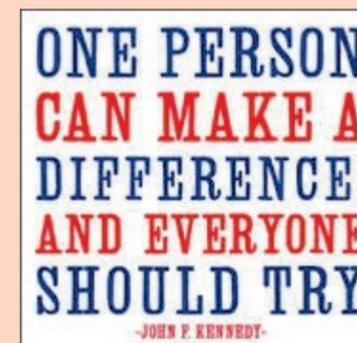
Every person who meets the following criteria may vote in City elections:

- A. Citizen of the United States;
- B. Eighteen (18) years of age;
- C. Registered to vote in accordance with the provisions of the City of Mount Rainier Charter;
- D. Must reside in the corporate limits of the city for at least thirty (30) days immediately preceding the next City election; and

Deadline to register to vote is April 3, 2015.

Rules for Running for Office:

Candidates must pick up a council nomination Petition from City Hall and collect a minimum of 20 signatures of registered voters in the Ward they are seeking to represent. The Petition must be completed and presented to the Board of Election Supervisor at City Hall between the hours of 6:00pm and 8:00pm on the first Monday in April (April 6, 2015). Candidate canvassing officially begins Wednesday, March 4, 2015 and ends, close of business (5:30 p.m.), on Sunday, May 3, 2015.



The Nomination Petition may be obtained at Mount Rainier City Hall, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712, or by going to the City's website www.mountrainiermd.org and downloading it from the Forms tab on the home page. The Nomination Petition must be returned to City Hall, in person, by the candidate, and presented to the Supervisor of Elections between the hours of 6:00pm and 8:00 pm on April 6, 2015.

Candidates eligibility requirements must be as follows:

- A registered voter;
- U.S. citizen;
- 18 years of age;
- A resident of the municipality;
- Live in the Ward in which they seek office;
- Cannot have a felony
- Mount Rainier resident for two years or more.

For more information, contact the City Clerk at 301-985-6585 or Election Supervisor, Maxine Drakeford, Supervisor at adal@comcast.net.



Date	ELECTION SCHEDULE
March 2	Candidate filing period opened for filing
March 4	Canvassing of candidates begins
March 7	City-wide voter registration begins
April 1	Candidate withdrawal deadline
April 3	Last Day to register to vote in City elections
April 6	Candidates present petition to the Board of Elections
April 8	Mount Rainier Business Association Forum
April 18	City of Mount Rainier's Candidate Forum #1
April 21	Last Day to file as write-in Candidate
April 25	City of Mount Rainier Candidate Forum #2
April 27	Last day for voter to make application for Absentee Ballot
May 4	Absentee Ballots (signed and sealed) returned to Board of Elections by 7 pm
	<u>Election Day</u>
May 4	Polls open from 7 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
More Info:	Questions? Call: 301.985.6585 or email the Election Board
Website:	www.mountrainiermd.org MRTV Channel 71 Comcast MRTV Channel 20 Verizon