

The Message



Issue 315

February 2014

Pepco Helps Customers Plan for Potential High Winter Bills

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Pepco wants to remind customers who are having trouble keeping their accounts current through these cold weather stretches and higher usage periods that resources are available to them.

“We have a wide range of payment options that we offer customers and also offer to work individually with any customer on ways they can better manage their electric bills,” said Donna Cooper, president, Pepco Region. “We want them to know they can always call us for help.” Standard bill payment options Pepco offers include:

· **Special Payment Arrangements:** For our customers who may be experiencing difficulties keeping their accounts current, Pepco offers a variety of individually tailored payment arrangements aimed at bringing their account up-to-date over a mutually agreeable period of time.

Many of these arrangements can be made directly over the phone by calling (202) 833-7500 and following the simple instructions or by speaking with a customer service representative. Either way, Pepco will be more than glad to provide help through difficult periods.

· **Budget Billing:** Customers can avoid seasonal peaks in electric bills by dividing their payments evenly over the course of the entire year. This plan makes it easier to budget and pay electric bills each month, because customers know their regular payment amount. To sign up for budget billing, customers can register either by calling customer service at (202) 833-7500 or online through My Account, a secure self-service option that will allow customers to:

- o View and pay their bills
- o Sign up for eBill (paperless billing)
- o Get e-mail notification when bills are ready
- o Take advantage of features that can help save energy

Once customers register for My Account, they just need to log in and click on the "Budget Billing" button.

· **Extended Payment Date Plan:** This allows residential customers whose main source of total household income is from government or other low-income entitlement programs to request a regular extension of their bill due dates without incurring a late charge so their bill due dates align with the dates they get their checks. To apply,

call Pepco at (202) 833-7500 or submit the enrollment form online at pepco.com.

· **Energy Assistance Programs:** Some federal energy assistance may be available through state and local assistance programs. Customers can get more information on those programs by calling Pepco at (202) 833-7500.

Pepco also has conservation programs and tips for customers to reduce energy consumption, which will mean lower monthly bills. Our smart meters can help customers save energy and money and help lower their bills during these high usage periods.

The new technology allows customers to login to Pepco's My Account web portal and monitor their electricity usage down to hourly increments. “We also want to help customers take control of their energy usage,” Cooper said. “Saving energy will also save them money.”

Customers can call customer service or visit our website at pepco.com/energy/conservation/ to learn more about programs to help pay for more energy efficient products, simple steps they can take to conserve energy usage and how to monitor their energy consumption.

For more information and updates, visit www.pepco.com, follow us on Facebook and Twitter at PepcoConnect, and download our mobile app at www.pepco.com/mobileapp.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL DATES

Unless noted, all City Council meetings occur at 7 pm
at City Hall, One Municipal Place

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday, February 4, 2014	Staff Presentation to Mayor and Council on revenue and expenditure analysis based on current property assessments and other data
Tuesday, February 11, 2014	Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council to hear public comment on budget priorities and community groups proposals/requests
Tuesday, March 4, 2014	Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council; City Manager presents proposed FY 2015 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for all city departments
Tuesday, March 18, 2014	FY 2015 Budget work session and discussion on proposed constant yield tax rate
Tuesday, April 15, 2014	Mayor and Council Meeting; special work session on FY 2015 Budget
Tuesday, April 22, 2014	Public hearing and public comment on proposed FY 2015 Budget and Constant Yield Tax Rate; Special Meeting for First Reading on FY 2015 Budget
Tuesday, May 6, 2014	Mayor and Council Meeting; Second Reading and Vote on FY 2015 Budget and Constant Yield Tax Rate



**The Mayor, Council and City staff
mourns the loss of our
MRTV Department Director Graciella Carbonell
January 30, 2014.**

Questions, comments and submissions to the Mount Rainier *MESSAGE* should be sent to **Michael Jackson, Assistant City Manager**, via mail at **One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712** or via e-mail at **mjackson@mountrainiermd.org**. All submissions for the February 2014 *MESSAGE* must be received by close of business on Wednesday, February 19, 2014. Submissions received after that time will be considered on a space available basis. The Mount Rainier Message is published monthly except for the combined July-August and December-January issues. Electronic version available at the city webpage: <http://www.mountrainiermd.org/category/newsletters/>

Community Happenings

END OF WINTER
party and benefit for
GRACIELA CARBONELL
and family

SATURDAY,
MARCH 1, 2014
6-10 PM

LIVE MUSIC + CASH BAR
= FIESTA OF THE YEAR!

No entrance fee.
Suggested donation, \$25.
All proceeds go to Graciela and family.
COLMAR MANOR TOWN HALL
3701 LAWRENCE ST.,
COLMAR MANOR

*For more information, contact Jesse Christopherson at
jesseformountainrainier@gmail.com*

Learn How to Improve Your Heart Health at a Free Heart-Healthy Lecture

Lanham, MD – According to the American Heart Association, heart disease is the leading cause of deaths in the United States. Join us as we raise awareness about this health condition during Heart Disease Awareness Month in February!

Saturday, February 8, 2014

11:00 a.m.

Prince George's Muslim Association

9150 Lanham-Severn Road

Lanham, Maryland 20706



Dr. Tasneem Malik will educate you about heart disease and how to live a heart-healthy lifestyle. Dr. Malik is a board-certified internal medicine physician at Metropolitan Medical Specialists in Lanham, Maryland.

All are welcomed to attend. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Sister Michelle Morgan at **301-459-4942 ext. 1**.

Black History: The War of 1812 Commemoration

The Town of Bladensburg cordially invites you to attend the 9th Annual Black History Month Celebration which will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2014 from 1:00pm– 4:00pm at the Public Playhouse, located at 5445 Landover Road, Hyattsville, MD 20710.

This year's event will focus on the contributions of African American Soldiers during the War of 1812.

We encourage you and your family's attendance for this most informative and engaging commemoration. The event is free and open to the public. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Bladensburg Town Hall at 301-927-7048.



Board Of Education Hosts Operating Budget Public Hearings

The Prince George's County Board of Education encourages the public to participate in the upcoming Budget Public Hearings on the FY2015 Operating Budget. The public hearings provide the community an opportunity to share their budget suggestions and priorities for the 2014-2015 school year. The public hearings are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, February 19 • 7 p.m.

Sasscer Administration Building • Board Room
14201 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Tuesday, February 25 • 7 p.m.

Sasscer Administration Building • Board Room
14201 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

To register to speak for three minutes, please call 301-952-6115 by 4:30 p.m. the day of the hearing.

CHIEF'S BLOG

Surviving a Robbery

Recently I received an e-mail from one of our residents, Dave Mac-Millan, asking the question: "What is the official police recommendation for how a citizen should respond to an attempted robbery (armed or otherwise)?" I'm not sure there's an 'official' answer, but here are some fairly universal recommendations that police departments give to their residents when asked that question.



It is important to remember a few things:

1. Robbers want one thing – your money or property – and they want it quickly.
2. Robbery is a risky business and robbers are usually nervous. You do not want to delay a robbery in any way and increase the potential for violence. Give the robber what he or she wants and do it quickly. Do not risk your life, or another person's life, for property.
3. Remain calm. Most robbers do not wish to harm their victims. They are only interested in getting money or property. The calmer you are, the less chance there is of the robber becoming agitated or dangerous. This also increases your chances of getting a more accurate description of the robber and being of greater assistance in the robber's apprehension.
4. Do not argue, fight, surprise or attempt to use weapons against a robber. He has already taken a major risk by confronting you and is usually as frightened as you are. Because of this, additional provocation on your part could make the situation worse. Therefore, give the robber exactly what he or she wants and do it quickly. Don't take unnecessary chances with your life.
5. Assume all weapons are real and loaded. You don't want to guess wrong on this. If the robber has his hand in a pocket and the pocket is pointing at you and the robber says or implies that he has a gun – don't ask to see it. Follow #2 above.
6. While you should cooperate with robbers, don't volunteer any assistance. Don't tell them you have an iPhone in your pocket or purse if they say they want your money.
7. Remember some simple things about the robber in this order: sex, clothing color, clothing type, headwear, and direction of flight.

After the Robbery

Telephone the police immediately. If you act quickly, police might be able to catch the suspect and recover your money. When you dial 9-1-1, the procedure is always the same. If you are asked whether your emergency involves police, fire or medical, request police first unless you are injured and need medical assistance. Then briefly indicate to the call taker what the problem is, when it happened, where you are, who did it, who needs help and whether there were injuries or weapons involved. Remember to



Officer Rob Caplan receiving his plaque as MRPD Employee of the Year .

News From Little Friends For Peace

Peace is not for a day or a season it is a way of Life. Little Friends For Peace believes that Peace needs to be Experienced, Learned, and Practiced.

As we are in the midst of a deep freeze we are planning our SUMMER PEACE CAMPS. **The Mount Rainier Peace Camp dates are August 11th to August 15th. Our Theme: Planting Seeds of Hope** Check our web page for application and other programs: www.lffp.org

Peace,
MJ and Jerry Park, Co-Directors of LFFP



**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2015 BUDGET HEARINGS**

Come join County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III and other officials and share your ideas for Prince George's budget for the coming year. If you cannot attend the hearings in person, view them live over the internet at princegeorgescountymd.gov

Residents wishing to testify and to be placed on the advance list of speakers are requested to contact the County Government at

**301-952-4547
301-985-3894 TDD**
Monday through Friday
8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

LIVE STREAM
princegeorgescountymd.gov

- Time limitations of three minutes for all speakers will be imposed.
- There may be only one speaker per organization.
- Written testimony will be accepted in lieu of, or in addition to, oral comments.

Tuesday
January 28, 2014
Oxon Hill High School

6701 Leyte Drive
Oxon Hill, MD
7:00pm

Tuesday
February 4, 2014
Dr. Henry A. Wise High School

12650 Brooke Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD
7:00pm

Wednesday
February 12, 2014
Laurel High School

Spartan Hall
8000 Cherry Lane
Laurel, MD
7:00pm

www.princegeorgescountymd.gov

Public Works

RECYCLE, BULK TRASH AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION TIPS

All recyclables (aluminum cans, bottles, paper and cardboard) can be put in the same yellow recycle bin which will be picked up Friday of each week. These items will be taken to the County recycle plant as they now have the capability to separate the items.

All BULK TRASH appointments must be made before 12 Noon on the Friday preceding the pick up day. All bulk trash items must be set out before 7 AM on pick up day. Call 301-985-6558, select option 2.

Beginning December 2nd all Yard Waste collection will be the second Monday and by appointments only. All appointments must be made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding the pick-up day.

February 3	Bulk Trash (call 3019856558 for appointments)
February 5	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 7	Recycle Pick UP
February 10	Yard Waste Collection (call 3019856558 for appointments)
February 11	Christmas tree collection
February 12	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 14	Recycle Pick UP
February 17	Presidents day (City Hall and Public Works Closed)
February 18	Bulk Trash (call 301-985-6558 for appointments)
February 19	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 21	Recycle Pick UP
February 26	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 28	Recycle Pick UP
March 3	Bulk Trash (call 301-985-6558 for appointments) Yard Waste Pickup
March 5	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 7	Recycle Pick UP
March 10	Yard Waste Collection
March 12	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 14	Recycle Pick UP
March 17	Bulk Trash (call 301-985-6558 for appointments) Yard Waste Pickup
March 19	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 21	Recycle Pick UP

www.mountrainiermd.org

Mayor
Malinda Miles
301-699-1378
mayormiles@gmail.com

City Manager
Jeannelle B. Wallace
301-985-6585, ext. 22
fax: 301-985-6595
jwallace@mountrainiermd.org

Asst. City Manager
Michael D. Jackson
301-985-6585 ext.30
mjackson@monutrainiermd.org

City Treasurer
Vijay Manjani
vmanjani@mountrainiermd.org

Councilmembers
Ward 1

Jimmy Tarlau
301-335-6099
jtartlau@gmail.com

Jesse Christopherson
301-985-6585
jschris@gmail.com

Ward 2

Ivy Thompson
friendsforivy@gmail.com

Brent Bolin
301-744-9465
brentbolin@gmail.com

Message

Michael D. Jackson
mjackson@mountrainiermd.org

Important Numbers

City Hall open: Mon.–Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Police Department admin. offices open 9:00 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Public Works open 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

47th District Reps
Senator Victor Ramirez
301-858-3745

Del. Doyle Niemann
Del. Jolene Ivey
Del. Michael Summers
301-858-3326

Call-A-Bus 301-985-6586
(hours M–F, 9 am–2 pm)

City Code Enforcement Office
301-985-6551

Alex Brown
301-674-9175
Kevin Simpson
240-508-4187

City Hall
301-985-6585; fax: 301-985-6595

City Police Department
Chief Michael E. Scott
mescott@mountrainierpd.org
301-985-6565 (emergency calls)
301-985-6566 (nonemergency calls)
301-985-6590 (administrative)
City Public Works 301-985-6583,
Bulk Trash Appts. 301-985-6558

Child Abuse
and Neglect Hotline
301-699-8605

Congresswoman Donna Edwards.
Prince George's County Office
5001 Silver Hill Road
Suite 106
Suitland, Maryland 20746
301-516-7601 main
301-516-7608 fax

Washington, D.C. Office
2445 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-8699 main
202-225-8714 fax

Consumer Affairs
301-470-7534

County Animal Control
301-780-7200

County Building Permits
301-883-5784

County Executive
Rushern Baker
301-952-4131

County Councilman
Will Campos
301-952-4436

CSX railroad
1-877-Tell CSX

Energy Assistance
301-422-5110

Family Services
301-699-2680

Fire Department
301-985-5406 (non-emergency)
911 (emergency)

Gateway CDC
4102 Webster Street
301-864-3860

Gazette Circulation
301-670-7350

Health Department
301-386-0300

Library 301-864-8937
Hours: M–Thursday 11-7:00 (closed 2-2:30)
Sat. 10-5

Landlord-Tenant Commission
800-487-6007

Mt. Rainier Nature/Rec Center
4701 31st Place
301-927-2163

M–National Capital
Park and Planning, Park Permit Office
301-699-2400

North Brentwood Comm. Ctr
4012 Webster St.
301-864-0756

Office of Handicapped Services
TDD 301-627-3352

Park Police
301-459-3232 (emergency)
301-459-9088 (non-emergency)

Parks and Recreation
301-699-2407

Pepco
Lights Out
1-877-737-2662
(you must give the 10-digit phone number
or 10-digit account number for location of outage)
Live Wire, Other Emergency
202-872-3432

P. G. Animal Control
3750 Brown Station Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
(301) 780-7201

Post Office
301-699-8856

Public Defender
301-699-2760

Public Schools
301-952-6000

State's Attorney
301-952-3500

Washington Gas Light
703-750-1000

WSSC
301-206-8000
301-206-4002 (emergency)

The City of Mount Rainier is an equal opportunity employer, without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, disability, political or union affiliation.

Postal Customer
Mount Rainier, MD 20712



February 2014 Message
City of Mount Rainier
One Municipal Place
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

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