



The Message

Issue 257

May 2008 Edition

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

MOUNT RAINIER DAY

WHEN: MAY 17, 2008

**WHERE: MUNICIPAL PLAZA,
RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND**

TIME: 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

THE ANNUAL MOUNT RAINIER DAY IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2008; THIS YEAR WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE FESTIVITIES WILL BE BIGGER AND GREATER THAN EVER. WE ARE PLANNING ON AN EVENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND A PRESS CONFERENCE IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED AT 12 NOON.

FESTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE ON RHODE ISLAND AVENUE AT THE MUNICIPAL PLAZA. PERSONS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WISH TO BE A VENDOR, SHOULD CONTACT JANIS LOMAX AT THE MOUNT RAINIER MUNICIPAL CENTER, 100 MUNICIPAL PLACE, MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND 301-985-6585. SOME VENDOR SPACES HAVE ALREADY BEEN SECURED, SO PLEASE CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY.

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CITY SEEKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Our committees need you! Several of our committees are in need of members. I am sure that there is a committee in our City that maybe of interest to you and their meeting schedules are sure to fit your schedule. If you are interested in becoming a member of a committee in our city please feel free to contact Michael Jackson, assistant city manager at City Hall at 3014-985-6585 extension 30, to find out more information about the following committees:

- Tool Shed Committee
- Tree Commission
- Youth and Recreation Council
- Bike Coop (volunteers)

From the Desk of the Mayor



April 23, 2008

Mount Rainier's Library

THANK YOU to all those who came out to participate in reception at the Mount Rainier Library on Saturday, April 19, 2008, at 10:30am. The open house reception had more than 25 residents (including children) and guests in attendance. Although the honorable County Executive Jack B. Johnson could not attend, he had a representative there from his office. Councilman Will Campos, Micki Feeny, the Director of the Prince George's County Maryland Library System (PCCMLS), Ms. Harris from the Adelphi branch and several other members of the PCCMLS were in attendance. Members of the Friends of the Library (FOL) provided refreshments that were simply delicious and well received by all. Members of the general public were already their making good use of eight new state-of-the-arts computers. Again, thank you to all who made this possible.

The Mount Rainier Tool Shed

I am still asking residents to PLEASE return borrowed tools from the Tool Shed. We will also accept old and/or new tools for the Tool Shed. So help us make our TOOL SHED the best tool shed in the country. You may not know this, but the Mount Rainier Community Tool Shed is on of about 26 in the entire United States.

The period of amnesty for returning borrowed tools is fast running out, so get the tools back to the tool shed ASAP. Thank you.

To borrow tools from the Tool Shed, please call on Saturdays between 10:00am and 1:00pm. Anthony "Tony" Lee will be operating the Tool Shed on an appointment basis. Email: anthonylee@att.net or call his cell: 240-273-2777.

Electronic Recycling

Also this past Saturday, April 19, 2008, 17 families participated in the recycling of their old, unwanted electronic equipment. Ms. Ruth Sandy and other members of Public Works promptly opened the doors for recycling at 10:00am and remained open until 1:00pm. Thanks to all of our Public Works staff members that made this event possible. AND, oh yes, due diligence was done to make sure that the recycled items were picked up by a reputable company! Thank Joe Robbins for checking on this prior to the day of recycling. I am sure that we will be doing this again since those old analog TVs will have to be disposed of in the very near future!

Mount Rainier Day Festival

Janis Lomax, Jeannelle Wallace and a host of other City staffers continue to work hard to make this a fun and festive day for everyone! We still need volunteers to help with this important day in our history. So if you can help out on Mount Rainier Day, please call Ms. Lomax 301-985-6585.

As in the past, a grant has been written and submitted to County Councilman Will Campos and as recently as yesterday, I was assured that we will be receiving a minimum of \$5,000 toward this event (I requested \$10,000).

Remember your children can receive some of their volunteer service hours by volunteering to work this event.

This is an opportunity for you to get involved in YOUR City. Call City Hall and speak with Janis Lomax. She will be happy to receive the call and get you involved. City Hall's is open between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday.

Drop-IN Basketball

More than 30 volunteer (adults and youths) came out to get fingerprinted and registered to work with our drop-in basketball program. THANK YOU for coming out. For this program to work, volunteers are essential. Kick off day for this program is Friday, June 6 (MNCPPC, one of our sponsors will be unable to start the program on June 1 as initially advertised). Our volunteers must be in place and ready to work with our kids.

Do you have basketball experience? Your expertise is needed NOW. Please call (301-985-6585) or email (mayormiles@malindamiles.com) me, if you are willing to commit 3 to six evening hours working with our youth.

This youth program is aimed at providing recreational activities for youth's ages 13 to 18 in the form of basketball. The program will also have a life skills component. So, get your teen signed up for this program today. Registration forms are at City Hall.

Program Details:

- Starting June 6, 2008 the youth basketball developmental program will kick off
- Doors will open at 6:00pm for registration and organizational meeting
- The City of Mount Rainier
- Thomas Stone Elementary School Gymnasium

Skate Board Park

The Skate Board Park is still in the concept and design stage. Additional details are not available at the time of this newsletter, but we are encouraging the community to support this effort. Last night in Upper Marlboro, the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commissions (MNCPPC) presented it proposed budget to the County Council. People came from all over the County to discuss their recreational needs. It was astounding to hear some of their projects and the amount of money allocated to those projects. I don't know about you, but every property tax bill I receive, I see tons of money going to MNCPPC, but I don't see very little of it getting spent in Mount Rainier. This skate park is just the beginning of the development of recreational activities for this City.

A successful Gateway Arts District requires a successful livable community for all residents. Recreational facilities and opportunities are a crucial element. This crucial element has been

totally taken away from our teens, and the void has existed since the closing of Mount Rainier Junior High School in 1980. It time to bring recreation back to our City.

Community Policing Grant Implementation

The Mount Rainier/Brentwood community policing program will begin on Thursday, May 1, 2008. **Officer Eddie Murphy** has been assigned this responsibility. **Corporal Victor Kenworthy** will continue as the full time officer assigned to Brentwood, and work in corporation with Officer Murphy. The purpose of the community policing initiative is to organize the communities and businesses in Mount Rainier and Brentwood to improve public safety and the quality of life for residents. This is a Livable Community Initiative (LCI) fully supported by County Executive Jack B. Johnson, and represents one of the future programs funded by the County Executive this year.

Speed Cameras Legislation

Speed camera legislation did not become law! At the last few hours of the legislative session in Annapolis the bill was killed. There is hope, however, since many of the legislators have vowed to take this legislation up again in the next legislative session. Don't let them forget, every time you see one of them remind them of this important piece of legislation, and the need for it in residential area to slow traffic and ensure the safety of our children in and around schools and recreational areas.

Spring Beautification Program Down Town

Hyattsville Nursery continues to work with our Public Works Department to improve the greenery of our down town area, and frankly, I can see the difference. This improvement process will continue, and now we need residents to step up to the plate and begin sprucing up their yards and homes! Although there is a down turn in the housing market, Mount Rainier has NOT been hit as hard as many of the other municipalities in the County, and we should use this opportunity to attract potential homebuyer for some of our vacant homes.

Visitors to our City do not just ride down Rhode Island Avenue they tour the City and look at the other homes and yards. So, let's get out there and cut that grass (I am trying for getting my yard cut every two weeks) and if you are into flowers and shrubs that is even better. Working together, we can make our quiet little City the show place of the County for small town living.

Continue to keep me informed about the down town area. I know the metro bus stop area is a problem and we are working on it. Metro is also working with us to improve our image around the bus stop. New facades are also coming, so stay tuned.

Joint Mount Rainier Brentwood Recreation Council

The Mount Rainier City Council recently established the Mount Rainier Recreational Council. We need two additional volunteers to serve on this Council. To move this process and to have someone coordinate this effort, I have asked Donald Bell to serve as the chair and to pull together the first meeting of the Rec Council. We are still waiting for the three (3) Brentwood members of the Council before scheduling the first full meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Rec Council PLEASE email me ASAP. (NOTE: The Rec Council can have more than three members, however, only the three appointed members will be able to vote on items and issues.)

Wondering about Crime in the City?

If you have always wanted to know how much crime is happening in your City, then you should check out Chief Michael Scott's blog (<http://mrpdchief.blogspot.com>). Over the past few years, our crime statistics have gone down and continue to go down. Oftentimes, the news reporters report

crime in our City that happened along or across our borders. You can get the real story directly from our own Chief of Police through his blog updates. Check it out today.

PGCMA SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)

You still have time to apply for the PGCMA Scholarship for college in the fall. This is a scholarship that will be available to you during your four years of college if you live one of the 27 municipalities in Prince George's County.

Selection Criteria

Each applicant's application must indicate or include:

1. A commitment to public service, e.g., past or current involvement with civic organizations.
2. An educational program in local governmental or public service.
3. Applicant's statement of educational objectives and career goals.
4. Two letters of recommendation. One must be from a faculty member of the current educational institution; the other should be from a municipal public official.
5. An essay on the importance of municipal government in the community.
6. Completion of the scholarship application.

Download the PGCMA Scholarship Application: Go to www.pgcma.com and click on [pgcma_scholarship_application.pdf](#). Municipal officials and their immediate families are not eligible to participate in this scholarship program. Immediate family shall include: spouse, children, residents of the municipal official's household, or any other person claimed as a dependent on the municipal official's tax return. Questions regarding this scholarship program can be directed to the PGCMA Scholarship Committee c/o council member Michael Leszcz, City of Laurel: 301-725-5300 ext. 120.

The Prince George's Elected Municipal Women (PGEMW)

The Prince George's Elected Municipal Women (PGEMW) is pleased to offer a \$500.00 scholarship to any graduating senior from a Prince George's County Public School. Please assist us in distributing these applications to interested students. There are no minimum requirements other than the intention to attend some form of post high school education program: four year college, two year college, trade/technical school. The deadline for submission of the application is May 26, 2007. We will make our decision and notify the winner before June 6th. We are planning a presentation on that date and we will discuss the particulars with the recipient. If you wish to apply for this scholarship, Please contact me for an application and/or additional information. You may also contact Karen Hampton at: 301-864-8666.

TIDBITS

Walking Tour:

Lessons from the Hyattsville Gateway Arts District with Aakash Thakkar, EYA and Dineene O'Connor, Prince George's County Planning Department

Saturday, May 10, 11:00am

Talk and Tour 11:00am – 12:30pm

Informal Lunch 12:30pm - 1:00pm

Meet at EYA Office, 4424 Longfellow St. in downtown Hyattsville

Parking is available across the street.

RSVPs Required: lauren@smartergrowth.net or 202-244-4408 ext. 125

Over the past ten years, the Prince George's County towns of Mount Rainier, Brentwood, North Brentwood, and Hyattsville pulled together to revitalize their car-dominated main street, Rhode Island Avenue/Route 1.

The corridor is becoming a vibrant, pedestrian-oriented place with a lively arts culture. Arts District Hyattsville, an EYA residential and retail project, is among the many revitalization efforts in the area. This large new development will provide a mix of rowhomes, live-work homes and lofts, along with shops and galleries. EYA, a major local builder specializing in walkable, urban development is offering 500 new rowhouses and condominiums plus new retail including a Busboys and Poets restaurant.

Join us for a discussion about the Gateway Arts District as a tool for community revitalization and a tour of the emerging EYA rowhouse and main street retail development. The tour will be followed by lunch at Franklin's Restaurant, Brewery and General Store

Did you use MNCPPC programs child care programs this year? Well tax time is here and you may need The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Federal Tax ID # 526 001 550.

Did you know that efforts are underway to bring back derby racing on Eastern Avenue? Stay tuned for details.

Planning and Permitting 101

Are you confused about getting permits from the County and who handles planning and permitting? Well you just might want to attend a County sponsored workshop on Planning and Permitting being developed by the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) and Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). This workshop is scheduled for May 28, 2008. 6:00pm @ Sports and Learning Center. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Missed the City's Electronic Recycling Program? Free Shredding and Electronics Recycling Event

LARGO, MD – The Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources (DER) will host a FREE Shredding and Electronics Recycling Event on Sunday, May 4, 2008 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Surrattsville High School located at 6101 Garden Drive in Clinton.

"This event will provide County citizens and residents with an opportunity to shred their sensitive documents and recycle their old, unwanted electronics equipment," said DER Director Charles W. Wilson.

County citizens and residents are encouraged to bring their unwanted televisions, computers, monitors, printers, scanners, cell phones, CD players, surge protectors, fax machines, radios, stereos, telephones, computer mice, VCRs and keyboards to the event for recycling. In addition, residents can bring up to 5 tall kitchen bags or 5 archive boxes filled with documents to be shredded at the event.

For more information on the Shredding and Electronics Recycling Event or other recycling initiatives, call DER's Recycling Section at (301) 883-5045.

Your comments, concerns, and responses are welcome. Please feel free to contact me at mayormiles@malindamiles.com or post a comment on my blog.



MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL E. SCOTT, CHIEF OF POLICE



Regional Area Gang Enforcement (R.A.G.E.)

PARENTS, Talk to your kids about gangs, **BEFORE** we have to! Your child may be involved with a gang if they exhibit any or all of the following warning signs...

Admits to gang involvement

Has frequent unexplained or unexcused absences/early dismissals from school

- Has a drastic change in their daily routine or schedule
- Withdraws from family with an accompanying change in demeanor
- Associates with undesirable friends and breaks parental rules consistently
- Becomes very secretive about their friends or activities
- Develops an unusual desire for privacy and secrecy and may completely rearrange living quarters to create privacy
- Has a drastic change in friends
- Uses hand signs while with friends and practices them at home
- Is obsessed with one particular color of clothing or refuses to wear one particular color of clothing
- Is obsessed with one specific brand of clothing or refuses to wear a specific brand of clothing
- Is obsessed with a particular logo on their clothing or refuses to wear a specific logo on their clothing
- Is obsessed with or wears clothing with a certain number(s) or letter(s) on them or refuses to wear clothing with a certain number(s) or letter(s) on them
- Wears excessive jewelry with distinctive designs and may wear it only on either the right or left side of the body
- Is obsessed with gangster-influenced music, videos and movies to the point of imitation
- Develops an unusual desire for privacy and secrecy and may completely rearrange living quarters to create privacy
- Uses hand signs while with friends and practices them at home
- Develops unexplained physical injuries, scars or marks (such as being beaten)
- Peculiar drawings or language on school books, notebooks or other property
- Has a desire for or has gotten tattoos or brands
- Unexplained cash or goods, such as clothing or jewelry or other property
- Possible use of alcohol and drugs with attitude change

TELL YOUR CHILDREN THEY SHOULD NOT:

- Associate with any gang members or “wannabe/gonnabe” gang members
- Identify or communicate with gangs
- Hang out near or where gangs congregate
- Approach strangers in cars who appear to want information or directions
- Wear gang related clothing where gangs are known to gather or traverse
- Wear initialed clothing such as BK – British Knights – a/k/a “Blood Killer” in high crime areas
- Use words like “crab” or “slob” (localized lingo may develop) anywhere gangs may be; i.e. malls, sporting events, etc.
- Attend any party or social event sponsored by gangs or their associates
- Take part in any graffiti activity or hang around where graffiti is present
- Use any kind of finger or sign language in a public place.



TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Impress upon your child the importance of school and good grades
- Spend quality time with your children
- Get involved in your child’s school activities
- Establish rules, set limits and be consistent, firm and fair in punishment
- Encourage good study habits
- Respect your child’s feelings and attitudes and help them develop self-esteem
- Watch closely for negative influences
- Improve your own self-esteem so your children can model themselves after the most important “role model”—
YOU

TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

- Help children develop self control
- Help children deal appropriately with problems
- Get involved in community oriented prevention and intervention programs
- Urge others to become involved
- Volunteer at your child’s school
- Gangs are a community problem and their influence does not stop at any particular boundary.
- Listen to your children. Communicate with them about their concerns and fears.

This document is distributed by the Mount Rainier Police Department in cooperation with the Regional Area Gang

Enforcement Task Force (R.A.G.E.). For more information, please contact Mr. Donald Bell, Mt. Rainier Police CSAFE Coordinator at 301-985-6580 or SGT George Norris, Prince George's County Police Dept. at 301-699-2628.

Selected Crimes – March 2008

by Team Policing Area

Date	Offense	Location			TPA
19-Mar-08	Aggravated Assault			TAYLOR ST	1A
26-Mar-08	B & E - Residential	3200	BL	QUEENSTOWN DR	1A
02-Mar-08	B & E - Residential	3200	BL	VARNUM ST	1A
23-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	3100	BL	BUCHANAN ST	1A
22-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle			BUCHANAN ST	1A
17-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	2900	BL	ARUNDEL RD	1A
09-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	3200	BL	QUEENSTOWN DR	1A
31-Mar-08	Theft - From Auto	3100	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL RD	1A
23-Mar-08	Theft - Vehicle Tags	4300	BL	RUSSELL AV	1A
10-Mar-08	Theft - Vehicle Tags	2800	BL	SHEPHERD ST	1A
04-Mar-08	Theft - Vehicle Tags			BUCHANAN ST	1A
19-Mar-08	Theft < 500	3100	BL	VARNUM ST	1A
28-Mar-08	Theft > 500	2400	BL	ARUNDEL RD	1A
12-Mar-08	Theft > 500	3200	BL	VARNUM ST	1A
16-Mar-08	Vandalism	3700	BL	SHEPHERD ST	1A
13-Mar-08	Vandalism	4100	BL	RUSSELL AV	1A
11-Mar-08	Vandalism	2300	BL	VARNUM ST	1A
23-Mar-08	Vandalism to Auto	3100	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL RD	1A
11-Mar-08	Vandalism to Auto	3400	BL	UPSHUR ST	1A
17-Mar-08	B & E - Residential	3500	BL	37TH ST	1B
07-Mar-08	B & E - Residential	3500	BL	NEWTON ST	1B
22-Mar-08	Robbery - Citizen	1		MUNICIPAL PL	1B
21-Mar-08	Robbery - Citizen	3800	BL	34TH ST	1B
10-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	3800	BL	34TH ST	1B
26-Mar-08	Theft - Vehicle Tags	4000	BL	36TH ST	1B
05-Mar-08	Theft - Vehicle Tags	3800	BL	34TH ST	1B
08-Mar-08	Aggravated Assault	4700	BL	25TH ST	2A
27-Mar-08	B & E - Residential	3400	BL	EASTERN AV	2A
20-Mar-08	B & E - Residential	4600	BL	27TH ST	2A
22-Mar-08	Robbery - Carjacking	2300	BL	VARNUM ST	2A
12-Mar-08	Robbery - Carjacking	4300	BL	RUSSELL AV	2A
27-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	3000	BL	ARUNDEL RD	2A
23-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	3100	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL RD	2A
12-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	4000	BL	32ND ST	2A
07-Mar-08	Stolen Vehicle	4100	BL	28TH ST	2A
29-Mar-08	Theft - From Auto	4500	BL	EASTERN AV	2A
21-Mar-08	Theft - From Auto	4500	BL	EASTERN AV	2A
24-Mar-08	Theft - Vehicle Tags	4100	BL	29TH ST	2A

24-Mar-08	Theft - Vehicle Tags	4100	BL	29TH	ST	2A
30-Mar-08	Theft < 500	4300	BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
17-Mar-08	Theft < 500	2700	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	2A
10-Mar-08	Vandalism to Auto	4300	BL	28TH	PL	2A
24-Mar-08	Aggravated Assault	3200	BL	RHODE ISLAND	AV	2B
10-Mar-08	Aggravated Assault	3200	BL	RHODE ISLAND	AV	2B
20-Mar-08	B & E - Residential	4100	BL	34TH	ST	2B
02-Mar-08	B & E - Storehouse	3300	BL	BUCHANAN	ST	2B
29-Mar-08	Robbery - Citizen			30TH	ST	2B
18-Mar-08	Robbery - Commercial	3200	BL	RHODE ISLAND	AV	2B
28-Mar-08	Vandalism to Auto	4000	BL	29TH	ST	2B
11-Mar-08	Vandalism to Auto	3300	BL	OTIS	ST	2B

MRTV

Mount Rainier Television
Comcast Channel 71 Verizon Channel 21

MRTV Program Schedule

Monday – Friday, 4pm, (see MRTV Bulletin for listing for shows)

1st Tuesday of each month, 7pm Live telecast of City Council Meetings

3rd Tuesday of each month, 7pm Live telecast of City Council Work Sessions

Program schedule and shows subject to change without notice

Shows to Watch

On Air with the Mayor

MRTV News "News You Can Use"

CitiScope

Time to Represent

Coming soon...Vintage Video. Watch City Council Meetings and City events that took place in the 80's, 90's, and early 2000's

MRTV is still in need of volunteer producers, on-camera talent, and production crews for **On Air with the Mayor**, ***MRTV News "News You Can Use"***, and **CitiScope**. If you have a show idea, let us know. We tape on selected Wednesdays and Saturdays. Call *MRTV* at 301-985-6585 ext 28 or email us at mrtvchannel71@yahoo.com for details.

Little Friends for Peace Summer Peace Camps 2008

Hop on Board The Peace Train: Answer the Violence with Skills for Peace

***Dates: July 21-25, July 28-August 1, August 11-15
9am-1pm - with after care available, ages 4-12***

***Added week: August 18-22, 9am-3pm - with aftercare available.
Limited to 12 campers, ages 8-12***

Scholarships are available!!

CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Mount Rainier, Maryland, proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2008, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 14.76%, from \$301,166,318 to \$345,622,303.

2. If the City of Mount Rainier maintains the current tax rate of \$0.790 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 14.76% resulting in \$351,202 of new real property tax revenues.

3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.688, the constant yield tax rate.

4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.790 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 14.76% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$351,202 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposal real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 in the City Council Chambers – Upper Level at Mount Rainier City Hall, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712.

The hearing is open to the public and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (301) 985-6585 for further information.

THE MAYOR'S ADOPT-A-STREET PROGRAM

What is Adopt-a-Street?

Adopt-a-Street is a program launched by the City of Mount Rainier to solicit help in keeping its streets clean by individuals, groups and organizations within the community. Volunteer individuals, groups and organizations "adopt" a three-block or longer stretch of a City street, make a two-year commitment to pick up the trash at least six times a year, and make minor improvements to the landscape, i.e., plant grass, flowers and/or mulch as appropriate.

Who can adopt?

Anyone can adopt a highway, families, businesses, civic and church groups, or even individuals. Children can participate with adult supervision as long as they are not allowed to work alone on the street, if they are under the age of 14. Children 14 and over participating in this project will earn community service hours for their participation.

Why Adopt?

This program provides an opportunity to show pride in our community. Individuals, groups and/or organizations also get recognition for their efforts on the Adopt-a-Street sign posted along their adopted street. Picking up trash along the streets is an easy, team-building project that takes no financial commitment and only a few hours each year.

How does it work?

Individuals, groups and/or organizations select a minimum of six convenient dates for the two (2) year project that everyone will get together to pick up trash and spruce up their street. The City will provide the trash bags, bright orange vests and safety instructions and information to each individual, group or organization wishing to participate in this project. The bags of litter or yard waste can be put out with regular yard waste and/or trash for pick up by Mount Rainier's Public Works Department, and recyclables can be put out for recycling on recycling day!

What are the rewards?

Each individual, group and/or organization adopting a street or section of a street will be featured in the City's newsletter "The Message." In addition, the City will issue certificates of appreciation to each individual, group and/or organization adopting a street and/or a section of a street within the City.

Depending on how large a section is adopted by the individual, group or organization, the City will allow the group to purchase and erect a maximum of three signs with the individual, group and/or organization's name. Signs will be similar to those seen along state highways but a size smaller. The signs will be erected by Mount Rainier's Public Works Department.

Adopt me!

Just call *Mount Rainier's City Hall 301-985-6585* or e-mail the City's Public Works Director at lsmith@mountrainiermd.org, and we will get you started in this environmentally friend program. Your efforts will be good for your street and an invaluable contribution to the City of Mount Rainier!

How do I get started?

Adopt-a-Street volunteers will serve a critical role in helping the City stay clean, and begin the process of cleaning the City for the celebration of our centennial. All of our streets are up for adoption. To find out what streets are most in need of adoption, call City Hall or check the Mount Rainier website and/or cable channel.

"MOUNT RAINIANS KEEPING MOUNT RAINIER CLEAN!"

Rat Management

If you think you have rats in your neighborhood, there are steps you can take to help get rid of them. Rats need three things: food, water and harborage (shelter).

Poor sanitation and the presence of garbage allow rats to exist in residential areas. Good sanitation will effectively limit the number of rats that can survive in and around the home. This involves good housekeeping, proper storage and handling of food materials and refuse, and elimination of rodent harborage. Remove piles of wood and debris. Rats will find food and water from bird feeders, fountains and ponds, uncovered trash cans, food scraps dropped along the sidewalk, pet droppings, pet food dishes, open restaurant grease drums, and exposed plastic or paper garbage bags. The most successful form of rat control is to "build them out" by making their access to structures impossible. All places where food is stored, processed or used should be rodent-proof. Store bulk foods, bird seed, and dry pet foods in metal trash cans or similar containers. Seal any building openings larger than 1/4 inch to exclude both rats and mice.

Trapping is an effective method of control. It is the preferred method in homes, garages, and other structures where only a few rats are present. Poison baits can be used to treat major infestations. It is recommended that you hire a professional exterminator if you are planning to use rodenticides.

Please make every effort to ensure that your property is kept clear of all trash, animal defecation, and wood piles. This is a great home for rats. Rats will live within 100 feet of a food source, so if you remove their food source, they will move on.

How to Deal with the Mosquito Population

With summer here so is the all too familiar nuisance of mosquitos. Mosquito's can be transmitters of encephalitis, malaria, and yellow fever to humans, and heartworm to pets. Please clear your property of any potential breeding sites for mosquitoes. You can take steps to reduce this menace right at home, since many generations of mosquitoes can breed right in your own yard.

- Get rid of old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles, or any water holding containers.
- Fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) in yard
- Keep drains, ditches, and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly
- Cover trash containers to keep out rain water
- Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets
- Empty plastic wading pool at least once a week and store it indoors when not in use
- Make sure your backyard pool is properly cared for while on vacation
- Fill in tree rot holes and hollow stumps that hold water with sand or concrete
- Change the water in bird baths and plant pots or drip trays at least once a week
- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes will not hide there

NOISE RESTRICTIONS

The City Code restricts the amount of noise that can be made during daytime and night-time hours. Owners or operators of residential multi-family dwellings may enforce more restrictive noise regulations on their own properties. Below is a short synopsis. Check the full text of the noise restrictions in the Code at Sec. 10-121 (available on the City website, www.mountrainiermd.org).

Nighttime Noise: During nighttime hours (8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. from Sunday through Friday and 10:00 p.m. on Saturday to 8:00 a.m. on Sunday), if the noise is audible more than 50 feet from the private property where such noise is occurring or more than 50 feet from the noise source on public property, then there is a presumption that the noise is unreasonable and that a public nuisance exists. Unreasonable night-time noises includes, noise from amplified sources like radios, the operation or use of any tool or equipment (including but not limited to construction equipment, lawnmowers, power tools, hammers, drills, and generators), yelling, and barking dogs.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

gatewayartsdistrict

Open Studio tOur
in conjunction with
Mount Day

Saturday • May 17, 2008
12 – 5 pm

Over 50 artists
participating in a self-guided tour
of Hyattsville, North Brentwood, Brentwood & Mount Rainier

painting - ceramic - sculpture - glass mosaic mixed media - performing arts and
more!

maps will be available at:

Mount Artists' Lofts / H&F Fine Arts & Atmosphere Café
3311 Rhode Island Avenue, Mount Rainier MD 20712
Gateway Community Development Corporation
4102 Webster Street, North Brentwood MD 20722

For more information contact Gateway CDC at (301) 864-3860 x 1

This is a Gateway CDC project with funding provided by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Division of Arts and Cultural Heritage, Prince George's County.

PY 2009 MOUNT RAINIER BUDGET CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday, May 6, 2008	Presentation and public comment, proposed FY 2008 budget for public works and code enforcement. (Summary available) Work session on budget; decide proposed tax rate
Tuesday, May 20, 2008	Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2009 Budget and Constant Yield Tax Rate; work session on budget
Tuesday, June 3, 2008	First Reading, Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Ordinance
Tuesday, June 17, 2008	Second Reading/Vote Fiscal year 2009 Budget

PUBLIC WORKS CALENDAR

Listed hereunder is the scheduled pick up dates for trash in the City of Mt. Rainier, for May and June 2008

DATE	PARTICULARS	DATE	PARTICULARS
May 2	Recyclables Pick Up	June 2	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pickup
May 5	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pickup	June 4	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 7	Regular Trash Pick Up	June 6	Recyclables Pick Up
May 9	Recyclables Pick Up	June 9	Yard Waste Pick Up
May 12	Yard Waste Pick Up	June 11	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 14	Regular Trash Pick Up	June 13	Recyclables Pick Up
May 16	Recyclables Pick Up	June 16	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pickup
May 19	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pickup	June 18	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 21	Regular Trash Pick Up	June 20	Recyclables Pick Up
May 23	Recyclables Pick Up	June 23	Yard Waste Pick Up
May 26	Memorial Day Public Works and City Hall Closed	June 25	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 27	Yard Waste Pick Up	June 27	Recyclables Pick Up
May 28	Regular Trash Pick Up	June 30	Yard Waste Pick Up
May 30	Recyclables Pick Up		

Please have all bulk trash and yard waste out by 7:00 am on the respective pick up day and all bulk trash and Yard Waste appointments made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding pick up day