



The Message

Issue 290

July/August 2011

Pepco to Begin Installing Smart Meters in Maryland *Installations will Run June 2011 Through December 2012*

Washington, D.C. – In June, Pepco will begin installing advanced digital electric meters, also referred to as smart meters, throughout its Maryland service area. The meter exchange program is the first step in the utility’s long-term investment to build a smart power grid that will help customers better manage their energy use and costs and improve customer service and reliability.

Crews will continue with the installation process through December 2012 until all of Pepco’s Maryland customers receive a new meter. Prior to installation, customers will receive a letter and fact sheet from Pepco which, among other things, introduces them to the contractor, Scope Services Inc., who will perform the meter installation.

“Installing smart meters is a first step to transforming today’s aging power grid to one that is more flexible and efficient,” said Thomas Graham, President, Pepco Region. “Ultimately, customers will see benefits, such as fewer estimated bills and more tools to help customers better manage their energy use and help the environment.”

To learn more about Pepco’s meter exchange plan, customers are encouraged to visit the “Smart Grid” section on pepco.com under “Our Energy Future.” Customers will find information on the new meters, a fact sheet on how to prepare for installation, and answers to frequently asked questions.

In August 2010, the Maryland Public Service Commission authorized Pepco to proceed with this modernization effort, which is consistent with federal initiatives to improve energy efficiency, while reducing carbon emissions. Pepco has received \$68.85 million in federal stimulus grants to help fund Pepco’s smart meter program in Maryland.

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Help Adopt a Tree!

Over 100 trees were planted last fall, in honor of Mount Rainier’s 100th anniversary. The tree commission is currently looking for residents to help us get these young trees through their critical first summer. Here is how you can help!

1. Go to trees.20712.org to view a map of the trees that need to be adopted. If you do not have an internet connection, call Jeannelle, our City Manager and give her your address and we will select a tree near you and let you know.

2. Send an email to trees@20712.org and let us know which tree(s) you would like to adopt for watering through the summer
3. Provide at least 10 gallons of water per week to the tree, and it will be happy! We will send out email reminders when there is a drought (over 2 weeks without good rains)

It's Fresh Food season – The Mount Rainier Farmers Market is Open!

The Mount Rainier Farmers Market is open and has a new location! The Farmers Market is now located in front of City Hall at the civic plaza. The market is open on Saturdays, 10 am – 2 pm through October. Ms. Sharon from Uptown Bakery has returned and we have two new produce farmers- Omar Medina of Zamora Produce from Colonial Beach, VA and John Dove of Love Dove Farm in Howard County. The Mount Rainier Farmers Market accepts WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) checks and WIC Fruit and Vegetable Checks (FVCs). Follow us on Facebook and Twitter or visit the website for recipes events and more at www.mountrainierfarmersmarket.com.



Timing is Everything - New Hours for the Mount Rainier Branch Library!

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System has given our City the best summer gift - new and expanded hours for the Mount Rainier Branch Library. Beginning July 5th the Mount Rainier Branch Library will have new hours. Daily hours will be Monday through Thursday, 11 am to 7 pm, and Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. This is a great boost for our downtown area, and especially all of our working residents. Now residents can order books and pick them up on the way home from Mount Rainier Branch Library. Celebrate summer and our new library hours by ordering books, movies or music and picking them up from the Mount Rainier Branch Library.

Cooling Centers in Mount Rainier

For those that need local relief from the heat, City Staff has identified the following sites open to residents for relief:

Mount Rainier Nature Center
City Hall
Mount Rainier Police Station community room

Please share this information with your neighbors. Remember to stay hydrated and stay cool.

Free Swim Lessons

M-NCPPC is offering FREE water safety lessons to youth ages 6-17. Make A Splash is a FREE 4-week session program that teaches water safety skills & introductory swimming skills. There is no cost. All that is required is the FREE M-NCPPC youth id cards which they can get from the Mount Rainier Nature Center, Rollingcrest-Chillum, Brentwood or PG Plaza community centers. It's not too late to sign up for Session 2, Sundays July 17-August 7. Locations include: Rollingcrest-Chillum Splash Pool, Ellen Linson Swimming Pool, Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex and Fairland Sports & Aquatics Complex

You can also beat the heat on the weekends with FREE swimming for ages 6- 17 on Fridays & Saturdays from 4 pm - closing at ALL M-NCPPC pools throughout Prince George's County. For more information visit www.pgparcs.com/aquatics.html.

MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL E. SCOTT, CHIEF OF POLICE



National Night Out 2011

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for this year's *National Night Out Against Crime* on Tuesday, August 2nd starting at 6 pm on the grounds of the Mount Rainier Nature Center (31st Street & Arundel Road). Bring your family and friends and enjoy an evening of live entertainment, plenty of food, and lots of fun things to do for the whole family. Please keep an eye on the City's web site, and on the police chief's Blog (www.mrpdchief.blogspot.com) for details and updates as plans for this exciting night evolve.

Crime Prevention for Homeowners during the Warm Weather Months

Most of us like to use this time of year to relax, have a bit of vacation, and generally enjoy the warm sunny weather. Criminals however, are *never* on vacation. Please take the time to protect your property and valuables against warm weather scammers, con artists, thieves and opportunity criminals.

- **Deception Burglaries:** Suspects, posing as legitimate workers, approach elderly homeowners with the intent of gaining entry to their home under a seemingly legitimate role: local gas company, water department, Cable Company, tree trimmers, pavers, government inspectors or officials. One suspect will distract the homeowner while a second suspect will enter the home and search inside for valuables and cash. Another ruse used to gain entry into the home is for a suspect to knock on the door and ask for a pen and piece of paper to leave the victim's neighbor a note. The suspect may appear to have difficulty writing the note, and will ask to come inside the house. Once inside the victim's house, the suspect will ask the victim to help write the note. As the suspect keeps the victim occupied, others enter the residence to remove money and valuables. Be particularly alert to anyone in your neighborhood looking to perform home repairs, or asking to gain entry into your home. Be sure to ask to see identification and let them know you are going to call and get authorization from their company before allowing them access. If they are legitimate, they won't mind the wait. Remember, do not intervene, but call police immediately and report suspicious activity.
- **Home Improvement Scams:** To prevent the chances of being victimized, residents are urged to observe the following precautions:
 - Keep doors (including patio doors) and windows locked - even if you will be out for only a short time.
 - Request identification from utility representatives. Legitimate representatives carry it, and will gladly show it to you. Call their company for verification.
 - Only rarely will legitimate home improvement companies solicit door-to-door. They usually distribute fliers or make phone calls - it's more cost effective for them.
 - Never pay in cash. Using a check keeps a record of the transaction and often provides identification of the person cashing the check.
 - Beware of excuses such as "We just finished a job around the corner and had extra materials that we could offer you at a discounted price." Professional companies do not operate in that manner.
 - Call police immediately if you notice someone unfamiliar to the neighborhood or acting suspiciously.
 - Be aware of various ruses that have been used to gain entry, including posing as utility representatives, asking for a drink of water, looking for property that is for sale, or selling home improvement services.
 - When purchasing or installing a home alarm system, make sure that the company who installs the alarm, as well as the company that monitors the alarm, are licensed to do business in Prince George's County. If a sales person comes to your door he/she must have a solicitation permit from the City – ask to see it! Also, the police department recommends that homeowners who have

residential alarms call their alarm monitoring company and request that the Mount Rainier Police Department be notified first when the alarm is activated. Many alarm companies will hesitate to do this because they want to reduce the number of false alarms, especially where false alarms may result in fines to the homeowner. This is especially true with newly installed systems. However, if you are comfortable operating your system, a first notification to the police will get us there quicker in the event that a real burglary is in progress.

- **Lock your doors while working outside:** When out working in your yard or garden, carry a key with you and lock your front and back doors. Some criminals specialize in stealing from homes when people are outside doing yard work. When you finish with that yard work, remember to clean up and lock up behind you. When you put your rake and other tools in the shed, garage or basement, don't forget to lock the doors. Thieves see an open door as an invitation. Deny criminals the opportunity to steal by securing your home and property.

The best crime prevention tool is a good neighbor!

Take the time to reacquaint yourself with your old neighbors and meet new ones. Why not organize or participate in a neighborhood watch program to protect and watch out for one another's property? Let your neighbors know when a suspicious person has been spotted in your area. If residents see strangers sizing up their neighbors' home that could also be a sign something is wrong. In that case, a call to 301-985-6565 will get an officer to the scene to check things out. Residents can help their elderly neighbors by regularly checking in on them, and keeping an eye on them. If, for example, a neighbor sees an elderly resident in conversation with a stranger, they could politely inquire about what is going on. Neighbors working together for each other's well being are the foundation of a healthy community. Caring and personal involvement builds stronger bonds between neighbors, and helps maintain safe neighborhoods.

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." - Dr. Seuss



Comcast Channel 71 Verizon Channel 21

MRTV provides 24/7 scheduled programming on your Comcast and Verizon cable channels. Watch City Council meetings, Work Sessions, City events and a host of MRTV produced programs and shows. Watch for the daily Program Guide for a list of shows and times.

MRTV invites you to continue to watch all the City Council meetings and TOTAL INFO- updates on local traffic, Mount Rainier weather, national news, sport scores and more!

You can now watch "On Demand" all MRTV programs, City Council Meetings and Work Sessions on the City's website: www.mountrainiermd.org Click on the MRTV banner and chose your program to watch!

For MRTV comments, suggestions, volunteer opportunities and show ideas contact: mrtvchannel71@yahoo.com or call 301-985-6585 ext. 28 voice mail, Graciela Carbonell, Department Director

Mount Rainier 2011 House Tour

Sunday October 23, 2011

1 to 5 PM

****SAVE THE DATE****



For more information call 301-335-0699

E-mail

**Jimmy Tarlau (jtarlau@cwa-union.org) or
Rhonda Dent (rdentguard-home@yahoo.com)**

LITTLE FRIENDS FOR PEACE

Thank you again for all the folks who did peace activities during May our Month of Peace;

Next year we want to try and fill each week with two or three peace activities so start thinking, planning and letting us know what you would like to do. Peace Building activities help to build a culture of Peace Right here in Mount Rainier.

PEACE CAMP: Right here in Mount Rainier:

August 1st to August 5th: Peace Leaders Camp

August 8th: Peace Camp

To sign up go to our web page at: www.lffp.org or contact MJ at: mjpeace@gmail.com

Hope you all have a peaceful, fun, relaxing summer.

Pepco's Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program 2011

WHO is Eligible?

Income Eligibility Limits Pepco electric utility customers in Maryland who live in 1-4 family residential homes (including town homes and row homes that are primary residences) that are electrically heated and/ or centrally cooled and have a household income equal to or less than the LIHEAP criteria listed below:

Effective July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

Household Size	Maximum Monthly Income Standards	Maximum Yearly Income Standards
1	\$1,579.37	\$18,952.50
2	\$2,124.79	\$25,497.50
3	\$2,670.20	\$32,042.50
4	\$3,215.62	\$38,587.50
5	\$3,761.04	\$45,132.50
6	\$4,306.45	\$51,677.50
For each additional person, add	\$545.42	\$6,545.00

WHAT this Program Offers?

The Program prioritizes cost-effective weatherization measures for homes such as: attic insulation, wall insulation, targeted air sealing, door and window weather-stripping, duct sealing and insulation. The program also offers additional electric saving measures such as: Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFL's), electric water heater tank wraps, electric water heater pipe wrap, low flow showerheads, faucet aerators and energy star appliances (refrigerators, electric hot water heaters, room air conditioners, air source heat pumps, and central air conditioners). The program will inspect for any potential health, safety or durability issues. Customers will also receive on-site energy use education.

WHAT is the Cost?

There is no cost to the customer. In rental situations, there is no cost to the Landlord, although landlord consent for proposed installed measures is mandatory.

WHO Provides Services?

Pepco/Delmarva Power contracted with Honeywell Utility Solutions to implement the Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program. The energy efficiency services are delivered by private contractors, who are Building Performance Institute Certified.

HOW to Apply?

Referrals will be accepted from participating Community Based Organizations (CBOs), local offices for the Aging, and Weatherization Agencies.

For additional information contact the Program Coordinator Vincent Rucker at 301-805-3772 or email vincent.rucker@honeywell.com.

Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program
7515 Mission Drive
Lanham, Maryland 20706
Pepco: 1-866-353-5798 Delmarva: 1-866-353-5799
www.pepco.com/homeenergysavings
www.delmarva.com/homeenergysavings

The Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program is designed to improve the energy performance, comfort, durability, healthiness and safety of existing income qualified residents in the Pepco and Delmarva electric service territories within Maryland. In addition, the Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program is designed to deliver energy efficiency and energy-use education to income-eligible customers. The objectives of the Program are to enhance the delivery of building performance services that use state-of-the-art diagnostic tools and the principles of building science to reduce energy consumption cost-effectively, while simultaneously addressing health issues pertaining to indoor air pollutants (focusing on carbon monoxide and other pollutants associated with combustion appliances), ventilation, and moisture control.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RECYCLE AND TRASH COLLECTION NOTICE

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.

PUBLIC WORKS CALENDAR

DATE	PARTICULARS	DATE	PARTICULARS
July 1	Recyclables Pick Up	August 1	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
July 4	4 th of July Holiday (City Hall and Public Works Closed)	August 3	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 5	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up	August 5	Recyclables Pick Up
July 6	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 8	Yard Waste Pick Up
July 8	Recyclables Pick Up	August 10	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 11	Yard Waste Pick Up	August 12	Recyclables Pick Up
July 13	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 15	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
July 15	Recyclables Pick Up	August 17	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 18	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up	August 19	Recyclables Pick Up
July 20	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 22	Yard Waste Pick Up
July 22	Recyclables Pick Up	August 24	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 25	Yard Waste Pick Up	August 26	Recyclables Pick Up
July 27	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 29	Yard Waste Pick Up
July 29	Recyclables Pick Up	August 31	Regular Trash Pick Up

All bulk appointments must be made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding the pickup day. All bulk and Yard Waste must be set out before 7:00 AM on pick up

www.mountrainiermd.org

Mayor
Malinda Miles
301-699-1378

mayormiles@malindamiles.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@mountrainiermd.org

City Treasurer
Vijay Manjani

vmanjani@mountrainiermd.org

Councilmembers

Ward 1

Jimmy Tarlau
301-335-6099

Jtarlau@cwa-union.org

Bill Updike
301-367-5649

updikew@yahoo.com

Ward 2

Ivy Thompson
friendsforivy@gmail.com

Brent Bolin
301-744-9465

brentbolin@gmail.com

Message

Jeannelle B. Wallace

jwallace@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
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
Michael Warrick
240-882-9788

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

City Police Department
Chief Michael E. Scott
Mscott@mountrainiermd.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

Congressman Chris Van Hollen's
Satellite Office:
6475 New Hampshire Ave, Suite C-201
Hyattsville MD 20783
301-891-6982 (voice)
301-891-6985 (fax)
Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

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–W 10-6:30 (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
301-918-8111

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
301-864-5168

Public Defender
301-699-2760

Public Schools
301-952-6000

State's Attorney
301-952-3500

Washington Gas Light
703-750-2500

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

Pre-sorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 171

July/August 2011 Message
City of Mount Rainier
One Municipal Place
Mount Rainier, MD 20712