



**Town Newsletter**

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February 2015

[www.cottagecitymd.gov](http://www.cottagecitymd.gov)

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Secretary

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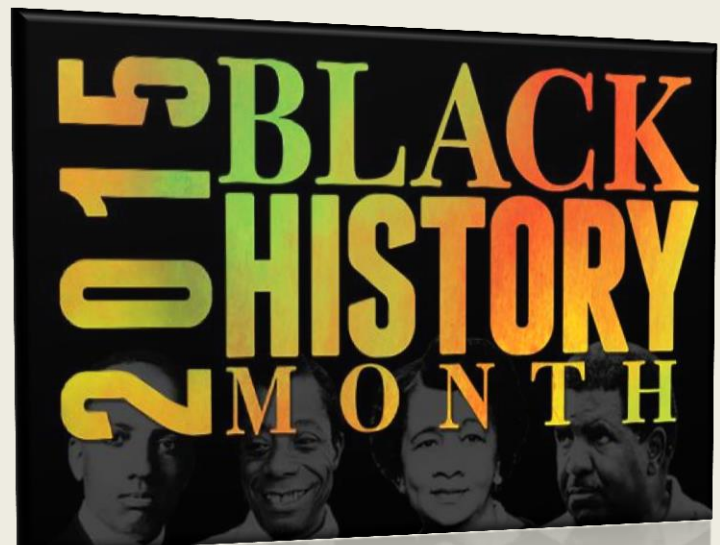
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Robert Patton**

Chief of Police

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*Celebrate and honor African American heritage during Black History Month this February. You can enjoy performances, history lessons, tours, and more! There are lots of exciting events and activities planned throughout Prince George's County! Check out: [http://www.pgpark.com/Black\\_History](http://www.pgpark.com/Black_History) for more information!*



*"Freedom is a road seldom traveled by the multitude." – Frederick Douglass*

## **COTTAGE CITY NEWS:**

### **Join the Cottage City List Serve**

Residents will get information on what's happening around town such as incidents, code enforcement violations, notification of events, etc. Citizens can notify the Police Department about matters such as light outages, etc. To join: (1) Go to Yahoo.com and sign in (or register for a Yahoo account if you do not have one), (2) Search "Yahoo Groups," click on Yahoo Groups, (3) Search "Cottage City" and click on Cottage City. <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/cottagecity/info>

### **Code Enforcement Corner**

Code enforcement rules apply to owners as well as renters of properties. If an owner is renting out their property, a permit is needed. Both the owner and the renter must correct code violations. The Police Department is actively enforcing code regulations to ensure that your neighborhood remains a safe, healthy and economically viable place to live.

### **Up Coming Events:**

**Cottage City Advisory Group meeting, February 9, 2015 at 6:30 pm.** The Advisory group is an informal group of Cottage City residents who meet to discuss concerns about the community. You and your neighbors are invited to join them. Reunion del grupo de asesores de cottage city. Febrero 9, 2015 6:30 pm. El grupo de asesores es un grupo (no formal) de residentes de la ciudad que se reúnen para discutir ideas acerca de la comunidad. Usted y sus vecinos están invitados a la reunion.

**February 21, 2015, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** The 1st Annual Women's Health and Wellness Conference - Empowering Women in Making Healthy Decisions, at Colmar Manor Community Center. The purpose is to educate women on how to prevent, reduce, and/or

eliminate health disparities (heart disease, depression, breast cancer, and acts-of-violence, pre-mature deaths, and emotional distress) among women of all ages, racial and ethnic backgrounds. This event is free (love donation \$40).

### **Snow Removal**

Public Works needs your help in removing snow from the street. Please consider parking your car in your drive way off street during a snow event.

Home owners please clear sidewalks of snow and ice from sidewalks to allow pedestrians safe passage to school or through the neighborhood, rather than forcing them to walk in the street.

### **List of Important Contact Numbers / Resources:**



- **Cable Channels:** Comcast, Channel 71; Verizon, Channel 28
- **Bates:** 301-773-2069 (complaints about trash, yard debris, or bulk trash)
- **PG Recycling:** 301-952-7630 (recycling complaints, containers, missed pickups)
- **Pepco:** 1-877-737-2662. Outages
- **Pepco:** 1-877-737-2662. Downed wires.
- **WSSC Emergency 24-hour service:** 301-206-4002
- **WSSC Non-Emergency:** 301-206-9772
- **County Click:** 311 or [www.CountyClick311.com](http://www.CountyClick311.com), (Handles calls for P.G. county services including nonemergency police calls. Some calls may be redirected back to Cottage City since we are a municipal government.)
- **Police Dept. Administrative Office (Open 9AM-5PM) :** 301-927-9225
- **Non Emergency Police:** 301-352-1200.
- **Fire Ambulance/Police -** 911
- **Prince George's Animal Management Division:** 301-780-7200

## February 3rd Work Session at 6:30 pm Tentative Agenda Items

- Renewal of Cottage City's trash removal contract with Bates. Discussion about whether to continue the current contract for twice a week pick-up or to change to a once a week pick-up. A comparison of costs involved will be presented.
- Presentation by Cottage City resident, Ann Young and Brook Kid, instructor from Joe's Movement Emporium, expressing an interest for a proposed yoga class to be conducted at Town Hall.
- Carpet and floor cleaning; chair and table cleaning. How many supplies needed, what costs are involved or should we outsource.
- Update on the Town's Payroll System. A presentation was conducted at the January work session.
- Announcement of the 2016 budget hearings to be held starting in March 2015.

## February 11<sup>th</sup> Town Hall Meeting at 7:00 pm

- EcoDistrict designation Update. Plans are underway with the Port Towns (Bladensburg, Cottage City, Colmar Manor and Edmonston) for the development of an EcoDistrict similar to the Art District. The EcoDistrict would focus on sustainable development and other associated elements that would improve neighborhoods in economic development, health, public safety and education.
- Update on the Comcast Merger with Time Warner. Negotiations are underway with all towns affected including Cottage City regarding the merger. Additional information is forthcoming.

## Motions passed at the January 2015 Town Hall Meeting:

- Motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes and the Closed Meeting Minutes from December 22, 2014. The motion was passed by a majority. Cote: Aye, Gross: Aye, Hayes: Nay, Jones: Aye, Butler: Aye
- Motion to accept the Closed Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2014 with the correction of pay of \$21.64 for all new officers. The motion was passed by a majority. Cote: Aye, Gross: Aye, Hayes: Aye, Jones: Nay, Butler: Aye
- Motion to accept Closed Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2014. The motion was passed by a majority. Cote: Aye, Gross: Aye, Hayes: Aye, Jones: Nay, Butler: Aye
- Motion to lease a 2015 Ford Interceptor in the amount of \$34,212.00. The motion was passed by a majority. (Leasing vehicle for \$30,344.00; Vehicle outfitting \$3868.00) Cote: Aye, Gross: Aye, Hayes: Aye, Jones: Aye, Butler: Nay
- Motion to purchase the lift cabinet for the TV to be placed in the meeting room in the amount of \$1649.00. The motion was passed unanimously. Cote: Aye, Gross: Aye, Hayes: Aye, Jones: Aye, Butler: Aye



## Town of Cottage City February 2015 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Work Session 6:30pm  Regular Trash Pick-Up	4  Yard debris AND Recyclables Pick-Up	5	6  Regular Trash Pick-Up	7
8	9 Advisory Group 6:30pm	10  Regular Trash Pick-Up	11 Town Hall Meeting 7:00pm  Yard debris AND Recyclables Pick-Up	12	13  Regular Trash Pick-Up	14
15	16	17  Regular Trash Pick-Up	18  Yard debris AND Recyclables Pick-Up	19	20  Regular Trash Pick-Up	21
22	23	24  Regular Trash Pick-Up	25  Yard debris Recyclables AND Bulk Trash Pick-Up	26	27  Regular Trash Pick-Up	28

- **Christmas Tree Pickup ended on 12/28/15**
- **Yard Debris Pick Up - Every Wednesday**
- **Recyclables Pick-up - Every Wednesday**
- **BULK Trash - Last Wednesday of the month**

## Town of Cottage City Code Enforcement Self-Checklist January 2015

<p>Use this checklist to evaluate your property against the requirements of the Town Code.          In 2015 code enforcement will issue notices for violations.          If violations are not corrected the town may take action to correct the violations.          This list is not all inclusive - see the entire Town Code at <a href="http://www.cottagecitypolice.org">www.cottagecitypolice.org</a></p>		
<b>Animals</b>		
1		Animal at large - not under the restraint & off premises of the owner (applies to cats too)
2		Dog or cat over 4 months without valid rabies vaccination
3		Dog or cat not licensed by Prince George's County
<b>Garbage &amp; Trash</b>		
4		Garbage container not covered with close fitting lid
5		Garbage container not of adequate capacity (10-20 gallon or larger)
6		Garbage container not washed/treated with disinfectant to prevent odors
7		Accumulated trash in building or on premises
<b>Health &amp; Nuisances</b>		
9		Dangerous structure, dwelling unit or outbuilding, damaged, decayed, dilapidated, unsafe, which presents a serious hazard to health or safety of the occupants or the public
10		Failure to apply for building permit for which a PG County building permit is required
11		Failure to apply for business license – <i>includes home based businesses</i>
<b>Peace and Good Order</b>		
12		Play baseball, football or any other game in which a ball or other object is batted or thrown upon the streets and sidewalks
<b>Property Maintenance</b>		
13		Fences & walls not maintained in a structurally sound condition and in good repair
14		Fences not free from loose or rotting materials
15		Grass in excess of 12" in height prohibited
16		Weeds or uncultivated vegetation on property (except for landscaping, shrubs and flowers that are maintained, cultivated and trimmed)
17		Tree stump greater than 12" on property
18		Limbs, felled trees on property for more than 14 days
19		Exterior of property has accumulation of trash, building materials, equipment, goods, glass, materials, etc.
20		Exterior of property has appliances or furniture not designed for outdoor use
21		Parking or storing any motor vehicle on any unpaved area on a lot zoned for residential use
22		Peeling, flaking and chipped paint (must be eliminated and surfaces repainted)
23		Exterior wood (other than decay resistant surfaces) not painted or covered by protective covering
24		Exterior walls of building not maintained free of holes, breaks, loose or rotting materials
25		Roof of buildings not structurally sound and safe condition / has defects which might admit rain
26		Exterior surfaces, doors, door & window frames, cornices, porches, trim not in good repair
27		Windows do not have glass panes, have open cracks or holes
28		Gutters not in sound condition
29		Exterior doors not provided with proper hardware / not maintained in proper working condition
30		Inoperable vehicle exposed to public view on premises – includes vehicles without proper tags (requires valid Maryland tags for Maryland residents) unless in an enclosed garage

**Yard Waste must be placed in paper bags or a container clearly marked "Yard Waste" Plastic bags are no longer acceptable**

The Maryland Vehicle Code requires new Maryland residents to obtain Maryland tags and driver's license within 60 days of establishing Maryland residency. Exceptions are made for active duty military / college students / persons obtaining medical care.



#### State Delegates' and Senate Scholarships.

Delegates Jimmy Tarlau and Diane Fennell as well as Senator Ramirez are sponsoring scholarships for students who live in districts 47 or 47A (Cottage City is included.). Students can apply for all three. Applications for all three scholarships can be picked up at Town Hall.

Delegates Jimmy Tarlau and Diane Fennell scholarships are for current high school seniors and full-time or part-time degree-seeking undergraduate, graduate students as well as students attending a private career school. Applications must be post marked by April 3, 2015. Call Delegate Jimmy Tarlau's office at 301-858-3326, and Diane Fennell at 301-858-3478.

Senator Ramirez scholarships are available for either undergraduate or graduate study. Students must attend a college or university in Maryland. Applications must be post marked by April 28, 2015. For additional information, Senator Ramirez can be reached at 301-858-3745. Applications can be picked up at the Town Hall or downloaded at [http://www.victorramirez.com/objects/pdf/2015\\_Application.pdf](http://www.victorramirez.com/objects/pdf/2015_Application.pdf)

#### 2015 Cottage City Scholarship.

Any Cottage City resident who has completed high school and is planning to continue their education in a junior college, college or technical/trade school may apply. An application can be picked up at the Cottage City Town Hall (3820 40<sup>th</sup> Ave.) or you can get an application online at [www.cottagecitymd.gov](http://www.cottagecitymd.gov). Your completed application must be received at the Town Hall on June 30, 2015 by 4:45 p.m.

#### The Hallie E. Carson Scholarship

This scholarship is for high school juniors/seniors whose parent(s) is a non-commissioned officer. Application is due March 15, 2015. For additional information, call Mary Jurkiewicz at 301-377-7817 or email her at [mary.jurkiewicz@pgparks.com](mailto:mary.jurkiewicz@pgparks.com)