



BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

www.cityofbowie.org

November 2017

Leaf Collection Begins October 30

The City's leaf collection service begins October 30. Each neighborhood will have two collection dates. Residents should rake leaves into piles at the edge of their grass for pickup. Do not rake or blow leaves into the street. If you have a storm drain close to your house, please keep the storm drain and curb clear of leaves to prevent them from blocking water flow and flooding the roadways. Also, please do not park cars or place trash in front of the leaves as this makes it difficult for City crews to maneuver equipment to reach the leaves.

Collection will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. according to the schedule posted on the City's website, www.cityofbowie.org/leaves. Crews will work rain or shine. In the event of snow or ice storms, leaf collection will be temporarily suspended, as the trucks and crews will be redeployed to salt or plow City streets. For information, please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

Trees and Storms

We hope for a moderate storm season this winter. While snow is the biggest issue, wind is a close second. Not only does wind produce snowdrifts, it also causes trees to uproot and topple over as well as damage the canopy of many trees causing dangerous and unsightly outcomes. Along with winter, thunderstorm and hurricane seasons are also likely to cause this kind of tree damage from the combination of rain, lightning, and wind.

City staff is ready to address these storms and the resulting damage in cooperation with residents. Report storm-related hazardous tree damage as soon as possible; contact City Hall at 301-262-6200 or the City's Parks and Grounds Division at 301-809-2353 or after hours, call the Non-Emergency Call Center at 240-544-5700.

Additional sources of information related to tree and storm damage:

- BGE - 1-800-685-0123 - tree power line issues
- BGE - 1-877-778-2222 - power outage issues
- MNCPPC - 301-218-6800 - tree issues in MNCPPC parks
- Prince George's County - 301-499-08530 - tree issues on County roads
- Maryland State Highway Administration - 301-513-7300 - tree issues on State roads and highways

Green Bowie

Rain Barrels Across Bowie Do you have a rain barrel and live in Bowie? We'd like to know! The City's Planning Department keeps track of rain barrels that are installed at residents' homes to estimate stormwater reductions for the City's stormwater permit. If you haven't "registered" your rain barrel, please contact the City's Watershed Manager Tiffany Wright at twright@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3043 with your address (for mapping) and how many gallons your rain barrel holds.

Certify Your Yard as a Wildlife Habitat Celebrate the first anniversary of Bowie's National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat certification by joining the cause. Certified habitats provide critical habitat for birds and pollinators. For more information or to certify your yard, visit www.nwf.org/certifiedwildlifehabitat. If you are already certified, consider opening your yard to your neighbors for the spring habitat tour next year. For more information, contact Tiffany Wright at twright@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3043.

What's Bouncing at the City Gym?

Morning Walking Weekdays, 8:30 - 10 a.m.

Basketball Open Gym Weekdays, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Pickleball Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Learn to play!

Coed Recreational Volleyball Fridays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. No experience needed. Come out and make new friends, have fun and get some quality exercise.

Senior Fit Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 - 10 a.m. Hosted by Holy Cross Hospital at the Gym. Participants must register with Holy Cross. For information and registration, call Sara McKechnie at 301-754-7895.

Meeting Room Rentals Available Can accommodate groups of 35 or less. \$25 per hour. Call 301-809-2388 for availability.

For more information on any of these programs, contact the City Gym at **301-809-2388**.

Need Help with Odd Jobs?

Bowie Youth & Family Services sponsors a Teen Job Bank, where residents can find Bowie youth who are looking for opportunities to make extra money, either on an occasional or a regular basis. Residents may use this service to find teens who can help with tasks such as yard work, babysitting, tutoring, shopping or other chores. The particulars of the job and the fees per hour are determined by you and the teen. Access this program by completing the Teen Job Bank resident application found at www.cityofbowie.org/jobbank, or call us at 301-809-3033.

Allen Pond Park Environmental Award

The City has been awarded an Environmentally Responsible Management Certification by the Sports Turf Managers Association for the natural grass athletic fields at Allen Pond Park. This award is the first in Maryland and one of 23 in the United States and Spain, showcasing ecological stewardship and sustainable best practices. This recognition is for the City's three natural turf fields at Allen Pond: Huston, Murtagh and the Allen Pond Softball Field. Congratulations to Parks and Grounds Superintendent Ed Hall and his crews for this honor.

Local Organizations Awarded Outreach Grants

The Community Outreach Committee advises the City Council on matters pertaining to human needs and resources in the community. Each year, the Committee awards grants to support programs related to their mission. This year, grant awards will help fund programs on diabetes prevention, empowering and supporting women who are victims of domestic violence, and counseling domestic violence victims. The following programs were awarded grants: **Diabetes Prevention Program**, **Am I My Sister's Keeper** and **Domestic Violence Counseling**.

Did You Know ...

Wild animals are not allowed to be kept as pets in Prince George's County. With very few exceptions, wild animals are difficult or impossible to care for. They often grow to be larger, stronger and more dangerous than owners expect or can manage. Their nutritional and social needs are generally unknown, and recognizing medical problems is difficult for one not trained. They can even pose a danger to human health and safety through disease and parasites. For more information, contact Bowie Animal Control at 301-809-3002.

Upcoming City Holidays

- **Veterans Day** Friday, November 10, 2017
- **Thanksgiving Day** Thursday, November 23, 2017
- **Day After Thanksgiving** Friday, November 24, 2017

City offices will be closed on the dates listed above. There will be no refuse or recycling service on these dates; services will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

A Tuna Christmas 11/3 - 11/19 at the Bowie Playhouse. Tickets: 301-805-0219 or www.bctheatre.com.

All I Have is a Photograph City Hall Art Gallery exhibit open until 11/18. Free and open to the public.

For more information, please contact Matt Corley at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

MUSEUMS

301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org

BOOKS ABOUT BOWIE BOOK FAIR 11/5, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Free

PAINT AND SIP NIGHT 11/7, 7 - 9 p.m. Belair Mansion Reservations required \$30 per person

MEET AMERICA'S FIRST VETERANS 11/11, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion First Maryland Regiment Free

GAMES PEOPLE PLAYED 11/12, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Drop in for heritage games Free

ANNUAL HISTORY LECTURE 11/14, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Four speakers Lunch included Reservation and fee

MARINE AVIATORS OF WWI - SECOND TUESDAY LECTURE 11/14, 7:30 p.m. Belair Mansion Free

TASTE OF THE PAST 11/19, 12 - 4 p.m. Belair Mansion Sample heirloom desserts! Free

FALL FAIRY TALES 11/20, 10 - 11 a.m. Belair Mansion Ages 2-5 Stories, craft and refreshments Free

KIDS KABOOSE 11/21, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Bowie Railroad Museum Ages 1-10 Free

TRAINSPOTTING DAY 11/26, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bowie Railroad Museum AMTRAK's busiest day of the year! Santa too! Free

Ice Arena

3330 Northview Drive
301-809-3090

GROUP LESSONS Registration begins November 16. Classes start December 7. For children 18 months of age to adults. Beginner and family discounts.

PUBLIC SKATING SESSION Offered daily. Visit us online at www.cityofbowie.org/icearena to view this month's schedule.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES Package includes admission, skate rental, pizza, soda and private party room for two-hour session.

ADULTS 55+

Bowie Senior Center
14900 Health Center Drive
301-809-2300

DAYS & TIMES
M/W/F 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
T/TH 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
SAT 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

NATURE WALK EXPLORATION
11/1, 10 a.m.

NATIONAL MEMORY SCREENING PROGRAM 11/9, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Preregister

HONORING OUR VETERANS
11/9, 12:30 p.m. Celebrate those who have served.

FASHIONABLE AFTER 60
11/13, 12:30 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor G. Frederick Robinson
Mayor Pro Tem Henri Gardner
Michael P. Esteve
Courtney D. Glass
James L. Marcos
Diane M. Polangin
Isaac Trouth

CITY MANAGER

Alfred D. Lott
301-809-3030