

Bowie News Flash

March 2018

News

Yard Waste Rules Relaxed This Week

Due to significant tree damage in Bowie, the City will relax yard waste set out rules for Wednesday, March 7. On March 7, the yard waste collection crews will collect whatever tree debris can be put into a trash truck. In order for your tree debris to be picked up, please do the following:

- Place plants, tree limbs and logs at the curb in a manner that will allow the collectors to easily grab and load it into a truck.
- Stack branches in piles with butt or large end of limbs facing the curb. (Bundling of branches is not necessary.)
- Place larger tree limbs, trunks, and logs at the curb.
- If the limbs, etc. are too large for the yard waste crews to pick up, the debris will be loaded using heavy equipment and dump trucks, but only if the debris is at the curb within reach of a backhoe operating in the street.
- Make certain that there is no trash, siding, or other building debris mixed in with the yard waste.

Any larger debris piles that the refuse crews are unable to collect will be collected as soon as possible later in the week.

City Council District 2 Special Election - March 12

The City of Bowie will hold a Special Election on **Monday, March 12, 2018** to fill a vacancy in the District 2 Councilmember seat. There are five candidates running for the seat - Edward L. Frazee, Piero V. Mellits, Diane M. Polangin, Monica A. Roebuck and Dufour Woolfley. Only registered voters of District 2 are eligible to vote in this election. Voter notification cards and sample ballots have been mailed to registered voters of District 2.

District 2A includes the following neighborhoods: Belair Town, Bowie Forest, Fairview, Glenridge, Grady's Walk, Highbridge Park, Meadowbrook (south and west of Millstream Drive), Somerset, Stewart's Landing and Tulip Grove. The polling place for District 2A is **Christian Community Presbyterian Church**, 3120 Belair Drive.

District 2B includes the following neighborhoods: Buckingham, Derbyshire, Forest Hills, Foxhill, Longridge and Kenilworth. The polling place for District 2B is **Kenhill Center**, 2614 Kenhill Drive.

Polls will be open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. on March 12. Voters may also vote by absentee ballot. The application for absentee ballot is available at www.cityofbowie.org/absentee. For more information, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/election or contact City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at 301-809-3029 or ahernandez@cityofbowie.org.

Rebroadcast of the District 2 Candidates' Forum

The five candidates for the District 2 seat participated in a candidates' forum on Tuesday, February 27 at the Kenhill Center. The 90-minute forum can be viewed on the City website at www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings. It will also be rebroadcast on the government channel (Verizon 10/Comcast 71 & 996) on March 6, and 9 at 7 p.m. The forum was sponsored by the Bowie Lion's Club Green Expo Group.

Retail Development at Melford – March 14 and March 19

Melford developer, St. John Properties, has submitted a Detailed Site Plan (DSP) for construction of five retail/commercial buildings at Melford Town Center. The Bowie Advisory Planning Board will review the DSP proposal at a public hearing on March 14 and the Council will hold a hearing and vote on the matter at its meeting on Monday, March 19. Both meetings will take place at City Hall. For more information, contact the Planning Department at 301-809-3047.

Five-Year Consolidated Plan Community Meetings – March 6 and March 15

Join the Office of Grant Development & Administration in a discussion on the process and development of the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Five Year (FY19-23) Consolidated Plan for the City of Bowie. Topics include the needs of the community in the areas of housing, homelessness, community development and economic development. Please send information requests/written comments to bowieplan19@cityofbowie.org. **The March 6 meeting is at 6:30 p.m.** at Huntington Community Center and the March 15 meeting is 7 p.m. at Kenhill Center.

Belair at Bowie Video Show Returns – March 10

Videographer Jeff Krulik will present his locally acclaimed video presentation "Belair at Bowie" at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts, 15200 Annapolis Road in Bowie, on **March 10** at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Krulik's video is a trip down memory lane for anyone interested in the history of Belair at Bowie, or, as it's often called, "Levitt Bowie." Residents from long ago, and not so long ago, will share memories and stories from the early days of one of the Levitt Corporation's most successful suburban developments. Free.

Malcolm "Skip" Popp Award

The Community Outreach Committee is accepting nominations for the Malcolm "Skip" Popp Award. This award recognizes Scouts and/or Scout Leaders who have rendered

“extraordinary and distinguished” community service within Scout organizations in the City of Bowie during calendar year 2017. To be eligible for this award, Scouts or Scout Leaders must be affiliated with a Scouting group within the limits of the City of Bowie, and/or a Scouting group for which 50% or more of their youth members are City of Bowie residents. They must also be registered with the Boy Scouts of America or Girl Scouts, USA. Please see nomination form for details regarding eligibility criteria and information required. The deadline is Friday, March 23, 2018. Nomination forms may be found at www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms or at City Hall. For more information, contact Sharon Hunt at shunt1@verizon.net or 301-802-0714, or Neil Norris at nnorris@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5601.

Young Adult Employment Fair – March 24

The City of Bowie Gymnasium and Bowie Youth & Family Services are hosting a community job fair for young adults on **Saturday, March 24, 2018**, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City of Bowie Gymnasium. The goal of this job fair is to connect local employers with young adults, ages 16 to 24, seeking employment. Last year’s event had over 250 young adults in attendance and more than 15 local employers participated. Employers seeking to hire young adults can register their business and young adults seeking employment can preregister for the event at www.cityofbowie.org/jobfair. Employer tables are free, but space is limited. Sign up now!

Youth & Family Services Offers Help to Families

The following programs will be starting soon:

- **Girls Count** - Empowerment group for high school-aged girls will meet on Mondays, 4 - 5:30 p.m.
- **ADHD** – A group for children with ADHD and their parents starting in late March.

Youth Services also provides free tutoring on Mondays and Tuesdays for Bowie area students, grades 1 through 12. (Mondays 2:45 - 6:15 p.m. and Tuesdays 4 - 7 p.m.). Preregistration is required. For more information or to register, please call **301-809-3033**

Spring Arts and Crafts Market – March 31

The Market takes place on March 31, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. Vendor applications are available at www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms and are due by March 16. For information, please contact Neil Norris at nnorris@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5601.

City Board and Committee Vacancies

Volunteers are needed for the following City boards and committees: Administrative Review Board, Arts Committee, Community Outreach Committee, Community Recreation Committee, Diversity Committee, Education Committee, Board of Elections, Environmental Advisory Committee, Financial Advisory Committee, Green Team Executive Committee, Information Technology Committee and Board of Personnel Appeals. Information on the role of each committee and how to apply for membership

can be found at www.cityofbowie.org or by contacting the City Clerk at ahernandez@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3029.

Participate in Bowie's Memorial Day Parade

Bowie's Memorial Day Parade Committee is busy planning this year's parade. It takes place on Saturday, May 26 beginning at 11 a.m. The parade is a great way to salute our service men and women and veterans. We welcome you to be a part of this hometown tradition! There is still time to sign up your organization to participate in this fun and patriotic event. For information and an application, visit www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms or contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Bike to Work Day – May 18 – Save the Date!

Celebrate Bike to Work Day Friday, May 18, 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. at two Bowie Pit Stops - Bowie Town Center Food Court and Old Town Bowie Fire Station. Preregister at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org or call 800-745-7433 by **May 11** for a free T-shirt and to enter a raffle for a free bike. For more information, contact Frank Stevens at 301-809-3053 or fstevens@cityofbowie.org.

Contact the Teen Job Bank for Help

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

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.
- **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.
- **Friday Night Open Gym** 7:30 - 10 p.m. Three courts open.

Arts and Education Scholarships

Arts Scholarship – This scholarship is awarded to graduating high school seniors who will be pursuing studies in an arts-related field. Arts Scholarship applications may be found at www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms.

Education Scholarship – Scholarships are only available through nominations by area high school guidance counselors. Students should contact the Guidance Department at their high school as soon as possible in order to be considered for this scholarship.

The deadline for both scholarships is March 12, 2018. For information, please contact Neil Norris at nnorris@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5601.

City Hall Art Gallery

Youth Art – Exhibit runs **through April 20, 2018**. The Gallery is free and open to the public during City Hall hours. For more information, please contact Neil Norris at nnorris@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5601.

Report Potholes

It's the season for potholes! You can easily report them on the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org/potholes.

Keep the Lights On! Report Street Light Outages

The City is responsible for the maintenance of most street lights in Bowie and uses a contractor to perform the repairs. But we need your help to identify and report where the lights are out or malfunctioning. There are several ways you can do this:

- Use our online [24-hour service request system](#)
- Email Erica Benkert at ebenkert@cityofbowie.org
- Call 301-809-2336

No matter what the method you use to report the problem, please be prepared to provide:

- The address nearest the pole
- The pole number (found about five feet up the pole)
- Your name and contact information so we can follow-up with you or obtain further information if necessary.

In general, it is the City's goal to have street light outages repaired within two business days of them being reported. However, when a pole has been knocked down, it could take up to five business days to get it replaced. When the repair involves a problem with the underground cable supplying power to the pole, it may take up to seven business days to complete, since it requires locating all the underground utilities in the area before digging can begin.

Staying Connected

This Bowie News Flash is one of the many ways that we use to communicate with residents. We recognize that different people have different preferences when it comes to how they receive their news about the City. Whatever method(s) you choose, our goal is to make it quick and simple for you to stay in touch with City government - to get the services you need, to get answers to your questions, or to provide feedback to City officials.

Please use any of the following methods to stay in touch; and if you have suggestions about how we can improve our communications with residents, please email publicinfo@cityofbowie.org or call 301-809-3032.

- **Alert Bowie** – Receive email and text messages, and in some instances, phone calls about what’s going on in Bowie. Sign up to receive weather alerts, traffic and crime alerts, news and events, job openings, government closures, and service interruption notices at www.cityofbowie.org/alerts.
- **City website** - View Council meetings, reports, job openings, bidding opportunities, event information, and more at www.cityofbowie.org. You can also pay your City water bill or a speed camera ticket on the site or submit a request for service.
- **Bowie Spotlight** – The monthly newsletter of the City of Bowie is published on the last Thursday of the month in the Bowie Blade-News. This free newspaper is delivered to every Bowie neighborhood. If you are not receiving the Blade each week, please call their circulation office at 410-268-4800 or email circulation@capgaznews.com.
- **Bowie Government Channel (Verizon Channel 10/Comcast Channel 71)** - Tune in to see announcements about upcoming City events or to view City Council meetings.
- **Social Media** – Follow the City government on Twitter (@CityofBowie), Facebook (www.facebook.com/bowiemd) and Instagram (instagram.com/cityofbowie). There are also Facebook pages for Bowie Animal Control, the Bowie Police Department, the Bowie Ice Arena, and Bowie Youth & Family Services and several City Twitter feeds. See the complete list at www.cityofbowie.org/socialmedia.

Jobs

The City of Bowie is seeking applicants for the following positions:

- **Community Coordinator** - Youth & Family Services (closes 3/9/2018)
- **Police Officers** - Entry level & Lateral (open until filled)
- **Assistant Director** - Public Works (open until filled)
- **HVAC Specialist** (open until filled)

For more information or to apply, visit www.cityofbowie.org/jobs.

Events

3/5 – Regular City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall. Tentative Agenda items:

- Update on Environmental Initiatives
- Mid-Year Budget Report
- Minor Subdivision - Mitchellville Manor

3/6 – Bell Ringers 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center. Presenting Irish tunes. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

3/6 – Five-Year Consolidated Plan Community Meeting 6:30 p.m. at Huntington Community Center. Please send information requests/written comments to bowieplan19@cityofbowie.org.

3/7 – Magic Show 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Senior Magic Club performance. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

3/9 - 3/25 – Frankenstein at Bowie Playhouse Information: 301-805-0219 or www.bctheatre.com.

3/10 – “Belair at Bowie” Video Presentation 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. at Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/11 – Archaeology Around the County – Bowie Museums/Prince George’s Historical Society Spring Lecture 3 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/13 – Victory Remembered: The Legacy of the Black Devils – Second Tuesday Lecture 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/16 – St. Patrick’s Day Spring Party 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. DJ music and light refreshments. Registration and fee required. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

3/19 – Regular City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall. Tentative Agenda items:

- Police Department Update
- Retail Village East at the Melford Town Center
- Centennial Art Sculpture

3/20 – Kids Kaboose 10:30 a.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad stories and fun for ages 1 - 11. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/20 – “Mistress Margaret Brent and the Indians” – Women’s History Month/Maryland Day Celebration 7 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/21 – Join the Bonsai Club 2 p.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

3/24 – Young Adult (ages 16 - 24) Employment Fair 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Bowie Gym. Employers seeking to hire young adults can register their business and young adults seeking employment can preregister for the event at www.cityofbowie.org/jobfair. Tables are free but space is limited. Sign up now!

3/24 – Kids Passport to Maryland History 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at South Bowie Branch Library. Countywide museum celebration of Maryland history for families. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/26 – Brown Bag Lunch Lecture 12 - 1 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Free. Bring your lunch. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/28 – Fairy Tale Fun 10 - 11 a.m. at Belair Stable. Ages 2 - 5. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

3/29 – Grandparenting Workshop 9:45 a.m. at the Senior Center. Learn helpful tips and tighten family bonds. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

3/31 – Ladies' Hands on History 3:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Fee. Reservation required. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.