

# Town of Myersville Quarterly Update

January 2013



## A message from the Mayor & Council

Through political divisiveness and economic uncertainty and the various lows of disaster and tragedy in 2012, the Mayor and Council wish to ring in the new year with an eye toward community stability. Without predicting the future, we can each still be engaged in individual preparedness, which translates into a strong and healthy civic well-being.

As part of that effort, elsewhere in this newsletter are tips on many basic things that make municipal operations more efficient. Tips like conserving water by taking steps to prevent leaks or reducing damaging impacts to sewer lines by watching what you flush down the drain. There are also suggestions on improving streets through public awareness and reducing refuse collection today to save on costs tomorrow.

The resolution of Mayor and Council and town staff is to work on bettering all these small things that we have some control over to be ready for larger things we may not. This includes more active committees, advanced social media, and improved outreach all for the benefit of a better informed citizenry.

The year will certainly be filled with discussions on larger issues like the Gas Compression Station, Main Street Reconstruction, and new development activity. Our goal is to give equal attention to efforts in the background to ensure our service to the public is meeting the expectations we all have for this great community.

To start the year off right, we learned that Myersville was one of only two communities selected by the County to participate in a pilot residential solar installation program. If you have been interested in going solar, contact town staff for details, and while you're at it, let us know how we're doing.

**Wayne Creadick Jr.**  
Mayor

## Planning & Zoning

**Text Amendments** ó On January 15<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Commission (PC) will hold public hearings on the proposed commercial signage, preliminary plat and sediment & erosion control text amendments.

Additionally, the PC will schedule a hearing for an ordinance allowing the residential keeping of chickens during the first quarter of 2013. Contact Town Planner Brad Dyjak at [bdyjak@myersville.org](mailto:bdyjak@myersville.org) with comments or questions.

## Developments Updates

**Dominion Station (DTI)** ó At its December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved DTI's application CP12-72 and issued a Certificate of Public Necessity and Convenience. The FERC decision contradicts the Mayor & Council's August 2012 decision denying DTI's Site Master Plan application and the Town will evaluate its options in light of this decision. Parties that had filed as an òIntervenerö with FERC may request a reconsideration of the case by January 22, 2013. A copy of FERC's decision may be found on the Town's website.

**Saber Ridge** ó The developer is continuing to discuss a proposed draft public works agreement with the Town to supply adequate water to serve the development.

**Quail Run** ó The developer is continuing to discuss a draft public works agreement with the Town and will also prepare improvement plans for the Town's review in the coming months.

**Zoning Certificate Process**– All construction within the Town must obtain a zoning certificate. For convenience, the planning office is open until 7PM the 1st & 2nd Tuesday each month. You may obtain a zoning certificate from the Town website.

After applying for a zoning certificate, you must apply for a building permit with Frederick County. For County permit details call 301-600-2313 or check their website at [www.frederickcountymd.gov](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov).

## Facilities and Utilities

**Water & Sewer Rates**– in addition to rate adjustments and increases in Bay Restoration fees, the Town enacted policy changes to late fees and disconnection of service.

The fee for late payment increased to 10% per 30 days and the period for disconnection of service decreased to 90 days past due. These changes were implemented to reduce the outstanding balance carried by the Town between billing periods.

**Water System**– After repair of a number of wells the Town water system is back to full operational capacity.

Residents should locate and keep meters and water connection vaults easily visible and accessible for routine and emergency access. During winter months don't forget to disconnect hoses, turn off outside valves and be aware of wet areas

**Sewer System**– while the Town was spared major noticeable damage from Sandy, there was significant impact to the sewer system and the Town is currently working with engineers to identify repairs that may be FEMA eligible, which will require some immediate correction regardless.

Disposal of cooking grease in the drain clogs the system causing backups in the lines. Flushing floss and wipes binds the grinder pumps. These issues are expensive to address.

**Street Maintenance**– In order to assist in preserving streets, the Town encourages being notified of potholes, storm drain debris, damaged utility caps, or other issues that may arise from general street wear.

With winter freeze and thaw the Town is prepared to address potholes arising over winter as weather conditions permit. In addition be aware of running water for potential water line breaks from ground heave.

To assist with plowing the Town would recommend cars be moved to driveways overnight so plows can push snow from curb to curb, allowing folks space to safely park cars to then clear driveways.



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## Parks & Recreation

### Recreation Annual Community

The Parks & Recreation Commission host its annual Community Meeting Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. This meeting is an opportunity for community organizations and volunteers to meet and discuss 2013 programs and projects over food and refreshments.

**Easter Egg Hunt** - the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Myersville Easter Egg Hunt will be held in March. Check the Town website for details on date, time and location..

**Open Space & Trails Committee** - A draft master plan for Town parks and trails is nearing completion to release for public comment before being recommended to the Mayor & Council for adoption.

**Garden Club** - expanded in its 2nd year with plantings at Doubles Meadow Park. The Club will meet March 12<sup>th</sup> to plan Spring activities. Contact us at [ParksAndRec@myersville.com](mailto:ParksAndRec@myersville.com) if interested.

**Standing Committees** - The Town is seeking members to fill a vacancy on the Board of Appeals and remaining seats for three committees established to assist in advising on specific Town functions.

**Municipal Facility User Agreement** - is required for use of all Town facilities. Use is first come, first serve and subject to certain regulations and fees. The Town is now accepting reservations for 2013.

**Lions Club Breakfast** - is held the first Saturday of each month, at the Fire Co.

**Geocache** - the Town is participating in the 2nd MML Geocache event, which partners with other towns in Maryland as a method to boost tourism. Information on all towns participating can be found on the Town or Maryland MML websites.

## Public Safety

**Myersville Resident Deputy** - Jim Harris, can be reached at Town Hall. In cases of non-emergency contact the Sheriff's Dept at 301-600-1046 or 301-600-2071.

**NOTE:** All door-to-door vendors and/or solicitors are required to carry a Town permit. Please contact the Town to report violations or suspicious activity.

**Myersville Volunteer Fire Company** - holds a breakfast the 3rd Saturday of every month from 7-10:30, September through May. Cost is \$7.00 adults, \$6.00 seniors, and \$3.50 children 6-11.

The Fire Co is holding a sportsman raffle February 2nd at the Myersville Fall Hall. Call 301-293-1026 for tickets.

**Emergency Preparedness:** be sure to keep streets clear of obstructions for the plows to open up roadways. Also, check on your neighbors during extreme cold and heavy snowfall events.

In the event of an electrical outage, turning off lights and other switches around the home is helpful to reduce surge on system when it is reenergized.

**Burn Permit** - Burning is permissible with a burn permit, which is provided through the Frederick County Health Dept. For more information call 301-600-1717.

### Important Upcoming Dates

January 8 & 15 - Christmas Tree Pick-up  
 January 12 & 13 - MJBL Sign Ups  
 January 19 - Fire Co Breakfast  
 January 21 - Town Offices Closed

February 16 - Fire Co Breakfast  
 February 18 - Town Offices Closed

March 10 - Daylight Savings Time Ends  
 March 16 - Myersville Elem PTA Fun Run  
 March 16 - Fire Co Breakfast  
 March 29 - Town offices closed

### Monthly Public Town Meetings (Town Hall)

Mayor & Council Workshop	First Wednesday, 7 PM
Mayor & Council Meeting	Second Tuesday, 7 PM
Planning Commission Workshop	Third Tuesday, 7 PM
Planning Commission	First Tuesday, 7 PM
Open Space & Trails Committee	Third Monday, 7 PM
Parks & Rec Committee	Last Thursday 7 PM

<b>Mayor</b>
Wayne S. Creadick Jr.
<b>Council members</b>
Brett Bidle
Gary DeMoss
Mark Etheridge
Mark Flynn
Mark Hinkle

<b>Trash Pick-up:</b> Friday	
<b>Recyclables:</b> Every other Wednesday	
<b>Yard Waste:</b> Wednesday April - November	
<b>Emergency Contacts</b>	
Town Hall:	301-293-4281
Town Maintenance:	240-674-0410
Key Sanitation:	301-668-8282
MES:	800-669-7080

<b>Myersville Municipal Center</b> , 301 Main Street	Town Manager, Kristin Aleshire	Phone: 301.293.4281
P.O. Box 295, Myersville, Maryland 21773		Fax: 301.293.3080
Website: <a href="http://www.myersvillemd.gov/office2.com">www.myersvillemd.gov/office2.com</a>	Town Clerk, Kathy Gaver	Email: <a href="mailto:townofmyersville@myersville.org">townofmyersville@myersville.org</a>