



THE COLLEGE PARK POST

Edition 69

MARCH 2026



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

EGG HUNT

-STRAVAGENT STRAVAGANZA

March 21
10am - 12pm | Calvert Park, 4807 Drexel Road

Young explorers (ages 10 & under) hunt for prize-filled treasures at 10:30 AM or 11:30 AM

- Enjoy live music
- Cocoa & cookies
- Photos with Peter Cottontail!

Scan the QR Code to register
collegeparkmd.gov/egghunt26



Egg Hunt Egg-stravaganza!

A spring celebration for families on March 21 at Calvert Park

Spring is just around the corner, and the City of College Park invites families to join us for the Egg Hunt Egg-stravaganza! on Saturday, March 21, 2026, from 10am-12pm at Calvert Park (4807 Drexel Road).

This beloved spring celebration promises a lively morning filled with laughter, color, and community spirit. As the weather begins to warm and flowers start to bloom, the Egg Hunt Egg-stravaganza! offers the perfect opportunity for families to gather outdoors, enjoy fresh air, and celebrate the season together. Children up to 10 years of age are invited to participate

in age-organized egg hunts, ensuring a safe, structured, and exciting experience for everyone involved

To provide flexibility and a smooth event flow, families may select one of two scheduled egg hunt times at 10:30am or 11:30am. Each hunt will feature prize-filled eggs scattered throughout the park, creating a fun and memorable adventure for young participants.

MORE THAN JUST AN EGG HUNT

While the egg hunt is the highlight of the morning, there will be plenty of additional activities

for families to enjoy. Live music will set a festive tone throughout the event, adding energy and excitement to the celebration. Guests can warm up with hot cocoa and cookies while taking in the cheerful atmosphere.

Children will also have the opportunity to participate in make-and-take crafts designed especially for the season. These hands-on activities allow kids to get creative and bring home a special keepsake from the day. Families can also capture the moment with a photo alongside Peter Cottontail — a perfect way to commemorate the occasion and create lasting springtime memories.

Events like the Egg Hunt Egg-stravaganza! reflect the City's ongoing commitment to creating welcoming, family-friendly experiences that bring neighbors together. Whether you're a longtime resident or new to the community, this celebration offers a wonderful chance to connect, celebrate, and enjoy a shared moment of seasonal joy.

Admission is free; however, pre-registration is required as space is limited. Visit www.collegeparkmd.gov/egghunt26 to reserve your spot today and ensure your family doesn't miss this egg-citing start to spring in College Park.



Stop Sign Enforcement Begins March 16

New school zone safety program supports Vision Zero efforts

To promote bicycle and pedestrian safety, the City of College Park has implemented an Automated Stop Sign Enforcement Program. With crossing guard shortages, strategically placed stop sign cameras in school zones will help deter violations and protect children traveling to and from school. This initiative supports Prince George's County's Vision Zero Program, which aims to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries by 2040.

Improving compliance at stop-controlled intersections is a key part of the City's broader traffic safety strategy. School zones experience high levels of pedestrian activity, particularly during arrival and dismissal times, and ensuring drivers come to a complete stop helps create a safer environment for students, families, and crossing guards.

Prince George's County recorded 91 traffic fatalities last year, the highest in the state. To address this issue, the City conducted a pilot study in September 2024 that measured more than 3,000 stop sign violations per day in College Park, many occurring during school hours. In May 2025, City Ordinance 25-O-02 was adopted to authorize stop sign camera enforcement.

This program targets stop sign violations in school zones. Five enforcement locations were selected:

- Edgewood Rd & 52nd Pl - Hollywood Elementary School [District 1]

- College Ave & Yale Ave - University of Maryland College Park Foundation [District 3]
- St Andrews Pl & Davidson St - Cherokee Lane Elementary School [District 4]
- Rhode Island Ave & Lakeland Rd - Paint Branch Elementary School [District 2]
- Calvert Rd & Rhode Island Ave - University of Maryland College Park Foundation [District 3]

The program became operational in February. A warning period began February 16, 2026, and citations will be issued beginning March 16, 2026. Under Maryland Traffic Law (Code 21-707), drivers are required to come to a complete stop at the stop line when approaching a stop sign.

All proceeds from the program will cover operational costs and support public safety improvements. The initiative is a coordinated partnership between the City of College Park, Prince George's County Police, and the vendor, Obvio.

Similar to the City's Speed Enforcement program, stop sign citations will be mailed to the registered vehicle owner. These are civil citations, not moving violations, similar to parking tickets, and hold the registered owner or lessee responsible. Recipients may pay the assessed fine or request a court appearance to contest the citation. Failure to pay may result in additional penalties from the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration, including a flag on the vehicle registration.

College Park Earns Bronze Bicycle Friendly Status

Supporting safer, more connected transportation options

The City of College Park is proud to announce it has been designated a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists — the first time the City has received this recognition. This designation highlights communities that are making meaningful progress toward safer, more accessible bicycling for residents and visitors alike.

College Park joins Rockville, Annapolis, Frederick, Ocean City, and Salisbury among Maryland communities earning Bronze-level status. The recognition reflects years of coordinated effort to expand interconnected hiker-biker trails, improve roadway crossings, enhance bike lanes, and strengthen overall route connectivity throughout the City.

Bicycling and walkability remain important priorities for the community. In 2023, the Mayor and Council established the Bicycle and Pedestrian

Advisory Committee to support the development of policies and infrastructure that improve safety and accessibility. The City continues investing in projects that make biking a practical option for commuting, recreation, and everyday travel to local destinations

The Bicycle Friendly Community designation is awarded through the League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly America program, which evaluates communities nationwide on infrastructure, education, encouragement, evaluation, and equity for cyclists. Designations are valid for four years and require renewal to ensure continued progress and alignment with best practices. College Park's Bronze designation is valid through 2029. This milestone reflects the City's ongoing commitment to building a safer, healthier, and more connected transportation network for all.

Older Trees Are Worth Protecting

How residents can help preserve College Park's tree canopy

Mature trees are one of College Park's most valuable community assets. They provide shade that cools homes and streets, store carbon, reduce stormwater runoff, support wildlife, and enhance neighborhood character. As trees age, they become more sensitive to environmental stress, making proper care especially important.

Signs of aging — such as cavities or dead branches — are not always indicators of decline and can support local biodiversity. Large trees also improve air quality and stabilize soil, especially during heavy rains and storms. Their canopies create cooler, more comfortable neighborhoods during the summer months.

During dry periods, water trees slowly and deeply to encourage healthy root growth. Apply two to three inches of mulch around

the base (keeping it away from the trunk) to retain moisture. Remove dead or damaged branches when necessary, and consult a Maryland licensed tree expert for large or hazardous pruning. Monitoring for thinning canopies or early leaf drop can help address concerns early.

Avoid damaging tree roots during home projects by limiting heavy equipment, soil compaction, and excavation near the base of mature trees. Protecting the root zone is essential for long-term tree health. Taking preventive action today can help extend the life of these important community resources.

Protecting mature trees is an investment in a healthier, cooler, and more resilient College Park.

Brought to you by the City of College Park Tree and Landscape Board. Learn more at www.collegeparkmd.gov.



CITY OF
COLLEGE PARK



NATIONAL
AIR AND SPACE
MUSEUM

Smithsonian

PRESENTS

STARGAZING NIGHT

Friday, March 27

8:00PM - 10:00PM



AN EVENING OF ASTRONOMY AND DISCOVERY

- ★ Telescopes provided
- ★ Hands-on activities & demonstrations
- ★ Free Event



Calvert Hills Playground & Field

4601 Calvert Road

Questions? events@collegetparkmd.gov

City Announcements & Events

More information: www.collegeparkmd.gov

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY MEETING

Monday, March 2, 2026 | 7:00-8:30 PM | Hybrid

Residents are invited to attend the City of College Park's upcoming Public Safety Meeting on Monday, March 2, 2026. These meetings provide a forum for community members to stay informed about public safety efforts, hear updates on ongoing initiatives, and engage in conversation about neighborhood concerns.

City representatives will be present to share information and respond to questions. Additional details, including meeting time and participation options, will be announced soon. Residents are encouraged to visit the City's website for updates.

SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

The City of College Park's annual summer camp scholarship applications are now open!

Youth (rising K-12) who reside in the City of College Park are eligible to apply. Scholarships are awarded up to a maximum of \$400 per student.

Students may receive a scholarship for one camp session only. Priority is given to youth who did not receive a City of College Park scholarship in previous years.

The scholarship may be used for camps hosted by:

- University of Maryland
- Prince George's County Department of Parks & Recreation
- Prince George's Community College

Some organizations are still finalizing summer camp details. Updated camp information may not yet be available, so families are encouraged to check individual websites frequently for the most current information. Apply by March 14 at collegeparkmd.gov/summercamp2026

For more information, contact Youth & Family Services at 240-487-3550.

STAR GAZING UNDER THE NIGHT SKY

Friday, March 27, 2026 | 8:00-10:00 PM | Calvert Hills Playground & Field (4601 Calvert Road)

Experience an unforgettable evening of astronomy as the City of College Park welcomes the National Air and Space Museum for a special night sky program.

Museum educators will bring professional telescopes and equipment, offering guided viewing and interactive demonstrations for participants of all ages. Learn how to spot planets, stars, and other celestial features while gaining insight into the science behind what you see above.

Outdoor sky viewing will take place at Calvert Hills Playground & Field. In the event of unfavorable weather, activities and demonstrations will move indoors to City Hall so the program can continue. Dress warmly and plan for cooler evening temperatures.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, email events@collegeparkmd.gov.

SPRING STREET FAIR RETURNS

Friday, May 17, 2026 | 12:00-4:00 PM | Davis Hall 9217 51st Ave

The City of College Park is now accepting vendor applications for the 2026 Spring Street Fair, taking place on Sunday, May 17, 2026.

Arts & Craft vendors, Community Exhibitors, and Food Vendors are invited to apply and be part of this vibrant community event. The Spring Street Fair draws residents and visitors for an afternoon of food, entertainment, and family-friendly activities — offering a great opportunity to showcase your products, services, or organization. Participating vendors gain valuable visibility while connecting directly with the College Park community.

Interested vendors are encouraged to apply online at: www.collegeparkmd.gov/415/Spring-Street-Fair.

Report Issues with College Park Connect

A simple way to stay connected and request City services

See a concern in your neighborhood? The City of College Park encourages residents to report non-emergency issues through College Park Connect, the City's resident reporting system designed to provide a direct line of communication with staff.

College Park Connect makes it easier than ever for residents to request services and notify the City about issues that impact their daily lives. Whether it's a pothole that needs repair, graffiti that needs removal, litter in a public space, streetlight concerns, or animal-related issues, the system helps ensure requests are routed quickly to the appropriate department for review and response. Timely reporting helps City crews address concerns efficiently and maintain safe, well-kept neighborhoods for everyone. By working together, residents and City staff can respond more quickly to issues and improve overall service delivery.

Through the College Park Connect website and mobile app, residents can submit reports, track the status of their requests, and stay informed about City updates. The platform also provides convenient access to City news, website links, and upcoming events, making it a helpful tool for staying engaged and connected with what's happening in the community.

HOW TO SUBMIT A REPORT

To report a non-emergency issue online, visit www.collegeparkmd.gov/tellus. Residents may also download the free "College Park Connect" app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store for easy access on their mobile device.

For those who prefer to call, non-emergency concerns — including noise complaints — can be reported to the City's 24/7 Hotline at 240-487-3588. For police, fire, or EMS emergencies, call 9-1-1 immediately.

