

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report***

DATE: October 3, 2013

1. Swearing-in of Police Officers

The following officers will be sworn in during Monday's Council Meeting:

Private First Class David M. Redmond of Upper Marlboro was previously a member of the Prince George's County Police Department from which he retired after 25 years of service.

Private Anika A. Simmons of Upper Marlboro graduated from the Prince George's Community College Municipal Police Academy on September 18, 2013.

2. City Savings as a Result of BRCPC Electric Purchases

The City has received information showing the savings for the City of Bowie over the last seven fiscal years as a result of participating in the Baltimore Regional Cooperative Purchasing Committee (BRCPC) for the purchase of electricity. The savings is calculated by comparing the BRCPC portfolio actual rate/cost with the BGE provider of last resort rate, which is the rate BGE customers pay who do not purchase their electricity from a third party supplier. From FY 2007 through FY 2013, the City of Bowie has saved a total of \$1,036,457 by paying the BRCPC rate as opposed to the BGE provider of last resort rate. For FY 2012, this saving amounted to \$91,819 for the City of Bowie.

3. Bowie Election – November 5

On September 30th, Councilmember Isaac C. Trough filed his candidacy paperwork for District 4 Councilmember.

4. City Public Hearing Dates – Wal-Mart (#SE-4734)

The City's public hearing dates for the Wal-Mart Special Exception application will be:

Bowie Advisory Planning Board – Tuesday, November 19th at 7 p.m.;

City Council – Monday, November 25th at 8 p.m.

5. Environmental Advisory Committee Recommendations

Over the past several months, the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) has been working to advance recommendations on two specific subjects. The first is a City street tree replacement policy, and the second is a recommendation to develop a natural exploration area within a City park. The City's Community Forester attended the EAC meeting this week to provide input on the street tree topic. The Community Services Department removes 200-250 street trees annually; however, only 150-200 trees are replaced. To help the City work toward its tree canopy goal of 45%, the EAC recommends an official statement of policy that will require replacement of 100% of street trees removed. A staff work group will be convened to draft a policy document, with EAC involvement. The EAC discussed the natural exploration area concept with the Community Recreation Committee at the CRC's September meeting and is recommending a multi-step process whereby candidate sites will be identified, a chosen site will be designed, Council approval obtained and funding secured so that a project can be completed within the next two years.

6. Prince George's County Ban on Plastic Bags for Yard Waste

Beginning January 1, 2014, Prince George's County will restrict the use of plastic bags for yard waste being taken to their composting facility in Upper Marlboro. County residents, including those in Bowie, will no longer be able to set out their yard waste in plastic bags. This includes grass, leaves and small branches. After January 1st, grass, leaves and small branches must be set out in cans or in recyclable paper bags that are available at local hardware stores. Christmas trees will no longer be picked up, if set out in plastic bags. Larger branches, that are less than four feet long and less than 3 inches in diameter can still be bundled into small piles, tied securely and put at the curb.

Our staff will be communicating the above message to Bowie residents starting with the November/December edition of the *Spotlight*. We intend to further advertise this change on the Bowie website, Government Channel, message boards, Bowie News Flash, Alert Bowie, Bowie Life, Facebook, Twitter and press releases. We will print flyers for distribution. We will notify HOAs, as well as area lawn service companies. Prior to the spring mowing season, we will provide a post card mailing to all residents. Please note that Prince George's County will be advertising this change, also. Attached is a copy of their flyer for reference.

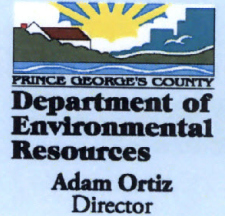
Please also note that this change only applies to yard waste. Trash may still be put in plastic bags. Questions about this change or about yard waste collection in general will be directed to the Bowie Department of Public Works at 301-809-2344.

Attachment



Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive

Prince George's County
Department of Environmental Resources
Waste Management Division
Recycling Section



Adam Ortiz
Director

**Source
Reduction
Tips**

Grass Cycle: Use a mulching mower to finely shred your mowed grass and leave it on the lawn.
Start a backyard compost pile.

**BROWN
IS THE NEW
GREEN**

Effective January 1, 2014,
Residential Curbside
Yard Waste Collection will
no longer be accepted in
plastic bags. Residents
should place yard waste
loose in a collection can
or use large yard waste
PAPER bags.

For more information, please call
County Click 311

**or
CAN IT...**

Save money and use
reusable containers,
such as trash cans. Be
sure to clearly mark the
can/container

YARD WASTE

