

- GREAT NEWS -

News and Information about Activities in and Around the
Great Mills Road Corridor

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MD 246 Streetscape “Open House” This Thursday

Construction will begin on the Great Mills Road Streetscape Project this month. State Highway Administration officials will be available to address questions about the project this **Thursday, September 17th between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Bay District Fire Department.**

Exhibits showing the roadway enhancement plan from Coral Drive to the entrance of St. Mary’s Square will be on display along with information about the construction schedule. Information will also be provided on how to stay informed about traffic patterns along Great Mills Road during the construction of the Streetscape Project.

For more information about the project, call SHA, District 5 Office at **1-800-331-5603**.

Lexington Park Enterprise Zone Designation to Sunset December 2010

The Lexington Park Revitalization District has been a State designated Enterprise Zone since 2000. This designation provides real property tax waivers and job creation tax credits for new investment to properties located within the designated area.

The boundary of the Enterprise Zone roughly forms a triangle, following Three Notch Road from Gate 1 to Gate 3 and stretching from those two points all the way to Great Mills High School. New investment to commercial or industrial property located within this designated area qualifies the owner for significant property tax waivers that last for 10 years. Growing businesses also qualify for a tax credit of \$1,000 for every new, full-time job a company creates within the boundaries of the Enterprise Zone.

Since the community was designated, 67 Lexington Park companies have been certified for Enterprise Zone tax benefits. The new investment of these companies at the time of certification totals over \$22.6 million. Five-hundred and seven new full time jobs have been certified for tax credits during this same time period.

The Community Development Corporation’s ability to certify business and property owners for Enterprise Zone tax benefits will end in December of 2010. If your company is growing jobs or you are contemplating new construction on commercial or industrial property located within the boundary of the Zone, there is still time to be certified for these significant tax benefits. To learn more about Enterprise Zone tax benefits, contact the Community Development Corporation at **240-725-5786**.

Training \$\$\$ for St. Mary’s Businesses

The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Division of Workforce Development offers training grants to assist Maryland businesses to retain and grow their existing workforce.



This program provides a dollar-for-dollar match for training designed to increase the skills of existing employees. For more information and to determine if your company is eligible to receive a matching grant, contact **George Clark**, Business Service Representative for St. Mary’s County, Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, at **240-412-3602** or gclark@tccsmd.org.

Organizing a “Great” Council for the Great Mills Road Community

The first meeting held to discuss the development of an association for business and property owners in the vicinity of Great Mills Road resulted in unanimous agreement that an organization to represent the interests and concerns of the community would be valuable. The Sheriff’s Office along with the Department of Economic and Community Development were well represented at the meeting and offered ongoing support to this fledgling initiative.



Interested businesses, property owners and residents are encouraged to attend the next organizing meeting scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, September 29th at 6:30 p.m. in the Lexington Park Library.** For more information about this initiative, contact the Community Development Corporation at **240-725-5786.**

Disc Golf Course Now Open at John G. Lancaster Park

The Board of County Commissioners and the Department



of Recreation and Parks announced the opening of a disc golf course in John G. Lancaster Park located at 21550 Willows Road, in Lexington Park. Disc golf is similar to regular golf except it is played with discs similar to Frisbees®. Disc golf is easy to learn and a healthy activity good for people of all ages and fitness levels. The disc

golf course is low-impact and utilizes the land’s existing topography. Disc golf uses baskets mounted on poles instead of traditional golf holes and the game can be played year-round.

In addition to the new disc golf course, a new one-mile pedestrian pathway around the perimeter of the park is nearly complete and is expected to be open within the next few weeks. This fitness course is constructed of an asphalt surface and is designed for walking, running, biking and rollerblading. The path connects with the

former roadway system in Lexington Manor, increasing the length of the trail by another mile. Also, a picnic pavilion is being installed at the site which should be ready for use later this fall. The pavilion will include picnic tables for public use on a first come, first served basis.

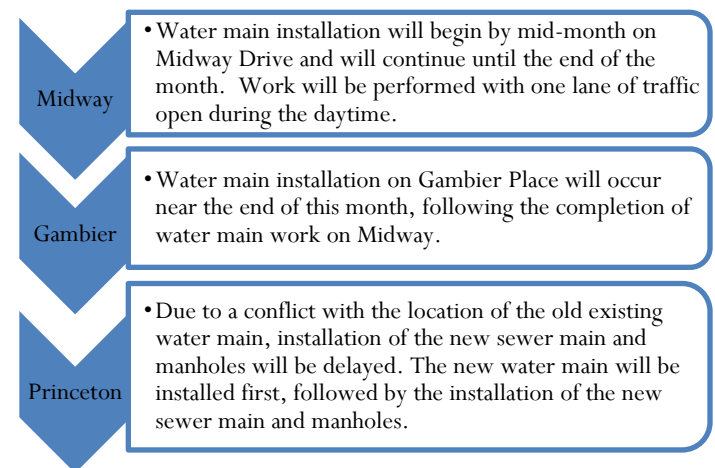
Questions or comments regarding disc golf and other improvements at Lancaster Park should be addressed with the Department of Recreation and Parks at **301-475-4200 ext. 1811.**

Gate 2 Continues to Serve as 24-Hour Entrance to the Naval Air Station

Gate 2 has temporarily regained its former status as the “main gate” for Pax River. Construction at Gate 1 requires that entrance to be closed weeknights and weekends for the next several months.

Businesses are asked to track monthly sales during this period. This information will be compiled and analyzed to discern if any differences can be attributed to the increased traffic flowing through Gate 2 during the period of extended hours. For more information about the impact of Gate 2 traffic on the Great Mills Road corridor, call the Community Development Corporation at **240-725-5786.**

Patuxent Park Reconstruction Status Update



If you have any questions, please contact the DPW&T Project Manager, **Allen Settle**, at **301-863-8400**, ext. 3525 or the METCOM Project Manager, **Steve Engleson**, at **301-373-4733**, ext. 307.