



The Log

November 21, 2024

What's happening in and around the Village of Hickory Ridge!
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Tips to Help Prevent Auto Theft and Theft from Auto Howard County Police Department

Year-round, thieves target vehicles to either steal them or steal from them. These reports can increase when the weather warms, during holiday season, or whenever an individual or group targets neighborhoods in Howard County. These crimes occur in a variety of neighborhoods, but thieves typically target high-density residential areas, typically during the overnight to early-morning hours. We encourage you to report any theft from vehicle to police, including if your vehicle has been tampered with but nothing has been stolen. This helps us track trends and identify suspects. You can make a report **online** or by calling the non-emergency number at 410-313-2200. For thefts in progress, call 911.

You can take steps to make yourself less likely to be victimized. Here's how:

- Always lock your vehicle. In some cases thieves break car windows, but often, they bypass locked vehicles after checking the door handles. We have seen this on home security camera video residents have provided to officers.
- Do not leave keys or key fobs inside your vehicle or leave your vehicle running unattended. We have seen "jump-in" vehicle thefts in which a thief steals a vehicle left running at a gas station or in a driveway. But a majority of other vehicle thefts occur because keys or key fobs are left in a vehicle.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight, or in your car at all – even for a brief time. We have seen thieves steal from vehicles at gas stations while the victim is inside the business. Wallets, purses, and electronics such as laptops and tablets are the most common valuables stolen. Thieves will use a stolen credit card as soon as they can, often to purchase gift cards.
- Park in a well-lit area or inside your garage if you have one and close your garage doors. Thieves have entered open garages and stolen vehicles and items out of vehicles.
- Additional security measures, such as vehicle tracking system/ GPS, vehicle security systems, and a steering wheel/column lock also can be effective deterrents.

Additional protections include:

- Get your VIN etched. Have HCPD engrave your car's VIN on all major pieces of glass. This is a free event offered by HCPD.

- Check the calendar for dates/times.
 - Register for "Watch Your Car." This free, voluntary vehicle registration program, administered by the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, is designed to deter auto theft and assist in the apprehension of thieves. For more information about the "Watch Your Car" program, go to **Maryland State Police website**.
 - Report a lost fob. If you lose a key fob, immediately contact the dealership to get a reprogrammed one, otherwise the lost fob will still allow a thief access to your vehicle.
 - Use Transaction Safe Place. Need a safe place to handle a transaction you arranged online, such as the sale of a car or motorcycle? Designated parking spaces, marked with yellow signs, are available at both HCPD district stations and the community outreach building. These areas are video recorded 24/7/365.
-



Join the Election Committee!

Would you like to get to know your neighbors and learn more about the Hickory Ridge Community Association? Join the Election Committee!

We are looking for residents to help with the 2025 Annual Meeting/Election Day process for the Village of Hickory Ridge. Each April, the Village elects Village Board members and a Representative to the Columbia Council.

Volunteers on the Election Committee will make recommendations to the Board, help plan and moderate Candidate Nights, check in voters and help with the vote count at the Annual Meeting/Election Day on April 26, 2025. They also ensure that the Election Rules and Procedures are followed.

To join the Election Committee, you must:

- Be a member of the Hickory Ridge Community Association, which means you must own or rent a Columbia Association assessed property in Hickory Ridge.
- Be able to contribute about 15 hours of your time for several meetings, Candidates Night and Election Day.
- Fill out the Volunteer Application form and return it to manager@hickoryridgevillage.org.

[The Volunteer Application form is on the website.](#)



Fall Leaves Quick Tip!

Cleaning up autumn leaves doesn't have to be a big chore. Turn that mound of leaves into beneficial mulch and feel good about doing your part to turn waste into a usable product that nurtures your garden and keeps nutrients out of our lakes and streams.


- Start by raking the leaves out of your shrub or flowerbeds. The object is to get all of the leaves onto a grassy or otherwise flat surface.
- Use the lawn mower to chop the leaves into smaller pieces.
- Gather up the leaf mulch and apply to your flower and shrub beds, natural areas or vegetable garden. The mulch can be applied several times over the season but you shouldn't let the depth exceed four inches at any one time.
- **[Columbia Association: Mow\(Yes, Mow\) Your Leaves!](#)**

Pathway Update

The CA pathway from Misty Arch Run to Bridlerein Terrace in the Hawthorn neighborhood of Hickory Ridge was recently replaced. The pathway had deteriorated and suffered some damage over time. It's a nice, smooth walk though this section of Open Space now! Take a look at the before and after photos below!






**PROJECT
Holiday
2024**




SCAN ME

An #HocoAging initiative that delivers holiday gifts to older residents who could use some **extra cheer at the end of the year!**
Get involved! Help us by:

Donating | Volunteering | Fundraising



 **Howard County**
Office on Aging and Independence

WWW.HOWARDCOUNTYMD.GOV/PROJECTHOLIDAY
FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL PROJECTHOLIDAY@HOWARDCOUNTYMD.GOV
PROJECT HOLIDAY IS NOT A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Tree Lighting and Ice Rink Opening

6000 Merriweather Dr, Columbia, MD 21044, USA // Nov 22, 5:30pm – 8:30pm

Join us for our Annual Tree Lighting celebration and opening on the ice rink. The event starts at 5:30pm with live music, ice skating performances, craft activations for the little ones, and so much more. Don't miss the Tree Lighting countdown starting at 7:00pm.





Join Us

Mondays Community Walk



www.hickoryridgevillage.com



Connect with neighbors, make new friends, and discover more about Hickory Ridge! This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone—of all ages and abilities—to meet members of the **Community Engagement Committee** while enjoying fresh air and great conversation.

After the walk, **we'll be serving coffee**, so stick around and enjoy a warm drink with your neighbors!

Let's build community, one step at a time!



Every Monday,



10:00 AM



Meet at

**The Hawthorn Center,
6175 Sunny Spring**

FREE!

**Questions? Call
410-730-7327**



Pets welcome!



FOOD TRUCK TROT

WHO

**PASTA LA VISTA BABY, HICKORY RIDGE AND
TOYS FOR TOTS**

WHAT

A NIGHT OF GIVING TO SPREAD HOLIDAY JOY

WHEN

DATE: DECEMBER 4 FROM 4:30-7:30

WHERE

**THE HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION-
HAWTHORN CENTER PARKING LOT
6175 SUNNY SPRING COLUMBIA, MD 21044**

WHY

WHY NOT? AND TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

HOW

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Volunteer Opportunities!

Harper's Choice Community Association
is looking for dedicated individuals to join us
in our upcoming community event...



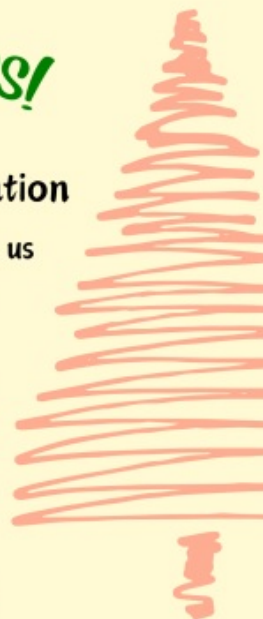
Breakfast with Santa Saturday, December 7th 8am-1pm

Gift wrappers, food servers, photo booth, decorating,
crafts, workshop helpers and more!

If interested, please email Shelley at
events@harperschoice.org

Volunteers must be at least
16 years of age.

We Need You!



The Hickory Ridge Community Association
presents

SNOWMAN

Story Time

STORIES | CRAFTS | SNACKS

THE HAWTHORN CENTER, 6175 SUNNY SPRING

DEC 10 & 11TH AT 9:30AM

Free to attend but RSVP to
events@hickoryridgevillage.org

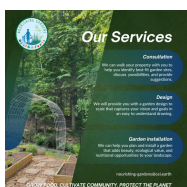


Made with PosterMyWall.com



Who Do I Call?

Check out the [Useful Information page on the Hickory Ridge website](#). There are phone number and/or links to various resources.



Community Ecology Institute's Nourishing Gardens Program

CEI's Nourishing Gardens program offers a limited number of private services each year. Choose from consultation, design, installation, garden sitting, and more. Reach out to Nourishing-Gardens@cei.earth or complete our [services request form](#) to let them know how they can help you accomplish your dream garden.



Babysitters in Hickory Ridge

If you live in Hickory Ridge, you babysit and would like to be included in the babysitter list in the next edition of The Log, please email events@hickoryridgevillage.org.

Please note that the list below are individuals with experience and interest in babysitting but are not vetted by this office.

Babysitter List

- Gloribeth "Glory" Gancedo: 305-224-2095
- Kailyn Shaw: kailynshaw@yahoo.com
- Zandi Jera: sunsetjera@yahoo.com
- Shamiso Dzvairo: sunsetjera@yahoo.com
- Jos Dumont: jos.pierre.dumont@gmail.com
- Sofia Blose 410-707-0332
- Christine Chen: NH8ChristineS@gmail.com
- Carolina Stiefel: 443-467-5811
- Sydney Daniel: danielsydney75@gmail.com
- Kasey LaWall: kelawall21@gmail.com
- Le'Mia Tyree: lemia.tyree@gmail.com
- Mia Fatuzzo: miaholdenfatuzzo@gmail.com
- Aisha Bamidele: aisha_bamidele@yahoo.com

Rebuilding Together Howard County

If you or someone you know is a low- or moderate-income homeowner needing essential repairs, Rebuilding Together Howard County is here for you!

With projects covering everything from roof replacements and plumbing repairs to electrical upgrades and accessibility features, Rebuilding Together is dedicated to ensuring safe, healthy homes for all.

Howard County Government is a proud partner and funder of Rebuilding Together, helping dozens of Howard County households every year. Learn more at <https://rebuildingtogetherhowardcounty.org>.



Reinvest * Renovate * Restore

Housing Repair Program

Who is eligible?

- You must be a Howard County homeowner
- Own and occupy the home as your principal residence
- Can be single family, townhouse or condo
- All mortgage, property taxes, HOA/condo fees, and hazard insurance payments must be current

Loan Terms

- Maximum loan amount is \$40,000
- Interest rate shall not exceed 2%
- Maximum term is 30 years



Department of Housing & Community Development — To apply visit <https://bit.ly/3gqNF58> and complete the Pre-Application. Full program guidelines and income eligibility requirements can also be found on our website.



Funding availability based on annual budget allocation.

Contact Taylor Shelton for details at

tshelton@howardcountymd.gov or (410) 313-6333

988 Is Here to Help

Need immediate emotional support? Call 988 to connect to a counselor who can help. Their specialists provide confidential care 24/7. Because we all need help sometimes.

Call whenever you need emergency emotional support or are worried about someone else. The 988 helpline is free and confidential.



Call 988 for emergency emotional support.
Safe, supportive, confidential. Available 24/7.



Community Action Council of Howard County

The mission of the Community Action Council is to diminish poverty and enable self-sufficiency for all Howard County Individuals, families and children in need. To better serve the local community and improve ease of accessibility, the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) will have community service workers stationed at the following locations during the following extended times:

Howard County Food Bank

Tuesdays, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Wednesdays, 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Thursdays, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Laurel MultiService Center*

Wednesdays, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Thursdays, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

*The Laurel MultiService Center is included along the Purple Bus route. To learn more about CAC's programs or to apply for assistance, visit <https://cac-hc.org/get-help/>



Cub Scout Pack 720 is Recruiting

Fun with a purpose. Camping, fishing, hiking, and life skills. Adventure awaits your son and/or daughter at Cub Scout Pack 720! K-5th grade. Serves Swansfield and Running Brook students. Contact Cubmaster Josh White at jmwhite0610@gmail.com to find out more!



Report Non-Emergency Issues Online

Report water main breaks, broken street signs, and more on Howard County's mobile app and website Tell HoCo. Residents can report non-emergency issues which the county will assign to the responsible department. Download the TellHoCoApp on your mobile phone or visit howardcountymd.gov/Tell-HoCo.



Letter of Compliance

If you are putting your house on the market, request a Letter of Compliance from the Village Office well in advance of a pending settlement date. This letter is not required, but it is a valuable tool for sellers because it verifies that your property is in compliance with the Hickory Ridge Covenants. Any covenant violations on your property become the responsibility of the new owner, so home buyers often request a Letter of Compliance from the Seller. Request forms are available in the Covenants section of our website and at the Village Office. Questions? Email applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.



Exterior Alterations

Thinking about making some changes to the exterior of your home or landscaping? Don't forget to check to see if you need to submit an Exterior Alteration application. The Hickory Ridge Architectural Guidelines and applications are available **on our website** in the Covenants section. Questions? Call 410-730-7327 or email applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.

For a complete schedule of RAC meetings and submission deadlines, click [here](#)

Upcoming Meetings

November 20: RAC Meeting at 7:30pm*

[*Zoom meeting, check website for details.](#)



Resident Architectural Committee Meeting Agenda

Resident Architectural Committee (RAC) meeting agendas are available on the Hickory Ridge website. **[Click here to view](#)** upcoming agendas and meeting results. Questions about submitting an application or the approval process? Email applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.



Rent The Hawthorn Center for your Event

Host your seminar, anniversary celebration, baby shower, or birthday party at The Hawthorn Center! Our richly appointed, contemporary atmosphere is the perfect backdrop for any occasion. We offer affordable rental space in a tasteful and convenient Columbia setting. We hope you will consider The Hawthorn Center for your next event. Contact us [here](#).



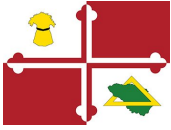
Open Space Questions or Concerns?

If you have questions or concerns about Columbia Association Open Space areas, contact CA Open Space directly by calling 410-312-6330 or by emailing Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org.



Crime Statistics Map of Howard County

Howard County has interactive maps with information about properties and neighborhoods. One is the Crime Statistics map. It used to be that the Howard County Police would have to put these statistics together for us, but now they are available at our fingertips. [Check out the Crime Statistics map.](#)



Howard County Government Updates

Subscribe to Howard County Executive Calvin Ball's newsletter *The Ball Bulletin* [here](#) Stay informed about the latest updates and essential information from your Howard County government.



District 4 County Council Newsletter

Deb Jung is the County Council Representative for Hickory Ridge residents. For more information about your district, check out the website.

[District 4 Website](#)

Never miss an edition of *The Log*

If you have yet to sign-up to receive the newsletter electronically and would like to do so, please click below. This will ensure that you never miss a copy of The Log.

[Click to sign up!](#)

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6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia MD 21044



HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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Crisis Stabilization Program

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GRASSROOTS
CRISIS INTERVENTION



6700 Freetown Road | Columbia, MD 21044

Hickory Ridge Community Association

410-730-7327

The Hawthorn Center

6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia MD 21044

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am - 5pm

[Hickory Ridge Village Board](#)

[Kristine Amari](#)

[Jared Ball](#)

Village Staff

Laura Mayton, Village Manager
Tania Tavares, Covenant Advisor
Devora Wilkinson, Covenant Advisor
Emily Rieger, Events Coordinator
Charlotte Nisos, Bookkeeper

Village Services

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[Steve Hannan](#)

[Samantha Link](#)

[CA Representative](#)

[Skye Anderson](#)

Heather Harvanek, Facility Coordinator
John Pongracz, Facility Assistant
Ellen Gallagher Roberts, Facility Assistant
Daniel Nairn, Facility Assistant
Erica Carpio, Facility Assistant
Tiwana & Ed Nicholson, Custodians

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Please note: fees may apply

[Contact Us](#) - [The Hawthorn Center](#) - [Resident Resources](#)

STAY CONNECTED WITH US!



Visit our Website

Hickory Ridge Community Association | 6175 Sunny Spring | Columbia, MD 21044 US

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