

The Charlestown Drift

April—June 2025



TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN

241 Market Street
Post Office Box 154
Charlestown, Maryland
21914

(P) 410-287-6173
Staff@CharlestownMD.org

Town Hall
Hours of Operation:
M-F—8:30am-4:30pm

WWW.CHARLESTOWNMD.ORG

MEETINGS

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The first Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm

PLANNING & ZONING

The first Thursday after the first Tuesday at 6:00pm

TOWN COMMISSIONERS

The second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:00pm

COLLECTIONS

HOUSEHOLD TRASH & RECYCLABLES

Every Wednesday, starting at 6am, unless otherwise noted.

YARD WASTE

The second and fourth Mondays of the month

BULK TRASH

Place items at curb any weekday for collection. Limit of one (1) collection per month. No need to schedule!

As we embrace the arrival of Spring, we would like to share some important updates. Last quarter, we celebrated the swearing-in of our incumbent commissioners, and we are excited to report progress on several key initiatives. In this edition, you'll find updates regarding cemetery management, the restoration of the flagpole at Long Point Park, and information about upcoming public hearings and listening sessions.

On March 11, 2025, **incumbents Robert Rinehart and Richard Mahan were sworn into office for another term** by Charlene Notarcola, Clerk of the Court. The election originally scheduled for March 4, 2025, was canceled by the Supervisors of the Board of Elections due to the lack of opposing candidates. **Following the swearing-in ceremony, the Commissioners held officer elections, with the results as follows:**

Renee Capano—*President & Planning and Zoning Liaison*

Robert Rinehart—*Vice President & Maintenance*

Richard Mahan—*Treasurer*

Jacqueline Akers—*Police & Historic District Liaison*

Thomas Costanzi—*Police & Parks and Recreation*



Charlestown Cemetery is set to undergo a vital update. The Town will use ground-penetrating radar (GPR) to create a comprehensive map of the cemetery, ensuring accurate records of all existing plots. This process may also reveal space for additional plots. Alongside GPR, the town will implement Cemetery Information Management System (CIMS), a fully interactive cemetery management software. Once finalized, residents will be able to search for specific plots online through the town's website. The implementation process is expected to take 16 weeks, with updates provided as the project progresses.

Also, the Town is working to restore the flagpole at Long Point Park, which was damaged in a fire last summer. Commissioners have been discussing the details, including materials and colors, and aim for the restoration to be completed no later than May. The new flagpole will feature lights on the ground instead of on the pole and will be fully operational, allowing for the flag to be raised and lowered more easily.

Lastly, the Town will hold **public hearings for the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget on Wednesday, April 16th, at 6 PM, and for the Comprehensive Plan on Thursday, May 8th, also at 6 PM.** Residents are encouraged to review the drafts of both documents available on the Town's website prior to the hearings and provide their feedback before finalization. The draft of the Comprehensive Plan will be accessible from April 1st to April 30th. Additionally, **a Listening Session will be held on Wednesday, May 21st, at 6PM,** where residents from all areas of Town can voice their questions and concerns. This session is led by residents, but the Commissioners will also share updates on ongoing projects for discussion and feedback. We invite all residents to attend these sessions in person at the Charlestown Fire Hall, located at 307 Market St, or virtually via Zoom.

To stay informed, please visit our website, follow our Facebook page, subscribe to our email distribution lists, or download our app, *Historic Charlestown!*

UTILITY PAYMENTS

DUE MAY 6TH!

Penalties Applied—May 7th

**Courtesy Door Hangers
for Non-Payment—May 13th**

**Shut-Offs for Non-Payment—
May 20th**

Sign-Up for Auto-Pay by April 28th

FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR



As I transition from my role as Assistant Town Administrator, I reflect with deep gratitude on the past four years I've had the privilege of serving this community. It has been an honor to contribute to the town's growth and work alongside such dedicated colleagues, commissioners, and residents.

I'm proud of the positive impact we've made together, including the enhancement of town communications through the launch of an app and email distributions, the implementation of new accounting and billing software, and the successful installation of new water meters and radio devices. These milestones are just a few examples of the hard work and collaboration that have defined my time here.

Some of my most cherished memories from this role will always be participating in the kids' events, like the Halloween parades, Donuts with Santa, and riding on the fire truck with Santa. These moments were a reminder of the heart and spirit that make this town so special.

Throughout these years, I've been continually moved by the kindness and support I've received from everyone with whom I've had the pleasure of working with. It has been a true joy to collaborate with so many passionate individuals. To my colleagues, I am especially grateful for the way we always made everything "figureoutable" — no matter the challenge, we found a way to work through it together. I will sincerely miss working alongside all of you.

The decision to move on did not come lightly, but I look forward to a new adventure and the opportunity to continue advancing my education. This role has not only allowed me to contribute to the town's progress, but it has also been an incredible learning experience. I leave with a greater understanding of the complexities of local government and the importance of community, and I will carry these lessons with me.

As a resident, I look forward to watching the town continue to grow and thrive. I am excited for the future, and I'm grateful to have been a part of this journey. I will always cherish the relationships I've built here, and I hope to stay connected as the town moves forward.

Thank you to everyone who made my time here so rewarding, and I wish you all continued success in the years to come.

With Gratitude, Mary Culver

CONGRATULATIONS, CHARLESTOWN GRADUATES!



**Kurtis Archer | Kale Chesnik | Kamren Trimble Collins | Aiden Hubbard
Madilyn Johnson | Eric Pavelich | Kayla Sisson**

Class of 2025, your hard work and dedication make us all proud. Wishing you a bright future ahead — we are all cheering you on!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Board of Appeals:

One Vacancy, Three-Year Term

Seeking a candidate that is interested in the Town's zoning ordinance and is willing to share the responsibility of hearing and deciding all administrative appeals, variances, and special exceptions, as provided for in the ordinance. Meetings are held as needed.

Historic District Commission: One Vacancy, Three-Year Term

Seeking a candidate that is interested in the history of Charlestown and its Historic Preservation. Duties of this position include attending monthly meetings to review and approve zoning/building permit requests, sharing the responsibility of revising the Historic District ordinance, and helping to create a Historic Preservation Plan that implements a shared vision for the Historic District. Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00PM at Town Hall and via Zoom.

The Town Commissioners may appoint by a majority vote candidates who are willing to serve in these capacities. If you are interested, please contact Town Hall at Staff@CharlestownMD.org with your letter of intent and any relevant experience.

Scan the QR Code
to download our app,
Historic Charlestown!



C-DOCK TOWN PIER AVAILABILITY

If you are looking for a boat slip for the 2025 season, consider renting a slip on the C-Dock Town Pier, located at Frederick and Water Streets. Pricing starts at \$1,811.25 and includes basic electric, water, and shower/restroom facilities. Wet and dry docking also available for an additional fee. Contact Town Hall today!



2ND QUARTER HOLIDAYS & EVENTS

APRIL 12TH—COOL SPRINGS COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY, 9AM.

Volunteers needed! Meet us at 9am at the Cool Springs playground (On Cool Springs Rd between Pagosa St and Colorado Ct). Our tasks include picking up trash at the playground and athletic field, as well as at the retention basins and common areas on Saratoga Ct, Steamboat Ct, and Cool Springs Rd. Gloves, vests, trash bags, and bottled water will be provided. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

APRIL 16TH—FY2026 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING, 6PM.

Join us at the Charlestown Fire Hall, 307 Market Street, to provide input on the proposed FY2026 budget. You can review the proposed budget on our website prior to the hearing.

Review the draft budget at www.charlestownmd.org/monthly-reports.

APRIL 19TH—ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT, 10AM SHARP.

This event is hosted by the Charlestown Fire Department at Fairgreen Park. After the egg hunt, prizes will be handed out at the Charlestown Fire Department, where kids will also have the chance to take a tour and meet our local volunteer firefighters.



APRIL 27TH—HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY, 7:30AM-3PM.

The Cecil County Central Landfill, located at 758 E. Old Philadelphia Rd, Elkton, will be hosting its bi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Day. Please visit our website or Cecil County's website for details: www.ccgov.org.

MAY 8TH—COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW, 6PM.

Please join the Town Commissioners and Planning & Zoning Commission for a chance to review and provide feedback regarding the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Meet us at the Charlestown Fire Hall, 307 Market Street, or via Zoom. Review the plan at

www.charlestownmd.org/comprehensive-plan.

MAY 21ST—TOWN HALL LISTENING SESSION, 6PM.

All residents are encouraged to attend this resident-led listening session, as it's essential for gathering feedback to guide Charlestown in the right direction and keeping our residents informed. We will meet at the Charlestown Fire Hall, located at 307 Market Street, and via Zoom.

MAY 26TH—MEMORIAL DAY.

Town Hall will be closed. Trash and recyclables collection will be on Thursday, May 29th.

MAY 30TH—CHARLESTOWN TIME CAPSULE OPENING, 1PM.

Charlestown Elementary School is excited to mark a special moment in history! Twenty-five years ago, the students buried a time capsule in Market Square (Intersection of Bladen & Market Streets), filled with letters and mementos from their time. Now, we invite the community to join us as past and present students come together to open the capsule and relive those memories. Following the opening, current students will add their own mementos and letters, re-burying the capsule for another 25 years, continuing this cherished tradition for future generations.

Be a part of this unforgettable occasion!



JUNE 14TH—ANNUAL CECIL COUNTY WADE-IN, 10AM-2PPM.

Rain or shine! Bring your family out to Veteran's Park for a fun-filled day of learning what you can do to improve Cecil County's waterways at the 16th Annual Cecil County Wade-In. Participate in our Recycled Wraps for Rescues linen drive benefitting Cecil County Animal Services, turn in unused prescription pharmaceuticals to law enforcement, view demonstrations and talk with our exhibitors, walk through the Fishmobile, explore the Skipjack Martha Lewis, and visit the historic P.K. Barnes Ice House. At noon, we will pull up our pant legs, put on our white shows and wade into the North East River. If you love to recreate on our local waterways, this will be an event you won't want to miss! This is a FREE event sponsored by the Cecil County Stormwater Management Division, who would like to remind you... nothing but rain down the storm drain!

Parking available at Avalon Park Lot B.



Please note that the boat ramp, located at Water & Market Streets, and the intersections at Water & Conestoga Streets and Conestoga & Calvert Streets will be temporarily closed from 8:30am-4:00pm.

JUNE 15TH—TORY HOUSE TOUR, 4-6PM.

In 1742, Charlestown was founded! Join us at the Tory House, located at 343 Market Street, to explore the origins of our town, where thoughtfully designed streets, community squares, and plans for a commercial dock and warehouse laid the foundation for its vision of becoming the leading commercial center in northern Maryland. A special presentation will take place at 4:30pm.

Parking lot located on Cecil Street.

JUNE 19TH—JUNETEENTH.

Town Hall will be closed. Trash and recyclables collection will be on Wednesday, June 18th, as usual.



Town of Charlestown - 2nd Quarter 2025 Calendar

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
April					1	Historic District Meeting 6pm		2	TRC		3	Planning & Zoning Meeting 6pm	
	6	Fishing Tournament 7a-2p		7			8	Town Comm. Meeting 6pm		9	TRC		
	13			14	Yard Waste Collection		15			16	TRC		
	20	Easter		21			22	Earth Day Town Comm. Meeting 6pm		23	TRC		
	27	Household Hazardous Waste Day		28	Yard Waste Collection		29			30	TRC		
	Household Hazardous Waste Day April 27th - 7:30am-3:00pm Cecil County Landfill, 758 E Old Phila. Rd, Elkton												
	Annual Easter Egg Hunt 10AM Sharp												

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday				
May 6th - Utility Payments Due May 7th - Penalties Applied May 13th - Courtesy Door Hangers May 20th - Shut-Offs for Non-Payment								1			2			3		
4			5			6	Bills Due Historic District Meeting 6pm		7	TRC		8	Planning & Zoning Meeting 6pm			
11	Mother's Day		12	Yard Waste Collection		13	Town Comm. Meeting 6pm		14	TRC		15				
18			19			20	Shut-Offs for Non-Payment		21	TRC		22	Listening Session 6pm			
25			26	CLOSED Memorial Day		27	Yard Waste Town Comm. Meeting 6pm		28	TRC		29				
Time Capsule Opening 1pm																
Fishing Tournament 7a-2p																

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		
1			2			3	Historic District Meeting 6pm		4	TRC		5	Planning & Zoning Meeting 6pm	
8			9	Yard Waste Collection		10	Town Comm. Meeting 6pm		11	TRC		12		
15	Father's Day Tory House Tour 4-6pm		16			17			18	TRC		19	CLOSED Juneteenth	
22			23	Yard Waste Collection		24	Town Comm. Meeting 6pm		25	TRC		26		
29			30			Bulk trash collections now on any weekday. No need to schedule. Limit of one collection per month per household. See website for full guidelines.								
First Day of Summer														
Annual Wade-In 10am-2pm														

**Note: TRC = Trash/Recyclables Collection