

fall 2019

**CENSUS  
2020**



**GREEN  
SUMMIT  
2019**

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

**GREEN**

**SCENE 2019**

newsletter

**PRINCE GEORGE'S  
COUNTY ORGANIC  
COMPOSTING  
PROGRAM  
REAPS NACo AND  
MWCOC AWARDS**



# DIRECTOR'S CORNER



## All Things Are Connected

“Humankind has not woven the web of life,” Chief Seattle, an American Indian tribal leader, reportedly once wrote. “We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.”

The web of life. In this issue, pumpkins and hurricanes? Yes, both. Pumpkins, harvested in the early fall, grow from seeds watered by the rain; the rains turn into autumn storms, often fierce. The 2020 census? We are part of a county, part of a country. Food composting? Food -- from farms, fields and the sea -- is one of life’s great pleasures joining us across cultures. Food transformed to fertilizer completes the recycle of life. Animal adoptions? Humans are not the only life beings on the planet. A Green Summit? Humans coming together to share values and visions for the future. In the person of one human, Barry Windsor, we honor one of our own, for a career of a lifetime.

To strengthen the web of life that joins us all: to care for land, air, water and animals, and for one another -- this is the work of the Department of the Environment.

All things are connected.

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The Green Scene newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Department of the Environment. We welcome story suggestions, photos and special event articles.

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## DOE MISSION

The Department of the Environment works for a healthy, beautiful and sustainable County through programs that provide clean water, flood control, recycling and waste management, animal management and pet adoption in partnership with residents and other stakeholders.



Green summit attendees at opening ceremony.



Souitarian vegan food truck.



Chief Rodney Taylor presenting at the Green Summit.

# 5TH ANNUAL GREEN SUMMIT A GREEN SUCCESS!

The Department of the Environment (DoE) hosted its 5th annual Green Summit at the Kentland Community Center in Landover on Saturday, October 12. The day featured a variety of workshops, presentations, green vendors, exhibits, food trucks and electric vehicle demonstrations.

DoE Director Joseph P. Gill, opened the event and stressed the importance of making connections to the natural world. He also highlighted the importance of individual involvement in Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks' Beautification Initiative – a multi-year campaign to encourage people to take pride in their community and remove litter from the streets.

Attendees were invited to participate in tree planting workshops on how to properly plant trees for survival as well as the techniques critical to maintaining tree health.

Attendees could experience a wide array of topics at the Green Summit, covering pollinator protection with native plants, how to be a great pet parent, getting rebates for stormwater runoff practices or electric vehicle charging and how participating in Prince George's County's 2020 Census *Proud to Be Counted* campaign can provide our community with appropriate funding for critical projects.

The most popular sessions were an informative back to basics discussion of Prince George's County single-stream recycling program, including examples of acceptable and unacceptable items and tips for the proper preparation of those materials.

Attendees were also able to tour Kentland Community Center and get a first-hand look at the stormwater best management practices installed at this state-of-the-art green technology facility. The tour also included a look at the 8,000 square-foot vegetable roof made up of plant material and special soil. Stay tuned for information on the 6th annual Green Summit in 2020. ■

## THANK YOU SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION  
ELECTRIC VEHICLE INSTITUTE  
CITY OF HYATTSVILLE AND HYATTSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
KEEP PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BEAUTIFUL LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
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2020 CENSUS  
ALICE FERGUSON FOUNDATION  
ANIMAL SERVICES DIVISION (DOE)  
CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST  
SPORTS CHEVROLET OF SILVER SPRING  
CORVIAS/CLEAN WATER PARTNERSHIP  
DIVINE HEALTH CHOICES  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION (DOE)  
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING, INSPECTIONS & ENFORCEMENT



NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CENTER  
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND 311 CALL CENTER  
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POTOMAC ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY (PEPCO)  
WASTE TECH HOLDINGS  
WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION (WSSC)

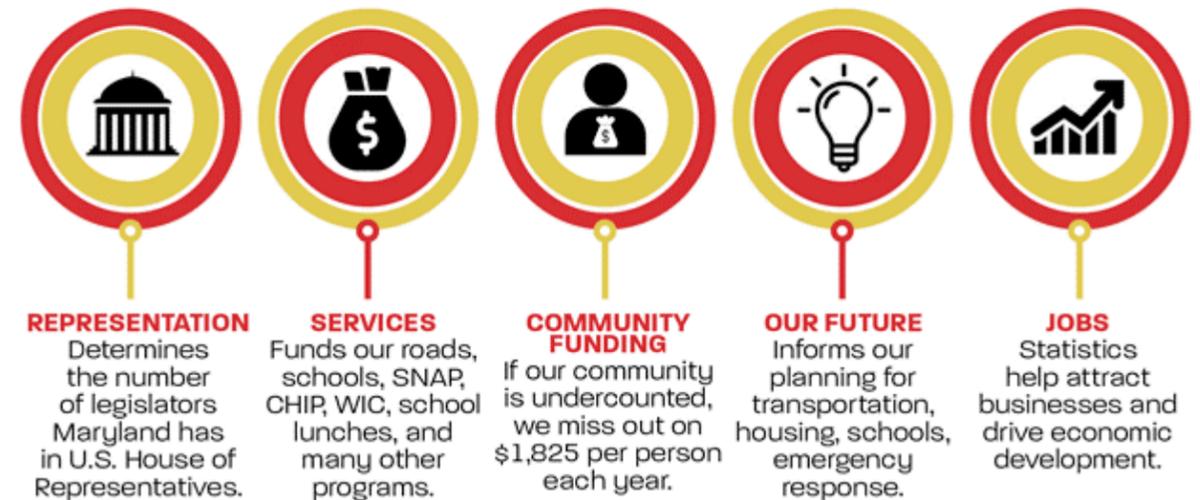


## CENSUS 2020

- The County is invested in ensuring every resident counts in order to adequately provide public services for our communities.
- Prince George's County Council passed a Council Resolution (CR-35-2018) in support of a Complete Count Committee, which consists of Prince George's County government officials and subcommittee members from faith-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, parks, and public libraries.
- The Prince George's County Census team is developing tools and materials for your use. See [www.PGCensus2020.org](http://www.PGCensus2020.org) for more details and free downloadable materials.

HOW IS PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY  
PREPARING FOR A  
SUCCESSFUL COUNT ?

### HOW THE U.S. CENSUS IMPACTS OUR COMMUNITY



# USING MAPPING SOFTWARE FOR NPDES PROGRAM SUPPORT

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program addresses water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States. As part of the NPDES permit, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is required by law to report stormwater management and watershed restoration activity. Multiple agencies in Prince George's County, supported by various consultants, work together to ensure stormwater management compliance, as well as planning and executing water quality projects to restore watershed health. The permit requires tracking of stormwater management facilities installed within the County. These facilities are known as best management practices (BMPs).

## THE NEED FOR COORDINATION

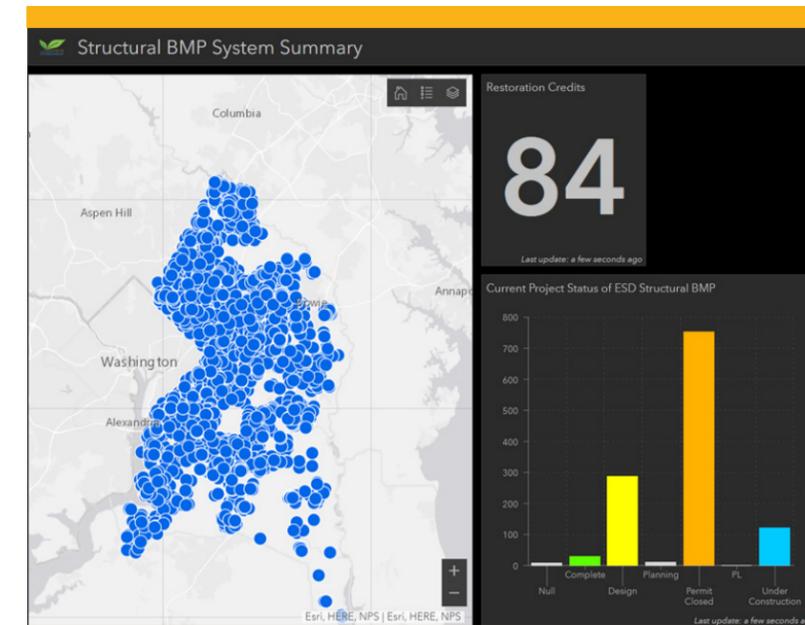
Each agency and consulting firm had their own version of the data; however, there was no consistency across datasets, and there was no standard or requirements for sharing and updating data on a regular basis.

## IMPLEMENTING CHANGE

Beginning in January 2018, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) Geographic Information System (GIS) team and the Department of the Environment (DoE) worked with the Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) to design an enterprise geodatabase using a data model that incorporated elements from the MDE geodatabase as well as various County agencies, consultant datasets, and water industry best practices. The result was the Enterprise Stormwater Management (ESM) geodatabase, where all stakeholders can enter data and view each other's data. This eliminated the need to reconcile data differences between agencies and consultants that collect data for the annual report. The data is also used in four different operations dashboards designed for decision-makers to visualize watershed restoration summaries.

A few of the many benefits of the BMP field inspection web map and using field applications Collector for ArcGIS (Collector app) include the following:

- Inspectors are no longer using paper forms in the field.
- Collector app can be used with a phone, tablet, or computer.
- Collector app can be taken offline where inspectors can use their mobile devices without needing network connectivity.
- Inspectors can take voice-to-text inspection notes.
- Inspectors can take pictures with a device camera.
- Web map uses data from the ESM geodatabase to provide the inspectors with all the up-to-date data they need to perform their inspections.

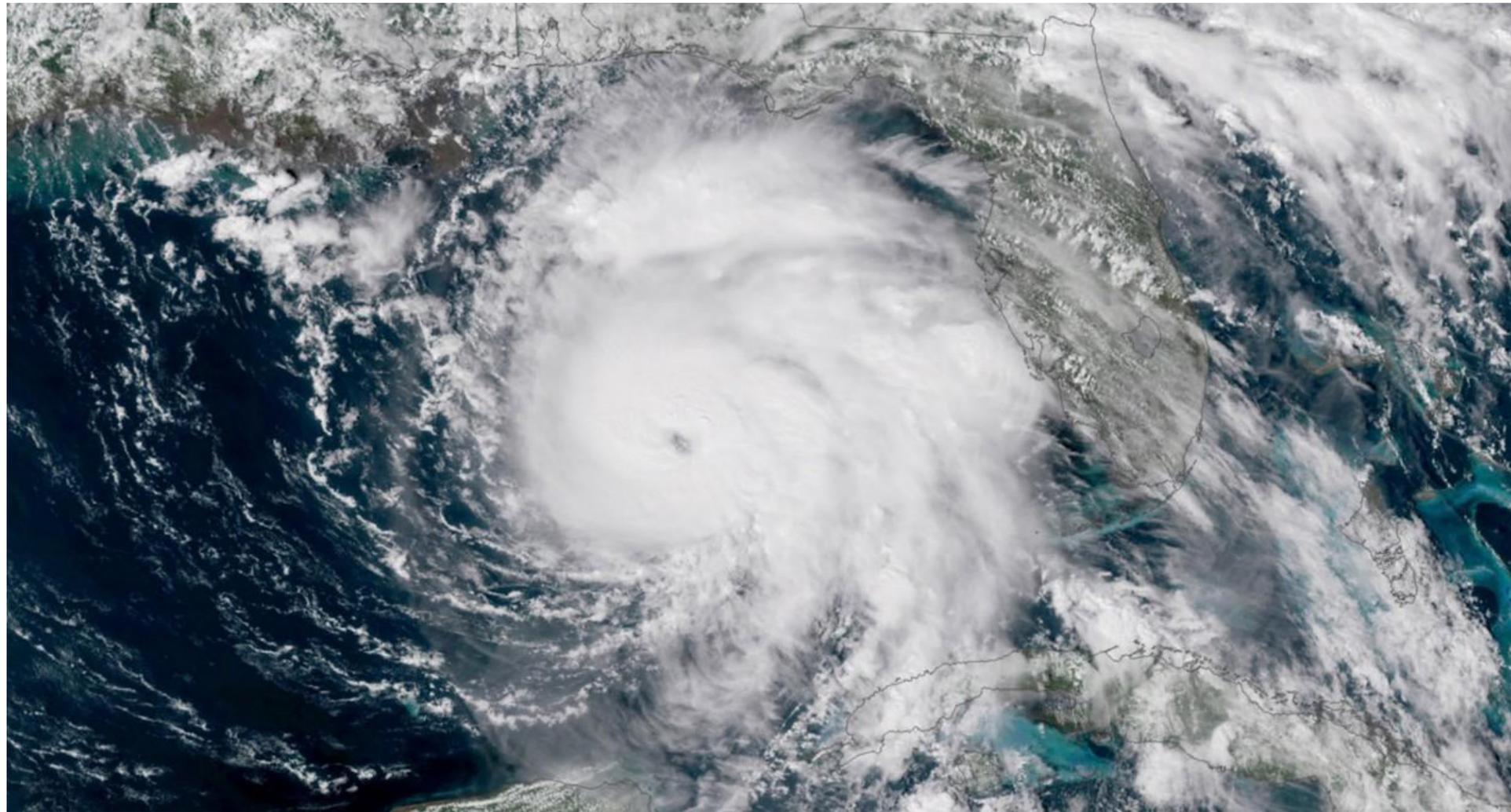


## IDENTIFYING NEEDS

A gap was identified between data collection and entry and reporting planned and completed Best Management Practices (BMPs), as well as triennial inspection of completed BMPs. To bridge this gap, OIT-GIS and DoE worked with Esri to develop two workflows using ArcGIS Workflow Manager. These workflows were used to capture data for BMPs installed by developers. They also supported triennial inspections of stormwater management facilities. Using these workflows enabled all users to contribute to the database without having to do extra work by collecting data on their own and having that data entered into another database.

## BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

Once all the stormwater management and watershed restoration data were in the ESM geodatabase, Prince George's County created a Web Map Application called the BMP System Map. With this application, users can make maps, generate spreadsheets of GIS data, and generate reports. The web maps decrease the need for stakeholders to constantly request data from GIS staff and reduce misinformation since the ESM geodatabase is now the authoritative source for the data. Field collection applications save time and improve data quality since data is no longer being collected on paper in the field and manually entered into a database in the office.



# IT'S HURRICANE SEASON

## BE PREPARED

The 2019 Atlantic hurricane season officially began on June 1, 2019 and will end on November 30, 2019. Are you prepared to weather the storm should a hurricane, tropical storm or significant precipitation -wind event affect Prince George's County?

The Sustainability Division shares a few tips to help you prepare for these types of events and be safe.

## BE PREPARED

- Plan for a potential flood emergency. Build an emergency supply kit. Food, bottled water, first aid supplies, medicines, a battery-operated radio and other personal need items should be ready to go when you are. Maintain the kit by refreshing it with food, water and medicine which expire over time.
- Clear tree limbs, leaves or other debris from storm drain inlets in your yard. This will allow stormwater runoff to enter storm drain systems and reduce the risk of this runoff flowing towards your home or business building.
- Stay abreast of developing weather events. Register for Alert Prince George's at <http://alert.mypgc.us> to receive notification of potential flood events. The Prince George's County Office of Homeland Security (OHS) makes Alert Prince George's available to all County residents.
- *Turn Around Don't Drown®.* Don't take the chance of crossing roads during flood conditions. Opt to turn around and find an alternate route to your destination.

Purchase flood insurance to cover losses associated with flooding. Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover flooding and as such, a property owner would need to purchase a separate flood insurance policy to ensure coverage for flood-related losses. Contact the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) at 1-800-427-4661 to find out how you can purchase flood insurance. Residents of Prince George's County qualify for up to a 25 percent reduction on flood insurance premiums.



Nature is a force which cannot be controlled but at a minimum, we can take precautionary measures for personal safety and to protect our property. Should you have questions concerning your risk for property damage and personal injury in a major flood event, please contact the Sustainability Division at (301) 883-6211.



Pictured (left to right): Daniel Sze, COG; Kevin Serrona, DoE; Antoniette Peterson, DoE; Tamara Toles O'Laughlin, COG; Juliette Curry; Denise Curry, DoE; Derrick L. Davis, Prince George's Councilmember and Helen Register, DoE.

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ORGANIC COMPOSTING PROGRAM REAPS NACo AND MWCOG AWARDS

Recognizing food waste constitutes approximately 23 percent of the waste stream in Prince George's County, the Department of the Environment (DoE) saw this as an opportunity to enhance the Prince George's County Organic Composting Facility (PGCOCF), which is now the largest municipal installation of its kind on the East Coast.

Utilizing the state-of-the-art GORE Cover System Technology, the decomposition process is dramatically hastened. Thanks to the additional 12 mega heap bunkers, constructed in 2018, the facility processed almost 60,000 tons of food and yard waste in FY2019. Revenues in the same fiscal year reached more than \$2 million from sales of Leafgro and Leafgro Gold, the chemical free compost products and from tipping fees. Municipalities and institutions within and outside of Prince George's County bring organic waste materials to the facility.



In February of 2017 DoE applied for and received a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to test the curbside collection of food scraps from December 2017 to January 2019 covering approximately 200 households. Valuable lessons learned from the pilot have influenced the County's plans to expand the program.

DoE's effort to close the loop in food waste recycling recently received recognition from two highly esteemed entities, one national and one regional. The National Association of Counties (NACo) granted the Prince George's County an achievement award for its program entitled "Piloting Food Scrap Collection to Improve Organic Waste Recovery at the County Level" in the category of County Resiliency: Infrastructure, Energy and Sustainability. The award was announced during the 2019 NACo Annual Conference in Clark County, Nevada in July of this year.

Most recently, Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) chose DoE as the Government Sector recipient for the 2019 Climate and Energy Leadership Award in recognition of the County's aggressive effort to promote food waste recovery as one of the solutions in combating climate change. MWCOG noted the passion, creativity and the way Prince George's County engages with local stakeholders in addition to its ability to establish a platform for participatory governance.

Denice E. Curry, Recycling Section Manager, stated, "the recognition by NACo and MWCOG of the County's commitment to address the management of organic waste is truly an honor". Curry continued, "Prince George's County will continually seek to lead, explore and influence local governments in promoting and implementing sustainable waste management practices."



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
**Celebrate**  
**ADOPT 10 FOR 10**  
 ANIMAL SERVICES & ADOPTION CENTER

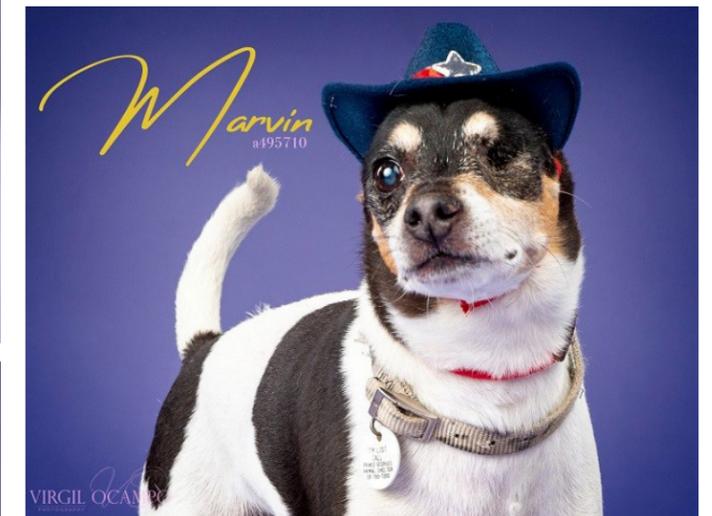
On Saturday, November 2, 2019 Animal Services will host a fun-filled community event celebrating 10 years of operations at its current facility, 3750 Brown Station Road, Upper Marlboro, MD.

This festive event will open with a ceremonial ribbon cutting to unveil the building's NEW name, "Prince George's County Animal Services Facility & Adoption Center".

In addition, an adoption special directly connected to this event, "Ten for \$10", will be offered as tribute to the ten years Animal Services has been in this facility. Adoption fees for any dog, cat or critter will be reduced to \$10 for this day only. This celebratory, family-centered event will include food trucks, vendors, an antique car show and will feature several keynote guests and speakers. Ceremony highlights include the history of Animal Services, noting some of the most outstanding accomplishments since the beginning. This event will also showcase our caring staff and dedicated volunteers who lovingly combine every day to provide for the health and welfare of the County's animal population.

Do not miss this day of fun, education and illumination of the generous animal community!

**MEET OUR**



**SHELTER DOGS**



CONGRATULATIONS

# BARRY WINDSOR



Marilyn E. Rybak, Associate Director, congratulates Barry Windsor on his "Unsung Hero Award" for 45 years of service.

## 45 YEARS OF SERVICE!

Barry Windsor was recently recognized and honored for 45 years of dedicated service to Prince George's County by Joseph P. Gill, Director of the Department of the Environment (DoE).

Barry, an Equipment Operator at the Brown Station Road Sanitary Landfill (BSRSL), is known for his hard work ethic and his eagerness to help whenever he is needed. Barry is from a fourth-generation family of heavy equipment operators -all from Prince George's County. His father Bernie Windsor also worked with the County before he retired. The Windsor's have a long-standing disposal work history and between the two of them have provided more than 50 years of service – and still counting.

Bernie, a long since retired BSRSL Disposal Crew Supervisor, taught Barry everything he knows about operating heavy disposal equipment effectively.

The teachings started when Barry was only six years old. Barry vividly recalls sitting on his father's lap, and his dad patiently explaining the digging of deep holes for efficient disposal of waste materials. The quiet leader and masterful heavy equipment operator that Barry is today harkens back to those precious times with his dad, Bernie. Congratulations to Barry on 45 years of dedicated service to the County and its residents.



# HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

## VETERANS DAY, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019

If your collection day is	Your collection day this week is
MONDAY	Organics Collections (includes food scraps and yard trim) occur on Monday, November 11, 2019; No bulky trash pickups on Monday, November 11, 2019
TUESDAY	Tuesday, November 12, 2019 (NO CHANGE)
WEDNESDAY	Wednesday, November 13, 2019 (NO CHANGE)
THURSDAY	Thursday, November 14, 2019 (NO CHANGE)
FRIDAY	Friday, November 15, 2019 (NO CHANGE)

## THANKSGIVING DAY, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2019

If your collection day is	Your collection day this week is
MONDAY	Organics Collections (includes food scraps and yard trim) occur on Monday, November 25, 2019
TUESDAY	Tuesday, November 26, 2019 (NO CHANGE)
WEDNESDAY	Wednesday, November 27, 2019 (NO CHANGE)
THURSDAY	<b>Friday, November 29, 2019 (CHANGE IN SCHEDULE); No bulky trash pickups on Thursday, November 28, 2019</b>
FRIDAY	<b>Saturday, November 30, 2019 (CHANGE IN SCHEDULE); No bulky trash pickups on Friday, November 29, 2018</b>

## CHRISTMAS DAY, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2019

If your collection day is	Your collection day this week is
MONDAY	Organics Collections (includes food scraps and yard trim) occur on Monday, December 23, 2019
TUESDAY	Tuesday, December 24, 2019 (NO CHANGE)
WEDNESDAY	<b>Thursday, December 26, 2019 (CHANGE IN SCHEDULE); No bulky trash pickups on Wednesday, December 25, 2019</b>
THURSDAY	<b>Friday, December 27, 2019 (CHANGE IN SCHEDULE); No bulky trash pickups on Thursday, December 26, 2019</b>
FRIDAY	<b>Saturday, December 28, 2019 (CHANGE IN SCHEDULE); No bulky trash pickups on Thursday, December 28, 2019</b>



Angela D. Alsobrooks  
County Executive



Joseph P. Gill | Director

# PUMPKIN COMPOSTING

## Go green this Halloween and compost your pumpkin.

The Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) is pleased to announce that it will collect pumpkins for composting on **Monday, November 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2019**. In addition to pumpkins, dried corn, hay and straw will also be picked-up for composting along with yard trim.

Residents may also drop off pumpkins and other yard trim at the County's Public Convenience Centers

### Brown Station Road Public Container Pad and Recycling Area

3501 Brown Station Road  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland  
Monday - Saturday and holidays: 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed

### Missouri Avenue Solid Waste Acceptance and Recycling Center

12701 Missouri Avenue  
Brandywine, Maryland  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 6:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday and holidays: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed

For more information, contact County Click at 3-1-1.

### TO PARTICIPATE:

Items should be placed curbside for pickup. Pumpkins are not required to be bagged, but paper lawn/leaf bags must be used if residents choose to bag their items for collection. Pumpkins should be free of inorganic materials such as candles, wax, artificial lighting, loose decorations, etc.



KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

# WASTE DIVERSION AND RECYCLING AWARDS



## WASTE DIVERSION AND RECYCLING AWARDS – NOVEMBER 18, 2019

**SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION NOW!**

In honor of America Recycles Day on November 15, Keep Prince George's County Beautiful (KPGCB) and DoE present the first 2019 Waste Diversion and Recycling Awards Ceremony on Monday, November 18, 2019. Any individual can self-nominate or submit a nomination for a Prince George's County commercial business, school or other entities that have demonstrated exceptional achievements in recycling and waste diversion to advance the mission of KPGCB and DoE. A 2019 nomination form **MUST** be submitted on behalf of the nominee, including all relevant and supporting documentation before midnight, November 6, 2019. Visit [environment.mypgc.us](http://environment.mypgc.us) to submit a nomination.