DECEMBER 2018

Dec. 13, 2018

CONTACT: Jon Clary, Solid Waste Division Director, Henrico County Department of Public

Utilities

PHONE: (804) 727-8774

Henrico to resume collection of bagged leaves Dec. 17

Henrico County will resume its free collection of bagged leaves Monday, Dec. 17, after the service was suspended to focus on snow clearing.

Crews will collect bagged leaves in zone E during the week of Dec. 17-23, as originally scheduled, followed by zone D during the week of Dec. 26-Jan. 6. Service in zone D was originally scheduled for the week of Dec. 10-16.

The schedule for the second round of pickups is unchanged and will begin in area A during the week of Jan. 7-13.

For an updated schedule and map of zones, go to henrico.us/services/bagged-leaf-collection. Collection is provided automatically for residents living in the designated zones; residents living outside those areas can order a free pickup by calling (804) 727-8770.

Bags of leaves should be free of trash and other debris and placed at the curb or road's edge by 7 a.m. on the Monday of the assigned week. Any number of bags will be collected, but they must be accessible from the street as crews are not authorized to enter private property.

Henrico also offers vacuum leaf service by request during two collection periods. The fall collection will conclude Dec. 29. The early spring collection is scheduled from Feb. 25 through March 29. Leaves should be placed at the curb or road's edge and be free of trash, sticks and other debris.

Residents can order the \$30 vacuum service by going to henrico.us/services/vacuum-leaf-collection or by calling (804) 501-4275.

Henrico's public-use areas, located at 2075 Charles City Road and 10600 Fords Country Lane, offer residents another leaf-disposal option. Bagged leaves will be accepted at no cost through Feb. 10 and for \$3 per visit at other times. Loose leaves and other yard debris are accepted year-round at no charge. The public-use areas are open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. except for certain holidays.

Additional information is available at henrico.us/utility.

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Henrico to accept Christmas trees for recycling Dec. 26 to Jan. 6

Henrico County will accept Christmas trees for recycling into mulch from Wednesday, Dec. 26 through Sunday, Jan. 6.

The free service, sponsored by Keep Henrico Beautiful and the Department of Public Utilities, preserves landfill space and protects the environment. It is available to Henrico residents only.

Trees will be accepted at the following locations:

- Henrico Government Center, 4301 E. Parham Road, in the lower parking lot;
- Eastern Government Center, 3820 Nine Mile Road, in the front parking lot;
- Springfield Road Public Use Area, 10600 Fords Country Lane, near Nuckols Road and Interstate 295; and
- Charles City Road Public Use Area, 2075 Charles City Road.

Trees can be dropped off anytime at the Henrico Government Center and Eastern Government Center and from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily at the Springfield Road and Charles City Road public use areas. Trees must be free of tinsel, lights, ornaments, tree stands and water bowls.

Free mulch is available to Henrico residents at the public use areas. For information, go to henrico.us/services/free-mulch or call (804) 501-7277.

Dec. 11, 2018

Contact: Ben Sheppard, Director, Public Relations & Media Services

Phone: (804) 221-8224

Henrico County offices, facilities, courts to resume regular hours Tuesday

Henrico County general government offices, facilities and courts will operate on their regular schedules Tuesday, Dec. 11.

Liberal leave is in effect until 10 a.m. for general government employees.

Trash pickup will resume Tuesday on a one-day delay for the remainder of the week. The publicuse areas at the Springfield Road and Charles City Road landfills also will reopen Tuesday.

Dec. 7, 2018

CONTACT: John A. Vithoulkas, Henrico County Manager

PHONE: (804) 501-4386

Vithoulkas reflects on Henrico's accomplishments in State of the County address

Henrico County Manager John A. Vithoulkas today presented the 2018 State of the County address, highlighting major economic-development announcements, development projects, school construction and other facility improvements, collaborations and other efforts to enhance the community's quality of life.

In a wide-ranging presentation to several hundred business and community leaders at The Westin Richmond, Vithoulkas credited the Board of Supervisors for providing a vision to pursue major initiatives during the past year, including a countywide expansion of transit service and plans for the simultaneous construction of two new high schools as well as a new aquatics center and a new indoor sports and convocation center.

He also lauded the board's commitment to business- and resident-friendly fiscal policies that have allowed Henrico to keep taxes low and spur growth and investment, including Facebook's \$1.75 billion data center that is under construction in White Oak Technology Park.

"By consistently keeping taxes low for our businesses and residents, Henrico's economy has thrived, and we've been able to do amazing things as a community," he said.

Referencing the address' theme of "Moving Forward Together," Vithoulkas thanked members of the audience for all they do to make Henrico a great place to live, work, play and visit.

"You, along with other Henrico residents and businesses, are the heartbeat of this community," he said. "The county's government merely exists to serve you. Sometimes, our presence is noticeable. Other times, it's hidden in the background. Whatever the situation, please remember that Henrico's government is your partner. We are here, beside you, ready to move forward together."

Vithoulkas highlighted how Henrico has been able to invest in schools, transit service and other services while continuing to restrain its overall spending. The county's general fund budget has increased by an average of 1.5 percent and supports 56 fewer positions than it did a decade ago.

"The efficiencies we've been able to achieve are even more striking when you consider the fact that we've enhanced public safety by adding 133 new positions for Police, Fire and the Sheriff's Office," Vithoulkas said. "We're asking our employees to work harder and smarter, and they're rising to the challenge."

Other highlights of the State of the County address included:

- --Economic development announcements of more than 1,022 new jobs and \$763.7 million in investments in new and existing businesses;
- --Private development projects underway throughout the county, including a Bon Secours freestanding emergency center in Short Pump, renovations and new businesses at Regency Square mall, continued investment at Libbie Mill Midtown, construction underway on the Facebook Data Center in White Oak Technology Park, plans advancing for the River Mill community, new interest in the Westwood area and the completion of infield and other improvements at Richmond Raceway;
- --Thriving tourism and sports tourism programs, supported by the opening of Glover Park and the start of installation of synthetic turf athletic fields at the county's high schools;
- --Continued construction on Cobbs Creek Reservoir, the largest public-utility project in Henrico's history and a facility that will help ensure access to public water for the next half century;
- --Other facility and infrastructure projects, including the opening of Short Pump Firehouse 19 and plans for new fire stations along Staples Mill Road and Nine Mile Road; a new fire training center at the Woodman Road complex; a new mental health clinic under construction on Nine Mile Road and a new Fairfield Area Library under construction on East Laburnum Avenue;
- --A new housing initiative, with a housing specialist position and a \$2 million fund focused on such issues as affordability, revitalization and the needs of aging communities;
- --Enhanced support for the operating and capital needs of Henrico County Public Schools, with nearly \$100 million in school renovations and additions underway and supported by the 2016 bond referendum as well as plans to build simultaneously a new J.R. Tucker High School and a new Highland Springs High School;
- --The start of service on the Pulse bus rapid transit system and expanded service countywide on the GRTC Transit System;

- --Continued efforts to combat the opioid crisis through a recovery program developed by the Sheriff's Office and other initiatives;
- --Advancements in public safety, including crime reductions in several key categories;
- --Regional cooperation in public health, public safety, tourism and other areas;
- --The announcement of a partnership with the YMCA of Greater Richmond to develop an indoor aquatics center and the ongoing review of proposals for the development of an indoor sports and convocation center; and
- --Salutes to Harvey L. Hinson, who recently concluded four months of service as interim supervisor for the Brookland District; Gary R. McLaren, who is retiring as executive director of the Economic Development Authority; and Douglas A. Middleton, who is retiring as deputy county manager for public safety, capping a 46-year career with the county, which included five years as police chief.

"The State of the County address provides a great opportunity to reflect on our hard work and accomplishments — as well as the work that's left to be done — before we shift our focus to a new year," Vithoulkas said. "We are particularly pleased to share this message with the community, because our success depends on having strong partnerships with residents, business leaders and other stakeholders."

The State of the County address was broadcast on Facebook Live and is archived at facebook.com/pg/henricova/videos. The presentation also will be available at henrico.us.

Dec. 4, 2018

CONTACT: Edward N. (Ned) Smither, Jr., Director, Henrico County Department of Finance PHONE: (804) 501-4266

Henrico County extends due date for tax payments to Dec. 6

In consideration of changes in mail delivery announced by the U.S. Postal Service for Wednesday, Dec. 5, Henrico County has extended the due date for personal property and real estate tax bills by one day, to Thursday, Dec. 6.

The USPS is suspending regular mail delivery Wednesday as part of the national day of mourning for former President George H.W. Bush.

Henrico tax bills are available online; there are several options for paying.

Payments also can be made in person at the Henrico Government Center, 4301 E. Parham Road, or at the Eastern Government Center, 3820 Nine Mile Road. Cashier's offices are open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays at both locations.

Call (804) 501-4729 or email *taxhelp@henrico.us* for more information.

Dec. 3, 2018

CONTACT: John A. Vithoulkas, County Manager

PHONE: (804) 501-4386

Henrico taps McDowell as deputy county manager



Henrico County has appointed Anthony E. McDowell to serve as deputy county manager for Public Safety, effective Dec. 8.

McDowell, who currently serves as fire chief of Henrico's Division of Fire, will succeed Col. Douglas A. Middleton in the position. Middleton is retiring after more than 46 years with the county, including nearly three years as deputy county manager and more than 40 years with the Henrico Police Division.

As deputy county manager for Public Safety, McDowell will coordinate the tasks of the Police and Fire divisions and assist the divisions' chiefs with special projects. Combined, the two divisions have nearly 1,450 employees and fiscal 2019 budgets of \$137.6 million. He also will represent Henrico on a range of task forces related to local, state, national and international public safety.

McDowell joined Henrico Fire in 1997 as a firefighter and rose through the division's ranks, becoming fire chief in October 2012. He received a bachelor's degree in geography from Virginia Tech and earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Texas. He currently serves as president of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association.