



HENRICO COUNTY VIRGINIA

OCTOBER 2016

Oct. 31, 2016

CONTACT: Jon Clary, Solid Waste Division Director
Henrico County Department of Public Utilities
PHONE: (804) 727-8774

Henrico leaf collection to start in November

Residents encouraged to keep leaves from blocking storm drains

Henrico County will kick off its 2016-17 leaf-collection services Nov. 14 with several options to help residents maintain their yards and properties.

Free collection of bagged leaves is scheduled from Nov. 14 through Feb. 5. Crews will work week to week in five zones. Each area will receive two pickups, with the second cycle starting when the first one ends.

For a 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 place an order for 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 pickup 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 will offer vacuum leaf service by request during two collection periods. A fall collection will occur from Nov. 14 through Dec. 31 followed by an early spring collection from Feb. 27 through March 31. 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 at henrico.us/utility or by calling (804) 501-4275.

Whether using the bagged pickup or vacuum service, residents are encouraged to avoid piling bags or loose leaves in traffic lanes, parking spaces, storm drains or ditches. In addition to creating a potential traffic hazard, misplaced leaves can block drainage and contribute to stormwater pollution, noted Mercer Cronemeyer, environmental inspector with Henrico's Department of Public Works.

"Leaves that get into our streams and waterways often contain dirt, pet waste and other contaminants, which have a negative impact on water quality," Cronemeyer said.

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 from Nov. 14 through Feb. 5 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.

Henrico's leaf collection program is a joint effort by the departments of Public Utilities and Public Works.

Oct. 27, 2016

CONTACT: Geleene Goffena, Community Development Block Grant Program Manager,
Department of Community Revitalization
PHONE: (804) 501-7613

Henrico to offer free workshop Nov. 5 on minor home repairs

The Henrico County Department of Community Revitalization will present a free workshop Saturday, Nov. 5 to show residents how to make minor home repairs.

The class will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the former Dumbarton Area Library, 6800 Staples Mill Road. Exhibits, hands-on demonstrations and refreshments will be included.

The session is part of a workshop series that began in October and will continue through March to help residents maintain and improve their homes. For information, call (804) 501-7640 or go to henrico.us/revit.

Oct. 19, 2016

CONTACT: Ed Olsen, Associate Extension Agent, Agriculture & Natural Resources,
Horticulture, Henrico County office of Virginia Cooperative Extension
PHONE: (804) 501-5160

Henrico Master Gardener training program accepting applications through Oct. 28

The Henrico County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension is accepting applications for its next volunteer Master Gardener training program, which provides instruction in all aspects of horticulture.

Participants will work alongside other gardening enthusiasts to learn about lawn care, tree and shrub maintenance, fruit and vegetable gardens, flowers, pest management, tree pruning and other topics. After completing 50 hours of classroom training, participants will serve a 50-hour internship with the Extension Office and will help conduct educational programs for the public.

Classes will be held two mornings per week from January through March. Applications will be accepted through Friday, Oct. 28. The training program costs \$135 for materials.

For an application or other information, call (804) 501-5160 or go to henrico.us/extension.

Oct. 19, 2016

CONTACT: Kristina Yager, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Henrico County office of Virginia Cooperative Extension
PHONE: (804) 501-5160

Henrico Extension to hold Oct. 29 open house for new 4-H Cloverbud Club

The Henrico County office of Virginia Cooperative Extension will hold an open house Saturday, Oct. 29 for its new 4-H Cloverbud Club for children ages 5 to 8.

The Once Upon a Cloverbud event will be held from 10 a.m. to noon at the Extension Office in the Human Services Building, 8600 Dixon Powers Drive.

Parents and children will learn how the monthly Cloverbud meetings will provide an opportunity for fun, hands-on learning through a variety of activities, including creative arts and crafts, science, yoga, dance and cooking.

The open house is free, and registration is not required. For information, call (804) 501-5160 or go to henrico.us/extension.

Oct. 18, 2016

CONTACT: Barry R. Lawrence, Clerk, Henrico County Board of Supervisors
PHONE: (804) 501-4318

Henrico officials to serve on NACo committees

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has appointed nine Henrico County officials to the organization's policy-making committees for 2016-17.

Members of the Henrico Board of Supervisors received the following appointments:

- Chairman and Varina District Supervisor Tyrone E. Nelson, Transportation Steering Committee;
- Vice Chairman and Brookland District Supervisor Richard W. Glover, Community, Economic and Workforce Development Steering Committee;
- Fairfield District Supervisor Frank J. Thornton, Human Services and Education Steering Committee;
- Three Chopt District Supervisor Thomas M. Branin, Finance, Pensions and Intergovernmental Affairs Steering Committee;
- Tuckahoe District Supervisor Patricia S. O'Bannon, Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee (vice chair); Resilient Counties Advisory Board (vice chair); Information Technology Standing Committee; and Large Urban County Caucus.

In addition, Henrico administration officials received the following appointments:

- Deputy County Manager for Public Safety Douglas A. Middleton, Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee;
- Deputy County Manager for Community Services W. Brandon Hinton, Health Steering Committee;
- Deputy County Manager for Community Operations Timothy A. Foster, Public Lands Steering Committee; and
- Deputy County Manager for Community Development Randall R. Silber, Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee.

A national organization uniting more than 3,000 counties across the United States, NACo works to improve county government and increase public understanding of the role of counties. The association's steering committees form its policy-making arm. The committees and other governing bodies meet several times annually to examine key issues of county government and to make recommendations on legislative policies and goals.

Oct. 13, 2016

CONTACT: David Calkins, Local Emergency Health Coordinator, Henrico County Health Department, Virginia Department of Health
PHONE: (804) 501-7250

Henrico to provide free flu shots Oct. 26

The Henrico County Health Department will offer free flu vaccinations to the public Wednesday, Oct. 26 at clinics in western and eastern Henrico.

The seasonal flu shots will be provided from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Adult Education Center, 7850 Carousel Lane in western Henrico and from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Henrico Theatre, 305 E. Nine Mile Road in eastern Henrico.

The vaccine will be available to individuals age 3 and older on a first-come, first-served basis. Nasal vaccine will not be offered at the clinics.

Flu, or influenza, is a serious disease that can be easily spread and lead to hospitalization and sometimes death, particularly in older adults. Flu season in the United States, when flu viruses are circulating at elevated levels, runs generally from early October through May. An annual seasonal flu vaccine is the best way to reduce the chances of infection, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For more information, go to henrico.us/health.

Oct. 7, 2016

CONTACT: Lt. Shawn M. Sears, Animal Protection Unit, Henrico County Police Division
PHONE: (804) 727-8801

Henrico to offer rabies vaccinations for pets Oct. 15

The Henrico County Police Division will provide rabies vaccines for dogs and cats from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 15 at the Henrico County Government Center, 4301 E. Parham Road.

Pet owners must register and pay at the cashier's office in the Administration Building before seeing a veterinarian on the first level of the adjacent parking deck.

Each vaccine costs \$10 and must be paid in cash. A rabies tag and certificate of inoculation are included. Pets from all localities are welcome. Cats must be in carriers.

Under Virginia law, dogs and cats 4 months of age and older must be vaccinated for rabies.

Henrico dog licenses will be available for \$10, for a one-year license, and \$15, for a three-year license. Officers will be available to discuss license options and vaccination requirements.

For information, call the Animal Protection Unit at (804) 727-8801.

Oct. 5, 2016

CONTACT: Linda Leigh, Executive Assistant, Henrico County Board of Supervisors
PHONE: (804) 501-4208

Fairfield meeting Oct. 17 to highlight health, safety organizations, Nov. 8 ballot

Fairfield District Supervisor Frank J. Thornton will hold a constituent meeting Monday, Oct. 17 to highlight organizations focused on community health and safety as well as to discuss the Nov. 8 ballot, which will include Henrico County's bond referendum.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Eastern Henrico Recreation Center, 1440 N. Laburnum Ave.

Thornton and county representatives will discuss Henrico's ballot, which will include the five bond referendum questions on the back. Representatives of Civitas Health Services and C.A.V.E. (Coaches Against Violence Everywhere) will discuss their organizations.

For information, call (804) 501-4208.

Oct. 5, 2016

CONTACT: Dr. Patricia Hill, Prevention Services Manager, Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services
PHONE: (804) 727-8058

Henrico launches Ask The Question campaign to prevent suicide

Henrico Area Mental Health & Developmental Services (MH&DS) has launched a suicide-prevention campaign — Ask The Question — to encourage people to speak up if someone close to them appears in distress.

The campaign asks individuals to reach out with the simple question “Are you thinking about suicide?” if a friend, neighbor or loved one indicates that he or she might be contemplating such action. By initiating a dialogue, individuals can be directed to support services and other resources. The campaign, spearheaded by the Prevention Services unit of MH&DS, is using social media as well as advertisements on GRTC Transit System buses that will run through the end of 2016.

“This is a very vulnerable time of year for a lot of people,” said Dr. Patricia Hill, Prevention Services manager with MH&DS. “The message behind the Ask The Question campaign is to keep spreading information to save lives.”

The suicide rate peaks in the spring and the fall, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ask The Question encourages individuals to raise awareness and share their experiences using #ATQ16 on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. A webpage, henricoprevention.org/atq16, provides links to information and resources, including a quiz, warning signs that someone may be experiencing mental health distress and access to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255) and other support organizations.

Each year in Virginia, three times as many people die by suicide than by homicide, and one person commits suicide every eight hours on average. Suicide also is the second leading cause of death for people ages 15 to 34 in the state.