

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COMMUNITY

# News

County Executive Steve Schuh

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## Bring on the New Year! 2015 brought our County success!

The year 2015 was full of ups, downs and change that will hopefully propel us into a happy and prosperous 2016.

Last year began with a declaration of a public health emergency to combat heroin, and ended with high-profile arrests as well as some promising data showing some progress.

The middle of the year featured a new budget that included a historic tax cut as well as new investments in education, transportation and quality of life improvements.

Then over the summer we made tremendous progress with the effort to build new high schools in Crofton and Millersville. The plan for these new schools garnered support from an independent consultant as well as the Superintendent.

Most of all, 2015 was another year in which the community banded together to help others and lift up those who were in need.

Let's make 2016 an even better year for all Anne Arundel County citizens!



### Join us for police and community town halls

The Anne Arundel County Police Department will host three town hall meetings to discuss how to build great relationships with the community. The second of four meetings will be held on Jan. 12 at Meade High School.



### Time to remove that Christmas tree to avoid fire hazards

Did you know that you can leave your Christmas tree out fully intact for curbside trash and recycling collection? The time to remove the tree and other flammable items is now. Safety first is the rule for your family.

# Watch Week in Review



My community organization has new officers or contact information

I want to volunteer for the Citizens Emergency Response Team

Zoning cases before the Board of Appeals

What road construction projects are underway?

I need recycling bins!

Sign me up for Code Red text alerts for severe weather notices

Where is my nearest Farmer's Market?

Place an event on our calendar

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## Contact Information

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# From the County Executive



My administration recently celebrated our first year in office, and every day I feel honored that the people of our county chose to entrust their faith in my leadership.

Over the course of the year, we have made real progress in implementing our strategic plan to make Anne Arundel County the best place to live, work and start a business in Maryland.

Working with the Budget Office and Council Chair Derek Fink, we passed the largest tax cut in county history: an \$11 million income tax cut that will save the average family in this county \$600 over the next ten years. Working with our Department of Public

Works, we now have also proposed the largest fee cut in county history that will reduce the cost of buying a new home or starting a new business by lowering the fee charged to connect to public water and sewer.

Working with the Board of Education, we are supporting efforts to improve our education system. There are now 3 new high schools in our 10-year plan, including a long-awaited school for Crofton.

We have enhanced public safety by funding 20 new public safety personnel, a new police academy, and a central booking facility.

We have also made progress in improving the quality of life here in our county by expanding our network of bike trails, improving water access, opening our beaches to public swimming, and expand our parks.

The past year has seen many successes for our county, and I look forward to continuing that momentum in 2016.

## Community Calendar



## County Council Legislation



Councilman Andrew Pruski

In an ongoing effort to address the issue of problematic properties in the County, I introduced Bill 115-15 to give the Department of Planning and Zoning additional enforcement powers to bring nuisance properties up to code.

The legislation allows the County to enter a property to correct zoning violations such as abandoned cars or trash. In talking with many residents of my district, it was clear that some steps needed to be taken. This bill will allow the County to take greater action in protecting the character of our neighborhoods and our families that live in them. The public hearing and possible vote is January 4, 2016.