

## News and Happenings



**Emergency Preparedness Expo**  
 Saturday, September 10, 2016  
 10 AM - 2 PM  
 Rain or Shine!

Event Location:  
 Marley Station Mall  
 Parking Lot B  
 7900 Ritchie Highway  
 Glen Burnie, MD 21061

Office of Emergency Management  
 20116 11th Street, Suite 100  
 Glen Burnie, MD 21061

### Inspections & Permits Participates in Annual Emergency Preparedness Expo

September is National Preparedness Month. This nation-wide, month long effort sponsored by the *Ready Campaign* encourages households, communities, and businesses to prepare and plan for emergencies.

Every year, the Department of Inspections and Permits, along with several other county and state agencies, participate in the annual Emergency Preparedness Expo. Organized by the Office of Emergency Management, the Preparedness Expo is a fun day for the whole family featuring educational booths, fire and police apparatus, demonstrations and much more.

This year, about 400 people attended the Expo and learned how to prepare themselves and their families for all types of emergencies.



### Calendar

All County offices will be closed on the following days:



Friday, November 11



November 24 & 25 Thanksgiving Day and Thanksgiving Friday



The Permit Center opens at 10:00 a.m. the first Thursday of every month in order to facilitate monthly training for staff.

### Are You Ready? Now is the Time To Prepare Your Home for Emergencies

Is your home ready if a disaster struck today? There are many precautions that you can take today to help minimize damage and loss of personal property during a natural disaster emergency.

First, **KNOW THE THREATS.** Anne Arundel County is susceptible to a number of natural threats such as hurricanes, flooding, tornadoes, snow storms, earthquakes and storm surges. The best way to protect your family and your property is to **PREPARE NOW** for all types of threats.

- Secure gutters, siding, downspouts and shutters
- Remove dead trees and keep trees pruned
- Secure outdoor furniture and yard decorations

- Check that your roof is in good condition and repair, reinforce loose or missing shingles
- Clear gutters and downspouts of debris

**ASSESS YOUR PROPERTY.** Cataloging your personal property with a home inventory might sound tedious, but how easy would it be for you to recall all the contents of your home if you lost everything to a disaster? Taking a home inventory can help ensure fair insurance reimbursement, simplify the recovery process and even make it easier to apply for federal disaster aid. Don't forget to check your insurance policies and confirm your coverage in the event of natural disasters.

Finally, always **BUILD TO CODE.** Building codes are designed to ensure that built structures are safe for you and your family and help to minimize property loss caused by natural disasters thereby protecting your investment.

## Anne Arundel County and Chesapeake Bay Trust Partner for Forest Preservation

Anne Arundel County Department of Inspections and Permits, Code Compliance Division and Chesapeake Bay Trust have partnered in an unprecedented \$1 million investment in forest protection for Anne Arundel County. The county will use existing Forest Conservation Act funds for an innovative grant program, which will be administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust, to provide cash incentives to landowners who allow conservation easements on forested properties adjoining other protected private lands or county and state parkland.

County Executive Steve Schuh expressed his support for the program stating, “there is great value in clustering preservation, particularly when dealing with the county’s critical forests. “Larger tracts of healthy forest yield greater benefits to wildlife and water quality and enrich outdoor recreation and exercise opportunities.”

Forest Conservation Act funds come from fee-in-lieu payments paid by developers for trees that are cut down in the development process and not replanted onsite.

The county is proposing incentive funds of \$5,000 per acre for properties that meet several eligibility criteria:

- ◆ A minimum of ten acres
- ◆ Within one-half mile of other protected lands
- ◆ Currently forested or suitable for tree planting
- ◆ Subject to a professional Forest Management Plan; and
- ◆ Placed under permanent conservation easement with a qualified land trust with development rights retired.

Landowners will continue to own, manage and enjoy the land under the restrictions outlined in the easement. The incentive payments compensate the landowner for both forest management expenses and the value lost from relinquishing development rights.

Grant requests must come from a nonprofit sponsor and are awarded on a competitive basis through review by a committee of experts.

For more information go to: <http://www.cbtrust.org>.

## Semi-Annual Taxicab Inspections Scheduled During October

The Department of Inspections and Permits, Licensing Division issues various types of licenses, including taxicabs. Twice a year all commercially licensed taxicabs are inspected by the Division in order to ensure that vehicles meet operational standards, are safe for transporting passengers and that meters are correctly calibrated and charging fares accurately.

Inspections will be conducted on October 4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th and 13th at Police Headquarters on Maxwell Frye Road.



Above: Taxicabs are issued a sticker once it passes inspection.

Left: Taxicabs line up for safety check.



During the third quarter of 2016 we are happy to welcome the following new employees:

- ◆ Tyler Smith, Environmental Control Inspector in WPRP
- ◆ Carmen Howard, Environmental Control Inspector in Grading
- ◆ Spencer Cloutier, Office Support Assistant II in the Permit Center
- ◆ Marcus Gaskins, Engineer III in Engineering