



# City of Westminster, Maryland

News and Notes  
January 2026 Issue

**Mayor**  
Dr. Mona Becker

**Common Council**  
Tony Chiavacci  
President

Greg Pecoraro  
Kevin E. Dayhoff  
Ann Gilbert  
Dan Hoff

**Mailing Address:**  
45 West Main Street  
Westminster, MD  
21157

**Important Phone Numbers:**

Police  
410-848-4646

Finance/Billing  
410-848-3255

Recreation & Parks  
410-751-5501



[Westminster, Maryland:](#) Holiday schedule changes, inclement weather and emergency information

[City of Westminster Recreation & Parks Department:](#) Events, parade information, fitness classes, park openings

[Downtown Westminster, Maryland:](#) News about Downtown Westminster, from business openings and specials to events and business news

[Westminster Fiber Network:](#) Keep up to date with the WFN



## Welcome 2026



### Adaptive Recreation - Let it Snow! Winter Ball

Saturday, January 31, 5 PM– 7 PM

**\*\*NEW LOCATION\*\***

Wakefield Valley Park Event Center (1000 Fenby Farm Rd)

Fee: \$15 per person, includes 1 support person

Pre-registration is required. Registration deadline is January 21

Even when it's cold outside, memories can still be made to keep

spirits bright. The *Let It Snow Winter Ball* is the perfect chance to celebrate the season—dancing like *snow* body is watching, surrounded by friends and festive cheer!

This event is exclusively for adaptive recreation eligible participants ages 18 and up, along with their caregivers or family members. Light refreshments will be served, music will fill the air, and special guest appearances will add to the excitement. A selfie photo booth, provided by Elite 360, will be available to capture the evening's highlights.

Designed for adults with special needs (18+), this program encourages connection, community, and fun! Register by emailing [WestminsterRec@westminstermd.gov](mailto:WestminsterRec@westminstermd.gov).



### Irish Celebration and Celtic Run Fest

Saturday, March 14 from 7 AM - 12 PM

Downtown Westminster

Join us in historic downtown Westminster for the annual Irish Celebration and Celtic Run Fest. 5K run, the 1-mile Leprechaun Chase, and the 0.5K (Don't Miss the Point!). After the 5K race, enjoy a post-race party and awards ceremony.



Not a runner? Come out to enjoy the Irish Festival from 8 AM – 12 PM, complete with live music, themed vendors, demonstrations, and free activities for children. This event benefits local charities.

For even more fun join the pub crawl from 12 – 4 PM! Hop on the trolley that is continuously circulating throughout the day from 12 – 5 PM, stopping at many of Westminster's excellent eateries. For more information and to register, visit [www.celticcanter.org](http://www.celticcanter.org).





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## Egg-Citing Bunny Trail & Egg Hunt

March 28, 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Wakefield Valley Park (1000 Fenby Farm Road)

Fee: FREE!

This fun, Easter-themed trail features children's activities and crafts as well as a traditional egg hunt: ages 1-4 at 1:30 PM and ages 5-8 at 2:30 PM. The egg hunt features over 20,000 treat-filled eggs, some of which are special prize eggs that can be redeemed for a surprise!



## Run Your Fastest Mile Yet — Join Us for the 43rd Annual Main Street Mile!

Wednesday, April 8 at 7 PM

Main Street, Westminster

We are excited to announce the **Westminster Road Runners Club 43rd Annual Main Street Mile**. This isn't just any mile — it's a **fast one**. From the starting line to the finish, the course features an exhilarating **144-foot vertical drop**, giving runners the perfect chance to **crush personal records**. Whether you're chasing your fastest mile yet or simply want to enjoy a lively run down Main Street, this is the race you don't want to miss. Bring your friends, bring your energy, and get ready for a great evening in downtown Westminster. Let's fill Main Street with runners, cheers, and finish-line smiles. All runners receive a FREE ice cream sandwich at the finish.



Register today → <https://runsignup.com/Race/MD/Westminster/wrrcMainStreetMile>

## Wine Stroll

Saturday, April 25 from 12 - 4 PM (Early VIP Ticket Holder Access at 10:30 AM)

Main Street, Westminster

Stroll through Downtown Westminster while enjoying local wines, live music, artisans, and delicious food from several local establishments. VIP tickets go on sale in February!

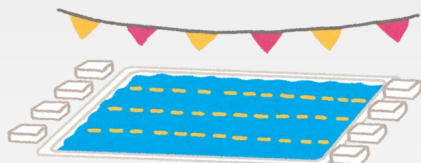


## GIVE THE GIFT OF SUMMER FUN!

Westminster Municipal Pool (325 Royer Road)

As we kick off the new year, we're already looking ahead to summer — and we want you to be ready! Start your new year off right by securing your Westminster Municipal Pool Membership today. Register for your pool membership by March 31st and SAVE 15%!

The Municipal Pool opens on Saturday, May 23, and remains open through Monday, September 7. Hours of operation are 12–7 PM daily, with weekend hours only while Carroll County Public Schools are in session. Memberships for residents in city limits are \$185 (Individual Membership) or \$360 (Family Membership). For more information, please visit: <https://www.westminstermd.gov/221/Pool>





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## UPGRADE YOUR HABITS, UPGRADE YOUR LIFE WITH A MEMBERSHIP AT THE WESTMINSTER FAMILY FITNESS CENTER!

(11 Longwell Avenue)

If you or anyone you know is looking for a gym that is community focused, offers over 50 group fitness classes per week, childcare, fitness center access, personal training, basketball, archery, pickleball, locker rooms with showers, and year-round special events for everyone in the family to enjoy... we would be honored for you to consider joining the Westminster Family Fitness Center! For more information about our affordable membership options, visit: <https://westminstermd.gov/258/Westminster-Family-Fitness-Center>.



## Fit and Fun with Melanie

Wednesdays, 11:30 AM – 12 PM

Westminster Family Fitness Center  
(11 Longwell Avenue)



Join us for an inclusive program open to Adaptive Recreation Participants, their families, and caregivers. Enjoy a fun, multicultural dance-exercise experience with energizing music that is easy to follow. This program brings together individuals with special needs (ages 18 and up) for socialization, fitness, and fun. Please scan the QR Code to check out our monthly class offerings.

*The City of Westminster's Adaptive Recreation Program brings groups of peers with special needs, ages 18+, together for socialization, service, and fun! Monthly activities include community outings, special events, and service projects.*



## Drop-in Pickleball

Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:15 – 2:15 PM & Fridays, 5 - 7 PM  
Westminster Family Fitness Center (11 Longwell Avenue)

Drop-in play is just \$10 for Non-Members and FREE for Westminster Family Fitness Center members. Scan this QR code to reserve your space today!



## Pickleball Lessons

Westminster Family Fitness Center (11 Longwell Avenue)

Pickleball lessons are offered throughout the month at the Westminster Family Fitness Center! If you are interested in learning how to play as a beginner or have experience and want to brush up on your skills and learn new strategies, we offer something for everyone. Our Pickleball coaching sessions are a great way to learn and improve your skillset. Check out the class offerings by scanning the QR code.





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## City of Westminster Recreation and Parks Facility Rentals

Are you looking for rental space for your next party or additional court space for your team? Look no further! Call 410-751-5501 for more information or to make your reservation today!



Facility Rentals	Features	Times & Fees
<b>Community Building at the Westminster Municipal Pool</b> Meeting Room <i>capacity 40</i>	Tables, Chairs, Kitchen, Restroom	Times vary. \$50/hr. Tours are available by appointment. Email inquiries to: <a href="mailto:WestminsterRec@Westminstermd.gov">WestminsterRec@Westminstermd.gov</a>
<b>Dutterer Park</b>	Baseball/Softball Field, Multipurpose Field, Brick Plaza, Pavilion, Playground, Restrooms, 1/2 Basketball Court, Walking/Biking Path	Pavilion Reservation: 10 AM - 2 PM: \$75 3 - 7 PM: \$75 10 AM - 7 PM: \$125  Field Reservation: \$75/Hour
<b>King Park</b>	Basketball Court, Tennis/Pickleball Court, Pavilion, Playground, Restrooms	Pavilion Reservation: 10 AM - 2 PM: \$75 3 - 7 PM: \$75 10 AM - 7 PM: \$125 Court Reservation: \$25/Hour
<b>Wakefield Valley Park Event Center</b> Multipurpose Room <i>capacity 350</i> Large Meeting Room <i>capacity 110</i> Small Meeting Room <i>capacity 72</i> Pavilion <i>capacity 190</i> <b>Full facility rentals available.</b>	Tables, Table Linens, Chairs, Catering Prep Kitchen, Restrooms	Rates and times vary. Tours are available by appointment. Email inquiries to: <a href="mailto:WestminsterRec@Westminstermd.gov">WestminsterRec@Westminstermd.gov</a>
<b>Westminster City Park</b>	2 Baseball/Softball Fields, Basketball Court, 2 Pavilions, Restrooms, Tennis Courts, Pickleball Courts, Playground, 1/2 Basketball Court, Full Basketball Court	Pavilion Reservation: 10 AM - 2 PM: \$75 3 - 7 PM: \$75 10 AM - 7 PM: \$125 (Cost is per pavilion- 2 available)  Field Reservation: \$75/Hour Court Reservation: \$25/Hour
<b>Westminster Family Fitness Center</b> Gymnasium Yoga Studio Barre Studio	Indoor Full Court Basketball Court, 3 Indoor Pickleball Courts, Studio Space,/Meeting Rooms, Tables, Chairs, Restrooms	Times vary.  Gymnasium City Resident/ Gym Member \$50/hr. Non-City Resident/ Non-Member \$60/hr. After-Hour Rates, Mon.- Fri. after 8 PM, Sat-Sun after 1 PM City Resident/ Gym member \$75/hr. Non-City Resident/ Non-Member \$85/hr. Studio Space/Meeting Rooms \$30/hr. Tours are available by appointment. Email inquiries to: <a href="mailto:WestminsterRec@Westminstermd.gov">WestminsterRec@Westminstermd.gov</a>



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## Volunteers

The City of Westminster's Recreation and Parks Department hosts events like the Irish Celebration & Celtic Run Fest, Wine Stroll, Fallfest, and many more! These events attract thousands of people to Downtown Westminster every year. To operate these fun and unique events, we need your help. We hope you will consider volunteering!



Visit our website at [www.westminstermd.gov](http://www.westminstermd.gov) to check out our volunteer incentive program. Volunteer incentives include general admission tickets to a stroll, a show at the Carroll County Art's Council, Fallfest Ride Wristbands, a branded volunteer long-sleeve t-shirt, and more!

Please email [westminsterrec@westminstermd.gov](mailto:westminsterrec@westminstermd.gov) if you have any questions or are part of a team, organization, or business that would like to volunteer.



## Calling All Vendors!

The City of Westminster Recreation and Parks Department is searching for vendors to set up during downtown special events!

### Save the date for our 2026 vendor shows:

**Irish Celebration & Celtic Run Fest** – March 14

**Wine Stroll** – April 25

**Flower and Jazz Festival** – May 9

**Beer and BBQ Stroll** – June 20

**A Toast to Italy** – July 11

**Westminster Fallfest** – September 24 - 27

**Oyster Stroll** – October 10



For more information and to complete an application for consideration, visit [www.westminstermd.gov/FormCenter](http://www.westminstermd.gov/FormCenter)



## Events Happening at McDaniel College

Check out the McDaniel website or scan the QR Code for the most up-to-date information on events that are open to the public, including lectures, theatre performances, concerts and more.





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## Important Notice: Convenience Fee for Credit/Debit Card Payments

Starting **April 1, 2026**, the City of Westminster will begin assessing a **convenience fee** for all transactions paid using a credit or debit card, except those charges for on going memberships fees, such as fitness center memberships and pool memberships.

### Why is this change being made?

Currently, the costs associated with processing credit and debit card payments—including transaction fees charged by payment processors and card issuing banks—are absorbed by the City's general fund. This practice ultimately impacts the budget allocated for essential municipal services. By implementing a convenience fee, the City can ensure that the processing costs for these optional payment methods are covered by the users who elect to utilize them, allowing the City to redirect resources back into improving vital services for our residents.

### Key Details

- **Fee Structure:** The convenience fee will be a percentage of the total transaction amount.
- **Transparency:** The exact fee amount will be clearly displayed before you finalize any credit or debit card payment, giving you the opportunity to choose an alternative payment method.

### Alternative Payment Options

We understand that you may prefer to avoid this fee. With the exception of the Police Department, which can only accept check or money order, the City of Westminster will continue to accept the following payment methods at no additional cost:

- Cash
- Check or Money Order (in person or mailed)
- ACH (Electronic funds transfer from a bank account, where available)

We appreciate your understanding as we implement this change to manage administrative costs effectively. For questions, please call (410) 848-3255.



### Sign up to receive alerts!

Do you receive alerts from the City of Westminster? If you would like to receive them, sign up for an account on the City's website at <http://www.westminstermd.gov/>. The City uses Notify Me®, a mass notification system, to inform residents of emergency and general notifications such as changes to the refuse schedule.

Once signed in, you may select to receive information by phone text message or email. If you want to receive text messages, enter your phone number and select Save. Then, click the Email icon and/or SMS icon next to the requested subscription lists.



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## Household Trash Schedule for 2026

The following dates are recognized as holidays during 2026 and will result in altered schedules for household trash collection provided by Ecology Services.

- Memorial Day (last Monday in May)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Thanksgiving (fourth Thursday in November)
- Christmas (December 25)
- New Years Day (2027)

For these holiday weeks, if the collection day falls on the holiday, trash will be collected the next day. This includes Friday pick ups, which will be collected on Saturday.



## Scheduled Yard Waste and Bulk Trash Curbside Collections

- To schedule a pickup request for any of the below items, please call: **410-848-9077**
- Bi-weekly curbside collection of tree limbs and brush, metal and tires, and other bulk trash also continues. Pickup requests must be scheduled in order to guarantee collection on the appropriate date.
- Weekly curbside collection of yard waste continues every Wednesday. Yard waste must be in paper bags or bushel containers, and pickups must be scheduled to ensure collection.
- Christmas tree pickup is available with tree limb and brush. Please call to schedule a pickup.

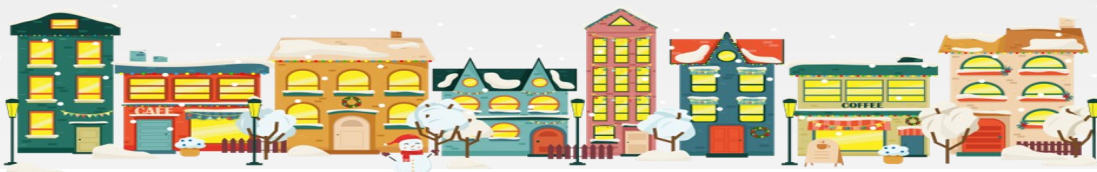
## Winter Snow Removal

As a reminder to City residents, snow or ice must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours after any snow or ice ceases to fall, in accordance with City of Westminster Code regulations as stated below:



City of Westminster Code §139-4(B)- “Owners and occupants of premises fronting any street with paved sidewalks shall remove snow and ice from the traveled portion of the sidewalk to a width of at least 30 inches within 24 hours after any snow or ice ceases to fall.”

Non-compliance with this Code provision could result in a fine of \$200 or more. Please be a good neighbor by maintaining your property in an appropriate condition. If you have a concern about possible non-compliance with this Code provision, please contact the City’s Code Enforcement Officer at 410-848-2261.





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## 2026 City of Westminster Bulk Trash Schedule (City Residents Only)

Call 410-848-9077 to schedule a pickup

### JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### FEBRUARY

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

### MARCH

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### APRIL

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

### MAY

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### JUNE

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### JULY

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### AUGUST

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

### SEPTEMBER

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

### OCTOBER

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

\*Yellow indicates pickup days

\*\*Red indicates City of Westminster holidays