

THE UPDATE

**THE LATEST IN UNIVERSITY PARK
DECEMBER 5, 2025**

HOLIDAY FUND NOW OPEN!

Each year, University Park residents come together to show appreciation for the Public Works Crew and Police Department - the people who keep our streets safe, clear, and running smoothly in every kind of weather. If you'd like to express your gratitude, please consider contributing to the Town's Holiday Fund.

These donations help us recognize, once annually, the exceptional work these teams perform all year long.

If you'd like to give, make your check payable to Town of University Park with "Holiday Funds" in the memo line. All contributions may be dropped in the Town Hall mail slot by Wednesday, December 17.

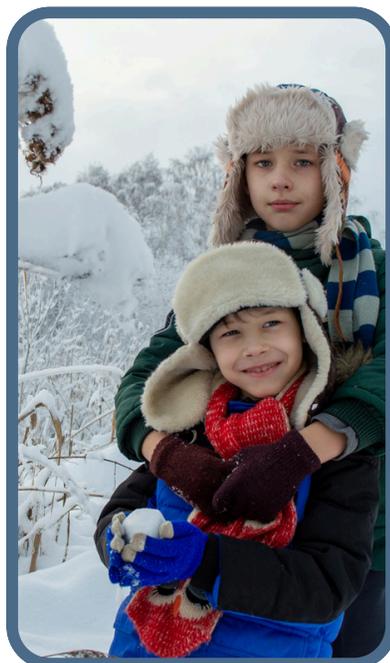
Thank you for helping us honor the people who keep University Park safe, clean, and thriving.

UP'S HOLIDAY SEASON BEGINS - TOWN TREE LIGHTING THIS SAT

The holiday season officially begins in University Park this Saturday, December 7, at 6 p.m., when neighbors gather at the corner of Queens Chapel Road and Sheridan Street for our annual Town Tree Lighting. This beloved

tradition brings the community together to welcome the colder months with warmth, laughter, and plenty of good cheer.

Mayor, Town Councilmembers, and the Town Administrator will be on hand to serve hot cocoa, cider, and cookies as everyone gathers around the tree. It's the perfect chance to greet neighbors, reconnect after a busy fall, and enjoy a simple, cozy moment together outdoors.



The Town Tree Lighting is more than a switch being flipped — it's a way for the whole community to mark the transition into a season filled with gatherings, generosity, and reflection. The glow of the lights reminds us that this is a time to slow down, look out for one another, and celebrate the small joys that carry us through the dark evenings ahead.

Whether this is your first year attending or a long-standing family ritual, we invite you to bundle up, grab a warm drink, and join us. Let's welcome the holiday season as University Park does best: together.



HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FROM UTILITY COMPANIES THIS WINTER

As colder weather sets in and utility costs rise, many area residents may qualify for new or expanded assistance programs. Below are two opportunities that can help households reduce energy use, lower monthly bills, or receive one-time financial relief.

WASHINGTON GAS: FREE ENERGY KIT

Small steps can make a big dent in your winter energy use - and Washington Gas is offering Maryland customers a [free Home Energy Conservation Kit](#) to help you get started. Items may include spray foam sealant, faucet aerators, and other tools designed to boost efficiency and cut energy waste.

It takes under 5 minutes to complete the online form. Based on your responses, you may qualify for a kit delivered to your home within six weeks (limit one per household, while supplies last). Washington Gas also offers rebates on high-efficiency natural gas equipment. You can explore options and find participating contractors through their [Home Energy Savings Network](#).

WSSC: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

WSSC Water has launched two limited-time financial assistance programs to help customers who are behind on their water/sewer bills:

Emergency Customer Relief Fund

In partnership with United Way, eligible customers can receive up to \$750 in one-time assistance for past-due bills. Funding is limited, so early applications are encouraged.

Get Current

Through December 31, 2025, customers can reduce or eliminate past-due balances:

- Pay half, half forgiven (plus late fees waived)
- Pay 25%, 25% forgiven with the remaining balance placed on a 12-month payment plan

[Eligibility details and applications are available online](#). For questions, contact Lyn Riggins at lyn.riggins@wsscwater.com or 301-206-8100.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Town Hall's **notary services are paused through the end of the year**. Local banks and credit unions often have free notaries for customers, and the Hyattsville UPS Store offers per-page charges. We apologize for any inconvenience.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

DEC 6

6:00PM:
[Town Tree Lighting](#)

**DEC
6-12**

[Leaf Vacuuming:
Wards 1, 2, 3](#)

