



TOWN OF CHEVERLY, MARYLAND
MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

WORK SESSION
January 22, 2026
7:30 PM
Hybrid

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of Agenda**
4. **Board of Elections update** – Board of Elections Supervisors will provide an update to the Mayor & Council.
5. **Anacostia Trails Heritage Area** – A representative from the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area will provide an update to the Mayor & Council on their work, and what they can provide the Town of Cheverly.
6. **Implementation Plan for 5701 Landover Rd.** – The town administrator will present an implementation plan for this location.
7. **Policy Committee Update** – the committee will provide an update and discussion on their actions, recommendations, and next steps.
8. **Strategic Plan update discussion** – The Mayor & Council will discuss the progress, timelines, and next steps related to the Town’s Strategic Plan.
9. **MD General Assembly Bottle Bill discussion** – The Mayor & Council will have a discussion of anticipated Maryland General Assembly legislation commonly referred to as the “Bottle Bill,” including potential impacts and whether the Town Council may wish to take a position.
10. **Compost Program*** – Director Brayman and Town Administrator Galloway will provide an update on the composting program. After the update, Mr. Galloway will provide recommendations for moving forward. **This is an action item, and the Mayor & Council will be asked to vote on this this evening*
11. **Parking Permit program review** - Town Administrator Galloway and Chief Morris will provide an update on the current parking policy and recommendations moving forward.
12. **Town Administrator Update** – Town Administrator Galloway will provide a report to the Mayor and Council.



- 13. Update by CM Fry & Garces Regarding Cheverly Station Apartments** – Council members will provide updates/feedback from residents at Cheverly Station Apartments.
- 14. Review of February Town Meeting Agenda and Future Requests** – The Mayor and Town Administrator will offer a forecast of the Mayor and Council Town Meeting agenda. The Mayor will seek Council input on agenda items for consideration for future meetings.
- 15. Adjourn**

(*) denotes an agenda item requiring action (typically expressed by a vote) of Mayor and Council.

**Resident input will be allowed as part of action items, presentations and discussion items on the agenda, residents seeking to speak will be recognized by the presiding officer. Residents may speak once, for no more than three minutes, on each eligible agenda item per the adopted Council Meetings Rules & Procedures. Residents are also encouraged to submit input to the town clerk at townclerk@cheverly-md.gov to be read at the meeting.*

Please Note: Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article Section 10-508(a), the Council by majority vote may retire to executive or closed session at any time during the meeting. Should the Council retire to executive or closed session; the mayor will announce the reasons and a report will be issued at a future meeting disclosing the reasons for such session.

Zoom Information:

Topic: Cheverly Mayor & Council Work session

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82551558763?pwd=SkU0MDI5TmNWYVBMNXIFVk8vNEp0UT09>

Webinar ID: 825 5155 8763

Passcode: 916656

Or One tap mobile :

US: +13017158592,,82551558763#

Or Telephone: US: +1 301 715 8592

Agenda Supplemental Material

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. 5701 Landover Rd. | Pages : 4 - 24 |
| 2. MD General Assembly Bottle Bill | Pages : 25 - 26 |
| 3. Compost Program | Pages : 27- 29 |

5701 Landover Road

A Natural Area of Respite and Exploration

A design plan to transform an underutilized property into a natural area of relaxation and an environmental asset for the town of Cheverly and broader community.

Design and natural space restoration funded by United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 3, the Chesapeake Bay Program, Prince George's County Department of the Environment, and the Chesapeake Bay Trust Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Grant

Grantee: Anacostia Watershed Society

Project Lead: Diane Beedle, Community Native Planting Project

Landscape Designer: Matthew Reise, formerly Anacostia Watershed Society

Anacostia Watershed Society Lead: Chris Williams

Community Outreach Assistant: Lindsay Allen, Anacostia Watershed Society

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Project Beginnings

In December of 2023, the Community Native Planting Project (CNPP) and the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) agreed they were interested in collaborating on a Chesapeake Bay Trust Green Infrastructure grant aimed at constructing a natural space to foster community health and engagement via community greening. With the organizations based in Cheverly and Bladensburg, respectively, the long-neglected property at 5701 Landover Rd (5701) on the town’s border immediately came to mind as an opportunity to provide a natural space in an area severely lacking access to quality nature. After coordinating with the Town of Cheverly, the owner of 5701 which agreed to collaborate in pursuing this project, AWS and CNPP applied for the CBT grant in February of 2024. Note that in the Town of Cheverly’s Green Infrastructure Plan of September 2011, this parcel – along with other properties on the block – were marked as “Potential Mixed-Use Greening Opportunities.” The Town purchased the lot in 2012 with the intention of preserving it as a green space because one of the access points to Quincy Run is on the property. The grant was fully funded at \$49,767 in May of 2024 because of the US EPA/PGC-DOE joining with CBT to offer the award (for brevity, the grant will be referenced as a CBT grant). AWS is the grant recipient, and CNPP is a subgrantee.

The project’s objective was simple: clean the parcel of its rampant invasives, illegally dumped construction debris, and accumulated garbage; assess the feasibility of a potential green space; host multiple community design workshops to understand residents’ goals while creating the basis of a design plan; create a design plan; and install the new community green space.



Above: Volunteers hauling construction rubble to be removed from the property

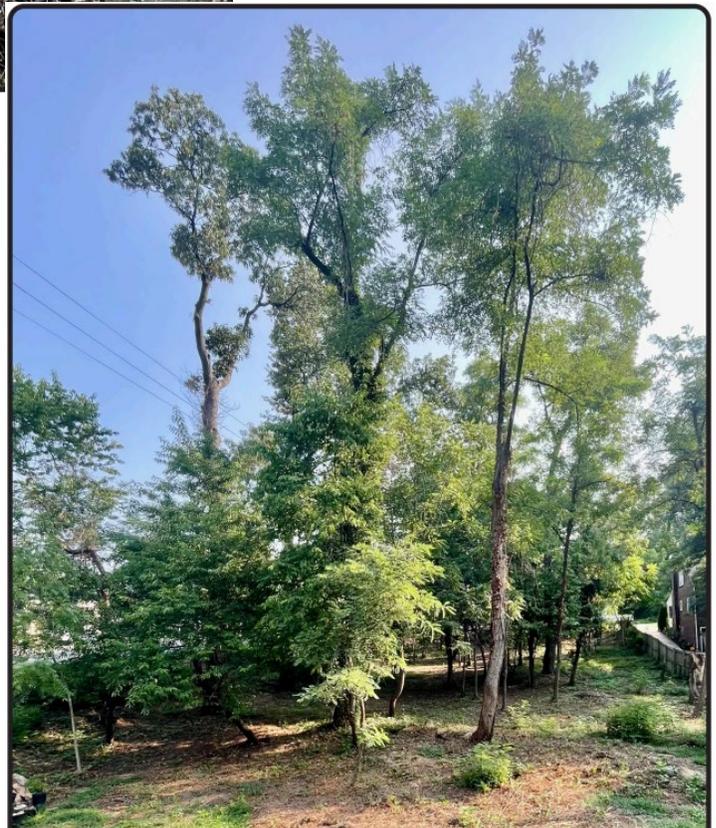
Cleaning the Property

The first task was to clear the impenetrable thicket of invasive vines from the property to better assess the topography and feasibility of such a community greening project. CNPP invested hundreds of pro-bono hours into clearing the property of invasive species to do this. Once the site was cleared enough to assess in the spring of 2024, it was determined that the land was feasible for a natural green space, and the project continued. Before & after photos are shown.



Above: Property in January 2024

Right: Property in August 2024



Community Design

The central goal of this project was to listen to community voices and create a space that benefits all who experience it. CNPP and the Anacostia Watershed Society believe that it is impossible to design a successful community amenity without collaboration of residents who will use the space. To do this, the team spent the past year engaging with hundreds of Cheverly residents to gather their thoughts, understand their goals, create plans together, and listen to their worries. Different engagement mechanisms are described below.

Community Outreach Events

CNPP, the Anacostia Watershed Society, and the Town of Cheverly held 6 formal events to gather input from community residents. The data listed includes the dates, event names, and the number of residents who provided written documentation of their ideas:

- 2 February, 2024 – Input from 37
Cleanup Greenup Community Event
- 13 July, 2024 – Input from 5
Ward 1 Day
- 24 August, 2024 – Input from 4
CNPP Work Session
- 26 September, 2024 – Input from 25
Town of Cheverly Design Workshop
- 28 September, 2024 – Input from 50+
Cheverly Day Tabling
- 5 October, 2024 – Input from 26
Design Workshop on the property of interest

Volunteer Events

Over the past year since their agreement to pursue this project, CNPP and their partners have invested 658 cumulative volunteer hours of time into clearing the property of invasive species and removing illegally discarded trash and construction debris. CNPP’s 30 volunteer work sessions at the property have garnered 117 unique volunteers – 71 of which are Cheverly residents. Many of these volunteers provided written contributions at the community input sessions and verbal contributions while volunteering. (It should be noted that the Town of Cheverly’s Public Works staff also helped clear the site on at least three occasions, where they hauled away all the invasives, garbage, and construction debris that the volunteers brought to the entrance of the lot. Additionally, the Town hired a tree service to do tree work – including removal and hauling – that was beyond the volunteers’ capacity. Finally, Pepco removed all the invasive trees under the power lines. None of this valuable time and effort is included in the volunteer hour calculation and must be acknowledged as a significant contribution.)

Online Questionnaire

CNPP created an online questionnaire, which was approved by the Town and AWS, to reach residents we may not otherwise be able to reach. Access to this questionnaire was posted on yard

signs around the perimeter of the property for several months, hand-distributed on individual fliers to 85 of the homes closest to the property, posted on the Town of Cheverly's listserv, posted on multiple social media platforms, and posted on additional local listservs with thousands of subscribers (including the Exchange, ChevList, and Cheverly Parent Resource Center to name a few). The questionnaire was written in both English and Spanish, due to the large Spanish-speaking community of the neighborhood.

Results of the Online Questionnaire

The questionnaire was answered by 58 individuals. Respondents were asked to answer in their own words "What would you like to see at 5701 Landover Rd?". After grouping responses based on similar themes, certain topics came out on top. **Overall, 48 of 58 respondents wanted 5701 to be a Green Space of some sort.** Below are the specific topics mentioned most frequently.

- 87 times – Preserving / Creating a greenspace with natural features (number is higher than number of respondents because many mentioned multiple topics in this category)
 - 22 times – Add native plants or other garden beds
 - 17 times – Keep or add trees
 - 10 times – Add walking paths
 - 8 times – Make a community forest or vegetable garden
- 25 times – Add seating or gathering spaces
- 14 times – Creating a retreat / safe haven / place of reflection
- 13 times – Include play equipment or play areas
 - 11 times – Specified nature-based play with natural materials or small pieces of equipment placed to preserve the property's natural appeal
 - 2 times – A children's playground (no qualifying descriptions included)
 - 2 times – NO plastic equipment
 - 2 times – NO playground equipment
- 11 times – Ensure the property is bike & pedestrian friendly
- 11 times – Add safety features to prevent crime
- 6 times – Add community support / infrastructure items
- 5 times – Add accessible features
- 4 times – Make a dog-friendly space
 - 3 times – Make sure NO dogs are allowed

Results of the Community Design Events

At September and October events, participants were encouraged to partake in a map-drawing exercise, where they were given a blank map of the property. They were encouraged to use their imagination and draw the things they'd like to see in the property. The September event took place at Cheverly town hall, while the October event took place at 5701itself, lending scale and perspective to the participants. These activities are less numerically quantifiable than our other activities, yet general themes echoed the same sentiments as we heard elsewhere. Of the 32 people who created their own maps, most people desired a natural, green area to act as a respite. Some drew play areas, and others drew walking paths and spaces to rest.

At the February, both September, and the October events, participants were encouraged to engage with 3 boards displaying activities regarding the following questions. Responses are shown.

What feelings do you want the final product to evoke?

This activity asked guests to place a dot on a continuum between 2 words. Average results are:

Between *Lively* and *Calm*, decisively *Calm*

Between *Natural* and *Useful*, decisively *Natural*

Geared towards *People* or *Animals*, leaning *People*

Between *Hidden* and *Visible*, leaning *Visible*

What types of plants do you want to see in the final product?

This activity asked participants to place a dot on pictures of the types of plants they'd like to see in the final product. Selection numbers are as follows:

15 points – Meadow Flowers

13 points – Groundcovers

10 points – Woodland Flowers

9 points – Flowering Shrubs

9 points – Ferns

8 points – Fruiting Trees

8 points – Evergreen Shrubs

8 points – Fruiting Shrubs

7 points – Canopy Trees

6 points – Tall Flowers

5 points – Evergreen Trees

5 points – Flowering Trees

4 points – Tall Grasses

4 points – Short Grasses

2 points – Exotic Shrubs

1 point – Succulents & Cacti

What must the project include? What should the project include? What must the project exclude? What are your worries about a project like this?

This activity asked participants to write comments on post-its under three main categories, plus concerns about a project like this. Answers with more than 2 responses are collated in their categories below by frequency of topic mentioned:

Must Include:

- 11 points – Native Trees & Plants / Wildlife Habitat
- 10 points – Benches / Seating
- 7 points – Walking Paths, Ideally Accessible
- 3 points – Natural Play Area
- 2 points – Bicycle Rack

Should Include:

- 7 points – Water Feature / Daylighted Stream
- 5 points – Native Trees & Plants / Wildlife Habitat
- 5 points – Gathering Areas
- 2 points – Fruit Trees
- 2 points – Educational Signage
- 2 points - Artwork

Must Exclude:

- 4 points – Dog Park
- 2 points – Plastic Playground Equipment
- 2 points – Becoming Overdeveloped / Unnatural

Worried About (mentioned):

- Safety Concerns – keeping strangers out
 - securing steep edge slopes
 - nighttime is lit and fenced shut
- Always visible from street to prevent crime
- Hidden from street to block noise & ugliness
- Parking concerns on the street
- Too much noise and attracting big groups

Takeaways from the Results:

From all combined community input sessions and questionnaire, we received written input from 167 individuals. The results of both the in-person activities and online questionnaire inform the Design Plan, ensuring that community members see a project that emulates the one envisioned. Broad takeaways from all modes of engagement are listed below and reflected in the Design Plan:

- The goal of this project is to create a natural space for this community. The property has many natural assets, and this project is meant to save them and augment them. Native species of all types should be planted. Meadow flowers, woodland flowers, and groundcovers are particularly encouraged. Tall grasses, succulents, and nonnative ornamental plants are discouraged.
- Various types of seating and areas for gathering are important. Ensuring visitors have a chance to rest is vital to allowing all types of folks to enjoy what the property has to offer.

- Walking paths should take visitors around the property.
- To the best of our ability, visiting the property should evoke feelings of Calm, Rest, and Rejuvenation.
- An area or areas for nature-play should be designated and incorporated in a way that preserves and protects the natural features of the property. Play materials should be natural, avoiding plastics and metals if possible.
- The possibility of fruiting trees and shrubs should be considered. When taking fruiting plants into account, pests need to be acknowledged as a non-negotiable piece of the puzzle.
- Respect for the neighbors needs to be considered. Things like crowds, noise from crowds, and parking concerns need to be thought about in the planning processes.
- Safety is a concern on this property. The parcel should be fully fenced to protect pedestrians, prevent children from running into busy streets, restrict access at night, and prevent illegal dumping. This fence should be closed and locked at night by the Town of Cheverly. The perimeter should be well lit with open sight-lines to discourage illicit activities.
- Concerns around visibility, or lack thereof, need to be harmonized to address multiple concerns. There was much debate about this topic. The property must be visible from the street to prevent illicit activities, however the street should also be somewhat blocked by vegetation to insulate road noise and create a “retreat-like” atmosphere. A compromise is necessary, where some areas along the edge are open and others are closed. The view into the property along Landover Road should be somewhat interrupted by shrubbery to insulate traffic noise and partially-block the street view. The corridor along 57th Street should be much more open to allow for open visibility.

Community Event Photos

Photos of the various events are below.



Above: October Community Design Workshop

Below: Cheverly Day tabling



Above: February Cleanup Greenup event

Below: Engagement Boards mid-use



Final Design Plan

Fortunately, the goals of the CTB grant aligned well with the aspirations of the community members and neighbors who participated in the various workshops, forums, surveys, and events. From their responses, we were able to put together a cohesive Final Design that addresses their desires and meets the stipulations of the CBT grant. Due to the small grant budget for installation (\$25,000), this Final Design is best implemented in stages, and additional funding will need to be found for work beyond the scope of the CBT grant.

Again, the overwhelming response from community members was to create a natural area that builds on the bones of what already exists in the property. It has a diverse topography of hills and flat areas, culminating in a swale over an underground creek at the base of the property. Some regions are shaded by mature canopy trees, while other regions receive near-full sun exposure.

The design proposes to keep as much as possible in the creation of a natural area of respite and exploration. All healthy canopy trees will be kept. Natural walking paths will be added to carry visitors around the property, including designated gathering spaces and natural seating. An exclusively-native plant palette will be used, covering a range of shade species to low-growing meadow species. Additional native trees will be planted to replace those which were removed for being invasive or dead. A nature-play area is designated in a sunny location on the property away from the homes. The entrance will be gated and secured by the Town of Cheverly at night to discourage loitering and unwelcome activity, and it will contain a community board and bicycle parking.

A graphic of the Design Plan is on the following page.

Installation Stages

Stage 1 will use funds from the CBT Grant to get the foundation of the project complete. These include repairing the degraded portions of the slopes, walking paths, the gathering area, the non-ADA entryway, and the majority of the planting. The space will be useable by the community after this stage.

All further stages and features will require funds secured through other programs by the Town of Cheverly.

Stage 2 will include the installation of an iron security fence around the street-side perimeter and a private fence along the residential sides of the property. This is the most urgent of stages to complete.

We recommend that Stage 3 include the installation of an ADA wheelchair-accessible entryway and landing in the meadow area.

We recommend that Stage 4 include installation of a nature-play area and play structures. By this time, it is encouraged to spot-plant and refill areas where plants did not originally flourish.

5701 Final Plan

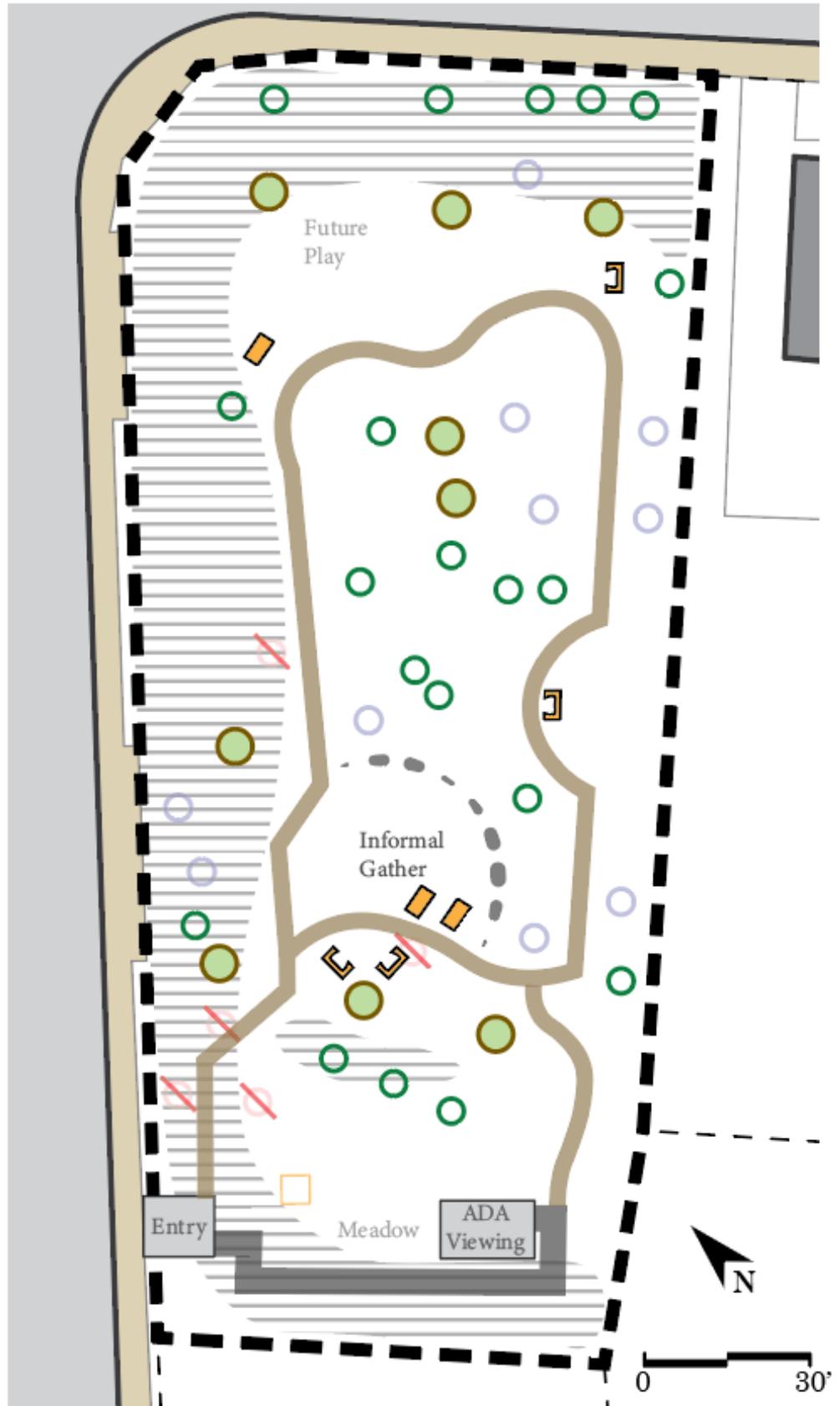
Natural Area of Respite and Exploration

To be constructed in stages

Note: Twice as many trees planted as removed

Key

- Property Boundary
- Woodchip Walkway
- Wheelchair Pathway
- Large Tree (trunk)
- Small Tree (removed)
- Small Tree (saved)
- Tree (added)
- Gathering Area Boulder Border
- Bench / Table
- Concrete Landing
- Steep Areas



Entryway

With adjacent streets considerably higher than the property, creating a formal entry while on a budget is a challenge. At the base of the property near the lowest topographic point, the ground should be stabilized and a 10'x7.5' (minimum) concrete landing will be installed. Here, inside the security fence, a bike rack, garbage receptacle, and potentially a covered bulletin-board will be secured to the ground.

From this landing, a pathway as described in the “Walkways” section will lead along the hillside to access the rest of the property without interfering with the utility cover for the channelized Quincy Run. It will lead to the Informal Gathering Area, which connects to the walkway loop around the forested area of the property. Portions of this entry walkway are relatively steep, and may require rudimentary stairs, built by securing logs to the ground. An additional walkway will lead to the ADA-accessible portion of the property, with more details in the “ADA Wheelchair Access” section.

For visuals of the walkway, see the Walkway section of the report. Visuals of amenities on the landing are below:

Right: Park signage about rules, hours, town events, local businesses, etc.

Bottom Right: This is a unique bike rack already in Cheverly. Off-the-shelf varieties will be less expensive.

Bottom: Sloped walkway with rudimentary log stairs to ease access and prevent erosion



Walkway

A natural walkway will meander through the property, encouraging guests to walk and experience the area in full. While a section of the property will contain a wheelchair-compliant ADA entryway and walkway, most walkways will consist of natural materials as a means of atmosphere-creation.

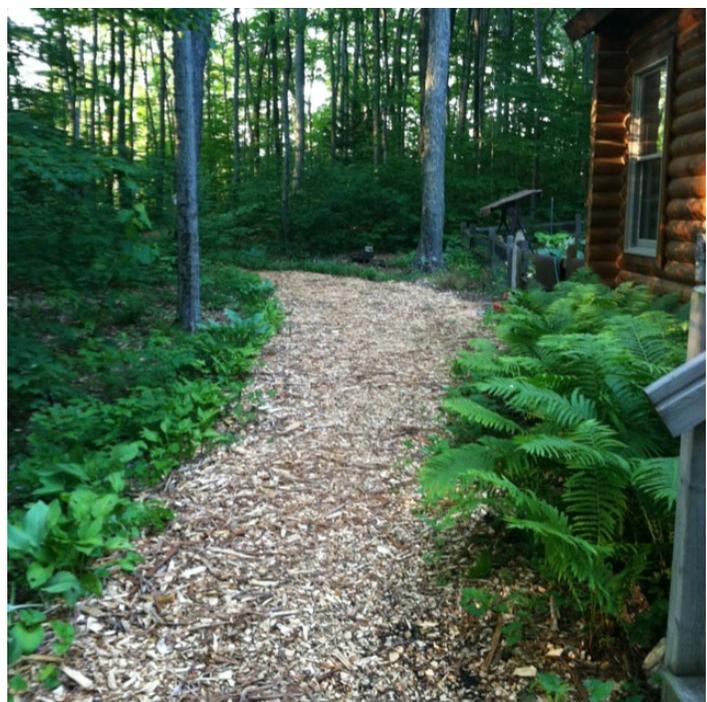
The natural walkway will be between 2.5' and 3' wide, designated by woodchips. There is an option to line walkway edges with logs and thick, straight tree branches. Ideally, these logs and branches would come from the 5701 property itself, but they could also come from other locations within Cheverly or nearby. Using local logs cuts dumping costs and keeps transport emissions low. NOTE: if logs are used, they should not be continuous and should have sizable gaps between them – this allows turtles and other small wildlife to pass through the walkway.

Maintenance is very minimal. Foot traffic should tamp down vegetation growth. Still, weeding may be required approximately once per month during the growing season. Woodchips will need replacement every 1-2 years. If used, logs will need replacing every 5+ years.

Visual examples below:



Above: This pathway is narrow and filled with shredded bark and logs on the outside. Logs should be spaced further apart than depicted.



Above: Wooded pathway with fresh woodchips. They will not retain their bright color for long, and will need to be replaced yearly.

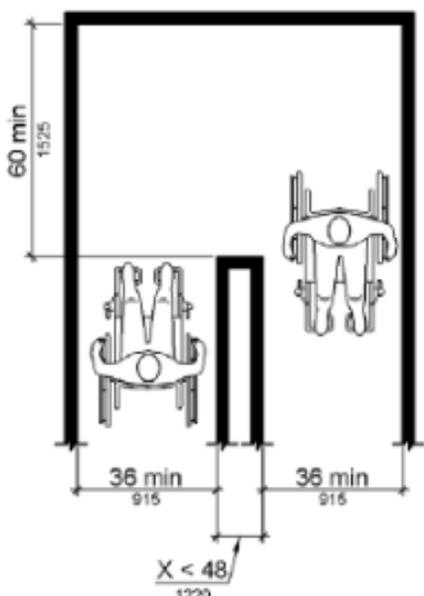
ADA Wheelchair Access

Creating an ADA-accessible entryway and walkway through this particular site is the most challenging aspect of the project because of the topography, the channelized Quincy Run, flooding, and other limitations of the space. Landover Road and 57th Avenue are considerably higher elevation than the property, and the least-steep accessway is at the base of the property. Even at the property's base, there is a considerable descent down into the space and it will take considerable engineering and funds to create full accessibility.

To make this space accessible and welcoming to all community members, there will be a path in the meadow area near the entryway that will be fully ADA compliant. To do this, a boardwalk or concrete pathway will extend from the concrete entrance landing, leading down to a level pad with accessible seating and space for gathering. It will be surrounded by the meadow area, a vibrant showcase of the 5701 property. This is a wonderful observation point for the rest of the park and can be utilized by bird watchers, families with strollers, and more. The pathway will adhere to all the following ADA requirements:

- Pathway width of 36" that allows for wheelchairs
- Pathway slope is less than 1:20, with cross slope less than 1:48
- Handrails on both sides of the pathway are 36" high to gripping surface
- If turns are needed to create a pathway where the slope is within guidelines, the landing must be at least 60" long and 80" wide
- Pathway is smooth, firm, and slip-resistant

Installation of this ADA Wheelchair Access is not feasible under the current grant funds, and should be pursued as an additional Stage to ensure all people have access to this natural area. This installation will include preparation of land for these flat structures, building of the structures, and replanting of the meadow.



Left: A copy of what an ADA switchback looks like, with dimensions.

Right: An example of a wheelchair-accessible boardwalk walkway in a meadow.

Gathering Area

At the base of the natural path will sit an informal gathering area. The gathering area is shaded by existing canopy trees. This large open space is on existing flat ground and will be edged with a mixture of logs and large boulders for climbing and sitting. Ideally these boulders will be real, but as an absolute last resort for financial constraints, they could be made of plaster or a hard plastic. We encourage reaching out to quarries in southern PA to see if they have extra large boulders for reasonable prices. The total gathering area will be roughly 350sf, with a circular edge between where the pathways meet.

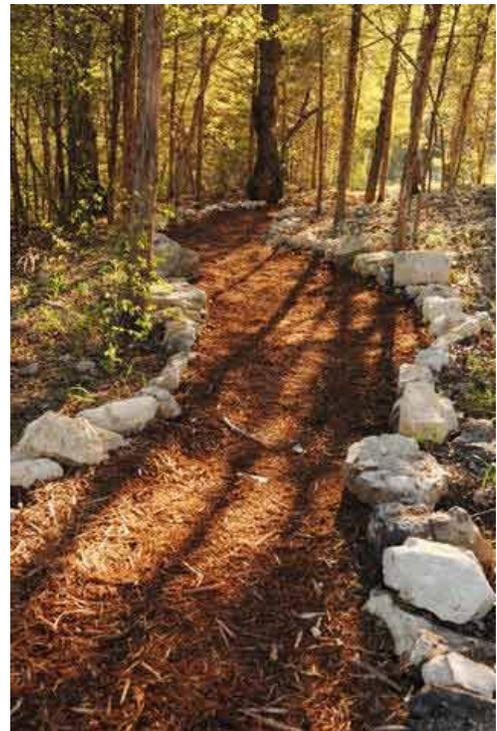
To prepare this area, 3" of soil will be added to cover the ground. It will be manually compacted and woodchipped to prevent unwanted growth and create a flat space free of tripping hazards.



Above: Large stone boulders for sitting arranged in a circle to create a gathering area. At 5701, these boulders can be placed around the edge of the gathering area as a means of sitting and playful exploration.

Top Right: Stone edge to a walkway. While large boulders are expensive, smaller stones are more affordable. The edge of the gathering area have gaps between large boulders and stones that are filled with logs.

Bottom Right: An example of a stone that is shaped for sitting and climbing.



Additional Features

Seating

Seating is a top priority for this site, allowing visitors to rest and immerse in the natural area. We got feedback from our multiple community design workshops that unique seating is preferred over standard manufactured benches. A compromise may be best, where a few standardized and cheaper benches are purchased for Stage 1, while artisan seating crafted by local artists or woodworkers are better suited for later stages. Even with standardized seating, stick to natural materials like wood or stone, and stay away from metal or plastic. We suggest reaching out to local nonprofits like Nature Sacred, which provides high-quality benches to natural areas.



Above: Consider simple benches, like a Leopold Bench, but have them painted by schoolkids or local community groups.

Top Right: Table with seating that encourages group activities, but not groups of more than 4 which could create too much noise and disrupt others.

Bottom Right: Nature Sacred is a nonprofit that provides benches with a hidden journal cubby to areas of natural respite across the mid-Atlantic.



Nature Play Area

With few outdoor play options in the surrounding area, a natural play space was something that a handful of respondents suggested. They encouraged use of natural materials that blended with the space and minimalist structures that promoted imagination, creativity, and learning in/about the natural world. Things like logs for climbing and balancing, rocks for jumping, ropes for climbing, embankment slides, turf mounds, hollowed out areas for tunnels, and uniquely-shaped materials for exploration are all great options to pursue.

Nature-play is a cutting-edge field with growing demand, and materials for these types of installations can grow expensive. Due to minimal grant funding, nature-play structures are best installed in later stages once the property's structural and accessibility requirements are met.



Clockwise from Top Left: Embankment slides with stone stairs to top, elevated log pathway, climbing wall and wooden play structure, hollowed log tunnel.

Plug & Seed Planting Plan

5701 Final Plan

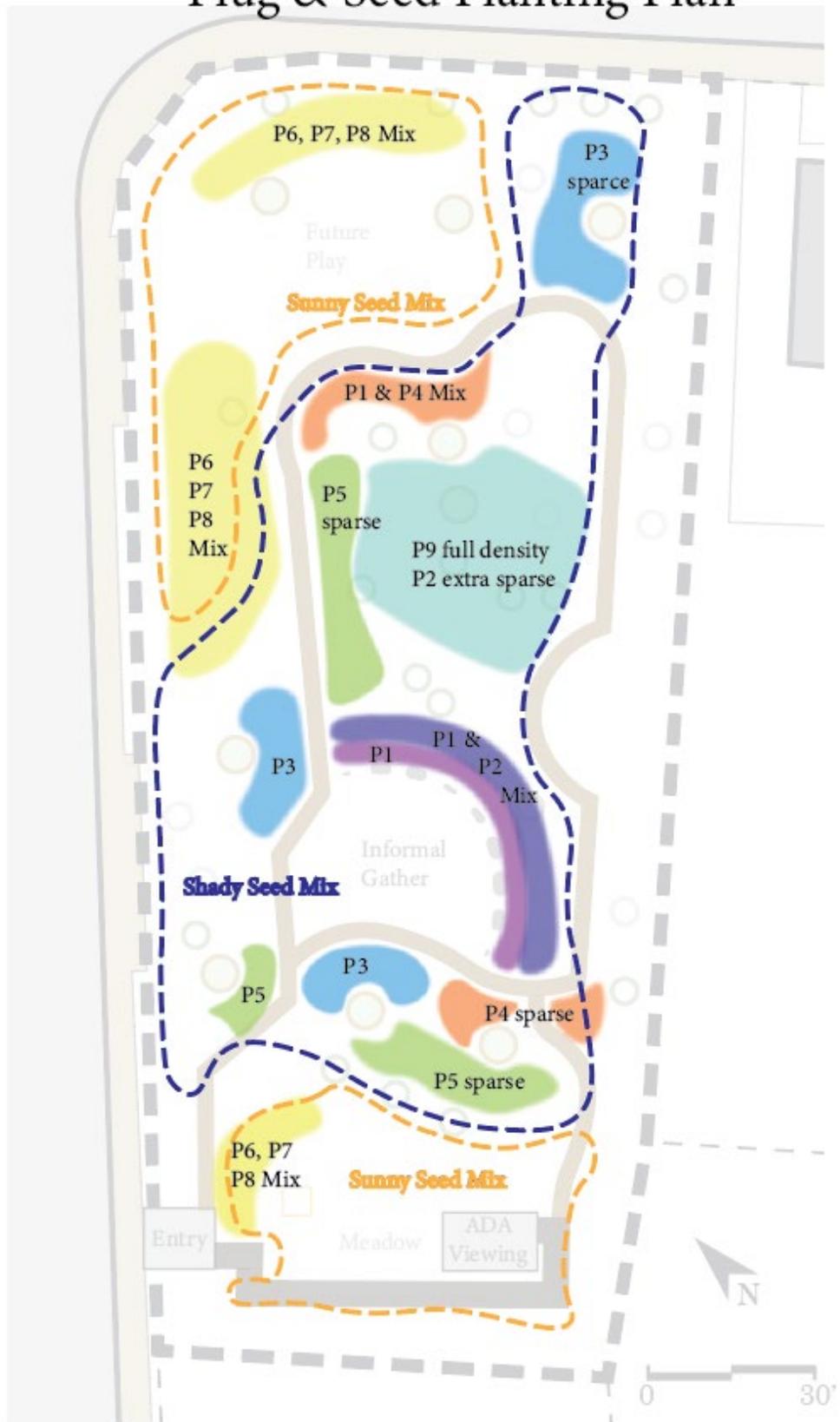
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- Tree (added)
- Gathering Area Boulder Border
- Concrete Landing



Code	Scientific Name	Common Name	Container Size	Qty	Spacing
T1 - Green	Magnolia grandiflora 'Barkens Brown Beauty'	Southern Magnolia	15gal	2	15'
T2 - Red	Viburnum punctatum	blackhaw viburnum	10gal	10	8'
G	Echinacea purpurea	purple coneflower	1gal	10	24"
G	Amsonia hubrichtii	Bluestar	1gal	10	30"
G	Moranda bradburiana	Alleghany bergamot	1gal	30	18"
G	rudbeckia fulgida	Black Eyed Susan	1gal	20	18"
G	Fothergilla gardenii	Dwarf Fothergilla	10gal	7	36"
M	Amsonia hubrichtii	Bluestar	1 gal	10	30"
M	Echinacea pallida	Pale coneflower	1 gal	10	24"
M	Rudbeckia triloba	Brown Eyed Susan	1 gal	20	24"
M	Solidago odora	Sweet Goldenrod	1 gal	20	24"
M	Aster laevis	Smooth Aster	1 gal	10	24"
Z - canopy	Ilex opaca	American Holly	10gal	?	
Z - canopy	quercus ssp	Oak	10gal	?	5 canopy minimum
Z - canopy	pinus ssp	Pine	10gal	?	
Y - understory	Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud	10gal	?	
Y - understory	Rhus typhina	Staghorn Sumac	10gal	?	5 understory minimum
Y - understory	Asimina triloba	Paw Paw	10gal	?	
Look at North Creek Nurseries for the Landscape Plugs					
P1	Tiarella cordifolia	Foam Flower	plug	4 trays	18"
P2	Dryopteris marginalis	Marginal Wood Fern	plug	3 trays	18"
P3	Mattauccia struthiopteris	Ostrich Fern	plug	2 trays	24"
P4	Aquilegia canadensis	Red Columbine	plug	2 trays	24"
P5	Packera aurea	Golden groundsel	plug	3 trays	12"
P6	Rudbeckia fulgida	black eyed susan	plug	2 trays	24"
P7	Zizia aurea	golden alexander	plug	2 trays	24"
P8	Pyrenanthemum muticum	mountain mint	plug	1 tray	24"
P9	Carex plantaginea	Seersucker Sedge	plug	5 trays	12"
A1 - brown	Viburnum nudum	Winterthur Viburnum	10gal	10	8'
A2 - yellow	Ceanothus virginicus	new jersey tea	10gal	40	3.5'
A3 - black	Aronia melanocarpa 'Morton'	Black Chokeberry	10gal	6	7'
A4 - green	Morella cerifera	Southern Wax Myrtle	10gal	20	8'
A5 - blue	Calycanthus floridus	Carolina All-Spice	10gal	10	7'
Sun Seed	https://www.ernstseed.com/product/va-solar-pollinator-3-mix/?srsltid=AfmBOopkF513SD0C0i0blan5khFRlptV10rMC0tGR0N2FdgSLTr9-45	VA Solar Pollinator 3' Mix	8lbs		
Shade Seed		Carex radiata	2lbs		
Shade Seed		Carex flacco sperma	2lbs		
Shade Seed		Carex amphibia	1lbs		

Victoria' or other mid-size cultivar as alternate

Trays Of: Total Plugs

32 128
 32 96
 32 64
 32 64
 50 150
 50 100
 50 100
 32 32
 32 160

Can mix with 4lbs of Canada Wild Rye if funds available

Maryland Needs a Bottle Bill!

The Problem

About 5.5 billion beverage containers are sold in Maryland annually.¹ Despite widespread availability of curbside collection of recyclables and public recycling receptacles, only a quarter of the containers (25%) are captured for recycling. More than 4 billion containers a year, 2.6 billion of which are plastic, are left in the environment—in landfills, on roadsides, in waterways—or incinerated. The number littered is significant: Beverage containers are more than half of the trash by volume in the Anacostia watershed's trash traps.²

Plastic beverage containers pollute our waterways and pose a threat to wildlife and human health. They break up into small pieces and are ingested by marine life, injuring and killing fish, seabirds, and marine mammals. Scientists estimate that we are ingesting up to a credit card's worth of plastic weekly.

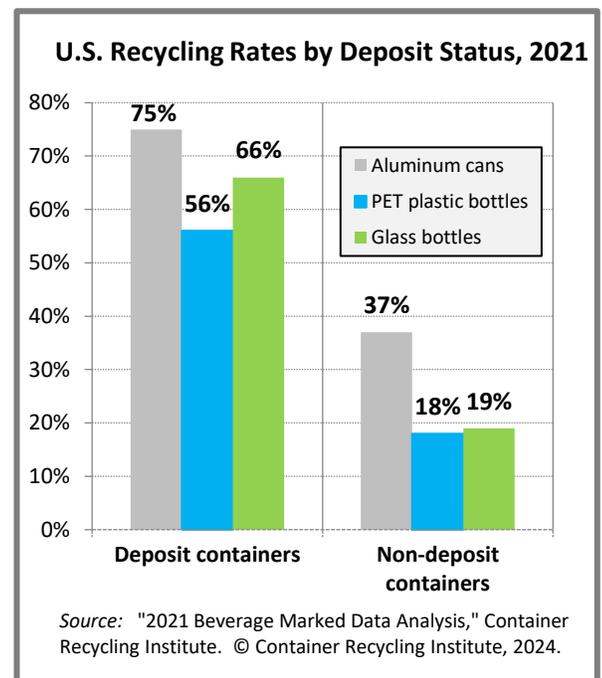


Courtesy of Anacostia Watershed Society

The Solution

Beverage container deposit programs, also known as "bottle bills," are a proven, highly effective policy for recovering used beverage containers and reducing litter. Ten states, covering more than 90 million people, have longstanding, successful programs.³ They add a small deposit to the purchase price of beverage containers that is refunded to customers when the containers are returned for recycling. When empty beverage containers can be redeemed for cash, fewer are littered or likely to remain littered. Purchase the beverage, borrow the container! The refundable deposit is an incentive to return.

Deposit programs also dramatically increase beverage container recycling (figure at right). The recycling rate for deposit beverage containers is 2-3 times higher than for non-deposit containers, and the impact is greater with higher deposits. States with a 10-cent deposit have achieved container recycling rates of 90%.



How Would the Program Operate?

The Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program would create a beverage container deposit program in Maryland with a 10- or 15-cent refundable deposit on metal, glass, and plastic beverage containers, depending on container size. The deposit is refunded to the customer when the beverage container is returned for recycling. The program would rely on reverse vending machines and other new technologies for convenient container redemption to achieve at least a 90% recovery rate.

¹ Container Recycling Institute, Beverage Market Data Analysis, based on 2021 data.

² Anacostia Watershed Society.

³ California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Oregon, and Vermont. Recycling rates in 2021 ranged from 50% to 89%. There are currently 72 container deposit programs worldwide in 61 countries. Increased interest in the past decade has been fueled by public concern about plastic pollution. Collins, Susan. 2020. "International Embrace," *Plastics Recycling Update*, Winter, pp. 38-43.

The program would be operated by a nonprofit Beverage Container Stewardship Organization representing all producers that sell beverages in the state. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) would select the Organization and provide substantial oversight, approving stewardship plans and annual reports and setting the program’s convenience standards and handling fees. An Advisory Council of stakeholders would advise MDE on plan approval, implementation, and performance. The program would be self-financing from fees paid by producers, revenue from the sale of raw materials, unclaimed deposits, and penalties. Ten percent of unclaimed deposits would fund a Grant Program to increase the reuse of beverage containers.



A reverse vending machine

The Program’s Benefits

- **Reduction in beverage container litter and plastic pollution, and an increase in water quality.** It would capture 3.6 billion additional beverage containers annually, including 2.3 billion plastic bottles.
- **Quadrupling of Maryland’s beverage container recycling rate.** The estimated recycling rate, currently only 25% of containers sold in the state, would increase to more than 90%.
- **Increase in high quality, food-grade recycled content for new food and beverage containers.** The program would generate an additional 13,328 tons of aluminum, 47,665 tons of PET plastic, 7,847 tons of HDPE plastic, and 159,397 tons of glass to be recycled into new containers, annually.
- **Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.** By reducing the production of new cans and bottles from virgin materials, the additional recycling from this program would eliminate 231,707 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent annually, the equivalent of removing the emissions of 50,371 cars.
- **Savings for taxpayers and local governments.** Beverage producers would finance the costs of collection, processing, and recycling of beverage containers currently disposed, littered, and recycled, diverting materials from landfills and incinerators, saving costs for taxpayers and local governments.
- **Investments in refillable and reusable beverage container systems.** Deposits are critical for development of refillable and reusable containers. The program would launch that transition.
- **Job creation.** Recycling generated by a deposit program creates five times more jobs as do landfilling or incineration.

Support the Maryland Bottle Bill in 2026 to reduce litter, prevent plastic pollution, increase recycling, and conserve resources! It passed the House Environment and Transportation Committee in 2025! We have momentum!



www.cheverly-md.gov

The Town of Cheverly
6401 Forest Road
Cheverly, MD 20785

Office/Fax: (301) 773-8360

Date: January 21, 2026

ATTN: Mayor and Council

Subject: Continuation and Funding of Cheverly Pilot Composting Program

Purpose

To seek direction on whether the Town of Cheverly should continue participation in the Port Town Co-Operative composting program beyond January or review alternative program options and determine the preferred funding model for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Background

Since May of 2025, the Town of Cheverly has participated in a community composting pilot program through a partnership with The Town of Edmonston, Compost Crew, and EcoCity Farms funded by federal grant monies provided by the FDA. Cheverly was allotted to 62 residential collection sites in this program at the time of the invitation and residents signed up on a first come first serve basis to be included in the program. The current program supports a “local loop” composting model in which food scraps are collected from local households and composted at the EcoCity Urban Farm Incubator in Watkins Park, with finished compost used locally. This minimizes transportation impacts and supports local soil health. The Town has covered the costs of the program for January and February for the currently 62 participating households totaling \$ 3,348.

Port Town Co-Operative Program Status and Continuation Considerations

The Port Town Co-Operative compost program is set to be priced at a rate of \$27 per collection site, billed monthly. The program currently serves approximately 150 households across the participating towns. For the program to continue, up to 220 households must be added to keep the program financially viable and sustain the ‘local loop’ operational costs.

The other participating towns are planning to cover the full cost of the program for their residents due to strong local interest and the number of participating residents. Cheverly is currently the largest contributor in both capacity and financial responsibility; with approximately 40% of the total contributing site pick-up locations. Compost Crew also provides the option of cost sharing to other local municipalities such as Greenbelt, Alexandria, and Falls Church ranging between \$ 5 - \$ 10. Survey data indicates less than 10% attrition at a \$5/month resident fee, with higher attrition as resident costs increase and has been included in pricing details shown below. Billing would be processed by Compost Crew with no additional administrative responsibility to the Town.

Continuation of the Port Town Co-Operative program is dependent on Cheverly’s participation due to our 40% involvement or ~ 91 households. We are confident we can reach this minimum requirement to continue the program due to the level of interest expressed by residents in the current pilot program. In total, 122 residents have signed up for the program, including the 62 active participants.

Port Town Co-Operative Pricing Details

- 91 households × \$27/month = \$2,457 per month (total program cost without supplementation based on the minimum

Cost Summary Table - Program period: March–June 2026

Resident Monthly Fee	Town Monthly Cost	Town Cost Through June 30 (4 months)	Full Fiscal Year Cost (12 mo.)
\$0	\$2,457	\$ 9,828	\$ 29,484
\$5	\$2,002	\$8,008	\$ 24,024
\$10	\$1,547	\$ 6,188	\$ 18,564
\$ 13.75 (50% split)	\$ 1,251.25	\$ 5,005	\$ 15,018

Compost Crew Growth and Capacity Considerations

Due to the large contribution the Town provides to the co-operative program Compost Crew has agreed to provide Cheverly an option where we maintain the current proportional share of 40% in the expanded 220-household program. Within this frame, Cheverly participation would increase from 62 households to 91 households at the co-operative rate of \$ 27/household. Once we have reached 91 households, Compost Crew is willing to generate a ‘hybrid pricing model’ solely for Cheverly where up to an additional 30 households that join the program after the 40% capacity is met will receive the same service for approximately \$ 25/household per month. These households’ compost would be diverted to the Prince George’s County Organic Waste Composting Facility in Upper Marlboro rather than the EcoCity Farms site. All households would continue to receive curbside collection on the same day of the week.

Alternative Program Option: Direct Agreement with Compost Crew

Staff has held discussions with Compost Crew regarding operating a compost program outside of the Port Town Co-Operative. For planning purposes, a base participation level of 91 households was assumed.

Indicative pricing (pricing totals are subject to change based on participation number):

- \$25 per household
- \$26.50 per household with the inclusion of mulch derived from composted materials for participating households

Town of Cheverly Direct Agreement with Compost Crew Pricing

- 91 participants × \$25/month = \$2,275 per month (total program cost)

Cost Summary Table - Program period: March –June 2026 (4 months at \$25/month)

Resident Monthly Fee	Town Monthly Cost	Town Cost Through June 30, 2026 (4 months)	Full Fiscal Year Cost
\$0	\$2,275	\$ 9,100	\$ 27,300
\$5	\$1,820	\$ 7,280	\$ 21,840
\$10	\$1,365	\$ 5,460	\$ 16,380
\$12.50 (50% split)	\$ 1137.50	\$ 4,550	\$ 13,650

Future Cost Summary Considerations

Cost Summary Table - Program period: 12-months for 1000 Households within Port Town Co-Operative Program (including Compost Crew Consideration)

Resident Monthly Fee	Town Monthly Cost	Full Fiscal Year Cost
\$ 0	\$ 32,553	\$ 390,636
\$5	\$ 26, 188	\$ 314, 256
\$10	\$ 19,828	\$ 237,876
\$ 13.75	\$ 11,704.75	\$ 140,457

Cost Summary Table – Program Period: 12-months for 1,000 Households under a direct agreement with Compost Crew at \$ 25/month

Resident Monthly Fee	Town Monthly Cost	Full Fiscal Year Cost
\$ 0	\$ 25,000	\$ 300,000
\$5	\$ 20,000	\$ 240,000
\$10	\$ 15,000	\$ 180,000
\$12.50	\$ 12,500	\$ 150,000

Recommended Next Steps

1. Provide direction on whether Cheverly will continue participation in the Port Town
2. Co-Operative Program or pursue a contract with Compost Crew alone
 - a. Authorize staff to continue enrollment and/or outreach to reach participation targets.
3. Identify a preferred funding model (fully Town-funded or supplemental for the duration of FY 26).
4. Confirm Cheverly’s intent to the Rod Barnes, Edmonston Town Administrator, for involvement in the Port Town Co-Operative as soon as possible.