

Berlin Community News

Volume 26, Issue 3
Spring, 2015

Mayor & Council of Berlin, MD

Spring Events in Berlin

April

April 4 - Spring Celebration

Step through the looking-glass into Berlin's Wonderland!

Pancake Breakfast at Raynes Reef with the White Rabbit:

Reservations required. 8 AM, 9 AM, & 10 AM seatings available. 410-641-4775.

11 AM: Easter Egg Hunt at 13 S. Main Street (across from the Visitor's Center).

11 AM—3 PM: Games, crafts & characters along Main Street.

Noon-1 PM: Mad Hatter Tea Party & Children's Book Garden Stories and crafts at Stevenson UM Church.

1 PM: Cupcake Eating Contest at Cupcakes-In-Bloom, 120 N. Main Street.

2-3 PM: Lawn games at the Taylor Museum.

2-3 PM: The Mad Hatter, Mayor Gee Williams, passes out shiny new quarters along Main Street.

3-4 PM: "The Crazy, Enchanted,



Magical Hat Parade" followed by the presentation of trophies for best Hat, Costume, and Cupcake Champion at the Atlantic Hotel.

April 10 - 2nd Friday Art Stroll

The Worcester County Arts Council hosts the monthly art stroll. Downtown merchants feature artwork and offer refreshments.

April 10 - Celebrate Berlin!

The Berlin Heritage Foundation annual fundraiser. See article, page 2.

April 11 - Clean-Up Berlin Day

See article to right.

April 18-25 - Take Pride in Berlin Week

See article page 2.

April 18 - Cool Berlin Day

Downtown Berlin. Cool Berlin Day will feature games and an inflatable slide for kids, a youth parade starting at 1 PM, juggling, food, sales at the shops & the Kelly Bell Band performing at 3 PM.

April 24 - Movie in the Park

Henry Park, time TBA. The Berlin Arts and Entertainment Committee is pleased to announce the first of

(Continued on page 6)

CLEAN-UP BERLIN DAY

Saturday, April 11th

Spring is in the air and it's time for spring-cleaning! For more than a decade volunteers have dedicated a few hours on an April Saturday to help give Berlin's Parks and Downtown an after-winter spruce up. This year Clean-Up Day will be Saturday, April 11, 2015. Individuals and teams are needed to help with planting, weeding, raking, mulching and whatever else needs attention.

Sign-up begins at 8:30 AM in both Stephen Decatur and Henry Parks, or you can pre-

(Continued on page 5)

Inside this issue:

Heritage Foundation News	2
Take Pride in Berlin Week	2
Holiday/Trash Collection Schedule	3
Spring Yard & Bulk Waste Collections	3
Assateague Coastal Trust News	4
Coast Kids Summer Program	5
Subscribe	7
Meetings Schedule	7
CodeRED	7

Heritage Foundation News



by Debora Spieier

Celebrate Berlin Cocktail Party

The Berlin Heritage Foundation's first fundraiser for 2015 will be our annual cocktail party at Harrison's Harbor Watch on Friday, April 10, from 6 to 8 PM. This will be the third time we have held this popular event and we hope you plan to join us. The event includes delicious food and beverages, with your first glass of local beer or wine free.

There is always live music to entertain guests while they anxiously wait to see who has the highest bid on great silent auction baskets. Come spend a special evening with us as we celebrate Berlin! Tickets are \$30.00 per person if purchased before March 30, or \$35.00 per person at the door. Purchase your tickets by mailing a check to the Berlin Heritage Foundation at PO Box 351, Berlin, MD 21811. All proceeds benefit the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum.

Peach Festival

Mark your calendars...the 7th Annual Berlin Peach Festival



Merrymakers (some in period costume) enjoy celebrating Berlin at last year's event.

tival is on Saturday, August 1, 2015, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Rain date: Sunday, August 2.) You won't want to miss it!

Take Pride in Berlin Week

Saturday, April 18 to Saturday, April 25

We're Still Cool! Take Pride in Berlin Week begins with the Cool Berlin Festival downtown (see page 1). This Festival is in celebration of Berlin's designation as Budget Travel's Coolest Small Town in America 2014 and will feature lots of fun activities for everyone (see page 1 for more details).

Berlin extends its congratulations to the 2015 winner: Grand Marais, MN!

We are looking for your ideas on how to show your Berlin Pride and why you are proud of Berlin. Let us know on Facebook at Take Pride in Berlin Week, or tweet us at @berlinmd, #BerlinMDPride.

Finally, Take Pride in Berlin Week ends on Saturday, April 25th with the Berlin Heritage Festival. This is the second year for this festival celebrating Berlin and its history. (see page 6 for more details.)



THINGS TO DO DURING TAKE PRIDE IN BERLIN WEEK

To learn more about any of the categories below, please visit our webpage at berlinmd.gov/pride-berlin-week.

Maintain a green home and garden

Conserve energy

Reduce auto dependence

Shop responsibly

Green your community

Share your ideas on Facebook at Town of Berlin Maryland or Tweet @berlinmd, #BerlinMDPride.

Town Holidays and Refuse Collection Schedule

Because Town offices will be closed on the following holidays, trash/recycling pickup will be re-scheduled as follows:

Friday, April 3. Good Friday. There will be no recycling collection. If your normal trash day is Friday, collection will be on Monday, April 6.

Monday, May 25. Memorial Day. There will be no recycling collection.

REMINDER: Trash/recycling must be at the curb by 6 AM; items placed later may not be collected. It is acceptable to place items the night before.

SPRING 2015 SPECIAL WASTE COLLECTIONS

Residential only. Items must be at the curb by 6:00 AM.

If your <u>NORMAL TRASH DAY</u> is	Then your <u>YARD WASTE PICKUP DAY</u> will be	And your <u>BULK WASTE PICKUP DAY</u> will be
Tuesday or Wednesday	Wednesday, April 8	Wednesday, May 6
Thursdays	Wednesday, April 22	Wednesday, May 20

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

DO:

Place leaves, grass clippings, pine needles and cones, and garden waste in a paper bag, plastic bag, or (maximum) 30 gallon container. Cut brush into 4 ft. lengths and bundle no larger than 18 inches in diameter.

DON'T:

Mix in stones, rocks, metal, other inorganic matter, dirt, sod or other materials.

BULK WASTE COLLECTION

DO:

Furniture, large & small appliances, carpet & rugs, computer components. Place smaller items in a container.

DON'T:

Chemicals, paint, yard waste, tires.

For more information about acceptable items for either collection, please call the Public Works Department at 410-641-4001 or email Public Works Superintendent Wendell Purnell at wpurnell@berlinmd.gov.



Assateague Coastal Trust Spring News



ACT Native Plant, Heirloom Tomato and Herb Sale Set for May 9th

For the 16th year, Assateague Coastal Trust will offer a selection of native flowering perennials, heirloom Native Plant tomatoes, herbs and local crafts at its annual festival. This year the event will again be next to ACT's office, steps from the corner of Old Ocean City Boulevard and North Main Street in Berlin. And the date for this year's sale, May 9th, or the day before Mothers Day, arrives just in time for shoppers to honor their moms with natural gifts that keep on giving...and are good for the environment too!

The festival, which also features nature-inspired crafts, runs from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 9th. "It is always a good idea, however, to place plant orders in advance," said ACT President Ken Wolf. "That guarantees that gardeners (and moms) will get the best of the plants that come from our growers."

All plants are chosen because of their drought resistance and their natural ability to adapt to local gardening conditions. Native plant gardens require less herbicide, less pesticide and less fertilizer than exotic varieties, which is good for the environment and encourages habitat creation for native wildlife.

Since heirloom tomatoes were introduced to the festival four years ago they have grown in popularity. Heirlooms typically produce more flavorful tomatoes than hybrids.

To place your plant sale pre-order or for more information about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.actforbays.org or call (410) 629-1538.

ACT Water Reporter and Swim Guide Apps

Clean Water? There's an App for That!

Reporting pollution and checking water quality has never been so easy with two great Apps available on your smart device!

Water Reporter App

Have you ever been out on the water and seen pollution you wanted to report to someone? Or how

about finding a great swimming hole or fishing spot you wanted to let your friends know about? Well now there's an app for that.

The Water Reporter App for iPhone and iPad is a Chesapeake Bay-wide initiative to gather critical data on the waterways you love and it's made its way east to the Coastal Bays. Best of all, it's available to download for free from the App Store! Just go to the App store and search for The Water Reporter.

If you're out and about and see debris flowing from a construction site, derelict crab pots, or a pipe discharging questionable water, simply use the app to report it. You can also use the app to check in while you are on a hike, bike, boating or paddling trip to share anything of interest you might have found. The app can also be used to promote events like stream cleanups, tree plantings, or any water-related activity!

Using the app is simple and quick. The first time you start up the Water Reporter, it will walk you through how to use the app in four simple steps. The app will auto-tag your location while you fill in some basic information (type of pollution or activity, date, etc.) and add a photo if you would like. It's that easy! Once your report is submitted, it will be sent to your local Waterkeeper and to a live map available on the Water Reporter Website.

Swim Guide

The Assateague Coastkeeper is excited to provide up to date information on water quality along the Atlantic Coast and Coastal Bays to the general public via [WATERKEEPER Alliance's Swim Guide website](http://WATERKEEPER>Alliance's Swim Guide website) and phone app. The Coastkeeper reports on water quality weekly at numerous sites along the Atlantic Coast and Coastal Bays including Ocean City and Assateague Beaches, the St. Martins River, and both Herring and Turville Creek from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Each week from Memorial Day through Labor Day, water samples are collected by the Coastkeeper as well as

(Continued on page 5)

ACT (Continued from page 4)

by Worcester County and Assateague Island National Seashore. These samples are then analyzed and posted to the Swim Guide in an easy to understand color coded system. The information can be accessed via the web at www.theswimguide.org or by a free app available on both Android and Apple smart devices.

Lawn Fertilizer Guidelines Green Your Lawns the Green Way

As Spring arrives and you start thinking about greening your lawn, be aware that homeowners are required to follow certain State recommendations when fertilizing lawns. It's easy and the right thing to do to protect against polluted runoff entering our local waterways.

The State recommendations are as follows:

- When applying nitrogen to lawns, a single application may not exceed 0.9 pound total nitrogen per 1,000 square feet and 0.7 pound of soluble nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.
- Homeowners are prohibited from applying fertilizer to sidewalks, driveways or other impervious surfaces. Any product that lands on these surfaces must be swept back onto lawns.
- No fertilizer applications within 15 feet of waterways. This setback is reduced to 10 feet if a drop spreader, rotary spreader with deflector or targeted spray liquid is used to apply fertilizer.
- Do not fertilize if heavy rain is predicted.

RECYCLING DURING TOWN EVENTS

Several years ago 6 recycle containers for use during Town events were donated by local business women Robin Tomaselli owner of Bake Deserts Café and Helen Wiley coordinator of The Church Mouse Thrift Shop. The containers accept cans or plastic water bottles, with openings sized to just slightly large then the intended items. This helps to prevent unwanted items going in. The recycle containers are available for use at all downtown events.



Nature Explorers Summer Enrichment Program 2015

Youth ages 5 to 10 years are invited to the Nature Explorers Program 2015. They will learn about aquatic life, wilderness survival, plankton, water pollution, colonial history, and much more! Kayaking and boating, nature art projects and lots of fun at many beautiful places across Delmarva are on the curriculum.

Week 1 of the program will be Monday, June 22 to Thursday, June 25 from 10 AM to 2:30 PM. Week 2 will be Monday, June 29 to Thursday, July 2 from 10 AM to 2:30 PM. The cost is \$150.00 per week with discounts for early registration and siblings available.

For more information, go to www.actforbays.org/coastkids, call 410-629-1538 or email coastkids@actforbays.org.

Clean-Up Berlin (Continued from page 1)

register by following links on the Town website, www.berlinmd.gov, or via FaceBook at "Take Pride in Berlin Week" (click on the Sign-Up link under our cover photo). Some supplies will be available for use, but participants are encouraged to bring their own if possible.

Master Gardener Kate Patton will give a presentation at 11:30 AM in Stephen Decatur Park and lunch will be provided by SonRise Church starting at noon in Henry Park for all volunteers.

For more information about Clean-Up Day or Take Pride in Berlin Week, please see page 2 or visit the Town's webpage at www.berlinmd.gov. You can also find us on FaceBook at "Take Pride in Berlin Week".

Spring Events (Continued from page 1)

three outdoor movie events. BYO Chair or blanket and a picnic dinner and enjoy a movie under the night sky. Look for more information in local papers, [the Berlin webpage](#) and the public access channel (Comcast channel 4).

April 23-26 - Delmarva Birding Weekend

The 20th Annual Delmarva Birding Weekend celebrates the spring migration of thousands of warblers, shorebirds, waterfowl and raptors. The Weekend combines boat trips, paddling treks, and expeditions by foot. For more information or to register, visit www.delmarvabirding.org.

April 25 - Berlin Heritage Festival

Downtown Berlin. The Berlin Heritage Festival has won the 2014 Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area Tourism Award for best new event. The festival features heritage artisans demonstrating their craft, historic street scenes, vintage cars, shops displaying artifacts, costumes and more.

May

May 8 - May Day Play Day

Downtown Berlin. Loads of food, music and fun for the whole family!

May 9 - ACT Native Plant, Heirloom Tomato and Herb Sale

See article, page 4.

May 17 - Spring Cruisers

Downtown Berlin. View vintage automobiles.

May 22 - Movie in the Park

Stephen Decatur Park, Time TBA. (See description for April 24 event, page 5)

May 25 - Old-Fashioned Memorial Day

Honor our fallen veterans, and enjoy an old-fashioned community day with music, food and kids' activities. William Henry Park and Flower Street.

May 30 - Touch-a-Truck-Day

Stephen Decatur Park. Sponsored by the Town of Berlin Utilities, kids of all ages will enjoy this chance to see utility trucks, emergency vehicles and other equipment up-close. Demonstrations and hands-on activities.

June

June 5 - High Heel Race.

Women Supporting Women will host their Annual High Heel Race to provide awareness, education, and support to all of those affected by breast cancer. Participants for this event must be at least 18 years old. Both men and women may participate. Sign up is encouraged to be done online at womensupportingwomen.org.

June 6 - Jazz and Blues Bash

A celebration of music and art....The Jazz & Blues Bash is a full day of non-stop music, artwork for sale by local artists, food, amazing restaurants and a beer tent to heighten the festival's atmosphere! Visit the website www.berlinchamber.org for more information.

June 12 - Movie Downtown.

Like the Movie in the Park events in April and May, join us for an outdoor showing of *Runaway Bride* "on-location" in downtown Berlin where most of the movie was filmed.

June 14 - Concert on the Lawn

The Berlin Heritage Foundation's 2015 Concert on the Lawn season begins on June 14th and will continue every second Sunday at 6 PM through September. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket and enjoy these free, summer evening concerts. Performers are being lined up and donations to help fund the concerts are appreciated.

Also, this spring:

Keep an eye out for Leaky Pete's Oyster and Chophouse opening in April (where Tex Mex was located) and Crush N Crabs opening in June (where the former Boomers restaurant was located).



Subscribe to the Berlin Community News

The Berlin *Community News* is available online, via email, or postal mail. If you would like to have the newsletter delivered directly to you, either in paper or electronic form, please let us know! Call 410-641-4314, or email info@berlinmd.gov.

You do not have to be a Berlin resident to subscribe.

Town Meetings' Schedule

All meetings are held at Town Hall, 10 William Street.

Meeting schedule subject to change.

Council Meetings- 2nd & 4th Mondays at 7 PM. The 2nd Meeting in May will be held on Tuesday, May 26th due to the Memorial Day Holiday.

Parks Commission—1st Tuesdays at 5:30 PM

Historic District Commission – 1st Wednesdays at 5:30 PM

Board of Appeals – 1st Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Planning Commission – 2nd Wednesdays at 6 PM

Berlin Community News

Vol. 26, Issue 3: Spring 2015

A community newsletter published four times annually by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Berlin.

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www.berlinmd.gov

 Town of Berlin Maryland

 @BerlinMD



Keeping Citizens Informed

Uses The CodeRED® system is used to send important notifications to residents and businesses in the Town.

Join Our Database To make sure you receive notifications, please register at www.berlinmd.gov and click on the CodeRED logo in the upper corner. You can select to receive messages by phone, email, or text, or any combination. TTY communication for the hearing-impaired is also available.

Privacy Your contact information remains private and will only be used for community notifications.

Need assistance? Please call Town Hall at 410-641-2770 and we will be glad to help you get signed up.





The Scoop on Dog Poop



DON'T BE A POOPTRAITOR! And help us improve our Coastal Bays.

Remember dog waste carries tons of disease causing bacteria, and by pick up and proper disposal we prevent harmful fecal coliform bacteria and excess nutrients from washing into our coastal bays.

Furthermore, waste produced by one dog may not seem like a big deal, but multiply that by the amount of dogs that live in our area and it adds up to a pile of problems for our bays.



So pick up and dispose of your dog's waste every day, every time for the sake of our bays!

"Town Code requires owners to pick up after their pets (Ch.4-27). Failure to do so may result in a fine not to exceed \$400.00."

Town of Berlin, Maryland

10 William Street
Berlin, MD 21811

www.berlinmd.gov
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