



**MEMORANDUM**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Timothy J. Baroody'.

**TO:** Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council  
**FROM:** Timothy J. Baroody, City Manager  
**DATE:** March 22, 2023 (for March 28 Council meeting)  
**SUBJECT:** City Manager's Update

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Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:



**Annual Water Disinfection Change and Flushing Begins** – On March 13 the primary disinfectant in the water treatment process from chloramines to free chlorine, was changed. The purpose of this temporary change in process, which occurs annually, is to help ensure a high level of disinfection in our community's network of water mains. During this period, the City of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County water customers may notice a change in the taste or odor of their tap water. Water treatment will return to using chloramines on April 21, 2023.

Flushing will occur in the City on or about March 20, 2023, and continue through May 2023. Crews will work each day, Monday through Friday (excluding

holidays), from 7:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. To check when crews are scheduled to flush in your neighborhood, and their progress, please refer to the following:

- City of Fredericksburg: [www.fredericksburgva.gov](http://www.fredericksburgva.gov) or you may call 540/372-1023.

Read the full notice here: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/.../Annual-Water...>

**Canal Cleanup and Fallen Tree Removal** – Beginning the week of March 13<sup>th</sup>, crews from the Public Works Department began removing trees and limbs that have fallen into the canal or onto the embankments. Crews will begin with those fallen trees that will not impede use of the canal trail. There will be periods when access to segments of the trail will be closed to users for safety purposes. This overall work is anticipated to take 3 to 5 weeks to complete (weather permitting).

Earlier in the month, representatives from the City and the Friends of the Rappahannock performed a joint cleanup effort to remove debris from the Rappahannock Canal between Fall Hill Avenue and Princess Anne Street. This work involved the removal of 26 bags of trash from the water and along the canal embankments. Three canoe teams worked along the waterway in conjunction with two staff members from the Public Works Department and one from the Parks, Recreation and Events Department, which collected debris from along the canal pathway.

**Woman’s History Month** – March is National Women’s History Month and is observed to commemorate, study, and celebrate the vital role of women in American history and our City’s history. It is an opportunity to recognize the trailblazing women who have led the way and inspire a new generation to do the same.



**Accessory Dwelling Units Ordinance Proposal Community Outreach** – A series of [community meetings and public hearings](#) will be held, over the next few months, to develop an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) ordinance for housing options in neighborhoods throughout Fredericksburg. With citizen input, the process will shape the proposed amendments to the



Zoning Ordinance that, if adopted, may permit the construction of ADUs. [See Frequently Asked Questions](#). For more information, please call the Planning Department at (540) 372-1179.



**Wall of Honor** – The Fredericksburg Memorials Advisory Commission is seeking nominations to the City Wall of Honor for 2023. The Wall of Honor recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the welfare of the city and the betterment of society. Nominees must have been deceased for at least one year prior to the nomination. Nominations may be

submitted by any person, except immediate family members.

You can find the Wall of Honor application on the city website: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/.../Wall-of-Honor...> Deadline for submission is **May 13, 2023**. If you have questions, email Tonya Lacey, Clerk of the City Council, at [tlacey@fredericksburgva.gov](mailto:tlacey@fredericksburgva.gov).



**Train Bridges Rehabilitation Project –**

Bridge repair work has begun causing short term, intermittent lane closures on Charles, Princess Anne, Caroline, and Sophia Streets in the immediate area around the Fredericksburg [Virginia Railway Express](#) Express (VRE)/Amtrak station. The contractor for VRE’s rehabilitation project is doing work on the bridges crossing over these roads.

The bridge repair work began mid-March and is scheduled to run through the first part of 2024. The same travel lanes that were closed for inspections, earlier in the year will be closed again, one at a time, for approximately 60-day periods, to complete minor concrete repairs. Drivers and pedestrians in the area around the train station are asked to remain cautious and watch for signage and work areas throughout the year.

These lane closures and bridge repairs are one part of VRE's Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation Project, which is an \$11 million investment that includes lengthening the station's platform and other improvements to enhance passenger safety and convenience.

For information on the Fredericksburg Station Rehabilitation Project, please visit <https://projects.vre.org/project?Project=Fredericksburg%20Station%20Rehabilitation>. For additional questions, please contact Virginia Railway Express at 800-743-3873 and by email at [FredericksburgStationRehabilitation@vre.org](mailto:FredericksburgStationRehabilitation@vre.org).



**Wild and Scenic Film Festival** – Join the Friends of the Rappahannock, City of Fredericksburg and other local partners on April 15 to view The Wild & Scenic Film Festival- one of the largest environmental film festivals in North America. This event showcases more than a dozen inspirational mini-films ranging from 2 minutes to 17 minutes

covering topics that include Monarch migrations, plastic PSAs, whitewater rafting, osprey oversight, canyon art, adventure, and conservation. Community and student groups will be present with information on how individuals can get involved locally, promoting a bake sale, popcorn, raffle prizes, and some amazing films! Tickets are available in advance by visiting <https://riverfriends.org/event/11th-annual-wild-scenic-film-festival/>.

**Board and Commission Openings** – Are you a city resident? Passionate about your community? Serving on a board or commission can be an excellent way to shape government initiatives in your community. The City is currently seeking applicants for the following:

- Board of Building Codes Appeals (member specific, to see specifics)
- Board of Social Services
- Board of Zoning Appeals (Alternate members needed)
- Economic Development Authority
- Memorials Advisory Commission
- Parking Advisory Committee
- Recreation Commission

To learn more and apply, visit: <https://www.fredericksburgva.gov/221/Boards-Commissions> or please feel free to call the Clerk of Council's office at 540-372-1010.

**Dog Easter Egg Hunt** – On Friday, April 7, at 6pm bring your dog and join the fun in the annual Dog Easter Egg Hunt at Memorial Park, 1401 Kenmore Avenue. This is a great way to get out and play with your favorite furry friend. Your registration of \$8 allows up to two dogs join in the fun! Dogs must be at least 12 weeks old. A small dog area will also be available for dogs under 15 pounds. Pre-registration is required. Register [online](#).



**The Parks, Recreation and Events Summer Catalog is now available!** Get out and play with us! Frederickburg Parks, Recreation and Events is offering many special events, nature programs, special interest classes and sports being offered. Read it [online](#).

Pick up your paper copy from the Dorothy Hart Community Center. Registration is now open [online](#) and in person at the Dorothy Hart Community Center, 408 Canal Street. Questions? Give us a call at 540-372-1086 or email [prfrontdesk@fredericksburgva.gov](mailto:prfrontdesk@fredericksburgva.gov).



**Spring Programs** – Our Parks, Recreation and Events team is continually working on fun programs for the season. Keep updated on all the activities available. See the full [listing](#).



**Fred Focus** – The [Fredericksburg Department of Economic Development and Tourism](#) is pleased to bring you Fred Focus, a weekly e-newsletter that goes out every Thursday and keeps you up-to-date on Frederickburg business and tourism information and events. This week's [edition](#).