



# Calvert Currents

A monthly newsletter from the Board of County Commissioners

Issue #40

July 2012

Welcome to the July edition of **Calvert Currents**. This month we look at new kayak and paddleboard rental at Breezy Point, announce changes in a state law that will affect areas served by septic systems, look at the savings brought to residents by a prescription drug card and learn about the Cove Point Lighthouse Keepers' home. Thanks for reading.



The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners members are, from left, Steven R. Weems, Evan K. Slaughenhaupt Jr., Gerald W. "Jerry" Clark, Pat Nutter and Susan Shaw.

## Kayaks, Paddleboards Now Offered at Breezy Point

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### What's Happening in Calvert County

**July 19**  
2012 Archaeology Speaker Series - Baubles and Bling: Accessories and



The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has entered into an agreement with the kayak rental company Paddle or Pedal to allow the public to rent kayaks from the office at Breezy Point Beach and campgrounds.

Chris Mlinaric, the facilities supervisor at Breezy Point, said campers and visitors come in every weekend asking about boat rentals, specifically kayaks.

To use the kayaks, customers visit the park office where they will be helped by reservation clerk Allie Bolen. Cost is \$15 an hour or \$45 a day for a single kayak; \$20 an hour or \$60 a day for a tandem kayak; and \$20 an hour or \$60 a day for a stand-up paddleboard. The price includes tax, personal flotation devices and paddles. Renters must be 18 years old, sign a waiver of liability and have photo identification available. Calvert County receives 40 percent of the profit from the rentals.

Paddle or Pedal is owned by Gary Weeden, and has kayak rental contracts in several other locations, including Chesapeake Beach and North Beach. The business was honored in the "Best of Annapolis 2012" awards for its business at Quiet Waters Park.

Weeden said the stand-up paddleboards have increased in popularity and he predicts that they will be a hot item at the park. He said learning how to operate the paddleboards might be considered easy.

"You have to have balance, and with balance, either you've got it or you don't," he said. "What's harder is learning to propel yourself forward. That's the part



John Day Jr. works on a rack that was built to hold the rental kayaks at Breezy Point Park. The kayaks can be rented by the day or the hour.

Adornment of the  
Colonial Period  
*Jefferson Patterson  
Park, St. Leonard*

### July 19

Twilight

Performance Series:  
"You're A Good  
Man, Charlie Brown"  
*College of Southern  
Maryland Prince  
Frederick campus*

### July 20

Campfire on the  
Beach  
*North Beach*

### July 21

FREE Movie on the  
Beach: "Harry Potter  
and the Sorcerer's  
Stone"  
*North Beach*

### July 21

Guided Canoe Trip  
*Warriors Rest  
Sanctuary, Port  
Republic*

### July 21

Fossil Field  
Experience  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

### July 21

Lighthouse  
Adventure Cruise:  
Southern Bay  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

### July 21

Sunset in the  
Tropics Cruise  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

### July 22

Lynyrd Skynyrd in  
Concert  
*St. Leonard  
Volunteer Fire  
Department*

### July 26

you have to learn."

The kayaks his business provides are sit-on-top models, which do not bog down if they flip, and users can get back onto them more easily if they fall off. "You can use them to check out the osprey, the blue herons. You might see a bald eagle soar over," Weeden said. "Just being on the water is great." Paddle or Pedal can be found online at [www.paddleorpedal.com](http://www.paddleorpedal.com).

## New State Law to Restrict Development Served by Septic Systems

On July 1, a new state law took effect that sets restrictions on residential development served by septic systems in a bid to reduce pollution and meet federal Clean Water Act limits on pollutants reaching waterways. The measure establishes deadlines for grandfathering residential developments under current regulations if a preliminary plan is submitted to the county no later than Oct. 1, 2012.

The grandfathered status remains valid until Oct. 1, 2016, if the preliminary plan is approved.

The Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012 aims to move septic growth away from areas where it will contribute to pollution and limit the impacts of large subdivisions using septic systems. The law establishes four tiers of land use to identify where residential subdivisions may be located and what type of sewerage system will serve them:

- Tier I areas are currently served by sewerage systems; major and minor residential subdivisions will be served by public sewerage systems.
- Tier II areas are planned to be served by sewerage systems; residential major subdivisions will be served by public sewerage systems. Septic systems are allowed for residential minor subdivisions but are considered interim systems until public sewerage systems are made available.
- Tier III areas are planned for future growth of major residential subdivisions with septic systems.
- Tier IV areas are planned for preservation and conservation; no residential major subdivisions are allowed.

Calvert County planning staff is working on a draft tier map to show the locations of tiers in the county in order to give clear guidance to developers and property owners. The final tier boundaries must be adopted by the BOCC.

Planning staff is also working to identify possible text amendments that could result from the new regulations. For example, the state defines a minor subdivision as one with a maximum of seven lots while Calvert County defines it as maximum of five. The BOCC would also have the final decision on text amendment revisions.

An overview of the law and its implementation is available [here](#). More information on Maryland efforts to meet Clean Water Act guidelines through the state's Watershed Implementation Plan is available [here](#). For further details, contact Jason Dubow, director of the Maryland Department of Planning's Environmental Planning Division, at 410-767-4500. For more information on local effects of the law, contact the Calvert County Department of Community Planning and Building at 410-535-1600 or 301-855-1243, ext. 2356, email

Children's Summer  
Fun Program  
*Chesapeake Beach  
Railway Museum*

### July 26

Twilight

Performance Series:

"The Complete  
Works of Williams  
Shakespeare  
(abridged)"  
*College of Southern  
Maryland Prince  
Frederick campus*

### July 28

Movie on Main

Street:

"Toy Story 3"  
*Duke and Main  
streets, Prince  
Frederick*

### Aug. 2

CSM Twilight

Performance Series:

Solid Brass  
*College of Southern  
Maryland Prince  
Frederick campus*

### Aug. 2

Calvert County  
Farmers Market

*Solomons  
Riverwalk,  
Solomons*

### Aug. 2 - Sept. 1

Featured Artists:

Theresa Musengo  
and Parran Coltery  
*Artworks @ 7th,  
North Beach*

### Aug. 3

First Free Friday

*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

### Aug. 3

First Friday Tours of  
the MD

Archaeological  
Conservation  
Laboratory  
*Jefferson Patterson  
Park, St. Leonard*



PZ@co.cal.md.us or [visit online](#).

## Lighthouse Keepers' Home Becomes Vacation Destination

### Visitors Can Rent One or Both Units in Duplex

The Cove Point Lighthouse Keepers' home, originally built in 1828, is entering a new era in its history.

Calvert Marine Museum and the Calvert Marine Museum Society, the entity that handles fundraising for the museum, have been working to open the keepers' home as a weekly vacation rental home. An open house from 10 a.m. to noon July 21 will be the first chance many members of the public have to tour the renovated home.

Cove Point Lighthouse is Maryland's oldest continuously operating lighthouse on the Chesapeake Bay. The keepers' home is a duplex and each unit has three bedrooms, two full bathrooms and a half bath. The house can be rented one unit at a time or the entire house can be rented. A dividing wall separates the two living rooms, but the wall can be removed.



Vanessa Gill, the director of development for the Calvert Marine Museum Society, said the house was given all modern amenities and was refurbished from the roof to the basement. As she and her colleagues worked to furnish and decorate the house, they looked for local builders, furniture makers and artists. Gill said many businesses donated or deeply discounted the supplies needed for the renovations.

Calvert County Government has owned the house and grounds since 2000, when it was turned over by the U.S. Coast Guard. Since then, it has been under the care of the Marine Museum, and fundraising efforts have been underway to pay for the renovations.

Located in Lusby, the house is minutes away from shopping and dining in Solomons, and about an hour from Washington, D.C. For information about the house, visit the museum [website](#) or call 410-326-2042.

## Making It Easy to Buy Local

### Produce Stand at County Courthouse to Feature Fresh Fare

Maryland's Buy Local Challenge is July 21-29, and Calvert County is making it easy to participate.

#### Aug. 3

Friday Night  
Farmers' Market &  
Classic Car  
Cruise-In  
*North Beach*

#### Aug. 3

Moonlight Cruise on  
Chesapeake Bay  
*Rod 'N' Reel  
Restaurant,  
Chesapeake Beach*

#### Aug. 3

WWII USO  
Remembrance Night  
*Riverwalk Pavilion,  
Solomons*

#### Aug. 4

Calvert County  
Farmers Market  
*Calvert County  
Fairgrounds*

#### Aug. 4 - Aug. 12

Chalk-A-Thon  
*Annmarié Sculpture  
Garden & Arts  
Center, Solomons*

#### Aug. 4

Moonlight Cruise on  
Chesapeake Bay  
*Rod 'N' Reel  
Restaurant,  
Chesapeake Beach*

#### Aug. 4

Maker's Market  
*Annmarié Sculpture  
Garden & Arts  
Center, Solomons*

#### Aug. 4

Guided Canoe Trip  
*American Chestnut  
Land Trust, Port  
Republic*

#### Aug. 5

Lighthouse  
Adventure Cruise:  
Southern Bay  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*



The BOCC will proclaim "Buy Local Agriculture Week" here in Calvert that week. There will be fresh produce for sale at the courthouse, 175 Main Street in Prince Frederick, from 3 to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, July 23, 25 and 27.

Anyone who wants to participate in the state's Buy Local Challenge can sign the pledge online at <http://www.buy-local-challenge.com>.

During the week, the challenge asks everyone to eat something each day of the week from a local farm. Local foods are usually fresher, tastier and require less fuel to be distributed.

Buying local is good for you, good for the local economy and good for the planet!

## Calvert County Solid Waste Fees Set to Increase July 1

As part of the Fiscal Year 2013 budget, the BOCC has approved incremental increases in solid waste fees for all solid waste from commercial customers, Calvert County residents and out-of-county customers.

New tip fees apply to chargeable loads of solid waste brought to the Appeal Landfill. The following tip fees (the cost per ton of solid waste disposed of at the transfer station or in the landfill) became effective July 1:

- All out-of-county and commercial customers: \$74.70 per ton (up from \$72.52)
- Calvert County residents with chargeable loads: \$67.23 per ton (up from \$65.57)

County residents are charged for disposal of the following items at the Appeal Landfill:

- Construction and demolition debris: doors, windows, cabinets, sinks, tubs, toilets, carpet, drywall, wood, fencing, sheds, siding, shutters, shingles, etc.
- Yard debris: leaves, branches, trees, etc.
- Mixed loads: construction and demolition debris and/or yard debris mixed with household trash

**Aug. 5**  
Southern Maryland  
Costumers - Sewing  
Afternoon  
*Jefferson Patterson  
Park and Museum,  
St. Leonard*

**Aug. 7**  
Calvert County  
Farmers Market  
*Calvert Memorial  
Hospital, Prince  
Frederick*

**Aug. 7**  
National Night Out  
*North Beach*

**Aug. 9**  
Children's Summer  
Fun Program  
*Chesapeake Beach  
Railway Museum*

**Aug. 9**  
Bay Breeze Concert  
Series: Show  
Stoppers & Chart  
Toppers  
*Chesapeake Beach  
Railway Museum*

**Aug. 9**  
Calvert County  
Farmers Market  
*Solomons Riverwalk  
Parking Lot,  
Solomons*

**Aug. 10**  
Friday Night  
Farmers' Market &  
Classic Car  
Cruise-In  
*North Beach*

**Aug. 11**  
Calvert County  
Farmers Market  
*Calvert County  
Fairgrounds, Prince  
Frederick*

**Aug. 11**  
Point Farm Garden  
Restoration  
*Jefferson Patterson  
Park, St. Leonard*

Calvert County residents are not charged for bagged household waste, metal or other items separated for recycling.

The tip fee increase is tied to changes in the Consumer Price Index under an agreement between the county and Waste Management, Inc. The agreement includes the provision for annual disposal fee adjustments, with a maximum annual adjustment of 3 percent.

The solid waste fee, charged per household or business and billed on property tax bills, increased from \$113 to \$115. The fee funds county solid waste handling and disposal operations, including the county's six solid waste convenience centers and the Appeal Landfill.

For more information, contact the Calvert County Department of Public Works Solid Waste Division at 410-326-0210, email Solid Waste Division Chief Michael Thomas at [thomasma@co.cal.md.us](mailto:thomasma@co.cal.md.us), or visit the [Department of Public Works](#).

## Savings Continue to Add Up for Participants in Prescription Drug Discount Program

Under Calvert County's free prescription drug discount program, county residents have filled more than 11,000 prescriptions at discounts averaging more than 27 percent (\$16.29 per prescription), for a total savings of more than \$190,000.

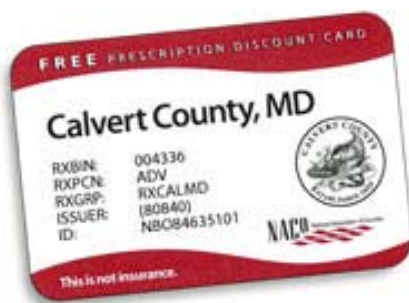
Introduced in July 2009, the program helps consumers cope with the high price of prescription drugs. The county makes the free prescription drug discount cards available under a program sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo).

The cards may be used by all county residents, regardless of age, income or existing health coverage and are accepted at all of the county's pharmacies. A national network of more than 59,000 participating retail pharmacies also honors the card.

To use the discount card, residents simply present it at a participating pharmacy. There is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders and their family members may use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance. The card also covers pet medications available at participating pharmacies. The card cannot be used for co-pays or to obtain additional discounts on prescriptions that are covered by insurance.

The NACo [website](#) for the program has been recently updated and now includes information on local pharmacies and drug pricing, as well as tools to make the process of obtaining a card easier. The new site offers information on drug interactions and provides information on specific drugs.

There is no cost to county taxpayers for NACo and Calvert County to make these money-saving cards available to our residents. Cards are available at all



### Aug. 11

FREE Concert on the Pavilion: Justin Crenshaw Band  
*North Beach Pavilion*

### Aug. 14

Calvert County Farmers Market  
*Calvert Memorial Hospital, Prince Frederick*

### Aug. 15 - Sept. 9

CalvArt Gallery Group Charity Show  
*CalvArt Gallery, Prince Frederick*

### Aug. 16

Children's Summer Fun Program  
*Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum*

### Aug. 16

Calvert County Farmers Market  
*Solomons Riverwalk Parking Lot*

### Aug. 16

Boston in Concert  
*Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons*

### Aug. 16

Archaeology Speaker Series - Are We What They Ate? What People Ate in the 18th-Century  
*Chesapeake Jefferson Patterson Park, St. Leonard*

### Aug. 17

Friday Night Farmers' Market & Classic Car Cruise-In  
*North Beach*

### Beginning Aug. 17

Marc Castelli: The Art of the Waterman

Calvert County libraries, senior centers, the Health Department and the Calvert County Department of Community Resources, located at 30 Duke Street in Prince Frederick. County residents can call toll free 1.877.321.2652 or visit [www.nacorex.org](http://www.nacorex.org) for assistance with the program.

*Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, Solomons*

Thanks for reading **Calvert Currents**. Now we want to hear from you! Click the Feedback link at the right to send us your questions or story ideas.

Visit the [online events calendar for more](#).

Sincerely,  
Gerald W. "Jerry" Clark, President  
Steven R. Weems, Vice President  
Pat Nutter  
Susan Shaw  
Evan K. Slaughenhaupt Jr.  
*Calvert County Board of County Commissioners*



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