

REGULATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE
OF
NORTH CHEVY CHASE

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PREAMBLE

Pursuant to Chapter 117, Laws of Maryland 1924; as amended by Chapter 558, Laws of Maryland 1951; Chapter 175, Laws of Maryland 1991; Chapter 126, Montgomery County Code 1950; and Chapter 69, Montgomery County Code 1984, as amended, these Regulations were adopted by the Village Council of North Chevy Chase, Montgomery County, Maryland on July 7, 1992, and were approved by the Montgomery County Council on July 13, 1993. It shall be incumbent upon all residents of North Chevy Chase, and upon all persons who may be in or about, or passing through North Chevy Chase, to abide by and be subject to these Regulations.

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Boundaries

Section 1-100. Village Boundaries The area known as North Chevy Chase, to which these Regulations apply, is included within the following boundaries:

On the South, the north line of Jones Bridge Road; on the West, the east line of Connecticut Avenue; on the North, a line approximately one hundred feet north of Husted Driveway extended west to Connecticut Avenue; on the East, the west side of Clifford Avenue extending from the North boundary to Jones Bridge Road.

The area is more fully described in Chapter 117 of the Laws of Maryland 1924 and Chapter 69, Montgomery County Code.

Article 2. Legal Construction

Section 1-201 Continuous Provisions
Section 1-202 Titles of Sections
Section 1-203 Severability
Section 1-204 General Rules of Construction
Section 1-205 Definitions
Section 1-206 Enforcement/Applicability of County Laws
Section 1-207 Enforcement/Penalties

Section 1-201. Continuous Provisions

Those provisions appearing in these Regulations, so far as they may be the same in substance as provisions which existed at the effective date of these Regulations, shall be considered as continuations thereof and not as new enactments.

Section 1-202. Titles of Sections

The titles of the sections of these Regulations are intended to be generally descriptive of the contents of the sections and shall not be taken to be a part of such sections.

Section I-M. Severability

The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and words of these Regulations are severable and if any word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this code shall be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining words, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of these Regulations, since the same would have been enacted by the Village Council without the incorporation into these Regulations of any such unconstitutional or invalid word, clause, sentence, paragraph or section. If any controlling or preemptive State or County law or regulation is in conflict with the operation of these Regulations, such State or County law or regulation shall prevail.

Section 1-204. General Rules of Construction

In the construction of these Regulations and any future Regulations the following rules shall be observed unless such construction would be inconsistent with the manifest intent of these Regulations:

- (a) All words and phrases shall be construed and understood according to the common and approved usage of the language; but technical words and phrases and such others as may have acquired a peculiar and appropriate meaning in the law shall be construed and understood according to such peculiar and appropriate meaning.
- (b) The singular always includes the plural, and vice versa, except where such construction would be unreasonable.
- (c) Unless otherwise provided in a particular section, all words in these Regulations importing gender apply equally to both genders.

- (d) Whenever a provision of these Regulations refers to any portion of a state or county law, the reference applies to any subsequent amendment to that law, unless the referring provision expressly provides otherwise.
- (e) The term "shall" is mandatory and not optional or permissive.

Section 1-205. Definitions

- (a) "Chair" means the Chair of the Village Council of North Chevy Chase.
- (b) "Council" means the Village Council of the Village of North Chevy Chase.
- (c) "County" means Montgomery County, Maryland.
- (d) "Court" means court of competent jurisdiction.
- (e) "Fine"-means a monetary sum imposed for an offense or violation of this chapter.
- (f) "Infraction" means a violation of the Village Regulations which shall constitute a civil offense.
- (g) "Nuisance" means any condition or activity occurring on property within the Village constituting a violation of these Regulations, or of county or state law or regulation, as well as any condition or activity constituting a nuisance at common law.
- (h) "Penalty" means a monetary sum imposed in addition to the fine for failure to pay the fine within the-stipulated time period.
- (i) "Right-of-way" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every public way and thoroughfare of any kind intended for vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- (j) "Roadway" means street or the paved portion of the public right-of-way lying between the curb lines or the lateral lines of a paved area where there is no curb and intended primarily for vehicular traffic.
- (k) "Sidewalk" means the improved portion of the public right-of-way lying between a property line and curb line or lateral line of a roadway where there is no curb and intended primarily for pedestrian traffic.
- (l) "Street" means roadway.
- (m) "Unimproved right-of-way" means any grassy area between the property line and the street, not excepting any portion of that area traversed by a privately constructed driveway.
- (n) "Village" means the special taxing district known as the Village of North Chevy Chase.

Section 1-206. Enforcement/Applicability of County Laws

- (a) These Regulations are supplemental to the laws and regulations enacted by Montgomery County which apply within the Village. To the extent that any County or state law, rule, or regulation provides for more stringent requirements than those set forth in these Regulations, such more stringent requirements will control.
- (b) These Regulations may be enforced by the Village and/or the County. However, the Village shall have the responsibility for enforcing those provisions of these Regulations that are more stringent than County law on the same subject.

The fact that any provision of these Regulations may be similar to any County law, or may regulate a subject also regulated by County law, shall not preclude the County from, or relieve the County of, its responsibility for enforcing County laws within the Village.

Section 1-207. Enforcement/Penalties

- (a) Except where otherwise provided, a violation of any provision or requirement of these Regulations shall constitute an infraction which shall be a civil offense for which a

monetary fine may be imposed. Unless otherwise provided, each day the violation continues shall constitute a separate and repeat offense or infraction.

(b) The Village Council may by resolution:

- (1) Establish fines not to exceed \$400 for each infraction.
- (a) Establish an additional penalty to be imposed upon failure either to timely pay any fine imposed or to timely request a hearing on the charge. Said additional penalty shall not exceed an amount equal to the initial fine.
- (3) Establish a fine for any repeat infraction that is double the fine for an initial infraction provided that no fine for any one offense shall exceed \$400, exclusive of any penalty imposed for non-payment of a fine.

(c) The Village shall have the authority to issue a civil citation charging the existence of an infraction, to be enforced in the District Court for Montgomery County.

(1) The citation shall be in the form authorized by the Chief Judge of the Maryland District Court for the prosecution of violations of municipal laws. The citation shall include the amount of the fine imposed for the infraction and the manner in which it is to be paid, and notice of the right to elect to stand trial for the infraction.

(2) A person found to have committed an infraction is liable for the costs of the proceedings in the District Court, and for the costs to the Village of legal representation.

(3) Upon finding that a defendant is guilty of an infraction, the Court may:

(A) Impose the fine assessed and any additional penalty established by the Village pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(B) Order the defendant to refrain from further violations of Village Regulations.

(C) Order the defendant to correct or abate any violation of these Regulations.

(D) Authorize the Village to correct, at the defendant's expense, any condition that violates these Regulations.

(4) Any fine or penalty collected by the District Court must be paid to the Village. The willful failure of a defendant to pay any fine, penalty, or costs imposed by the Court is punishable as contempt of Court.

(d) In addition to any other remedy provided for in these Regulations, the Village Council may institute injunctive or other appropriate civil action or proceedings to seek enforcement, or to correct any violation, of these Regulations, and any court of competent jurisdiction may issue such injunctions, restraining orders, or other appropriate forms of relief.

(e) In addition to, and/or in lieu of, any other remedy provided for in **these Regulations, if the Village Council**, by written notice, directs the owner of property within the village to remove unsightly wood or debris from, or abate any nuisance on, said property within a reasonable period of time, and the owner does not comply within said time set forth in the notice, the Village Council, through its agents, may enter upon said property and abate the nuisance and have the required work done, at a reason-able price, and may assess the cost against the property of the delinquent party, the same to become a lien against the property and to be collected in the same manner as County property taxes are collected and disbursed to the Village Treasurer.

(f) The provisions of these Regulations may be enforced by any duly authorized employee, official, or representative of the Village Council and/or by any duly authorized police officer of Montgomery County or the State of Maryland.

Section 2-101 Rules and Regulations
Section 2-102 Village Manager
Section 2-103 Village Treasurer
Section 2-104 Creation or Termination of Other Positions

Section 2-101. Rules and Regulations

The Village Council may from time to time make such rules and regulations as it deems necessary for the employment of Village employees.

Section 2-102. Village Manager

The Village Council may employ a Village Manager who shall be assigned such duties as deemed appropriate by the Village Council.

Section 2-103. Village Treasurer

There shall be a Village Treasurer selected from the Village Council membership.

- (a) The Village Treasurer shall be required to meet the bonding requirement of Chapter 117, Laws of Maryland, 1924, as amended.
- (b) The Village Treasurer shall receive all those funds paid to the Village under federal, state and local laws and programs.
- (c) The Village Treasurer shall serve for one year and may succeed himself, and may be removed by a majority vote of the Council members.

Section 2-104. Creation or Termination of Other Positions

The Village Council may add or abolish other positions as may be consistent with the Village budget and as may be necessary to carry forth the intent and purpose of these Regulations.

Article 2. Public Official Liability

Section 2-201 Definitions
Section 2-202 Immunity from Civil Liability Generally
Section 2-203 Liability for Negligence in Operation of Vehicle
Section 2-204 Defense for Officials
Section 2-205 Expenditure of Revenues

Section 2-201. Definitions

For the purpose of this article, "Public Official" means a member of the Village Council or Village employee.

Section 2-202. Immunity from Civil Liability Generally

Public officials, while acting in a discretionary capacity, without malice, and within the scope of their authority are immune as officials or individuals from civil liability for any act or omission.

Section 2-203. Liability for Negligence in Operation of Vehicle

A public official is not immune from liability for negligence or any other tort arising from the operation of a vehicle except as to any claim for damages in excess of the limits of any applicable policy of vehicle liability insurance.

- 4 -

Section 2-204. Defense for Officials

- (a) The Village of North Chevy Chase shall provide a defense for an official for any act or omission undertaken without malice and arising within the scope of the official's authority.

- (b) The Village of North Chevy Chase shall provide a defense for its officials for negligence or any other tort arising from the operation of a vehicle on Village business only as to any claim for damages in excess of the limits of any applicable policy of vehicle liability insurance.

Section 2-205. Expenditure of Revenue

The Village of North Chevy Chase may expend revenue for the purposes set forth in this article.

Article 3. Open Meetings

Section 2-301. General Provisions

- (a) At any open session of the Council, the general public is invited to listen and observe.
- (b) Except in instances where the Council expressly invites public testimony, questions, comments, or other forms of public participation, no member of the public attending a public session may participate in the session.
- (c) A representative of the news media may broadcast or televise the proceedings of the Council at an open session if the equipment used:
 - (1) Is operated from a fixed position that does not block the view of any other person;
 - (2) Is operated without any form of artificial light; and
 - (3) Does not create a noise that disturbs members of the Council or other persons attending the session.
- (d) Except with unanimous consent of all members of the Council, no microphone may be placed on tables used by members of the Council or its staff.
- (e) A person may neither move about the room when using a recording device, camera, or broadcasting or television equipment, nor move any such device, camera or equipment from its initial location during the course of an open session, except during a recess.
- (f) A representative of the news media who desires arrangements for the use of such device, camera or equipment in a manner consistent with the provisions of this section may request such arrangements in advance by contacting the Village Manager.
- (g) A recording of an open session made by a member of the general public, or any transcript derived from such a recording, shall not be deemed a part of the record of any proceeding of the Council.

Section 3-101 Definitions
Section 3-102 Applicable Requirements

Section 3-101. Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

- (a) "Accessory building" means a building subordinate to and located on the same lot or lots with the main building thereon, the use of which is clearly incidental to the principal use of the main building or to the principal use of the land of said lot or lots, and which is not attached by any part of a common wall or roof with the main building.
- (b) "Adjoining or confronting property" means land which touches the boundary line of other property at least at one point, which may be a corner, or which would do so except for an intervening street or right of way.
- (c) "Building" means a structure on a lot which has one or more stories and a roof and is designed primarily for the shelter, support or enclosure of persons or property of any kind.
- (d) "Emergency reconstruction, repair or excavation" means work necessitated by an actual, sudden, unanticipated and immediate danger of failure or collapse of any structure or any part thereof that would endanger life, disrupt vehicular traffic, or which, if not corrected immediately, poses a clear threat of injury to persons or property.
- (e) "Fences" means structures which are designed primarily to partially or wholly enclose a lot or a portion thereof. A hedge consisting of a row of closely planted shrubs or bushes shall be considered a fence.
- (f) "Neighborhood" means the area that lies within a five hundred (500) foot radius of the subject property.
- (g) "Ordinary repairs or maintenance" means those repairs incidental to a continuation of existing uses and necessary to maintain a structure in good working order and in a safe and sanitary condition. Such repairs shall not include the cutting away of any wall, partition or portion thereof, the removal or cutting of any structural beam or bearing support or the removal or change of any required means of egress or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting the exitway requirements. Ordinary repairs shall not include addition to, alteration of, replacement or relocation of any standpipe, water supply, sewer, drainage, drain leader, gas, soil, waste, vent or similar piping, electric wiring or mechanical or other work affecting public health or general safety.
- (h) "Person" means an individual, corporation, association, firm, partnership or the like.
- (i) "Structure" means an assembly of materials forming a construction for occupancy or use, including, without limitation, buildings, accessory buildings, fences, sheds, shelters, garages, signs, pipelines, sewer lines, cable lines, fuel storage tanks, sidewalks, streets, (including curbs and gutters) and the like.

Section 3-102. Applicable Requirements

All construction which requires a building permit under this Article must conform to the requirements set forth in these Regulations and all applicable laws, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations established by Montgomery County, Maryland, and/or the State of Maryland including, without limitation, applicable zoning, building, electrical, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and plumbing laws, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations.

Article 2. Village Building Permits

Section 3-201 Purpose and Application
Section 3-202 Permits Required

Section 3-203 Applications; Investigations and Inspections; Issuance
Section 3-204 Deposit for Repairs in Public Areas
Section 3-205 Denial of Permit
Section 3-206 Additional Requirements for Fences
Section 3-207 Fees
Section 3-208 Enforcement
Section 3-209 Exceptions

Section 3-201. Purpose and Application

- (a) The provisions of this Chapter are hereby declared as necessary for the purpose of protecting and promoting the health, safety, and welfare of the present and future residents of the Village pertaining to the erection of buildings and the excavation and improvement of streets, sidewalks and/or public rights-of-way. This Chapter is not intended to be, nor shall the same be construed as, a zoning ordinance.
- (b) The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to the addition to, or erection, alteration, construction, re-construction, repair and improvement of the exterior of all buildings and accessory buildings, fences and structures, and to any activity which will, or may, result in the excavation or alteration or temporary closure or blockage of streets, sidewalks, and/or public rights-of-way within the boundaries of the Village.
- (c) The provisions of this Chapter, are supplemental to the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Montgomery County Code and do not affect or provide a substitute for the separate permit requirements of Montgomery County.

Section 3-202. Permits Required

No person shall add to, erect, alter, construct, reconstruct, repair or improve any structure, make any excavation or temporarily close or block any street, sidewalk (including curbs and gutters) and/or public rights-of-way within the Village prior to the issuance of a building permit pursuant to this Chapter. No building permits shall be required for any of the above-described activities occurring entirely within the interior of a building, nor shall any building permit be required in the case of ordinary repairs or maintenance, as defined in Section 3-101(g). Emergency re-construction, repair or excavation as defined in Section 3-101 (d) may be undertaken without first securing a building permit, except that such permit shall be applied for as soon as possible after the need for such activities becomes known. No dumpster may be installed on any property within the Village for any purpose including above-described activities that do not otherwise require a permit prior to the issuance of a permit therefor, except that in emergency situations such permit shall be applied for as soon after the installation of the dumpster as possible.

Section 3-203. Applications; Investigation and Inspections; Issuance

- (a) An application for a building permit shall be submitted in a form prescribed by the Village Council and shall be accompanied by:
 - (1) Evidence that the proposed activity complies with the applicable laws, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations of Montgomery County, Maryland, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and/or any other governmental authority having jurisdiction over the proposed activity;

- (2) Evidence that the proposed activity complies with these Regulations, including, but not limited to, Sections 5-104 (re: Protection of Village Trees) and 5-106 (re: Protection of Village Trees During Construction);
 - (3) A copy of all covenants and/or easements recorded with respect to the property;
 - (4) Such plats, plans, drawings, reports and other documentation as the Village Council deems necessary to determine whether the proposed construction activity would be in derogation of the health, safety, or welfare of the present or future residents of the Village; and
 - (5) Any fee required by Section 3-207.
- (b) The application shall be signed by the owner of the property.
 - (c) The applicant shall submit a copy of the Montgomery County Building Permit for the proposed construction. If the County permit is not submitted with the application, the Village Council may authorize the Village Manager to issue a Village building permit upon receipt of a copy of the applicable County building permit.
 - (d) Applications for building permits shall be referred to the Village Manager for review and such investigation as the Council deems necessary. The Village Manager shall promptly advise all members of the Village Council of any objections to the issuance of a permit.
 - (e) An application for a building permit should be considered by the Council within no more than thirty-five (35) days after receipt of the application or receipt of any additional information requested from the applicant, whichever is later. The Council shall make a decision to grant or deny the permit by majority vote at its first regularly scheduled meeting, or at a special meeting if deemed appropriate, occurring more than 10 days after receipt of the completed application. The Council shall not issue a permit unless it has given Village residents at least five (5) days notice of the completed application and of its intent to consider that application at a meeting.
 - (f) Decisions on applications for permits shall be communicated to the applicant in writing.
 - (g) If the Village Council determines that the requirements of this Article have been satisfied, the Village Manager shall issue the permit,
 - (a) Permits may be issued subject to conditions deemed necessary to assure compliance with these Regulations.
 - (i) All applications for building permits and decisions thereon by the Council shall be published in the next edition of the Village's newsletter.

Section 3-204. Security Deposit for Repairs In Public Areas

- (a) No person shall commence any activity requiring use of a dumpster or involving reconstruction, repair or excavation of, or cutting the curb along, any street, sidewalk, or public rights-of-way in the Village for which a permit is required by this Article unless such person has deposited with the Council a completion bond, letter of credit, surety bond, cash deposit or other security in an amount equal to 2 1/2 percent of the cost estimated for the project, such deposit not to be less than a minimum \$500.00 nor more than \$7,500.00, so as to insure the restoration or repair of any damage to **the Village** streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters or rights-of-way and that any activity conducted in the public rights-of-way shall be completed in a safe and timely fashion and otherwise in accordance with the terms of any building permit issued in connection therewith. However, any emergency reconstruction, repair or excavation as defined in Section 3-101(d) of any street, sidewalk, or rights-of-way may commence without the deposit of such bond, letter of credit or other security, provided that such security is deposited as soon as possible after the commencement of the activity.

- (a) All persons operating public utilities in the Village of North Chevy Chase under

franchises granted by the Village or County and having the right either by general or special permission to perform any activity involving reconstruction, repair or excavation of any street, sidewalk, or public rights-of-way in the Village are exempt from Section 3-204(a).

- (c) The security deposit and any interest thereon may be applied to repair or correct any damage or injury to public property, including treatment or replacement of Village trees and plantings, as the Village Council in its discretion shall determine. Upon completion of the activity for which the permit was issued, the balance of the deposit, including any interest earned thereon, less any amounts retained by the Village pursuant to this subsection, shall be returned to the person who made the deposit.

Section 3-205. Denial of Permit

An application for a building permit shall not be denied unless it has been determined by the Village Council in its discretion that:

- (a) The provisions of this Article have not been satisfied;
- (b) The proposed activity does not conform to the applicable requirements contained in Section 3-102;
- (c) The proposed activity would damage, endanger, or adversely affect or unacceptably interfere with the usage of Village owned or maintained property; or would adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of the present or future inhabitants of the Village; or
- (d) The proposed construction activity would not be compatible with the neighborhood considering the size, shape, location, and orientation to the street or right-of-way of existing structures in the neighborhood.

Section 3-206. Additional Requirements for Fences

- (a) A fence erected within the Village shall be compatible with other fences in the neighborhood considering the height, material and style of existing fences. Where no fences exist within the neighborhood, as defined in Section 3-101(f), the characteristics of the fences existing within the Village shall be considered in determining the compatibility of any fence.
- (b) No fence shall be constructed either wholly or partially of barbed-wire.
- (c) No fence erected within the Village shall be higher than six feet.
- (d) Except as provided in subsection (e), no fence erected within any front yard or side yard abutting a street shall be higher than four feet. For purposes of this section, "front yard" shall be defined as the open space extending across the full width of the lot between the front lot line and the nearest line of the main building, and "side yard" shall be defined as the open space between the side lot line and the nearest line of the main building extending from the front yard to the rear lot line.
- (e) The Village Council may issue a permit for a fence higher than four feet where such a fence is reasonably necessary to obscure or conceal a non-conforming fence or for other good reason shown, provided that the proposed fence will not create a safety hazard and will be compatible with other fences in the area.
- (f) Fences which do not conform to the requirements and restrictions contained in these Regulations shall be deemed to be non-conforming. Non-conforming fences, excluding hedges, which either existed prior to January 1, 1988, or which were constructed on or after January 1, 1986 and for which a Village building permit has been issued, shall be allowed to remain. Non conforming hedges existing on July 7, 1992 shall be allowed to remain. However, no non-conforming fence, including hedges, may be extended, altered, expanded or replaced in kind, except that ordinary maintenance and repair may be performed so long as such repair or maintenance does not involve replacing more than 50 percent of the fence.
- (g) This section does not supersede the requirements of Chapter 51 of the Montgomery County code pertaining to the enclosure of swimming pools, except to the extent that the provisions of this section are more stringent.

Section 3-207. Fees

No building permit application shall be processed until the applicant therefor has paid a non-refundable fee to the Village. Unless otherwise established by the Council by resolution, the fee schedule is:

1. New residential construction including major renovation*	\$300.00
2. Addition, alteration or modification	\$100.00
3. Porch or deck - open	\$ 50.00
4. Garage	\$ 50.00
5. Shed	\$ 30.00
6. Dumpster	\$ 30.00
7. Curb cut	\$ 30.00
8. Fence or wall	\$ 30.00
9. County Variance Hearing	\$ 50.00
Security Deposit (Protection of public areas)	See Section 3-204
* In addition to other permits as required	

Section 3-208. Enforcement

(a) Any person who commences any activity in violation of this Article may be enjoined from proceeding.

1b) In addition to the other provisions set forth in these Regulations:

(1) When the Village Council determines that work on any structure is being performed in violation of the provisions of this Article, including those conditions upon which the building permit was issued, or in a manner which threatens the safety, health, and welfare of the public, it may cause a stop-work order to be issued immediately for said work.

(2) The stop work order shall be issued in writing and posted at the work site.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person to continue or permit the continuance of work in or about a structure after a stop work order has been posted on the structure, except such work as is directed to remove a violation or unsafe condition.

(c) The Village Council may revoke a permit or approval issued under the provisions of this Chapter when the application or the plans on which the permit or approval is based contain a false statement or misrepresentation of fact or when any deviation from the approved plans or any violation of the conditions upon which such permit was issued occurs. The permittee shall be given an opportunity to be heard prior to any revocation of a permit under this section, except that a Village permit shall automatically be revoke8 upon revocation or lapse of the applicable Montgomery County permit.

Section 3-209. Exceptions

In special cases and for good cause shown upon written application, the Village Council, in its discretion may authorize a departure from any of the building permit application provisions of this Chapter provided that the spirit and intent of this Chapter shall be observed and public welfare and safety be assured.

CHAPTER 4

PROPERTY REGULATIONS

Article 1. General Provision3

Section 4-101. Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter,

- (a) "Building" means a structure on a lot which has one or more stories and a roof and is designed primarily for the shelter, support or enclosure of persons or property of any kind.
- (b) "Domestic animals" means dogs, cats and other household pets.
- (c) "Garbage" means all organic waste, including the residue of animal, fruit or vegetable matter resulting from the preparation, cooking, handling or storage of food; wastepaper, newspaper and cardboard; cans; jars and bottles; and all other waste materials normally generated and accumulated in a household.
- (d) "Hazardous material" means any substance or material in a quantity or form that may pose an unreasonable risk to health, safety or property, including any material designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation as belonging to a hazard class.
- (e) "Lawn and garden debris" means all yard trash, including dead trees, tree limbs, stumps, bushes and leaves; and all other debris of the type normally generated and accumulated in gardening, lawn care and tree care.
- (f) "Lot" means a parcel of land on a legally recorded subdivision plat filed among the records of Montgomery County Maryland.
- (g) "Refuse" means garbage, lawn and garden debris or rubbish.
- (a) "Rubbish" means all refuse other than garbage and lawn and garden debris; this includes ashes, rubble, junk and other solid waste materials.
- (b) "Toxic material" means any substance that can be poisonous if inhaled, swallowed, or absorbed into the body through cuts, breaks in the skin, ingestion, or bodily contact.
- (j) "Yard" means any open space lying between the building and the nearest lot or street line(s) on a lot that contains a residential building.

Article 2. Property Care and Maintenance

- Section 4-201 Purpose
- Section 4-202 Maintenance of Buildings
- Section 4-203 Maintenance of Yards and Vacant Lots
- Section 4-204 Domestic Animals
- Section 4-205 Snow and Ice Removal
- Section 4-206 Accumulation of Refuse
- Section 4-207 Prohibition of Refuse on Public or Private Property
- Section 4-208 Restrictions on Use of Public Trash Receptacles
- Section 4-209 Advertisements and Handbills
- Section 4-210 Recycling
- Section 4-211 Unreasonable operation of Outdoor Illumination Devices
- Section 4-212 Penalties

Section 4-201. Purpose

The provisions of this Article are declared necessary for the purpose of securing the public safety, health and welfare in the maintenance and care of public and private property, buildings and yards within the Village.

- 11 -

Section 4-202. Maintenance of Buildings

The owner of a building or his designated agent or lessee shall maintain the building and its exit ways in a safe and sanitary condition at all times. Every building shall be kept free from unreasonable accumulation of refuse and shall be kept free from vermin or rodent

infestation. Each occupant of a building shall keep in a safe and sanitary condition that portion of the property which he occupies or over which he has exclusive control.

Section 4-203. Maintenance of Yards and Vacant Lots

- (a) The owner of a yard or vacant lot, or his designated agent or lessee, shall maintain such yard or lot in a safe and sanitary condition including the unimproved right-of-way abutting his property. Every yard and vacant lot shall be kept free from unreasonable accumulation of rubbish, lawn and garden debris, or hazardous or toxic material, and shall be kept free of garbage. Nothing in this section shall require repair to public improvements in the right-of-way.
- (b) The owner of a yard or vacant lot shall not permit or allow any grass or weeds to grow on such yard or lot to a height in excess of twelve (12) inches above the ground, nor shall such owner permit any ground cover, bushes or hedges to extend into improved portions of the public right-of-way.

Section 4-204. Domestic Animals

- (a) No person owning, harboring, keeping or in charge of any domestic animal shall cause, suffer or allow such domestic animal to soil, defile or defecate on any street, sidewalk, public right-of-way, common grounds or any place where people congregate or walk or upon any private property other than that of the owner unless such person immediately removes and disposes of all feces deposited by such domestic animal by any sanitary method approved by the County Department of Animal Control and Humane Treatment.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to permit his or her dog to run at large in violation of the Montgomery County Code.

Section 4-205. Snow and Ice Removal

- (a) The owner of a lot in the Village, or his designated agent or lessee, shall within eighteen (18) hours after a snowfall ceases:
 - (1) Remove, or cause the removal of, snow and ice from any sidewalk on such lot or on abutting public property that is normally used by the public.
 - (2) Deposit or cause the deposit of, the removed snow or ice in a reasonably safe location and not upon any public roadway or sidewalk.
 - (3) If said snow and ice cannot be removed because of hardening, make the sidewalk **reasonably safe for pedestrian** travel by spreading sand or a similar substance.
- (b) If snow and ice is not removed, or the sidewalk is not made safe as required by this section, the Village may cause the removal of the snow and ice or the **sidewalk to be made safe for pedestrian** travel, and assess the costs thereof to the owner of the lot and collect said costs in the same manner as provided for in Section 1-207(e).

Section 4-206. Accumulation of Refuse

- (a) The owner of a lot in the Village, or his designated agent or lessee, shall not cause or allow the accumulation of refuse on the lot, with the following exceptions:
 - (1) Refuse stored in accordance with this Chapter and awaiting collection by the Village or a private trash disposal firm.
 - (2) Matter intended for garden compost, provided it is not located in a front yard as defined in Section 3-206(d) and does not exceed normal requirements of a home garden and does not attract vermin or produce offensive odors.
 - (3) Firewood, provided that it is not located in a front yard and is cut into fireplace-size lengths and stacked so as to not be hazardous or attract vermin.
- (b) The owner of a lot in the Village or his designated agent or lessee shall store refuse in a manner designed to prevent it from being carried or deposited by the elements or animals upon any street or sidewalk or upon any other private property.

Section 4-207. Prohibition of Refuse on Public or Private Property

No person shall deposit refuse upon any street, public right-of-way, or private property within the Village. However, residents may deposit refuse temporarily in a manner prescribed by the Village, on the public right-of-way for collection by the Village or an agent of the Village in a manner that does not disrupt either vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

Section 4-208. Restrictions on Use of Public Trash Receptacles

No person shall deposit refuse in the trash receptacles provided by the Village, except for refuse normally and reasonably deposited by a pedestrian in lieu of discarding it on public or private property in the Village.

Section 4-209. Advertisements and Handbills

No person shall cast, throw, place or distribute any advertisements, circulars, handbills, newspapers or other materials within the Village in such a manner that they may be blown into any roadway, public right-of-way, or private property within the Village.

Section 4-210. Recycling

Pursuant to its duties and responsibilities in connection with the collection of trash and refuse within the Village, the Village Council may by resolution adopt voluntary and/or mandatory programs for the recycling of various types of refuse and/or trash not inconsistent with County law.

Section 4-211. Unreasonable Operation of outdoor Illumination Devices

It shall be unlawful to operate any outdoor artificial illumination device on private property in such a manner as to unreasonably interfere with the use or enjoyment of abutting or nearby properties.

Section 4-212. Penalties

In the event that the owner of a lot in the village or his designated agent or lessee fails to maintain property in accordance with this Article, the Village may issue a warning to order correction of the violation within 24 hours unless otherwise specified. Failure to correct said violation may result in a fine and/or penalty as specified in Section 1-206 of these Regulations.

**CHAPTER 5
TREES AND SHRUBS**

- Section 5-101 Definitions
- Section 5-102 Purpose
- Section 5-103 Planting of New Trees
- Section 5-104 Protection of Village Trees

Section 5-105 Pruning of Village Trees by Utility Companies
Section 5-106 Protection of Village Trees During Construction
Section 5-107 Trimming and Removal of Trees on Private Property
Section 5-108 Entry on Private Property to Treat Village Trees

Section 5-101. Definitions

For purposes of this Chapter:

"Village tree" means (1) any tree or shrub, the center of whose trunk or stem at ground level is located on Village property or the public right of way and which was planted by or with the permission of the Village, and (2) any tree or shrub on private property planted by or with the permission of the Village in agreement with the owner, for which the Village has assumed care and treatment.

Section 5-102. Purpose

- (a) The provisions of this Chapter are declared necessary for the purpose of regulating the planting, removal, maintenance and protection of trees and shrubs on public space; guarding against dangerous conditions caused by trees, which may result in injury to persons or property; promoting and enhancing the beauty of the Village; preventing damage to any public sewer main, street, sidewalk or other public **property; protecting Village trees and shrubs from undesirable and unsafe practices; and guarding** the Village trees against the spread of disease or pests.
- (b) The Village Council may engage the services of a qualified contractor for work done on Village plantings. All such contractors shall be fully insured and indemnify and hold harmless said village.

Section 5-103. Planting of New Trees

- (a) The Village Council may develop an annual plan for planting Village trees.
- (b) All new trees planted on the public right of way shall be free of disease and pests.
- (c) Spacing and location of trees and shrubs planted on public space shall be based on recommended standards, taking into account the desires of the owners of adjoining property, the species, the tree plan, the requirements of Section 3-206, and proximity to intersections, driveways, utility poles, and fire hydrants.

Section 5-104. Protection of Village Trees

It shall be unlawful for any person, unless authorized by the Village Council, to:

- (a) Prune, remove, or injure, or cause to be pruned, removed or injured, any Village tree.
- (b) Attach any advertisement or notice to a Village tree.
- (c) Hang any object on a Village tree.

Section 5-105. Pruning of Village Trees by Utility Companies

- (a) When a public utility company finds it necessary to prune Village trees, the utility company must obtain and fully comply with all required permits, including any permit

- 14 -

Forestry Service, pursuant to Section 5-406 Natural Resources Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

- (b) The utility company must give at least two weeks notice to the Village of its intent to prune Village trees and include with its notice a copy of the State-issued permit. In circumstances where compliance with the notice requirement is impossible or highly impractical, the utility company shall provide notice as far in advance as is reasonably possible and in any event shall inform the Village by telephone prior to the commencement of work.

Section 5-106. Protection of Village Trees During Construction

During the erection, altering or repairing of any building or structure on a lot within the Village, the owner of such lot or his agent shall place guards, fences or barriers in such locations as determined by the Village Council, in consultation with a qualified contractor, to be necessary to prevent injury to Village trees.

Section 5-107. Trimming and Removal of Trees on Private Property

- (a) All trees and shrubs located on private property in the Village shall be maintained in a condition so as not to interfere with:
 - (1) The proper spread of light along a street from a streetlight;
 - (2) The visibility of any traffic control sign, device or signal; or
 - (3) The required clearance over public sidewalks (8 feet) or streets (12 feet).
- (b) All trees and shrubs located on private property in the Village shall be maintained in a condition so as not to constitute a hazard to persons or property on public space or to harbor pests or disease that constitute a threat to other trees within the Village.

Section 5-108. Entry on Private Property to Treat Village Trees

Any agent or contractor authorized by the Village Council may enter upon and disturb private property when necessary for the purpose of inspecting or treating Village trees. However, any private property that was required to be disturbed for such purposes shall be returned expeditiously by the Village as nearly as possible to its original condition and any expenses incurred shall be borne by the Village. The Village Council shall attempt to notify the resident before entering the property.

CHAPTER 6
VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

Article 1. Traffic Control Generally

- Section 6-101 Purpose
- Section 6-102 Definitions
- Section 6-103 Authority to Erect Traffic Signs and Devices
- Section 6-104 Operation of Vehicle in Violation of Official Sign

Section 6-105 Parking in Violation of Official Sign
Section 6-106 Driving Over Curbs, Sidewalks or Drainage Structures
Section 6107 Restrictions During Snow Emergencies
Section 6-108 Emergency Vehicles

Section 6-101. Purpose

This Chapter provides procedures for regulating traffic and parking so as to preserve peace and good order in the Village of North Chevy Chase and protect the health and safety of its citizens.

Section 6-102. Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall mean:

- (a) "Abutting Roadway" means that part of the roadway between the extension of the property lines of the abutting private property and on the same side of the street (except that, where parking is prohibited there, the roadway on the opposite side of the street shall also be included.)
- (b) "Commercial Vehicle" means any vehicle and any trailer or semitrailer designed and used for carrying freight or merchandise and every vehicle, trailer or semitrailer used in any way in the furtherance of any commercial enterprise. Such term does not include any vehicle owned by the County or other governmental agency.
- (c) "Crosswalk" means
 - (1) Any portion of a roadway indicated for pedestrian crossing by painted lines or other markings on the roadway surface.
 - (2) That portion of a roadway included within the projection of the lateral lines of sidewalks at intersections.
- (d) "Driver" or "Operator" means any person who is in actual control, or charged with the control, of a vehicle.
- (e) "Driveway" means every way or place in private ownership used for vehicular travel.
- (f) "Fire Lane" means that area of a **public** or private roadway or parking facility designated by official signs or markings and intended for the exclusive use of emergency vehicles.
- (g) "Immobilize" means to take a vehicle into the custody of the County or Village by restricting or otherwise impeding the movement of such vehicle from its parking place by means of a mechanical device and so holding it until all charges involving that vehicle are fully satisfied.
- (h) "Impound" means to take a vehicle or other property into the custody of the County by seizing it and removing it to a place of storage and there holding it until all charges involving that vehicle or property are fully satisfied.
- (i) "Intersection" means the area embraced within the projection of the lateral curb lines or, lacking same, the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two (2) streets that join approximately at right angles.
- (j) "Off-Street Parking" means the parking of vehicles in designated areas, whether public or private, and not upon a public street.
- (k) "Officer" means any police officer or other person appointed by any jurisdiction and authorized to direct or regulate traffic or parking or to make arrests for violations of any provisions of law including other traffic and parking laws and regulations.
- (l) "Official Sign" means a sign posted by authority of the Village Council, County, or State for the purposes of guiding, warning, regulating, limiting or otherwise controlling the movement, stopping, standing or parking of vehicles upon the streets within the Village or upon any public or private parking facility.

- (m) "Official Traffic Control Devices" means all signs, signals, markings or other devices placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic or parking.
- (n) "On-Street Parking" means the parking of vehicles on a public street.
- (o) "One-Way Street" means a public street upon which vehicular traffic is permitted to move in one direction only.
 - (b) "Park or Parking" means the stopping of a vehicle, even if occupied or attended, on a public street or public **parking facility, except temporarily for the purpose of, and while** actually engaged in, loading or unloading merchandise or passengers.
- (q) "Posted Time Limit" means the allowable time a vehicle may remain parked where limited by official signs.
- (r) "Stand" or "Standing" means the temporary stopping of an occupied or attended vehicle for the purpose of, and while actually engaged in, receiving or discharging passengers or merchandise.
 - (s) "Stop" or "Stopping" means any halting, even momentarily, of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the direction of a police officer or traffic control sign or signal.
- (t) "Traffic" means all vehicles, pedestrians, animals and any other conveyance using a street for purposes of travel.
- (u) "Trailer" means any cart, wagon or other object designed to be pulled by any motorized vehicle.
- (v) "Unregistered Vehicle" means any vehicle or trailer, except those exempt from registration by State law, that is without current registration plates, or with fictitious registration plates attached thereto, or otherwise not registered in compliance with State or County law.
- (w) "vehicle" means any device in, on, or by which any individual or property is or might be transported or **towed, including but not** limited to automobiles, motorcycles, motorbikes, motor propelled carts and wagons, other vehicles propelled by an internal combustion engine or other source of power, or trailers.

Section 6-103. Authority to Erect Traffic Signs and Devices

Whenever, in the judgment of the Village Council it is deemed appropriate or necessary for the public good, safety, or convenience to control or regulate vehicular or pedestrian traffic or parking, the Council is authorized to provide by resolution for the erection of traffic control and parking restriction signs and devices designed to control and regulate traffic and parking on Village streets. The Village may either erect said signs and devices itself or may request the County Executive or the Executive's designee to erect, or authorize the erection of said signs and devices in accordance with the Council's resolution. All said signs and devices shall conform to the manual and specifications of the State Highway Administration.

Section 6-104. Operation of Vehicle in Violation of Official Sign

No vehicle shall be operated in violation of any official sign or other traffic control or restriction duly authorized by the Village Council pursuant to this Chapter.

Section 6-105. Parking in Violation of Official Sign

No vehicle shall be parked in violation of any official sign regulating the parking of vehicles. Both the owner and the operator thereof shall be subject to any penalties provided in this Chapter for such violation.

Section 6-106. Driving Over Curbs, Sidewalks or Drainage Structures

It shall be unlawful for any person to drive any vehicle on or over any curb, traffic diverters, sidewalk or drainage structure except in emergencies.

Section 6-107. Restrictions During Snow Emergencies

In order to facilitate removal of snow from Village streets, the Village Council by resolution may restrict parking on, and the use of, Village streets during periods of snow accumulation. Any snow emergency route signs erected pursuant to this section shall be visually distinguishable from signs posted by Montgomery County snow emergency routes and shall indicate that they are posted *by* the authority of the Village of North Chevy Chase.

Section 6-108. Emergency Vehicles

Unless otherwise specifically stated and so indicated on the appropriate sign or device, none of the traffic or parking restrictions adopted pursuant to this Chapter shall be applicable to any authorized emergency vehicle while on an emergency run.

Article 2. Stopping, Standing and Parking

- Section 6-201 Parking of Commercial Vehicles
- Section 6-202 Parking Over 24 Hours
- Section 6-203 Repairing Vehicles on Streets
- Section 6-204 Parking of Trailers, Boats and Recreational Vehicles
- Section 6-205 obstructing Entrances to Driveways
- Section 6-206 Parking of Unregistered Vehicles
- Section 6-207 Permit Parking
- Section 6-208 Unregistered Vehicles on Private Property
- Section 6-209 Enforcement

Section 6-201. Parking of Commercial Vehicles

- (a) It shall be unlawful to park any commercial vehicle on any Village street, roadway, right-of-way, or driveway except when such vehicle is otherwise legally parked and the owner or operator is actively engaged in work on a nearby residence in the Village. This section shall not apply to:
- 11) A vehicle involuntarily parked because of mechanical failure or other emergency, provided such vehicle is removed within a reasonable period of time; or
 - (2) A vehicle, owned and used by a Village resident, except a bus or tow truck, not to exceed one commercial vehicle per household, and weighing less than 10,000 pounds.
- (c) It shall be unlawful to park any tow truck or bus on any Village street, roadway, right-of-way or any private driveway in the Village, except when such vehicle is otherwise legally parked, and the owner or operator is actively engaged in loading or unloading.

- 18 -

Section 6-202. Parking Over 24 Hours

It shall be unlawful for any person not a resident or a guest of a resident to park a vehicle on the streets of the Village for a period longer than twenty-four (24) continuous hours.

Section 6-203. Repair And Storage of Vehicles

It shall be unlawful to service, repair or store vehicles for the purpose of performing services or repairs on vehicles on a street, right of way, private driveway, or other private property within the Village. Except that such service, repair and storage is permitted on private property if otherwise permitted by law and if performed behind the front building restriction line. This section shall not apply to emergency service or repair; resident vehicle owners performing minor service on their respective vehicles otherwise legally parked and operative; or the accommodation for the immediate transfer, exchange or removal of a vehicle to or from a garage, repair **shop, service** or parking facility. Examples of minor repairs are - tune-up; oil/filter change (provided no public space is polluted or damaged); fixing a flat tire; replacing a battery, lights/bulbs, brakes; rotation of tires; flushing radiator system.

Section 6-204. Parking of Trailers, Boats and Recreational Vehicles

It shall be unlawful to park any trailer, recreational vehicle, motor home, or boat on any Village street, roadway, right-of-way, or on that portion of any driveway between the house line and the front lot line, except

- (a) For a period of up to forty-eight (48) hours, for the purpose of loading or unloading such vehicle;
- (b) For a period of up to one (1) week, in the case of a non-resident visitor with the permission of the property owner; or
- (c) For a period not to exceed two (2) weeks, in the case of a nonresident visitor with the permission of the property owner and if a temporary parking permit has been issued by the Council.

Section 6-205. Obstructing Entrances to Driveways

It shall be unlawful to park a vehicle on a public street of the Village in such a manner that any part of the vehicle overlaps or obstructs the entrance to any public or private driveway without the consent of the lot owner.

Section 6-206. Parking of Unregistered Vehicles

It shall be unlawful to park on the streets, roads and public property within the Village, any motor vehicle or trailer which is without registration plates, with expired registration plates, or with fictitious registration plates attached thereto.

Section 6-207. Permit Parking

- (a) The Council may consider the institution of a parking permit system in a given area upon petition of at least 51 percent of the households of a specific area requesting that such area be established as a parking permit area, or upon its own motion.
- (b) Prior to the designation of a particular area as a parking permit area or prior to the withdrawal of such designation once it has been established, the Council shall conduct a public hearing at which time any interested persons shall be entitled to appear and be heard. Such hearing shall be held only after notice thereof has been published in the Village newsletter and a separate written copy of said notice is delivered to each residence within the Village.
- (d) The Village Council may by resolution establish additional regulations or procedures to implement the provisions of this section, including, but not limited to procedures for the issuance of appropriate parking permits and the collection of fees therefore, and for the posting of appropriate official signs.

- 19 -

Section 6-208. Unregistered Vehicles on Private Property

It shall be unlawful for any person to park or store an unregistered vehicle on private property for more than thirty (30) days unless:

- (a) The vehicle is completely shielded from the view of individuals on adjoining property or public space - for example, by a 6-foot solid wood fence or dense evergreen hedge - and is stored within the building set back lines of the property; or

(b) A permit has been issued by the Village Council to allow such storage for a longer period of time. A permit issued under this section may be issued for a period of one year and may be renewed. A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be paid for each year or part of a year for which a permit is issued.

Section 6-209. Enforcement

The provisions of this chapter consistent with Montgomery County law shall be enforced by any duly authorized officer, as defined herein, in accordance with the provision of Section 26-201 of the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and Chapter 31 of the Montgomery County Code. Provisions of this chapter that are more stringent than Montgomery county law shall be enforced by the Village and its agents.

