



CITY PARTNERS WITH SLEEPTIGHT HAMPTON ROADS

The City has partnered with Sleptight Hampton Roads, a campaign whose mission is to create a community culture that embraces infant safe sleep through collaboration, partnership and action.

The main message of Sleptight is for all parents and caregivers to use the ABCs of safe sleep. That is to put babies down Alone, on their Backs and in a Crib.

According to a recent study in the journal *Pediatrics*, only 44 percent of parents or other caregivers in the U.S. always put their infants to sleep on their backs. This is despite ample evidence that doing so reduces the risk of sudden infant death syndrome and suffocation.



Jill Baker, Director of Chesapeake Human Services, and Gail Heath Davidson, State Regional Specialist with Virginia Department of Social Services, attend the kick-off reception for the Safe Sleep Initiative hosted by Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Sleptight offers cribs through CHIP of South Hampton Roads to women in need, free of charge. Sleptight Hampton Roads' goal is to make sure that all the region's residents understand the importance of safe sleep for infants.

More information will be available at www.sleptighthamptonroads.org as the site is developed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

COMPANY EXPANDS AND RELOCATES TO GREENBRIER

Agronomic Lawn Management, Inc. (ALM) recently opened their new 20,000 square foot facility in the Oakbrooke Business and Technology Center in the Greenbrier section of the City.

The landscape treatment company has been locally owned and operated since 1998 and treats more than 5,000 lawns on the Southside of Hampton Roads. The company provides lawn treatments, tree and shrub care, slit seeding, aeration, and other agronomic services.

“We are very excited to be operating out of our new facility that is so centrally located to our customer base. Our 20th year in business has started out with booming success,” said Craig Zeigler, President of ALM.



Craig Zeigler, President of Agronomic Lawn Management.

The City partnered with ALM in the expansion of their company to identify prime real estate in one of Greenbrier’s most successful business parks, Oakbrooke Business and Technology Center. The total capital investment was more than \$3 million with 35 new jobs.

CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE NEWS

PROPOSED BUDGET GOES TO COUNCIL

The Proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 has been submitted to City Council and is available for review on the [City website](#). Two public hearings will be held on April 24 and May 8, both at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. The FY 2019 proposed spending plan totals \$1.046 billion for the Operating Budget.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

RIGHT-OF-WAY MOWING SEASON HAS BEGUN

Mowing along the City’s right-of-way’s has begun. The mowing season typically lasts from March through early December, with the first cycle focusing on litter removal. Two contractors are in charge of mowing, with supplemental help from Sheriff’s inmate crews and Public Works staff when needed.

Medians are mowed every 10-14 days, shoulders every 21-28 days, open areas 4 times a year and back slopes 3 times a year. The annual budget for mowing is more than \$1.6 million.

PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM NEWS

SPRING BRINGS PROJECTS, PLANTING AND EVENTS

Heron Project at City Hall

Chesapeake Master Gardeners and other volunteers recently planted native plants around the Blue Heron and Peace Pole at City Hall.

Rolling on the River

“Rolling on the River” at Elizabeth River Park takes place on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, from 4 p.m. until dusk through September 27. The family-friendly food truck event offers free entertainment and activities.

Food Trucks “On the Square”

Food Trucks “On the Square”, previously “Food Truck Hump Days”, benefits the Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Foundation and takes place on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 4 p.m. until dusk through September 19. This food truck event includes free children’s activities and entertainment provided by the Chesapeake Fine Arts Commission. It’s located at the new Courtyard Square Park behind City Hall.

Tree Plantings at Sawyer’s Mill Park

On March 10, more than 2,000 Loblolly Pine trees and 50 Atlantic White Cedar trees were planted at the park as part of a reforestation project. Volunteers from the Boy Scouts, Sawyer’s Mill Homeowners Association, Norfolk Naval Hospital, and Red Starr Sorority planted the trees.



LIBRARY NEWS

APRIL IS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

- Submit a poem by April 15 to enter the local poetry contest.
- Teen Poetry, Prose & Pizza - Open Mic night is a family-friendly classic that takes place on Friday, April 13, at Russell Memorial Library from 6:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, April 25, at Indian River Library from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Each Library in Chesapeake has a magnetic poetry station with weekly challenges for local authors.

Annual Art Show

Chesapeake Public Schools and the Chesapeake Public Library are partnering for the Annual Student Art Show. Visit Central Library to view the work of young artists in our community. Elementary Art will be displayed April 21- 29, and Secondary Art from April 30-May 11.

Coffee with a Cop

The Chesapeake Police Department and Chesapeake Public Library are bringing Coffee with a Cop to Western Branch's Russell Memorial Library on April 20 at 3:00 p.m.

Little Gardeners

Little gardeners have an opportunity to dig into plant basics and learn to create a pizza garden. Kids can get hands-on with soil and strawberry plants with friends from 4-H and Chesapeake Master Gardeners at their local library throughout April. [For more information.](#)

The National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 3
12:15 to 1:00 p.m.
City Hall Courtyard

Congress and President Truman established the National Day of Prayer, held annually on the first Thursday of May, as an invitation to all faiths to pray for the nation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fireside Chat & Chomp
Saturday, April 7
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Northwest River Park
1733 Indian Creek Road

**Child Abuse Prevention Month
Pinwheel Dedication Ceremony**
Tuesday, April 10, 11:00 a.m.
Chesapeake City Hall
306 Cedar Road

**Dismal Swamp Stomp
Running Festival**
Saturday, April 14
8:00 a.m.
1200 Dismal Swamp Canal Trail

Annual Revolutionary Beer Fest
Saturday, April 21
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Khedive Shrine Center
645 Woodlake Drive
[Tickets](#)

Master Gardener Plant Sale
Friday, April 27, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 28, 8:00 a.m. - noon
Chesapeake Extension Trailer
212 Holt Drive

Hampton Roads Rubber Duck Race
Saturday, April 28
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Intracoastal Waterway
at Great Bridge