



Issue #29

August 2011

Welcome to the August issue of **Calvert Currents**. This month we preview a new county redistricting effort and announce the adoption of the county's first Flood Mitigation Plan. We also invite residents to a public hearing on our water and sewerage plan and pass the word on the temporary closure of the Hall Aquatic Center for annual maintenance. Thanks for reading.

**In This Issue**

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

**Hall Aquatic Center to Close for Maintenance**

The Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center in Prince Frederick will be temporarily closed from August 14 through August 26 to complete annual maintenance and cleaning.

During this time, annual and summer season pass holders may use King's

**Local Committee Launches County Redistricting Effort**

*Public Input is Crucial; Make Your Voice Heard*

Every 10 years, Census figures trigger changes to both our county and state legislative boundaries. This process, known as redistricting, is required by law. In June 2011, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) appointed a nonpartisan Calvert County Redistricting Committee (CCRC) to get the views of all citizens about this important project.



## Calvert County REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

The Calvert County population has grown by more than 54,000 residents since 1980 yet we have always had three election districts. The number of voting precincts has grown and is now up to 23. Since 1978, we have

had a five-member BOCC, all elected countywide. Voters select the candidates of their choice, no matter where the candidate resides. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes from each Election District is elected. The next two highest vote-getters are also elected, no matter where they live.

All county residents are asked to help make choices among various options for changing the Election Districts and the way commissioners are elected. Below are the options under consideration:

- Keep the current three Election Districts
- Increase the number to four Election Districts
- Increase the number to five Election Districts
- Increase the number to five, with the fifth being an at-large seat for president (a four-year term)
- Change how commissioners are elected (countywide or within their home Election Districts only); and change how the president of the BOCC is chosen:
  - Highest vote count in election
  - Elected commissioners vote for president annually
  - At-large election for president for a four-year term

The CCRC has developed a five-question survey to gather resident input on these options. [An online version is available.](#) The committee will also hold public meetings on county redistricting August 30 and September 13, both at 7 p.m. at the Calvert Pines Senior Center in Prince Frederick. Additionally, information tables will be located at various community events and at all Calvert Library locations.

Learn more, get involved and make your voice heard. [Visit the CCRC Web page](#) for a brochure and more information. You may also visit the Calvert Redistricting Facebook page, call 443-624-3116 or email [redistricting@co.cal.md.us](mailto:redistricting@co.cal.md.us). Scan the code below with your smartphone to access additional information.



## Public Hearing Set for County Water and Sewerage Plan

Landing or Cove Point Pool; punch pass holders may use Cove Point Pool.

Staff will be available at the Hall Aquatic Center to accept registration for fall classes and activities Monday through Friday, August 22 to 26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residents may also sign up by calling the Division of Parks & Recreation at 410-535-1600 ext. 2225.

To learn more about Calvert County Parks & Recreation aquatic operations, [visit online](#) or call 410-535-1600 ext. 2225.

### What's Happening in Calvert County

#### August 20

Movie on the Beach:  
Eclipse  
*Town of North Beach*

#### August 20

Picnic Cruise  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

#### August 20

Lighthouse Adventure  
Cruise  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

#### August 21

ZZ Top & Joan Jett  
and the Blackhearts  
in Concert  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

#### August 21

Cattail Mat Weaving

The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners and the Calvert County Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on **Tuesday, August 23, at 7 p.m.** to consider the proposed update to the Calvert County Water and Sewerage Plan. The hearing will be held in the Planning Commission Hearing Room at Courthouse Square, 205 Main Street in Prince Frederick.

The plan includes updated statistics, demographics and water and sewer data. Also included are updated county policies and actions to match the 2010 Comprehensive Plan which includes the water resources element. Accompanying the changes to the body of the plan are changes to the water and sewer maps and service categories requested by the county and by individual property owners.

Those interested may view the actual changes in their entirety by contacting the Calvert County Department of Planning and Zoning at 410-535-1600, ext. 2356 or 301-855-1243, ext. 2356 [or by visiting online](#).

## County Adopts New Flood Mitigation Plan

As an area surrounded by water on three sides, Calvert County is very sensitive to the potential of flooding. To address this risk, the BOCC held a public hearing at its July 26 meeting and voted to adopt the county's first flood mitigation plan. This far-reaching plan is part of a national effort to assess the flood risks faced by communities and to provide government officials and homeowners with information vital to planning, permitting and insurance coverage.

The Calvert County Flood Mitigation Plan will lead to the adoption of new county floodplain maps developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and adoption of updated floodplain regulations. The plan will also become part of the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan. The adoption of the plan, new regulations and floodplain maps will ensure the county remains eligible for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The new plan helps reduce the risk of loss of life, personal injury and property damage by identifying flood risks and allowing for future funding of flood mitigation projects. It sets out a direction for local land use by keeping future development out of undeveloped floodplain areas.

We also have a much clearer view of our current floodplain picture. Only 1.8 percent of the county's improved properties are at risk of flooding, which is a testament to our strong land use regulations. Several areas, including Cove Point and Broomes Island, remain at risk and the flood mitigation plan offers strategies for protecting these regions.

Our plan still faces review and approval by FEMA and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). However, residents may now use the updated flood insurance rate maps to investigate their flood risk status and determine whether to make modifications to flood insurance coverage. The maps are scheduled to become effective in December, 2011. For locations that require flood insurance, buying it now or revisiting current



2009 flooding in Neeld Estates.

*Jefferson Patterson  
Park & Museum,  
St. Leonard*

**August 27**  
Calvert County  
Jousting Tournament  
*Christ Church,  
Port Republic*

**August 27**  
Girl Scout Native  
American Day  
*Jefferson Patterson  
Park & Museum,  
St. Leonard*

**August 28**  
A Walk on the Bay &  
In the Woods  
*American Chestnut  
Land Trust, Warriors  
Rest Sanctuary*

**August 28**  
Guided Canoe Trip  
*American Chestnut  
Land Trust, Warriors  
Rest Sanctuary*

**September 3**  
Maker's Market  
*Annmie Sculpture  
Garden & Arts  
Center, Solomons*

**September 4**  
Blake Shelton with  
Chris Young in  
Concert  
*St. Leonard Volunteer  
Fire Department,  
St. Leonard*

**September 10**  
Fossil Field  
Experience  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

**September 16**  
Campfire on the  
Beach  
*Town of North Beach*

**September 17**  
Moonlight Cruise on  
the Chesapeake Bay  
*Town of Chesapeake  
Beach*

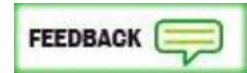
policies is advantageous. The NFIP Grandfather Rule allows citizens to save money when they obtain a flood insurance policy before the new maps take effect.

To learn more, visit the [state flood insurance rate map website](#) or visit the [county website](#) to view the flood mitigation plan and an overview presentation.

[Visit the events calendar to learn more.](#)



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.



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

We want to hear from you. [Click here](#) to e-mail your feedback.

[Forward email](#)



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