

# COUNTY CONNECTION

ISSUE 2- SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER



**Carroll County Career Center**

Apply Today!

New Career Center

**FY 25 Budget Process**

FY2025 Budget and Budget Schedule

**9-1-1**  
 CALL IF YOU CAN  
 TEXT IF YOU CAN'T

Text to 911



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## Hello Carroll County Maryland!

Welcome to County Connection! The new Carroll County Government e-newsletter serves as a channel to share important information and updates about what is happening in your local county government and the community.

Subscribe now and get connected with your community!

## GOVERNMENT UPDATES

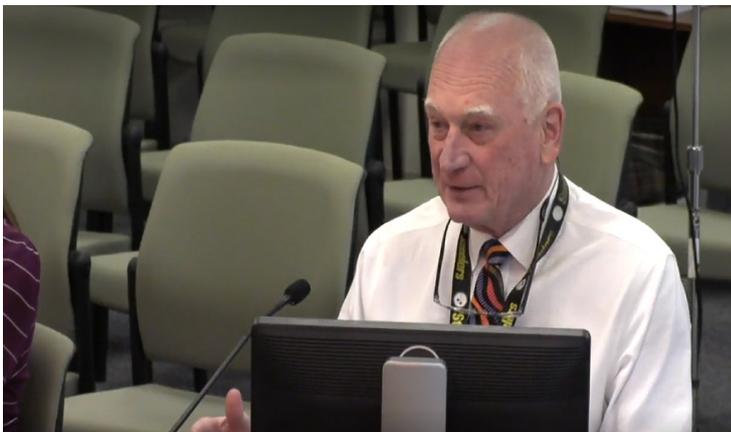
### FY2025 Budget and Budget Schedule

The Board of Commissioners and Department of Management and Budget began the FY25 Budget process on March 5th with the Budget Overview and began discussions after the March 19th release of the Recommended Budget. The budget process documents can be viewed on the [county website](#).

There are many budget-related meetings scheduled between now until the proposed budget adoption date of May 21st, including a Public Hearing on May 6th. You can find the [budget schedule here](#). Follow along with the budget process by watching meetings on the [county meeting portal](#) and the [county YouTube channel](#). In addition, all meetings will be replayed on Comcast Channel 24.

Updated information can be viewed on the Bureau of Budget webpage as it becomes available: <https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/directory/management-budget/bureau-of-budget/>.

Comments and questions can be submitted via the webpage or can be sent to Director Ted Zaleski at [tzaleski@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:tzaleski@carrollcountymd.gov) at any time.



Director of Management and Budget Ted Zaleski presents the FY25 Budget Overview in Open Session on Tuesday, March 5, 2024



MARCH 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

APRIL 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

MAY 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

# NEW CAREER CENTER

*Interested in working for Carroll County Government? Check out the county's new employment portal!*

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Carroll County Government is excited to introduce a new on-line Career Center website, offering a modern and streamlined application process for job candidates.

The new Career Center contains postings for positions under the Board of County Commissioners authority. Interested applicants will view employment opportunities and access the new application portal through the [Carroll County Government](#) website. The home page of the government site has a "Career Opportunities" navigation button which links directly to the enhanced [Career Center](#). The Career Center includes job openings, descriptions and closing dates, as well as the opportunity to enter a personal profile and apply for jobs.

All applicants for county jobs should visit this new site to search and apply for job openings. For those without access to the internet, an employment kiosk is available inside the [Department of Human Resources'](#) office, located at 225 N. Center Street in Westminster, during office hours.



# COUNTY TO CONDUCT HOUSING STUDY

Carroll County will be developing a new County Master Plan that will set the framework for the future land use decisions of the county. A Housing Study process will begin soon to provide information and recommendations for land use decision making, analyze zoning and regulatory environment, provide information on trends of all types of housing, and obtain necessary housing information on access to and barriers related to obtaining and maintaining a safe living environment for adults, families, parents/caregivers, children, and youth populations of Carroll County.



The study will consider existing conditions including current county and municipal zoning, infrastructure, development policies and regulations as well as identifying areas for housing. This study will analyze the county's needs to meet the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing law's criteria and support long-term county housing needs and economic development opportunities.

Information on the housing study project with the process, updates, and opportunities for the public to participate and provide public comment will be announced on a dedicated webpage at <https://www.carroll-countymd.gov/housingstudy>



# TEXT TO 911

Did you know that 911 call centers across Maryland accept text messages via text-to-911 service?

Customers of AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, and Verizon who are enrolled in their carriers' text messaging and/or data plan can send text messages to 911 in an emergency when they are unable to place a phone call. This includes those who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or speech impaired, those who may find themselves in a situation where placing a voice call could put them in danger, or those who are experiencing a medical emergency and are unable to speak.

If you need emergency services and are unable to place a phone call, you can enter 911 in the "To" line of a new text message and begin your message with the location of the emergency and the type of help needed—police, fire, or emergency medical services. Once the message has been received at the 911 call center, a 911 specialist will respond. Be prepared to answer questions and follow instructions.

## ADDITIONAL TIPS FOR USING TEXT-TO-911

- As with all text messages, messages to 911 may take longer to receive, may be received out of order, and/or may not be received at all
- If text-to-911 service is not available, you will receive a bounce back message from your carrier telling you to place a phone or relay call instead
- Photos and videos cannot be received by 911 call centers via text message
- English is the preferred language for text messaging, though some limited translation services may be available in your area
- Keep text messages short and simple, and avoid using slang or abbreviations
- Including an additional contact on your text message may prevent it from being received by 911
- Call if you can, text if you can't



# You're Invited!



Inaugural

# Carroll County Government Employment Expo

Wednesday, April 10, 2024  
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

## JOIN OUR TEAM!

- Discover how Carroll County Government serves the community.
- Meet current staff and learn why Carroll County is their employer of choice.
- Learn about our comprehensive benefits package.
- Identify resources available to you through Carroll County Workforce Development.

Questions, call 410-386-2129



Located at the  
Carroll County Office Building  
225 N. Center Street  
Westminster, MD  
**No registration necessary**



Scan to see our available  
jobs, create a profile and  
apply for an open position!

**Your next career is  
waiting for you!**

<https://jobcenter.carrollcountymd.gov>

# Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Important Dates



**Fallen Heroes Day – May 3rd:** Fallen Heroes Day is held each year on the first Friday in May to commemorate the members of Maryland's Public Safety Community who lost their lives in the line of duty during the previous twelve months. It is an opportunity for the public to show their appreciation for those who risk their lives every day to protect the citizens of Maryland. Events honor Maryland police, firefighters, and emergency medical and rescue personnel who died in the line of duty.

**International Firefighters Day- May 4th:** A special time to stop and reflect on the sacrifices made by firefighters is held on the first Sunday in May at noon local time each year when fire sirens sound for 30 seconds followed by a minute's silence in memory of, and respect for, all firefighters who have been lost in the line of duty or passed on before us.

**Chamber of Commerce Public Safety Awards – May 13th,  
8-10am at Pleasant Valley Fire Hall**

**EMS Week May 19th-25th – This year is the 50th annual EMS week**

Please visit our website for ongoing and further information regarding employment/hiring:  
<https://carrollcountymd.gov/fireandems>

# News Across the County



# 2023 TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

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The Carroll County Planning & Zoning Commission approved the Carroll County Transportation Master Plan (TMP) in November 2023. The plan is a reflection of the county's and towns' goals as they relate to a safe, well-connected, and functional transportation system. The TMP is necessary in recognizing the changes that have occurred over the past sixty years and will guide the transportation element of the county's Master Plan update. For more information on the plan, please contact the Carroll County Bureau of Comprehensive Planning at (410) 386-5145 and to view the plan and executive summary, please visit the [County's website](#).



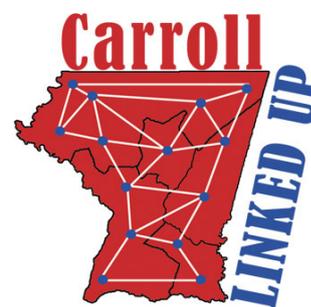
# BROADBAND (FIBER) UPDATE

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The county provides a series of web pages dedicated to communicating the history, current status, and future development plans for high-speed internet expansion in Carroll County, Maryland. Updates and new material are posted as it becomes available. [Click here for the main landing site](#) and [click here](#) for the most recent updates. If you have not completed the Carroll County Broadband Survey, its not to late!

[Complete the survey today!](#)

For questions about county broadband, reach out to Jay Uebel – Broadband Project Manager  
O: 410-386-2309 M: 443-862-8771 or email: [juebel@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:juebel@carrollcountymd.gov).



Work Zones are **temporary**.  
Actions behind the wheel can last **forever**.



## 2024 National Work Zone Awareness Week April 15-19, 2024

Carroll County Government will recognize April 15 – 19, 2024 as National Work Zone Awareness Week. The county scheduled a variety of activities for the 2024 weeklong commemoration to include a work zone safety training day, kickoff event, go orange day, social media storm, and a moment of silence.

[National Work Zone Awareness Week \(NWZAW\)](#) is an annual spring campaign held at the start of construction season to encourage safe driving through highway work zones. The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) is hosting the 2024 NWZAW kickoff event on April 16 with the theme, “Work Zones are temporary. Actions behind the wheel can last forever.”

Join the county in recognizing the importance of work zone safety every day.



## DOG PARKS IN THE COUNTY

Now that spring is here, take some time to enjoy the two county dog parks:

[Bennett Cerf Dog Park in Westminster \(\\$\):](#)  
Bennett Cerf Drive, 544 Manchester Road in Westminster  
Membership required: [Brochure available](#)

[South Carroll Dog Park\(\\$\):](#)  
5928 Mineral Hill Road in Eldersburg  
Visit the website for more information!

## FREE CHROME LAPTOP DISTRIBUTION FOR ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS – SPREAD THE WORD!



Did you know that there is currently a program in the county that is distributing 5,000 free Chromebook laptops to qualifying households throughout Carroll County? You may know someone who will qualify for this free laptop!

In partnership with Carroll County Government, Carroll Technology & Innovation Council is connecting Carroll County with the Free Laptop Program now until the end of April, while supplies last!

Eligible county residents can receive a computer at a distribution event or through a distribution partner organization. If you know someone who may qualify, please have them visit [carrolltechcouncil.org/free-computer](http://carrolltechcouncil.org/free-computer) to get more details. The website has more information about eligibility, distribution partners, distribution event dates, and appointments. Additional distribution events and locations will be listed on the site as they are announced. The distribution is limited to one Chromebook per household.

For more information, please check the website above or contact the Carroll Technology & Innovation Council at [info@carrolltechcouncil.org](mailto:info@carrolltechcouncil.org). Those interested can also reach out to the county's Broadband Project Manager Jay Uebel, at 410-386-2309 or [juebel@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:juebel@carrollcountymd.gov).

## SPRING STREAM CLEAN UP AND TREE MAINTENANCE EVENTS



Planning and Land Management department are planning a stream clean up event for April 18th which will be open to the public. A tree maintenance event will be held in May. Students may earn service learning hours. More details about these events will be available soon, please watch the [Planning and Land Management Facebook page "Carroll Environment"](#), or contact Byron Madigan at [bm-adigan@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:bm-adigan@carrollcountymd.gov) or 410-386-2167 for details.

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE SPRING CLEANUP EVENT – APRIL 20TH

A residential only Household Hazardous Waste Spring Cleanup event is being sponsored by Carroll County Government Recycling Operations. The event will take place on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at the Carroll County Vehicle Maintenance Facility, 1250 Old Meadow Branch Road, Westminster (off Md. Rte. 97, north of Westminster, go past Meadow Branch Road to Old Meadow Branch Road). Carroll County residents can drop off dangerous household items listed below from 8 a.m. until 12 noon and shred sensitive documents from **8 a.m. until noon, or until the truck is full, whichever comes first.**



For a list of ACCEPTED items and NOT ACCEPTED items, in addition to more details, please visit this [webpage](#) or [view the flyer](#).

# RAIN BARREL AND COMPOST BIN SALES EVENT –

Carroll County Government Office of Recycling Operations is currently holding an online rain barrel and compost bin sales event. Orders can now be placed at [www.enviroworld.us/carrollcountymd](http://www.enviroworld.us/carrollcountymd). Order deadline is April 17, 2024. Due to the order process, there are no exceptions to this date.

For more information, visit [here](#) or view [the flyer](#).



Carroll County Recycling Operations will be holding a **Compost bin & Rain barrel Pre-order sale**

Pre-order deadline: April 17, 2024  
Orders will only be taken online. Accept debit card and credit cards

**Orders must be picked up on**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024 8 AM - 1 PM**  
Carroll County Government  
225 N. Center Street, Westminster, MD 21157

**Order today**

# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

## 2024 OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE



The 2024 Carroll County Visitors' Guide is printed and available! You can also view the guide [here](#). Look inside and you will find history, antiquing, festivals, walking tours, driving tours, biking tours, nature parks, and more!



This photo is believed to have been taken in 1982 at a local barber shop on Main St. in Westminster, MD. In the background is a sign saying "1932 Schneiders Barber Shop" and a haircut was 25 cents.





# SPOTLIGHT

## WHO'S AT THE OTHER END OF A 911 CALL IN CARROLL COUNTY — READ ABOUT A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN EMERGENCY COMMUNICATOR

Every year during the second week of April, telecommunications personnel in the public safety community are honored during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

The Carroll County Emergency Communications Center provides 24-hour emergency 911 services to citizens, visitors, and businesses in Carroll County. Carl Luksic and Bridget Weishaar are two of the voices you may hear when calling 911. Both 911 operators took the time to answer a few questions about their career in emergency communications.

### **What is the best part of being a 9-1-1 dispatcher?**

*Bridget:* The best part of being a 911 dispatcher is knowing that you've helped somebody on their worst day. Even if we don't think it's their worst day anybody calling in thinks it is their worst day. Helping them through whatever emergency they have is very rewarding

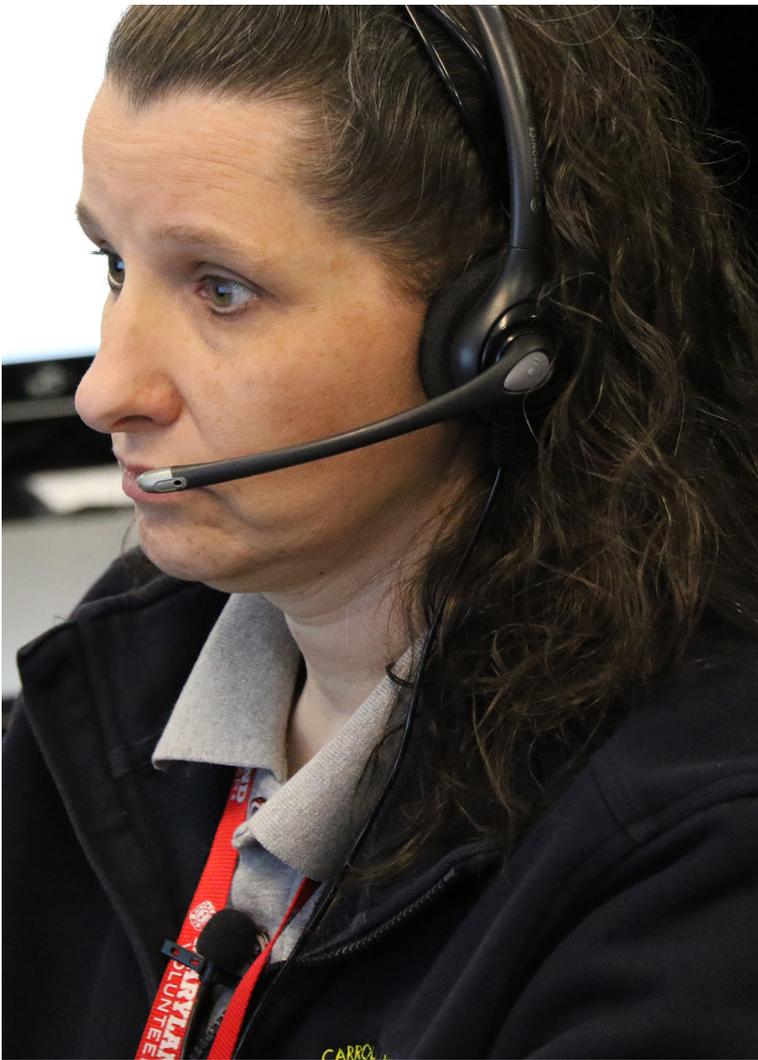


*Carl Luksic is a county ECS 3 Dispatcher/ Operator*

### **How many years of experience do you have in your field?**

*Carl:* 31 years. I was a volunteer for 10 years in Baltimore County where I live. Then I worked at the Westminster Fire Department for 5 years. Then came here in 1993.

*Bridget:* I have been with the Emergency Operations Center for 24 years but this year will be my 30th year of experience in this field. I started out at age 16 as a firefighter EMT with the Gamber Volunteer Fire Company. Now my main focus is training the new employees coming in.



*Bridget Weishaar takes a call while stationed in the Carroll County Emergency Operations Center.*

**What makes this job important?**

*Carl:* I've been here for somebody that needs help on the other end. You know we're like the voice in the dark if you want to call it that. They don't see us but we're here for them as they call in and need us for help.

*Bridget:* I believe this job is important because you have a multitude of emergencies that could come in. You have to be able to make sure that you're prepared for whatever may come. You have to be sure that you're able to remain calm and listen to what the caller says. Knowing that you are helping somebody makes this job a very rewarding and enjoyable job.

**If there is one thing you could tell the community about 9-1-1, what would that be?**

*Bridget:* We know it's an emergency but unfortunately we have to ask all of the questions that we ask. We're not delaying help but those questions help us get the appropriate help to the appropriate call. Sometimes there may be two calls in the same area so we need to ask those questions to see what call needs to be handled first and then send another unit to the second one. So as much as we know it frustrates people we really need them to answer the question so that we can help them in the best way possible.



*Carl Luksic at a station in the Emergency Communications Center.*

**What is a memorable story from your career?**

*Carl:* It's been long time ago. I had a call for a three-year-old. Mom and dad were putting in a small fishing pond in the backyard. The three-year-old they weren't watching got into the pond and basically drowned. I had to talk to the dad on the phone to relay the CPR instructions to mom over by the pond. Today as far as I know that little child's living so that was very satisfying to me.

# LOCATION HIGHLIGHTS



**Carroll County Farm Museum**  
[carrollcountyfarmmuseum.org](http://carrollcountyfarmmuseum.org)  
500 S. Center Street,  
Westminster, Maryland



Take a stroll back over a hundred years to the Carroll County Farm Museum, which is open to the public year-round. The Carroll County Farm Museum, located in Westminster, Maryland, provides the public with the opportunity to experience mid-nineteenth century rural life. The Farm Museum, the first of its kind in the State of Maryland, opened its doors to the public for the first time in 1966.

The museum grounds include original farm structures, such as the farmhouse and a bank barn, built in 1852-53. Other buildings include a 1700s log barn, smokehouse, springhouse, Living History Center, wagon shed, general store exhibit, firehouse, Blacksmith Shop, Tin Smith Shop, and a one-room schoolhouse. Farmyard Friends are available to visit spring through fall with a pair of Red Devon Oxen, heritage breed chickens, sheep, and goats. Period artifacts and antiques complete the rural experience for visitors.

Enjoy guided/self-guided tours, bring a picnic, play on the fun farm-themed playground, or come and enjoy one of the festivals held at the Farm Museum. For more information and updates, visit their [website](http://carrollcountyfarmmuseum.org) or [social media](#).

Built in the last decade of the 18th century, the Hoff barn was built as George Washington was midway through his time as President.



# LOCATION HIGHLIGHTS



**Piney Run Park & Nature Center**  
**30 Martz Road,**  
**Sykesville, MD 21784**

Piney Run Park and Nature Center, located near Sykesville, are operated by the Carroll County Department of Parks and Recreation. Natural, educational, and recreational opportunities abound as the park has 550 acres of fields, forest, and open space, over five miles of hiking trails, a lake, and recreational facilities.

The park was opened in 1974, featuring a 300-acre lake as its centerpiece, and provides multiple recreational activities such as fishing, boating and boat rentals, and park-sponsored fishing tournaments. Amenities also include tennis courts, playgrounds, climbing rock, picnic tables, and comfort stations.

The Piney Run Nature Center, Park Office, and six pavilions, which are available to rent during our open season, are all located near the main entrance which is accessed off White Rock Road.

For more information on Piney Run Park and Nature Center, please visit the [website](#) and [Recreation and Parks Facebook page](#).



# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



**1st Annual  
Car Show**

Carroll County  
Recreation and Parks  
presents their  
**1st Annual Car Show**  
Auto - Motorcycles - Trucks

**Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 9am-Noon**

Trophies presented at 11:30am  
(People's Choice for Auto, Motorcycle and Truck)  
Location: Landon C. Burns Park  
700 Gist Road, Westminster, MD 21157  
Car Show fee: \$20 (Registration ends on March 13, 2024)  
All proceeds benefit the Youth Fishing Rodeos  
Spectator Fee: Free  
Food Trucks - 50/50 Raffle - Trophies



*Come enjoy, something for everyone!*

**Sunday \* May 5, 2024**  
**Noon - 4:00 pm**

**Veterans  
Celebration**  
3rd Annual  
**of Carroll County**

- ★ Children's Activities
- ★ Veterans Memorabilia Display
- ★ Great Food
- ★ Artisans & Craft Vendors
- ★ Live Entertainment
- ★ Military Equipment Display

★ Veterans Organizations on Site! ★

**Featuring: US Navy Band Country Current & Midnite Run!**

Welcome Ceremony at 1:00 with a special recognition gathering to follow for those who served during the Iraqi Conflict era circa 1991-2011.

# ***Important Links***

**County Directory**

**Adopted Budget**

**Board of Elections**

**Carroll County Sheriff's Office**

**Carroll Transit System**

**Carroll County Circuit Court**

**Carroll County Health Department**

**County Code**

**Directory of Community Services**

**Fire/Emergency/Medical Services**

**Humane Society of Carroll County**

**Department of Planning & Land Management**

**Maps on the Web**

**Maryland Manual On-line**

**Parks**

**Permits & Inspections**

**Career Center**

**Policies & Forms**

**Protecting Carroll County Waters**

**Public Hearings**

**Public Library**

**Public Schools**

**Department of Public Works**

**Recycling**

**Senior Centers**

**Solid Waste Operations**

**State's Attorney**

**Veterans Services**



**County Career Center**





## Email Directly

### All Commissioners:

[commissioners@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:commissioners@carrollcountymd.gov)

### D1 Commissioner Vigliotti:

[jvigliotti@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:jvigliotti@carrollcountymd.gov)

### D2 Commissioner Kiler:

[kkiler@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:kkiler@carrollcountymd.gov)

### D3 Commissioner Gordon:

[tgordon@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:tgordon@carrollcountymd.gov)

### D4 Commissioner Guerin:

[mguerin@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:mguerin@carrollcountymd.gov)

### D5 Commissioner Rothstein:

[erothstein@carrollcountymd.gov](mailto:erothstein@carrollcountymd.gov)

## HOW TO REACH THE COMMISSIONERS – CONTACT INFO

### Mail/Call:

Carroll County  
Commissioners

225 N. Center Street  
Westminster, MD 21157  
410-386-2043



## Carroll Connect

Good communication is essential to Carroll County Government in MD. We use communication to promote county services, enhance public awareness, and engage the citizens of Carroll County. Carroll Connect, powered by GovDelivery is the free digital service improving the lines of communication between the government and the citizens. Subscribe with your email, choose a topic or topics, and get informed.

Carroll Connect is confidential and customizable. With Carroll Connect you can receive information regarding the Commissioner in your district, sign up for Recreation and Parks programs, or stay informed with press release notifications. A subscriber can add topics of interest at any time. Topics will be added as new communication initiatives arise.

Get Informed About Your County Government!

