



December 2021



Looking back to this time last year, I am grateful for our progress this far in 2021. As we continue to move forward, I hope you have an opportunity to gather with those you love, reflect on the challenges we've overcome, and count your blessings.

And if you know someone who is alone or in need this holiday season, I hope you'll be a helping hand.

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year,

Barry Glassman
County Executive

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Volunteer Harford

In the spirit of holiday giving, my administration has assembled a list of volunteer opportunities in Harford County that make it easy to give back to the community. The list includes nonprofit organizations that help children, veterans, victims of domestic abuse, and families at risk of homelessness. Whatever time or talent you can offer, there's a neighbor who needs you. To get connected, please [visit the county website](#).

FIND HARFORD COUNTY CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS



www.harfordcountymd.gov/harfordfarmfinder

Christmas tree farm finder

Looking for a live Christmas tree? Harford County is home to beautiful Christmas tree farms where you can select a freshly cut tree or cut down one of your own. To help you find your tree, and to support these small businesses, the county website has an interactive map of tree farm locations and business hours. Look for the map, which is part of our [Harford Farm Finder app](#) on the county website and celebrate the holidays this year with a homegrown tree.



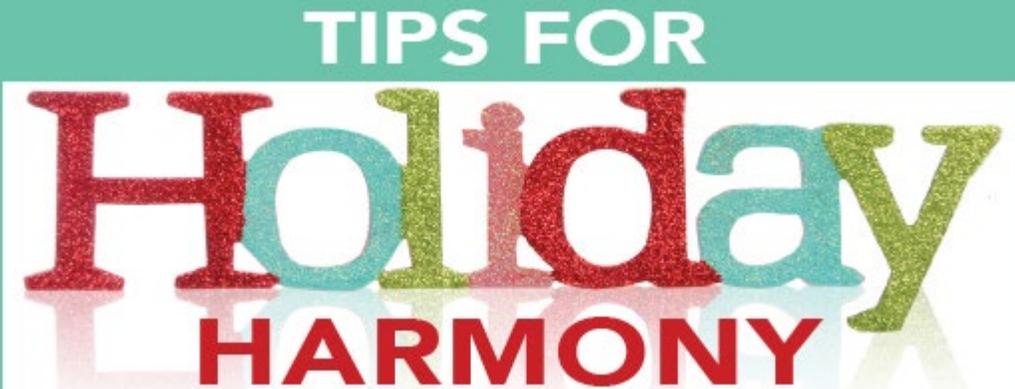
Is your child getting a
cellphone this holiday
season?

HELP THEM BE SAFE!

More information:
410.638.3333

Cellphone safety

Is your child or grandchild getting a cellphone for the holidays? Help them be safe by registering now for our Cellphone Safety Workshop. Children ages 11 to 14 will learn responsible cellphone use, the dangers of online predators and posting personal information, what to do about cyberbullying, and more. Parents and caregivers will get help activating parental settings such as location trackers, screen-time limits, and safety alerts. The event is free, and lunch will be provided, Saturday, January 8 from noon to 1 p.m. [Click here to register.](#)



TIPS FOR
Holiday
HARMONY

Tips for holiday harmony

Holiday gatherings with acquaintances or extended family can sometimes lead to conflict. To help you bring peace, our Office of Human Relations and Mediation has put together some [tips for avoiding disagreements](#) and what you can do if one should start. Setting ground rules, limiting distractions and planning ways to change the subject can bring harmony to your holidays. For more serious conflicts, our [free mediation services](#) are just a click or a call away.

Emergency Preparedness Training



Register for Prepare Because You Care

Recent tragedies in Harford County are a reminder that emergencies and disasters can happen anywhere at any time. Let us help you prepare to protect yourself and your loved ones in a range of hazardous situations. Register now for Harford County's free "Prepare Because You Care" emergency preparedness training program developed by our Dept. of Emergency Services. The next series of classes will be held from 7 - 9 p.m. on Wednesdays, January 5 - 26 at the Harford County Government building at 2220 Ady Road in Forest Hill. [Click here to register.](#)



Buy local for the holidays - The Grove

Now more than ever, our small businesses need your support this holiday season. As you plan your shopping, stop by The Grove for unique gifts grown in Harford County or made from local farm products. Located at 3519 Conowingo Road in Street, The Grove hosts eight friendly vendors in a country setting. Pick up Christmas decorations, dog treats, a warm hat made from alpaca fleece, scented soaps, plants, fresh meats, items made from hand-crafted wood, and homemade condiments to give or keep. The Grove's vendors are open on Saturdays and Sundays, but hours may change during the holidays, so check their times on [The Grove's Facebook page](#) and buy local!



Holiday home safety

Did you know that Christmas, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day are the top three days of the year for home candle fires? To help keep you and your family safe this holiday season, follow these tips. Never leave a burning candle unattended and consider using battery-operated ones instead. Water your live tree daily and place the tree away from candles, heat sources and exits. Always inspect lights for frayed or worn wires and do not link too many strands together. Remember to use decorations that are flame retardant or that are not flammable. Thanks & be safe!



Holiday Greetings

Thanks to the students and staff from North Harford High School's agricultural program for lending me some barnyard co-stars for this year's holiday video. Watch & enjoy!

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Email: FYI@harfordcountymd.gov

Maryland's New Center of Opportunity!