

A Citizen's Guide



to living in the historic

Town of Upper Marlboro

“Where the Star-Spangled Banner Story Began”

2016–2017

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Prince George's County Information
Dial 311 (if calling from inside the Co.)
301-883-4748 (from outside the Co.)
Go online to: [County Click "311"](#)

Town Offices & Police Department
Town Hall: (301) 627-6905

Marlboro Vol. Fire Department
14815 Pratt Street (301) 952-0938

County Police Station District II
601 SW Crain Hwy (301) 390-2100

St. Mary's of the Assumption Church
14908 Main Street
(301) 627-3255

Trinity Episcopal Church
14519 Church Street
(301) 627-2636

Union United Methodist Church
14418 Old Marlboro Pike
(301) 627-5088

UTILITIES:

Pepco (electric)
Outage Report: 1-877-737-2662

WSSC (water)
301-206-8000
Emergency: 301-206-4002

Washington Gas
(800) 752-4002 • (703) 750-1400

More Places of Interest:

SHOW PLACE ARENA
14900 Pennsylvania Avenue
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
(301) 952-7999 showpl@erols.com

DUTCH VILLAGE Farmer's Market
5030 Brown Station Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
(301) 627-2933
– open Thurs., Fri. & Sat. only

TOWN HALL

14211 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772
Mailing address: P.O. Box 280
Upper Marlboro, MD 20773



OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

CONNECTING WITH TOWN HALL

(office) 301-627-6905 • (fax) 301-627-2080

(e-mail) info@uppermarlboromd.gov

(Cable Channel) Verizon 19

(on the web) www.uppermarlboromd.gov



ABOUT THE TOWN



Originally founded in 1706 and incorporated in 1870, our Town is the County Seat of Government for Prince George's County. The Town has a population of around 640 residents and is less than one half square mile in area. There are another 88 plus square miles of the Upper Marlboro zip code, but that is outside the Town's corporate boundaries—which is generally referred to as “Greater Upper Marlboro.”

The residential neighborhoods are located on the west end of town. The western residential area was designated as a Historic Residential District on the National Register of Historic Sites and Resources in 2012. The downtown retail district is located along Main Street. There are restaurants, attorney's offices, insurance agents and a variety of retail establishments. The downtown area also houses various county and state operations, primarily the County Administration Building and the Courts.



TOWN NEWSLETTER



The *Landings* is the Town's monthly newsletter that features news items, a Police Report, an Events Calendar, and a

peek at what is on the Agenda for the next Town Meeting. You can subscribe through the MailChimp link on our website. It's also posted on the Town's Website & Facebook page every month. Or, you can pick one up at the Upper Marlboro Library & Post Office, or Town Hall.

TOWN WEBSITE

Our website is often the quickest way for residents to get important news. While on the website you can sign up for an RSS Feed to receive automatic email notification of each new posting, including important news and timely alerts.

www.UpperMarlboroMD.gov

TOWN GOVERNMENT

The Town of Upper Marlboro is an incorporated, chartered “home rule” municipality with a nominal Commissioner form of Government. Our Town Hall is located at the corner of School Lane and Old Crain Highway near the Board of Education (familiarily known as the Sasser Building.) Our offices are open on weekdays only, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except holidays. The Town Hall houses both the Town Administrative Offices and the Town Police Department.



Monthly Town Meetings of the Board of Town Commissioners are held every second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Board also holds monthly Work Sessions on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:15 a.m. Call our offices for any changes or updates to the meeting schedules—or, check out the “Town Meetings” TAB on the homepage of our website, which lists all current scheduled meetings and agendas.

TOWN ELECTIONS

Every two years, the residents elect three Commissioners to administer the Town's business. Non-partisan, at large elections are held on the first Monday (that is not a legal holiday) of each even-numbered year. The three candidates receiving the most votes are elected. The newly elected Commissioners then select one to be the President of the Board, and another as Town Treasurer. Commissioners receive \$1,200 each per year, with the President receiving an additional \$15,000 as the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Administrative Officer.



Residents who have lived within the corporate boundaries of Town for at least 2 years, and are 25 years of age or older, can run for office. Residents are qualified to vote in Town elections if they have lived in Town for at least 30 days prior to an election, and, are already registered with the County Board of Elections with a current address in the Town. Residents do have the option to register only with the Town for its elections and not with the County Board of Elections. Qualified residents can also serve on the Town's Board of Supervisors of Elections, by appointment for 2-year terms and with compensation.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

 Our Public Works Department provides our community with services that enhance the quality of life for all. The crew works out of their facility located on Judge's Drive near the fire house downtown.

They provide the following services:

- ◆ Yard Waste and Bulk Trash collections
- ◆ Maintenance /repair of Town streets, signs & parking lots
- ◆ Snow and ice removal of Town Streets and parking lots
- ◆ Maintenance & landscaping of Town buildings & properties.

As a service to its residents, the Town offers the use of the Flatbed Truck at no charge for those with bulk items too numerous for the regular yard waste or bulk trash pickup. The truck is parked in the homeowner's driveway on Friday afternoon and picked back up on Monday morning. Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis and an agreement form must be signed and submitted to secure the reservation. Please read the agreement carefully.

Debris created as a result of contracted work may not be disposed of using Town services. Residents are limited to three reservations per year.



The Town also allows residents use of the Town humane animal traps.

Refuse Collection

HOUSEHOLD TRASH pick-up — every MONDAY

Household trash is waste generated during normal household living and can be legally put in the landfill. Please place trash in proper containers with lids to prevent animals and birds breaking the bags and spreading trash. Trash cans must be at the curb by 7:00 a.m. **Do not use the blue recycle bin, your trash will not be picked up.** When observed holidays fall on a Monday, specifically: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day and Christmas, your trash will be picked up on the following day (Tuesday) weather permitting.

BULK TRASH pick-up — every MONDAY

The Town's Public Works Department begins collection of bulk trash from your curb starting at 7:00 a.m. Bulk trash includes: washing machines, furniture and similar items. Some items are brought to the recycling area of the landfill and others are put in the landfill. Remem-

ber, refrigerator doors must be removed. When Town holidays fall on a Monday, such as: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day, pick-up will be on the following day (Tuesday) weather permitting.



YARD WASTE pick-up — every MONDAY

The Town's Public Works employees start picking up from the curbside, bagged grass clippings and leaves, small branches, brush (and Christmas trees in January). These items are taken to the yard-waste facility to be turned into *LeafGro*, a composted material.

RECYCLING pick-up — every THURSDAY

Please have items out at curbside by 7:00 am. the day of pick-up. Each residence has been assigned a registered Blue Recycle bin to be used exclusively for recycling. If you have overflow, or you do not have a Town issued container, a box or any receptacle marked with an "X" or the word "Recycling" may be used as a recycling collection container.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Town of Upper Marlboro has a four-officer Police Department currently consists of a full time Police Chief, two full-time Patrol Officers and one part-time Patrol Officer. The Upper Marlboro Police Department (UMPD) works with Prince Georges County Police to protect the residents and visitors of the Town 24/7.

Remember to call **911** for police or fire emergencies. To get a UMPD Police Officer to your location for non-emergency issues only, call the Prince George's County non-emergency dispatch at **(301) 352-1200** and ask that a Town Police Officer be dispatched. You may also contact the UMPD Office at 301-627-6905 ext.4 during normal office hours.



House Checks: Our Town's Police Department offers free house checks for residents who are out-of-town or on vacation. Residents who would like the police to periodically check up on their address while they are away, will need to come visit Town Hall to sign-up for the service. Call the Town Office for more information.

TOWN COMMITTEES

Historical Committee

Founded in 2012, the mission of the Town of Upper Marlboro Historical Committee (TUMHC) is to research, compile and promote the history of the town, its people, and its government. We encourage all residents of the Town and the Greater Upper Marlboro community to participate in their meetings, events and projects. Meetings are held on the **third Saturday of every month**. Volunteers are needed and all are welcome. Visit their website at: <http://www.tumhc.com/>



Sustainable Communities Workgroup

After receiving the designation as a “Sustainable Community” in 2014, the Town formed a Workgroup made up of Town residents, administration officials, business & property owners, and County and State agency personnel. Below are some of the topics & projects that the SCW has taken on:

- ◆ Assessing **RESIDENTS & BUSINESS OWNER’S NEEDS**
- ◆ Bringing **NEW BUSINESSES** into Town to avert vacant offices and buildings
- ◆ Assisting with the **FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT** Program
- ◆ Improving Town **SIGNAGE** and develop **TOWN BRANDING**
- ◆ Improving **SIDEWALKS**, pedestrian **TRAILS**, and roads throughout Town
- ◆ Developing better **FLOOD CONTROL** measures along the Western Branch.

For more information about the State’s Sustainable Communities initiative, visit: <http://mmp.maryland.gov/Pages/Sustainable-Communities.aspx>

Community Emergency Response Team



The Community Emergency Response Team is a neighborhood-based group of people organized as a team that receives special training to enhance their ability to recognize, respond to, and recover from a major emergency or disaster situation. Following a major dis-

aster, first responders who provide fire and medical services cannot always meet the demands for these services. Factors such as number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages will prevent citizens from accessing emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice. Family members, fellow employees, and neighbors will have to rely on one another for assistance in order to meet their immediate lifesaving and life sustaining needs. CERT training will benefit any citizen who participates in the course. The CERT trained individual will be better prepared to respond and cope with the aftermath of a disaster. For more info, email: DeputyClerk@UpperMarlboroMD.gov

EVENTS & VOLUNTEERING

The Town holds annual events at the Town Hall, such as the Memorial Day Ceremony in May, and the Holiday Party in December. Main Street is also the stage of other annual venues in the fall, such as the “Cruizin’ Main St Car Show” and local high school Homecoming Parades.



The Town Historical Committee conducts annual events that involve historic tours. And, Darnall’s Chance hosts many popular annual events like the Great Jack O’ Lantern Campfire and the Gingerbread House Decorating Contest. At this writing, the Town is working to bring back the Day To Serve Town Yard Sale & Food Drive, as well as the “Marlborough Day Festival” and is calling for volunteers to help make it happen.

The one common denominator in every great small town is its people. Without neighbors helping neighbors, one finds that they merely live at an address and not within a community. Your Town Commissioners and staff are here to help its residents identify, organize and implement those ideas and projects that will enhance our quality of life and the overall experience of living here. The Town welcomes ideas from residents regarding the kinds of activities and volunteer committees they would most like to have and participate in.

If you are interested in joining or starting a Seniors Club, Historical Committee, Gardening Club, Quilting Club, Recreation Committee or any other type of Community group, please contact us at Town Hall.

PARKING IN TOWN

Metered Parking: Most of the Main Street parking in the downtown area is controlled by the Town and is metered for 2-hour parking at the rate of \$0.25 per 20 minutes (quarters only) 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Some other meters are owned and controlled by the County. They are located on Governor Oden Bowie Drive, the Post Office side of Elm Street, and in the Court's parking lot. From 6 p.m. to 12 midnight, Town-owned street meter rates drop to 0.50 per hour, no hour limit.

Church Street Parking Lot: The Town offers parking permits for its parking lot on Church Street at the rate of \$40 per month, and \$12 per week. At this writing, long-term metered parking is being added to offer a rate of 0.50 per hour (up to 10 hours). The lot is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday—Friday only.

School Lane Permit: Because of the high volume of visitors to the Board of Education, the Town issues parking permits for its residents with School Lane addresses at no charge.



TOWN HALL SERVICES

The Town offers the following services during regular business hours

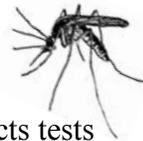
- ◆ Copies (up to 6 pages no charge) \$ 0.25 per additional page
- ◆ Faxes (up to 3 pages no charge) \$ 0.50 per additional page
- ◆ Notary Public \$ 4.00 per seal
- ◆ Police Report \$ 5.00 each

MOSQUITO CONTROL

The Town participates in the State run mosquito control program. Starting in June of each year, the State conducts tests to determine the number of mosquitos in Town. If the number is above State standards, they run a fogging truck through Town. If you don't want fogging within 300 feet of your residence, you can pick an exemption form up at Town Hall or visit the State website at:

http://www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/mosquito_control.

Fogging takes place on Monday evenings. You can greatly reduce mosquito problems by eliminating standing water on your property.



BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

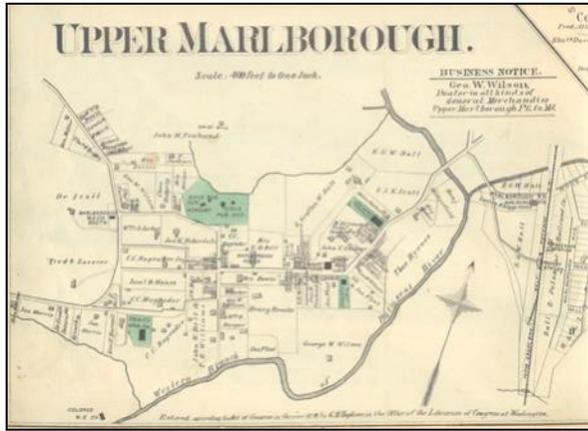
Good citizens make a good town. We are fortunate to have so many. The following are some Town Ordinances and County Code provisions deemed to be “good citizen” requirements.

- ☞ Maintain the appearance of your residence
- ☞ Care for your lawns, shrubs and trees
- ☞ Clutter and litter should be kept out of sight
- ☞ Store trash cans out of sight
- ☞ Use proper trash containers to prevent animals and birds breaking into plastic bags and spreading trash
- ☞ Waste cans or containers with cut grass and leaves should not exceed 35 pounds. Branches must be cut to 4 foot lengths
- ☞ Know what you can recycle — that will save your tax dollars and the environment too!
- ☞ Do not store disabled or unlicensed vehicles on your property or public spaces
- ☞ Take good care of your pets and do not allow them to wander or make noise for long periods of time
- ☞ Be mindful of your neighbors when you have a party and discontinue any loud music or noises by 11:00 p.m.
- ☞ Know who your neighbors are, especially those who might need help in emergencies
- ☞ Do not allow your young children to ride in the street without a helmet and adult supervision
- ☞ Drive safely, obey the speed limits and parking regulations, including not parking on the grass.



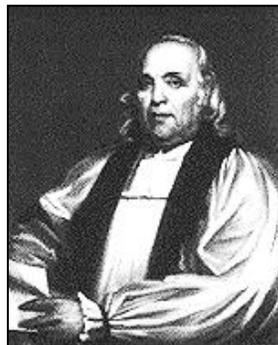
TOWN HISTORY

The Town of Upper Marlboro is one of the oldest surviving southern Maryland towns with histories dating back to colonial times. The area was settled around 1695 and named after the first Duke of Marlborough (an ancestor of Winston Churchill). It was established as a port town for tobacco ships in 1706, and has been the county seat of Prince George's County since 1721. Originally known as the "Town of Marlborough," the name was changed in 1721 to "Upper Marlborough" to distinguish it from Lower Marlborough in Calvert County. Around 1900, the spelling of "Upper Marlborough" was changed to "Upper Marlboro." Some claim the name was shortened to fit better on the official seal and postal indicia.

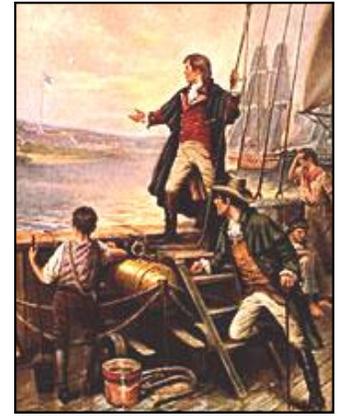


The Town has been the stage for many historically prominent figures throughout the years. A plaque at the west end of Main Street proudly confirms that George Washington did indeed sleep

here. He visited the Town once as the Colonel of the Virginia Militia in 1756 and again as President of the United States in 1793. Other famous residents include: the first Catholic Archbishop in America and the founder of Georgetown University, John Carroll, who was born in Upper Marlborough. His brother Daniel is credited as a signer of the U.S. Constitution. Also, Thomas John Claggett, the founder of Trinity Episcopal Church (1810), was the first Episcopal bishop consecrated in the United States. He also served as chaplain of the United States Senate.



During the War of 1812, Dr. William Beanes, a prominent Upper Marlborough physician, was captured by the British for imprisoning army stragglers and held hostage aboard a British warship in Baltimore Harbor. Francis Scott Key (a Georgetown lawyer) was sent to negotiate Beanes' release. There, both he and Beanes witnessed the bombardment of Fort McHenry and he was inspired to write a poem entitled *The Star Spangled Banner*, that was later put to music and became our national anthem.



His neighbor, Mr. John Hodges, who lived at Darnall's Chance, believed the British would burn the Town to the ground should their soldiers not be released. Hodges went to the Queen Anne jail and convinced General Robert Bowie to proceed with a prisoner exchange. John Hodges is the only known person to be tried for treason during the War of 1812. He was found not guilty.



Just outside the Town, there are several other War of 1812 sites such as: Mt. Calvert (Jackson's Landing), the Compton-Bassett House, Nottingham, Pig Point and Hill's Bridge, where Commodore Joshua Barney sank his flotilla to keep it from falling into British hands. There are hiking, biking and water trails and facilities that follow the British campaign routes and their landing sites, connecting the famous battle sites and the lesser known skirmish sites. A portion of the National Park Services' "Star-Spangled Banner Trail" runs through the Town from Route 4 Pennsylvania Ave and along Old Marlboro Pike.

There are many historic homes and sites dotting the landscape throughout the Town that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and/or the Prince George's County's Inventory of Historic Sites. They include: Content, Brooke-Herring House, Traband House, Digges-Sasscer House, Trelawn (Roberts) House, Talbott House, Thomas J. Turner House, Jarboe-Bowie House, Kingston and Crandell-Rothstein House. Also listed are: Trinity Episcopal Church, Union (Memorial) Methodist Church, St. Mary's Beneficial Society Hall, the Robert Crain Highway Monument and Darnall's Chance House Museum.

Upper Marlboro Public Library



The Upper Marlboro Library has many programs ongoing throughout the year. Give them a call or visit them online for more information.

Upper Marlboro Branch
 14730 Main Street • Phone: 301-627-9330
 To view more info visit them online:
www.pgcls.info



Library Hours:

Monday	11:00AM to 7:00PM
Tuesday	11:00AM to 7:00PM
Wednesday	11:00AM to 7:00PM
Thursday	11:00AM to 7:00PM
Friday	Closed
Saturday	10:00AM to 5:00PM
Sunday	Closed

Marlboro Community Center

Located just outside Town limits, the **Upper Marlboro Community Center** offers a wide variety of classes and programs.

5400 Marlboro Race Track Rd
 Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
 301-627-2828



Center Hours:

Mon.-Thur.: 6:30 a.m.— 9:00 p.m.
Fri.: 6:30 a.m.—10:00 pm
Sat.: 9:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.

KEY AMENITIES:

- ↪ Activity room
- ↪ Fitness room
- ↪ Gymnasium
- ↪ Meeting room
- ↪ Softball & Soccer Fields
- ↪ Playground
- ↪ Pre-school room
- ↪ Racquetball courts
- ↪ Tennis court
- ↪ Warming kitchen



Darnell's Chance Museum

Opened to the public as a historic house museum in 1988, Darnell's Chance House Museum is dedicated to the interpretation and study of the history and culture of 18th century Prince George's County, Maryland, with special emphasis on the lives of mid-18th century women. The Museum seeks to interpret the story of Lettice Lee, who lived at Darnell's Chance in the decades just prior to the American Revolution. The house and grounds reflect 1760, the year Lettice Lee's first husband died and a room by room inventory was taken of the contents of the house. Guided house tours are conducted on Fridays and Sundays and by appointment.



14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive , Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
 Phone: (301) 952-8010

School House Pond

Located across the street from the Prince George's County Administration Building, this site includes a 12-acre pond and surrounding parkland. A fishing pier, photo blind, 3/4-mile boardwalk, picnic area, and nature trail

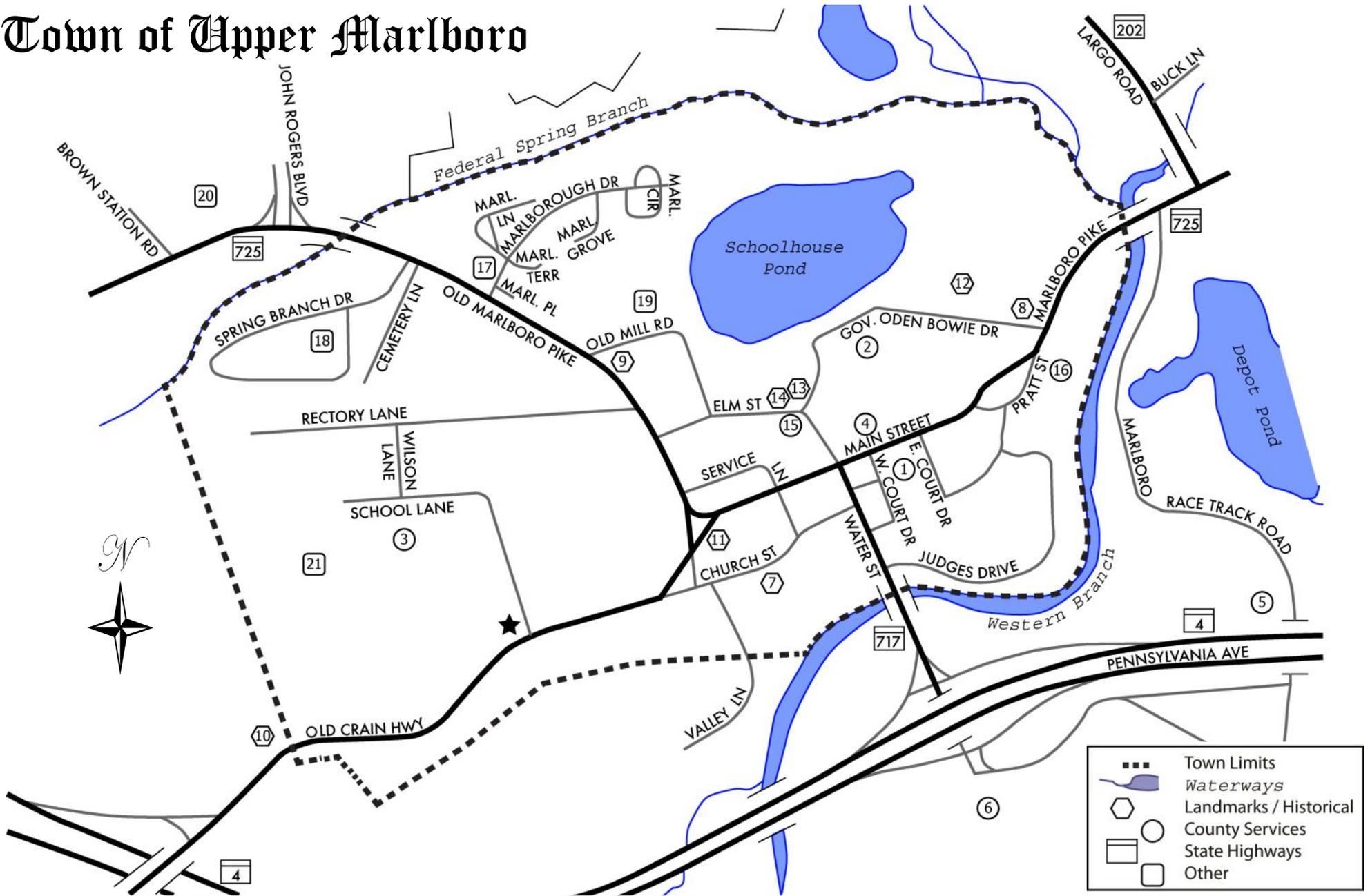


are located on-site. School House Pond is a great place for fishing as the Department of Natural Resources stocks the pond with trout every year.

14100 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
 Upper Marlboro, MD 20772



Town of Upper Marlboro



★ Town Hall

- 1. P.G. County Courthouse
- 2. P.G. County Administration Building (CAB)
- 3. P.G. Board of Education (Sasscer Bldg)
- 4. County Library, Upper Marlboro Branch
- 5. Community Center, Upper Marlboro

- 6. P.G. Equestrian Center / Showplace Arena
- 7. Trinity Episcopal Church
- 8. St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church
- 9. Union United Methodist Church
- 10. Providence Baptist Church
- 11. Robert Crain Railroad Monument

- 12. Darnall's Chance House Museum
- 13. Dr. William Beanes' Gravesite
- 14. Old Marlboro Elementary School (OMES)
- 15. Post Office, Upper Marlboro Branch
- 16. Marlboro Vol. Fire Dept. (Station 20)
- 17. Marlborough Towne

- 18. Spring Branch Estates
- 19. Lakeside Office Park
- 20. Villages of Marlborough Shopping Center
- 21. Sasscer Field / Boys & Girls Club Field