

FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEWSFLASH

Frederick County Divisions Team Up to Tame Lithium-Ion Batteries

2026-09-24

Source: Frederick County Government

Frederick, Md. – Fires caused by damaged or faulty lithium-ion batteries are becoming more common. These batteries can be dangerous in our homes, work-places, and waste stream. To combat this growing hazard and in recognition of Fire Prevention Month and National Recycling Month in November, the Divisions of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) and Solid Waste and Recycling (DSWR) are teaming up to help people in Frederick County become Lithium-Ion (Li-Ion) Battery Tamers.

The partnership will provide information and resources on safer ways to handle and dispose of lithium-ion batteries, including:

- Special events to dispose of lithium-ion batteries, including the DFRS Open House and DSWR Household Hazardous Waste Events October 10.
- Introduction of the “Battery Brigade,” a team of specially trained hazardous material handlers and educators from both divisions.
- Free, appointment-based curbside pickup of lithium-ion batteries and small electronics such as cell phones, laptops, and tablets.
- Social media posts and educational content about proper battery disposal, safe handling tips, and when to call 9-1-1 if a battery is hot or showing other signs of danger.
- Special storage kits to safely store batteries until they can be dropped off at proper disposal locations.
- A public service announcement shown throughout October at Warehouse Cinemas before every movie.

[Read the original release](#)

“This partnership between divisions recognizes that the public needs better solutions for battery disposal than throwing batteries in the trash or recycling. That practice has contributed to a reported 5,000 battery fires in our waste stream, some of which have put our team, equipment and infrastructure at risk,” said Lee Zimmerman, Director of the Division of Solid Waste and Recycling.

Most lithium-ion batteries are safe when used properly. However, they can become damaged or unstable over time. When this happens, materials inside the battery can react and generate intense heat, an event called “thermal run-away.” The battery can then catch fire, creating a serious risk in homes, garages, and other buildings.

This danger increases when batteries are thrown away in the trash or placed in recycling.

Once a battery enters the waste stream, it can be crushed or damaged, causing it to overheat and start a fire. Although these fires are often brought under control quickly, they can damage transfer trailers, trucks, and personal property.

“A damaged battery can start a fire fast— in your home, your car, or even the trash truck that picks up your garbage,” added Fire Chief Tom Coe. “That’s why we’re teaming up to help. Together, we can keep our families, our firefighters, and our neighborhoods safe.”

To learn more or sign up for curbside lithium-ion pick up, visit www.FrederickCountyMd.gov/BeALionTamer and follow the Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services (@FCDFRS) and the Division of Solid Waste and Recycling (@FrederickReycles) on Facebook and Instagram.

FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEWSFLASH

50+ Community Centers Expand Meal Service to Two Days a Week Beginning October 1

2026-09-24

Source: Frederick County Government

FREDERICK, MD – Frederick County 50+ Community Centers will now serve congregate meals two days each week beginning October 1. Lunch Bunch gives older adults an opportunity to enjoy a nutritious meal, meet friends, and stay connected, while promoting good health and continued independence. Lunch Bunch is offered at the Brunswick, Emmitsburg, Frederick, and Urbana 50+ Community Centers. Adults aged 60 and older, spouses, caregivers, and dependent disabled adult children are eligible to participate.

A voluntary contribution of \$6 is accepted but not required. Expanding this meal service to two days a week will improve access to nutritious meals and social connection among older adults. Lunch Bunch Schedule:

- Brunswick Center: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 12 East A Street. Call 301-834-8115.
- Emmitsburg Center: Mondays and Thursdays, 300 South Seton Avenue. Call 301-600-6350.
- Frederick Center: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1440 Taney Avenue.

Call 301-600-3525.

- Urbana Center: Mondays and Thursdays, 9020 Amelung Street. Call 301-600-7020. Reservations should be made at least three business days in advance. Same-day reservations are allowed if a space is available.

Special Lunch Bunch meals, like Lunch and Learns and celebration meals, require reservations and may require a fee. If the fee is a hardship, please contact the 50+ Community Center where you want to attend.

To join Lunch Bunch, register online at the e-Store or call the 50+ center where you want to attend. For more information, call 301-600-1234 or email DAI@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

[Read the original release](#)

The Day’s Run Log

Complete call activity for Thursday, September 24. Excludes medical calls.

ALARMS3:46 am

Commercial Fire Alarm

1200 block APOLLO DR (TUSCARORA CREEK)

UNITS: E291, TT4

ALARMS3:48 am

Residential Fire Alarm (Single Family Resd/ Mobile Home)

3600 block RED SAGE WAY N (URBANA)

UNITS: E231

3:54 am E231 on scene, 2-story single-family dwelling. Normal exterior conditions. Investigating.

3:57 am E231 reports accidental alarm. E231 in service.

PUBLIC SAFETY8:00 am

Gas Odor Inside

2000 block BUTTERFIELD OVERLOOK

UNITS: E291, E501, TT4, BC902

8:06 am E291 on scene, 2-story residential. Nothing evident.

8:15 am E291 requesting TT4 to set up fan for ventilation.

WEATHER & UTILITIES8:22 am

Wires Down Or Arcing

11900 block CLYDE YOUNG RD (WOODSBORO)

UNITS: BR96

8:47 am BR96 reports fiber-optic company on scene making repairs. Notifications also made to Verizon.

PUBLIC SAFETY10:27 am

Gas Odor Inside

100 block W. PATRICK ST — FREDERICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE

UNITS: E501, E311, TT4, BC903

10:30 am TT4 on scene, investigating.

10:31 am BC903 on the scene, establishing command. TT4 investigating in garage area.

10:32 am TT4 reports small amount of spilled gas from a vehicle. Holding TT4, other units in service.

ALARMS10:41 am

Commercial Fire Alarm

100 block W. MIDDLE RD (GETTYSBURG)

UNITS: TW6

ALARMS12:22 pm

Commercial Fire Alarm

100 block S. MARKET ST (FREDERICK)

UNITS: E31, TT4

12:32 pm E31 located a faulty detector. No fire department services needed. Units in service.

TRAFFIC & ROADS1:44 pm

Motorcycle Accident

US-15 / MOUNTVILLE RD

UNITS: A209, ALS20, R20, E201, E141, EMS901

1:49 pm A209 on the scene, motorcycle on the ground. Rider is upright. Checking on injuries.

1:52 pm R20 reports collision is property damage only. All units in service.

ALARMS2:31 pm

Residential Fire Alarm (Single Family Resd/ Mobile Home)

8600 block RANDELL RIDGE RD (TALLYN RIDGE)

UNITS: E331

TRAFFIC & ROADS4:02 pm

Vehicle Accident - Bls

US-15NB / RAMP FROM I-70WB (FREDERICK)

UNITS: A318, A37, R3, PE311, E31

4:10 pm PE311 in the area, reports crash is US-15NB at the end of the ramp from I-70WB.

4:15 pm E31 on the scene, 2 vehicle rear-end collision. Checking on occupants.

4:16 pm E31 reports 2 patients for evaluation. Holding A318, E31. Other units in service.

4:25 pm A318 obtained patient refusal. Units clearing the scene.

FIRE & RESCUE6:03 pm

Building Fire

22900 block DICKERSON RD (DICKERSON)

UNITS: E141, E281, E231, K23, TT23, A149, BC901

6:03 pm Montgomery ECC advises responding units that callers state smoke is coming from a barn filled with hay that is stacked 5-stories high.

6:08 pm MCPRE714 on the scene of a plastic hay building. Property owners are in process of removing hay. MCPRE714 investigating.

6:10 pm MCPRE714 reports Bobcat on-site in process of removing hay bales; smoke evident in the center of the barn. MCPRE714 establishing command.

6:19 pm MCBC705 on scene, assuming command.

6:20 pm MCPRE714, E141, E281 crews currently staging while property owners pull hay from the barn.

PUBLIC SAFETY6:10 pm

Electrical Hazard Inside

11000 block CORNER STONE LN (MONROVIA)

UNITS: PE251, E153, R15

6:15 pm PE251 on the scene, 2-story single-family; nothing evident. Investigating.

6:15 pm PE251 completed 360-assessment, normal conditions on all 4 sides.

6:18 pm PE251 investigating water leak on second floor. In process of securing water.

6:37 pm PE251 secured water and power to the residence. Units clearing the scene.

TRAFFIC & ROADS6:15 pm

Vehicle Accident - Bls

RIDGE RD / PENN SHOP RD (MT. AIRY)

UNITS: CCM18, CCR1

WEATHER & UTILITIES6:29 pm

Wires Down Or Arcing

800 block E. MAIN ST — SAFEWAY (TOWN CENTER PLAZA - MIDDLETOWN)

UNITS: RE74

6:37 pm RE74 reports issue is the plastic sleeve used to secure wires together. No hazards. RE74 in service.

PUBLIC SAFETY7:00 pm

Unit Transfer To Other Station

2700 block ADAMS ST — STATION 14 (CARROLL MANOR)

UNITS: E201

PUBLIC SAFETY7:26 pm

Service Call

8200 block BLUE HERON DR (WATERSIDE)

UNITS: E111

PUBLIC SAFETY8:21 pm

Service Call

2000 block RIVERWALK PL — FAIRWAY VISTA APTS

UNITS: PE23

8:21 am PE23 alerted to assist with smoke detector issues.

WEATHER & UTILITIES8:51 pm

Wires Down Or Arcing

FRANKLINVILLE RD / KELBAUGH RD (THURMONT)

UNITS: PE102

9:00 pm PE102 on scene, tree down across the roadway with power and phone lines involved. Utility companies notified.

9:02 pm PE102 requesting Fire-Police for traffic control, as well as Frederick County Highway Department for the tree removal.

9:26 pm Frederick ECC advises that Potomac Edison has a 30-minute ETA.

ALARMS11:12 pm

Commercial Fire Alarm

100 block W. FREDERICK ST — STAFF DEVELOPMENT CENTER (WALKERSVILLE)

UNITS: E111, T50

11:17 pm E111 on the scene, normal conditions. Investigating.

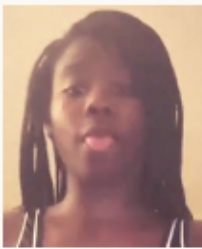
11:22 pm E111 investigated, no hazards.



PUBLIC SERVICE NOTICE

Missing: Summer Harbison (MD) - Summer Harbison, Age Now: 17, Missing: 09/16/2026. Missing From Silver Spring , MD. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION SHOULD CONTACT: Montgomery County Police Department (Maryland) 1-301-279-8000 . #PleaseShare http://www.missingkids.org/poster/NCMC/2102291/1

[View original notice](#)



PUBLIC SERVICE NOTICE

Missing: Amya Wade (MD) - Amya Wade, Age Now: 16, Missing: 09/22/2026. Missing From Upper Marlboro, MD. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION SHOULD CONTACT: Prince George’s County Police Department (Maryland) 1-301-352-1200 . #PleaseShare http://www.missingkids.org/poster/NCMC/2102480/1

[View original notice](#)



PUBLIC SERVICE NOTICE

Missing: D’ioni Gawltney (MD) - D’ioni Gawltney, Age Now: 9, Missing: 09/23/2026. Missing From BALTIMORE, MD. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION SHOULD CONTACT: Baltimore City Police Department (Maryland) 1-410-396-2477. #PleaseShare http://www.missingkids.org/poster/NCMC/2102548/1

[View original notice](#)

FREDERICK, MARYLAND

7-Day Weather

National Weather Service

THU
Sep 24



66° / 46°

Partly Cloudy

ISSUE DAY

FRI
Sep 25



73° / 54°

Mostly Sunny

0% precip

SAT
Sep 26



73° / 57°

Slight Chance Rain Showers

15% precip

SUN
Sep 27



71° / 57°

Partly Sunny then Slight Chance Rain Showers

17% precip

MON
Sep 28



72° / 57°

Partly Sunny

6% precip

TUE
Sep 29



74° / 55°

Mostly Sunny

2% precip

WED
Sep 30



77° / 61°

Sunny

10% precip

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