

October 17, 2025

City Scoop



Charlottesville youth and parents/guardians: the 11th annual Imagine a Day without Water art contest is accepting entries until October 27!

Read all about this year's contest and how to submit your artwork (digitally and via direct mail) in the City's [News Flash \(link\)](#).

We can't wait to see the youth's creativity and how they imagine a world where water works!

Celebrate Halloween With Parks & Recreation!

Get ready for a spooktacular afternoon in the heart of Downtown Charlottesville at Downtown Safe Halloween on Saturday, October 25, from 2:00-4:00 PM at Ting Pavilion!

Enjoy live performances, festive crafts, fun games, and a costume contest. A designated quiet zone will also be available for those who prefer a more quiet atmosphere.

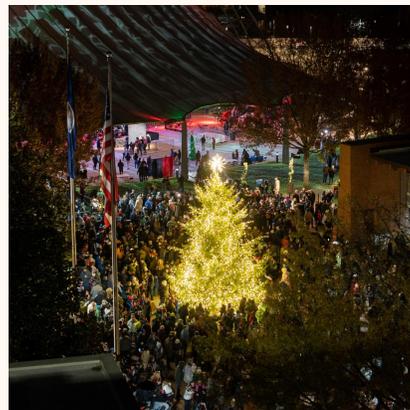


The fun doesn't stop there! When the festivities at the Pavilion wrap up, stick around for trick-or-treating on the Downtown Mall from 4:00-4:30 PM.

Best of all, this family-friendly event is free and open to everyone! Dust off your best costumes and get ready for an afternoon filled with Halloween fun.

City Seeking Tree for Charlottesville's Grand Illumination 2025

The City of Charlottesville is excited to announce that Charlottesville's Grand Illumination will return on Friday, December 5, from 5:00-8:00 PM at Ting Pavilion. As we look ahead to the holiday season, the search is underway for the perfect holiday tree to shine brightly at City Hall Plaza!



Do you have the perfect tree to light up City Hall Plaza for Charlottesville's Grand Illumination event and to sparkle throughout the holiday season? All community landowners, homeowners, and businesses are encouraged to submit trees for consideration! Tree candidates are ideally single-stemmed conifers (spruce, fir, white pine, cedar), 20-25 feet tall and 10-12 feet wide with a full body free from bare spots and obvious diseases or wounds.

If you are interested in submitting a tree candidate for this year, please send you name, number, email, and tree photos to cvillegrand@charlottesville.gov.

Once a tree is selected, City staff will coordinate the cutting and delivery of the tree at no cost to the owner. When the tree is removed from City Hall Plaza in early January, it will be prepped for chip mulch and delivered to area school gardens.

Upcoming Meetings

October 20

- City Council at 4:00 PM in Council Chambers

October 21

- Sister Cities Commission at 4:30 PM in CitySpace
- Board of Architectural Review at 5:30 PM

October 22

- Cedar Hill Park Planning Meeting at 5:30 PM at Meadows Presbyterian Church

October 27

- Charlottesville Redevelopment & Housing Authority at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers

October 28

- Planning Commission at 5:00 PM



What's Happening

- As of Tuesday, October 14, Tonsler Park Field will be reserved for CRPD/HER Sports flag football on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-8:00 PM and Saturdays from 8:30 AM-2:00 PM. All other activities should refrain from using the field during these times so participants can practice and play safely.
- Parks & Recreation is holding an educational walk and talk on the Downtown Mall to discuss tree maintenance on Wednesday, October 22 from 5:30-7:00 PM. Meet at the Parks & Recreation building at 501 East Main Street.
- As a reminder, Parks & Recreation will be working on [invasive plant control \(link\)](#) and containment on several City-owned parks and properties through October 22. All active work zones will be clearly marked, and pedestrians are asked to avoid these areas.
- [Online registration \(link\)](#) for the 2025 Lazy Parrot Fall Classic (Saturday, October 25) at Meadowcreek Golf Course is now open!
- Leaf season is quickly approaching! The City of Charlottesville will begin leaf collection on Monday, October 27. Residents should rake leaves at the curbside (no bags). More information can be [found online \(link\)](#).
- Speaking of leaf season, the Department of Utilities wants to remind the community the importance of keeping storm drains clear of debris. Proactive maintenance helps prevent sediment from entering the waterways. Remember, "only rain down the drain!"
- Exciting news! The City of Charlottesville has started lighting and plumbing [efficiency upgrades \(link\)](#) throughout City Hall, City Hall Annex, and Key Recreation Center. These upgrades will annually save 75 metric tons of carbon equivalent, 46,700 cubic feet of water, and nearly \$22,000 in utility costs.

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