



# Howard County

## RECREATION & PARKS

John S. Marshall  
Bureau Chief of Parks  
jsmarshall@howardcountymd.gov

Phone: 410-313-4640 Fax: 410-313-1699  
www.howardcountymd.gov/rap Voice/Relay: 410-313-7275

7120 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia, Maryland 21046

May 5, 2020

Village Manager  
Harper Choice Village Center  
5440 Old Tucker Row  
Columbia, MD 21044

Dear Manager,

Hello, my name is John Marshall. I am the Parks Bureau Chief for the Howard County Department of Recreation & Parks. I want to make you aware of a new lightning alerting system that will soon be installed in the County's eight regional parks, to include Cedar Lane Park.

This system is being installed to better protect and safeguard our park users. The system has a horn and a strobe light that will sound for 15-seconds when lightning is detected 10-miles from the park giving time for those in the park to seek shelter. When the system detects that lightning is no longer a threat, the horn will sound in three 5-second bursts announcing it's safe to resume activity.

I wanted to make you aware of this program as some of the surrounding homeowners may be able to hear the horn when it goes off. The horn is programmed to sound only during hours in which the park is open.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further information or would like me to attend one of your community meetings once this virus permits.

Sincerely,

*John S. Marshall*

John S. Marshall  
Parks Bureau Chief  
410-313-1081  
jsmarshall@howardcountymd.gov

