

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
MEDIA ADVISORY AND PRESS RELEASE**

**For immediate release:**

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**For more information:**

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**300 YEAR-OLD ASH TREE IN SANDY SPRING TO RECEIVE  
HISTORIC MARKER ON APRIL 29**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** – The Montgomery County Planning Board invites the public to join elected officials, history buffs, hikers and others to dedicate an historic marker for a 300 year-old white ash tree on **Saturday, April 29 at 10 a.m.** at the historic tree on the Rural Legacy Trail in Sandy Spring. A reception will follow at the Sandy Spring Museum.

Winchester Homes recently donated the champion tree and 1.2 acres of land around it to the Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning.

A walking tour and a two-mile hike to the tree where the dedication will be held will begin at 8:30 a.m. from the Woodlawn Manor Park located at 16501 Norwood Road in Sandy Spring.

“Dear to the hearts of many residents of Sandy Spring, this giant of the forest has witnessed the founding of the Village of Sandy Spring in the 1720s, the clearing of the land for farming and possibly the passing by in the darkness of many people seeking freedom from enslavement,” said park historian Susan Soderberg.

Details are available at 301-563-3400.

**WHO:**

Montgomery County Planning Board Chairman Derick P. Berlage  
Elected officials  
Members of the community

**WHAT:**

Dedication with historic marker – 300-year-old, Maryland champion white ash tree

**WHEN:**

**Saturday, April 29**  
8:30 a.m. walking tour  
10 a.m. dedication  
11 a.m. reception

**WHERE:**

Woodlawn Manor Park (8:30 a.m.)  
16501 Norwood Road  
Sandy Spring, MD

Rural Legacy Trail (10 a.m.)

End of Auburn Village Drive, south of Olney-Sandy Spring Road (Rt. 108) between Bentley Road and Sky Meadow Way in Sandy Spring. Parking is available along Auburn Village Drive in Sandy Spring.

Sandy Spring Museum (11 a.m.)

17901 Bentley Road  
Sandy Spring, MD 20860

Light refreshments will be served and tours of the museum will be available.

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