

Encouraging Business

Calvert County, Maryland, Department of Economic Development

July 2008 - Vol. 3, Issue 3

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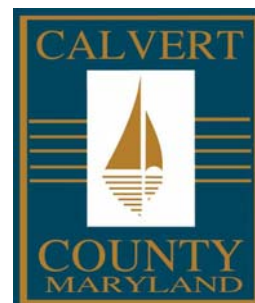
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Quick Links

- Calvert County Department of Economic Development (CCDED)
- Maryland Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP)
- Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED)
- Maryland Technology Development Corporation
- Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
- Calvert Tourism Information
- Patuxent Business Park

Welcome

Welcome to *Encouraging Business*, a quarterly electronic news bulletin developed by the Department of Economic Development. As the Department identifies useful information, we transmit that information to the business community via this bulletin. Please e-mail us at info@ecalvert.com to let us know what is on your mind and how we might assist you and your business enterprise.



● Energy Tips for Office Equipment from the U.S. SBA

- Always buy ENERGY STAR qualified products for your small business. The ENERGY STAR mark helps you find the most efficient appliances and equipment.
- Turning off machines when they are not in use can result in enormous energy savings.
- To maximize savings with a laptop, put the AC adapter on a power strip that can be turned off (or will turn off automatically); the transformer in the AC adapter draws power continuously, even when the laptop is not plugged into the adapter.
- Many people believe that equipment lasts longer if it is never turned off. This incorrect perception carries over from the days of older mainframe computers.
- There is a common misconception that screen savers reduce energy use by monitors; they do not. Automatic switching to sleep mode or manually turning monitors off is always the better energy-saving strategy.
- \$ Long-Term Savings Tip: Consider buying a laptop for your next computer upgrade; they use much less energy than desktop computers.
- Many appliances continue to draw a small amount of power when they are switched off. These "phantom" loads occur in most appliances that use electricity, such as VCRs, televisions, stereos, computers, and kitchen appliances. In the average home, 75% of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned off. This can be avoided by unplugging the appliance or using a power strip and using the switch on the power strip to cut all power to the appliance.
- Unplug battery chargers when the batteries are fully charged or the chargers are not in use.
- Studies have shown that using rechargeable batteries for products like cordless phones and PDAs is more cost effective than throwaway batteries. If you must use throwaways, check with your trash removal company about safe disposal options.

Brought to you by the U.S. Small Business Administration."

- **2008 Calvert County Business Appreciation Week a Success**



The Calvert County Department of Economic Development is pleased to report that Business Appreciation Week 2008 was a big success! The variety of outreach activities and educational events during the week of May 5-9, 2008, offered an excellent opportunity for County government to reach out to the business community, learn more about the challenges and successes of our local economy and educate our citizens about the good work and economic contributions being made by local businesses.

The special week featured an evening kick-off reception held at Point Farm, the former estate home of Mr. & Mrs. Jefferson Patterson located at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, several networking events, informative workshops as well as personal Ambassador visits with County business owners by each member of the Board of County Commissioners. Throughout the week, the local business community provided many positive comments including the ease of dealing with government agencies, the County's smart growth initiatives and desire to preserve Calvert County's unique quality of life. Some of the overall concerns and challenges voiced by local companies included recommendations for improvements to government processes and requests for marketing assistance.

As a follow-up to Business Appreciation Week activities, the Department of Economic Development will continue to work with the businesses visited and other resource partners to craft solutions to the major issues and challenges facing the local business community.

Several partner organizations also came together to help make the week a success by providing valuable information and resources to Calvert County's business community. They include the Maryland Procurement Technical Assistance Program, Small Business Development Center, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce.

A special thank you goes to the following companies and organizations for their support and generous sponsorship of BAW events:

- Constellation Energy
- Dominion Cove Point
- Home Town Real Estate
- Royale Dining Services
- Concerned Black Women of Calvert County and the Calvert County Minority Business Alliance for hosting the B2B Power Networking Reception: The Power of the Entrepreneurial Spirit
- Davis, Upton and Palumbo, LLC for hosting the Calvert County Chamber Business After Hours Mixer

For more information on the Calvert County, Maryland, Department of Economic Development and services available to assist County businesses, call 410.535.4583, 800.331.9771 or 301.855.1880; or send an e-mail to info@ecalvert.com.

● Calvert County Fall Job Fair - September 4, 2008

The Calvert County Department of Economic Development and the Calvert County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a job fair on Thursday, September 4, 2008, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Calvert County Fairgrounds in Barstow. Other co-sponsors include the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and Southern Maryland Workforce Services. Registration for exhibitors is free and is limited to the Calvert County business community. Registration deadline is August 25, 2008.



For more information, or to register for this dynamic event, please contact Kelly Robertson-Slagle, Business Retention Specialist, Calvert County Department of Economic Development, at 410.535.4583 or via e-mail at slaglekr@co.cal.md.us.

● Did you know?



- The Beach Trolley Association will have a Trolley running from Chesapeake Beach to Deale for the 2008 summer season from Friday, May 23 through, Monday, September 1, 2008. Hours of operation for the Trolley will be Friday, 3 p.m. - 1 a.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. - 1 a.m., Sundays and holidays, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.. The cost per ride will be 25 cents. For more information, visit www.beachtrolleyassociation.org.
- The Small Business Administration offers over 25 FREE online training courses on a

variety of topics including: Starting a Business; Business Planning, Management, Financing & Accounting; Marketing and Advertising; and Government Contracting. In general, the online courses are all self-paced and should take about 30 minutes to complete. For more information or to access the free online training courses visit www.sba.gov.

- **"The Compass," the Department of Economic Development's quarterly County newsletter, is going electronic.** Filled with general information on economic development initiatives, general business articles and a variety of information specific to the economic landscape in Calvert County, this quarterly electronic newsletter will help you stay informed on projects and programs of the Department of Economic Development. To sign up, [click here](#).

- The Department of Economic Development offers **free online employment classifieds** to businesses located in Calvert County. For more information, visit www.ecalvert.com.

- **Department of Economic Development Seeks Input for 2009 Visitors Guide**

The Calvert County Department of Economic Development will be compiling information for the 2009 Calvert County Visitors Guide beginning August 1, 2008. Museums, dining and shopping destinations, hotels, inns and recreational boating organizations with locations in Calvert County, Md., are welcomed to submit information for possible inclusion in the 2009 Guide, free of charge. Forms will be available on August 1, 2008 online at www.ecalvert.com/content/visitorsguide/forms/index.asp or by calling 410.535.4583 or 800.331.9771. Sites that were included in last year's Visitors Guide are requested to submit a new form only if there are changes. New sites and those that wish to note changes should use the online form and fax it to the Department of Economic Development no later than September 10, 2008, at 410.535.4585. To view the 2008 Visitors Guide, visit online at www.ecalvert.com/content/tourism/visitorsguide/index.asp.



Every effort will be made to include complete descriptions for each listing. However, due to space limitations, the Department of Economic Development reserves the right to edit or omit listings as necessary.

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- **Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Receives Safety Award**

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant recently received a Star level rating in the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). Calvert Cliffs is the ninth Maryland employer to be named a VPP Star site.

Maryland VPP is a safety and health achievement recognition program for companies that strive to extend worker protection beyond the minimum required by MOSH standards. Calvert Cliffs was recognized for exemplifying the VPP principles of building commendable safety and health programs through cooperation, management's commitment and employee/contractor involvement. Fewer than 2,000 worksites, of the nearly 8 million in the United States, currently share this honor. Sites meeting the VPP's demanding requirements typically experience injury and illness rates at least 50 percent below their industry average.

"This award signifies a remarkable achievement for Calvert Cliffs' health and safety programs," said plant vice president Jim Spina. "Health and safety are of the utmost importance to our overall performance, and we are incredibly proud of all our employees who made this possible by exemplifying these values every day."

- **Vendor space available - National Dog Day 2008**



National Dog Day 2008 is just around the corner, and tails are wagging all around town! You've read the stories in the local papers, and perhaps you've seen the features in Pet Home Magazine. Now it's time to share the excitement with customers and friends, and "harness" your opportunity to reach out to the thousands of people who will be in town for this national annual event.

The Calvert Marine Museum was selected as the host site for the 2008 National Dog Day Main Event, being held on Saturday, August 23. Founded by the Animal Miracle Foundation, National Dog Day (officially August 26) is a time to celebrate dogs, and to advocate for adoption of shelter dogs. This occasion is marked with nationwide celebrations, with one "main event" held at a different location each year. Solomons is the host city for this year's main event, attracting thousands of visitors from across the nation. The festival will include demonstrations, dog adoptions, and the Great American Dog Show. Also slated are a film festival featuring Hollywood's youngest director, Dominic Scott Kay, and his film

"Saving Angelo," appearances by "ugliest dog in America" Elwood and Presidential First-Cat Socks, and a free concert featuring Stacey Clark, Stop Motion Poetry, and others.

Vendor spaces are still available for interested businesses; prices begin at \$200. Pet-related product and service vendors are greatly needed, but all business are welcome to apply (some restrictions apply). Local sponsorship opportunities are available starting at \$500 and include publicity locally and through the national organization's Web site. Businesses can participate by donating products and services to the event's raffle where all proceeds support local and national animal rescue.

For up-to-date information on National Dog Day 2008, please visit the national website at www.nationaldogday.com. For specific questions, please contact Melissa Carnes at carnesmd@co.cal.md.us.

The Department of Economic Development continues to provide a number of services and resources to support the growth and development of County businesses. Free business services include online commercial real estate listings, confidential in-house counseling, online employment classifieds, marketing assistance, an ombudsman program and training and educational seminars. The County offers an Incentive Loan Fund and Economic Development Loan Fund for well-qualified businesses and produces a number of publications including quarterly business newsletters, an annual Calendar of Events and Visitors Guide and the annual State of the Economy. Additionally, the County's business retention program serves as a resource for local business owners to help them grow and succeed.

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