

PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS
OF MARYLAND

Compilation of Municipal Charters

*Compiled by the
Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly*

July 1, 1983
(Reprinted November 2008)

Public Local Laws of Maryland – Compilation of Municipal Charters

Preface

In response to the growing complexity, volume, and importance of municipal law, the Compilation of Municipal Charters was legalized under [Chapter 77](#) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1983. The Compilation was first prepared by the Department of Legislative Reference in accordance with Chapter 78 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1983. In 1990, the Department of Legislative Reference reprinted the entire Compilation as a result of the transfer of the municipal charter database to an updated computer system. Supplements to the Compilation have been published annually since 1983.

In 1997, the General Assembly passed two measures that concern the Compilation. First, Chapter 635 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1997 restructured the General Assembly's three staff agencies, including the Department of Legislative Reference, into a single Department of Legislative Services. The Department of Legislative Services continues to satisfy the various statutory requirements concerning the municipal charters and the Compilation that were originally carried out by the Department of Legislative Reference.

Second, Chapter 14 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1997 codified the 1983 legalization of the Compilation in § 10–201.1 of the Courts Article. Accordingly, the Compilation is now cited as “Public Local Laws of Maryland – Compilation of Municipal Charters”. In addition, Chapter 14 directed the former Department of Legislative Reference to reprint in the Compilation the charters of those municipal corporations that had been granted urban renewal powers for slum clearance under Article III, § 61 of the Maryland Constitution. The reprinting of those charters was accomplished by the Department of Legislative Services in the 1997 supplement to the Compilation.

Before passage of the 1983 legislation that created the Compilation, researching the charters of Maryland's municipal corporations had become increasingly difficult because some charters were found in the public local laws of counties, some in separate publications by individual municipal corporations, and some were not published at all, but rather were loose collections of resolutions. Moreover, some municipal charters were regularly updated, while the status of other charters was questionable.

In keeping with its statutory obligation, the Department of Legislative Services is pleased to present this new edition for 2008. We trust that this Compilation and the annual supplements continue to be of value to the citizens, elected officials, and members of the bench and bar who work with municipal charters and related issues.

Karl S. Aro
Executive Director
Department of Legislative Services
November 2008

Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1983

SENATE OF MARYLAND

3lr0049

No. 69
(PRE-FILED)

28

By: Chairman, Committee on Constitutional and Public Law

Requested: July 29, 1982

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 1983

Assigned to: Constitutional and Public Law

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 2, 1983

CHAPTER 77

AN ACT concerning

Compilation of Charters of Maryland Municipalities

FOR the purpose of legalizing the 1983 Edition of the Compilation of Charters of Maryland Municipalities, published and edited by the Department of Legislative Reference.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the 1983 Edition of the Compilation of Charters of Maryland Municipalities, published and edited by the Department of Legislative Reference, is legalized. The Compilation contains all Charters of municipal corporations in Maryland as of July 1, 1983. The Compilation and its regular supplements shall be deemed and taken in all Courts of the State and by all public officials of the State and of its several political subdivisions, to be evidence of the Charters of Maryland municipal corporations in effect at the time of compilation.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1983.

**Official Form for Citing
the
Public Local Laws of Maryland –
Compilation of Municipal Charters**

The Department of Legislative Services recommends that the following form be used in citing to the Public Local Laws of Maryland - Compilation of Municipal Charters:

Charter of the (Town/City) of _____, (Section), (Chapter), Public Local Laws of Maryland - Compilation of Municipal Charters, (Volume____) (2008 Replacement Edition and 2____ Supplement).

For example, a reference to Section 12 through 14 of the Charter of the Town of Barclay is cited as:

Charter of the Town of Barclay, Section 12 through 14, Chapter 4, Public Local Laws of Maryland - Compilation of Municipal Charters, Volume 1 (2008 Replacement Edition and 2____ Supplement).

Page numbers are made up of two parts. The first number references the sequential number assigned to the municipality's Charter within this compilation, and the second number is the actual page number in the Charter. For example, Sections 12 through 14 of the Charter of the Town of Barclay are found on pages 4-3 and 4-4 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland - Compilation of Municipal Charters (2008 Replacement Edition and 2____Supplement).

Municipal Charters of Maryland

Volume 1

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Aberdeen | 1 |
| Accident | 2 |
| Annapolis | 3 |
| Barclay | 4 |
| Barnesville | 5 |
| Barton | 6 |
| Bel Air | 7 |
| Berlin | 8 |
| Berwyn Heights | 9 |
| Betterton | 10 |
| Bladensburg | 11 |
| Boonsboro | 12 |
| Bowie | 13 |
| Brentwood | 14 |
| Brookeville | 15 |
| Brookview | 16 |
| Brunswick | 17 |
| Burkittsville | 18 |
| Cambridge | 19 |

Volume 2

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|--|----------------|
| Capitol Heights | 20 |
| Cecilton | 21 |
| Centreville | 22 |
| Charlestown | 23 |
| Chesapeake Beach | 24 |
| Chesapeake City | 25 |
| Chestertown | 26 |
| Cheverly | 27 |
| Chevy Chase | 28 |
| Chevy Chase, Section 3 of the Village of | 29 |
| Chevy Chase, Section 5 of the Village of | 30 |
| Chevy Chase View | 30.5 |
| Chevy Chase Village | 31 |
| Church Creek | 32 |
| Church Hill | 33 |
| Clear Spring | 34 |
| College Park | 35 |
| Colmar Manor | 36 |
| Cottage City | 37 |
| Crisfield | 38 |

Municipal Charters of Maryland

Volume 3

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Cumberland | 39 |
| Deer Park | 40 |
| Delmar | 41 |
| Denton | 42 |
| District Heights | 43 |
| Eagle Harbor | 44 |
| East New Market | 45 |
| Easton | 46 |
| Edmonston | 47 |
| Eldorado | 48 |
| Elkton | 49 |
| Emmitsburg | 50 |
| Fairmount Heights | 51 |
| Federalsburg | 52 |
| Forest Heights | 53 |
| Frederick | 54 |
| Friendsville | 55 |

Volume 4

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Frostburg | 56 |
| Fruitland | 57 |
| Funkstown | 58 |
| Gaithersburg | 59 |
| Galena | 60 |
| Galestown | 61 |
| Garrett Park | 62 |
| Glenarden | 63 |
| Glen Echo | 64 |
| Goldsboro | 65 |
| Grantsville | 66 |
| Greenbelt | 67 |
| Greensboro | 68 |
| Hagerstown | 69 |
| Hampstead | 70 |
| Hancock | 71 |
| Havre de Grace | 72 |
| Hebron | 73 |
| Henderson | 74 |

Volume 5

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Highland Beach | 75 |
| Hillsboro | 76 |

Municipal Charters of Maryland

Volume 5

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Hurlock | 77 |
| Hyattsville | 78 |
| Indian Head | 79 |
| Keedysville | 80 |
| Kensington | 81 |
| Kitzmilller | 82 |
| La Plata | 83 |
| Landover Hills | 84 |
| Laurel | 85 |
| Laytonsville | 86 |
| Leonardtwn | 87 |
| Loch Lynn Heights | 88 |
| Lonaconing | 89 |
| Luke | 90 |
| Manchester | 91 |
| Mardela Springs | 92 |
| Martin's Additions, Village of | 93 |

Volume 6

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Marydel | 94 |
| Middletown | 95 |
| Midland | 96 |
| Millington | 97 |
| Morningside | 98 |
| Mount Airy | 99 |
| Mount Rainier | 100 |
| Mountain Lake Park | 101 |
| Myersville | 102 |
| New Carrollton | 103 |
| New Market | 104 |
| New Windsor | 105 |
| North Beach | 106 |
| North Brentwood | 107 |
| North Chevy Chase | 107.5 |
| North East | 108 |
| Oakland | 109 |
| Ocean City | 110 |
| Oxford | 111 |
| Perryville | 112 |
| Pittsville | 113 |

Municipal Charters of Maryland

Volume 7

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Pocomoke City | 114 |
| Poolesville | 115 |
| Port Deposit | 116 |
| Port Tobacco | 117 |
| Preston | 118 |
| Princess Anne | 119 |
| Queen Anne | 120 |
| Queenstown | 121 |
| Ridgely | 122 |
| Rising Sun | 123 |
| Riverdale Park | 124 |
| Rock Hall | 125 |
| Rockville | 126 |
| Rosemont | 127 |
| St. Michaels | 128 |
| Salisbury | 129 |
| Seat Pleasant | 130 |
| Secretary | 131 |
| Sharpsburg | 132 |

Volume 8

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Sharptown | 133 |
| Smithsburg | 134 |
| Snow Hill | 135 |
| Somerset | 136 |
| Sudlersville | 137 |
| Sykesville | 138 |
| Takoma Park | 139 |
| Taneytown | 140 |
| Templeville | 141 |
| Thurmont | 142 |
| Trappe | 143 |
| Union Bridge | 144 |
| University Park | 145 |
| Upper Marlboro | 146 |
| Vienna | 147 |
| Walkersville | 148 |
| Washington Grove | 149 |
| Westernport | 150 |
| Westminster | 151 |
| Willards | 152 |
| Williamsport | 153 |
| Woodsboro | 154 |