Deck the Halls

Celebrate the Heart of the Holidays on Saturday, December 7 in Downtown Cary!

Stop by select Downtown Cary businesses throughout the day to view gingerbread houses—festive enough for an elf to call home—competing in the our 9th Annual Gingerbread House Competition. Vote for your favorite! Winners will be on display through December at the Cary Arts Center.

Take a stroll down Academy Street to view the unique trees decorated by families, organizations, businesses, and schools that participated in our 8th Annual Gifting Tree Project. Cast your vote and, then, see who wins $500 to donate to the charity of their choice.

The white bearded guy from the North Pole will be at the Herbert C. Young Community Center from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For children ages 10 and under, there will be crafts, pictures with Santa, holiday treats, and more at Santa’s Workshop! A cash or canned food donation is your ticket in!

From 3-6 p.m., join us at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center for an old-fashioned Victorian Christmas! Enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, hear the sounds of Victorian carolers and singers from Triangle Folk Ensemble, sip on warm cider, and meet Father Christmas.

At 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., head to the Cary Arts Center for a performance of The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, presented by Cary Players. This delightful holiday comedy will brighten your spirits! Tickets may be purchased online at www.etix.com or in person at The Cary Theater.

At 6 p.m, join us as we welcome the holiday season with the official Christmas Tree Lighting on Town Hall campus. This festive night features actors, singers, and musicians from the community. We’ll also unveil the Cary Community Christmas Tree inside Town Hall!

It’s not too late! Drop off your child’s letter to Santa at the Downtown Park before December 9, and your child will receive a letter back from our jolly friend in red! Remember to include your child’s name and return address on each letter. www.townofcary.org/hoh

Fire-free Holidays

Hosting family and friends this holiday season? Add these fire safety practices to your celebrations and keep things merry and bright!

- Make sure all family members and guests know your home fire escape plan, which includes a meeting place.
- For guests who smoke, ask them to smoke outside and provide large, sturdy ashtrays.
- Soak discarded smoking materials in water before disposal.
- Always stay in the kitchen when cooking.
- Avoid placing decorations close to heating sources and don’t block windows or doors with them.
- Never leave lit candles unattended.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday!

We need you to know...

The Town of Cary no longer requires or issues ID tags for cats and dogs. If you already have a tag, your pet should still wear it since our database will be maintained. We strongly encourage all pet owners to have their furry friends microchipped.

The Winter/Spring 2020 Program Guide will be released soon! Browse and register for all your favorite programs, activities, events, and sports leagues with ease at www.mycary.org. Registration begins December 3 for Cary residents and December 17 for nonresidents.
**Holiday Potluck Celebration**  
December 6 | 11:30 a.m.  
*Cary Senior Center*  
Ages 55 and up, bring a dish to share and, if you wish to participate in the gift exchange, a wrapped gift valued between $5-10. Register using course code 126821 at classweb.townofcary.org.

**Arbolito de la Esperanza: Tree of Hope Lighting**  
December 7 | 5:30 p.m.  
*Herbert C. Young Community Center*  
Enjoy food and music from around the Latin American world.

**Applause! Cary Youth Theatre: Auditions for Amazing Grace, a staged reading**  
December 11 | 6-8 p.m.  
*Cary Arts Center*  
Schedule an audition starting December 2 at www.townofcary.org/applause.

**Cultural Calendar**

- **Cary Players present “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”**  
  December 6-7 & December 9 | 7:30 p.m.  
  *Cary Arts Center*

- **RTOOT presents “A Mildly Italian Christmas”**  
  December 10 | 7:30 p.m.  
  *Cary Arts Center*

- **Marvelous Music Mainstage Series presents The Barefoot Movement Christmas**  
  December 13 | 7:30 p.m  
  *Cary Arts Center*

- **Cary Town Band presents “Winterfest ‘19”**  
  Friday, December 13 | 7:30 p.m.  
  *Cary Senior Center*

- **Concert Singers of Cary Symphonic Choir present “Holiday Pops”**  
  December 14 | 7:30 p.m.  
  *Cary Arts Center*

- **Triangle Wind Ensemble presents “Tis the Season: The Snowman”**  
  Sunday, December 15 | 4 p.m.  
  *Cary Arts Center*

  Saturday, December 21 | 11 a.m.  
  *Cary Arts Center*

**Share With Us!**

Citizens and businesses are encouraged to share their budget priorities with the Town at any point in the year, and we’ll share what we hear with Town Council through quarterly reporting. The Town’s budget runs from July 1 through June 30. Let us hear from you!  
[www.townofcary.org/budget](http://www.townofcary.org/budget)

**Email:** budgetinput@townofcary.org  
**Phone:** (919) 469-4307  
**Twitter:** @TownofCary with #TOCbudget  
**Facebook:** facebook.com/TownofCaryNC  
**Public Speaks Out:** Speak at a Town Council Meeting

**Conservation Corner**

- **Compost Your Holiday Greenery**  
  Place Christmas trees and other natural decorations at the curb by 7 a.m. for your weekly yard waste collection. Or, leave your tree in the designated yard waste area at the Citizen’s Convenience Center during operating hours. Remember, never include artificial materials like lights, wires, and ornaments.

- **Holiday Collection Changes**  
  The weeks of December 23 and December 30, curbside garbage, recycling, and yard waste collection for Wednesday and Thursday will move one day later for Christmas and New Year's Day. Our Citizen's Convenience Center is closed December 25 and January 1.

- **“Leaf” It!**  
  Let the leaves fall where they may—except in our storm drains. Please keep your piles off storm drains to help prevent localized flooding. This also helps keep leaves from going down stream where they can block creeks and harm aquatic life.

- **Contain the FOG**  
  While cooking this holiday season, don’t wash fats, oils, and grease (FOG) down the drain. Instead, scrape excess oil into a plastic screw-cap container, label it, and request free pick-up at services at [www.services.townofcary.org](http://www.services.townofcary.org) or by calling (919) 469-4090.