

## VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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July 17, 2025

The Honorable Kate Stewart  
President, Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear President Stewart and Montgomery County Councilmembers:

During the last business meeting of the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Environment (July 1st, 2025), a member highlighted information recently posted by the Montgomery County Parks and Recreation stating a plan to spray Round Up, a known herbicide Glyphosate-based substance intended to eliminate wild and unwanted vegetation in the area. This is a chemical product known to be harmful to vegetation, people, and animals and recognized to be associated with cancer in humans. The product has been banned in several States and the world in prior years, including the International Agency for Research on Cancer as probably carcinogenic to humans (2015).

Other epidemiologic studies have found ample evidence for an association between Glyphosate and increased risk of cancer, as scientific trials demonstrated the growth of cancer in rodents and mice. It has also demonstrated its genotoxic effects in humans.

Committee Recommendations: 1) The utilization of this product will endanger the health of residents and animals in the area; 2) The posted announcement does not include the necessary warning of risk as a consequence of the product environmental spraying; 3) Residual of this toxic herbicide will be deposited and remain in the soil for unknown period of time; and also, water would become contaminated with the product.

Proposed Actions: 1) Immediately stop the utilization of Glyphosate for the maintenance and growth of green areas in the Friendship Heights community; 2) Inform residents about the risk and effects of Glyphosate; 3) Establish regulations to control the utilization of potentially hazardous gardening products.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roy Schaeffer", is written over a horizontal line.

Roy Schaeffer, Mayor, Village of Friendship Heights