# THE DMV LIGHTS CENSUS

FIRST EDITION · NOVEMBER 1, 2026 · THE DAY THE CLOCKS FELL BACK




WHICH COURTS ARE WORTH PLAYING AFTER DARK, VERIFIED BY THE PLAYERS WHO STOOD UNDER THE LIGHTS

**PICKLE FOR THE PEOPLE · DMVPICKLE.ORG**

## WHAT YOU ARE HOLDING

All October, players across the DMV did a simple thing nobody had done before: they stood under court lights and wrote down the truth. Did the lights come on? When did they cut? Is the court any good once the sun drops, or should you save the drive? This is the first edition of what they found.

Fourteen courts made the record in month one, from a region of 960 courts across 272 locations. That is not a finished map. It is a started one, and started is the hard part.

## A LIVING DOCUMENT

This PDF is a snapshot taken the morning of November 1, 2026, and it is built to go out of date. The living guide at **dmvpickle.org/guides/lighted-courts** refreshes every time a player files a report, all winter long. A fresh edition of this document prints when the record has grown enough to deserve one. Whenever you read this, check the site: the map is probably bigger already.

## HOW TO READ IT

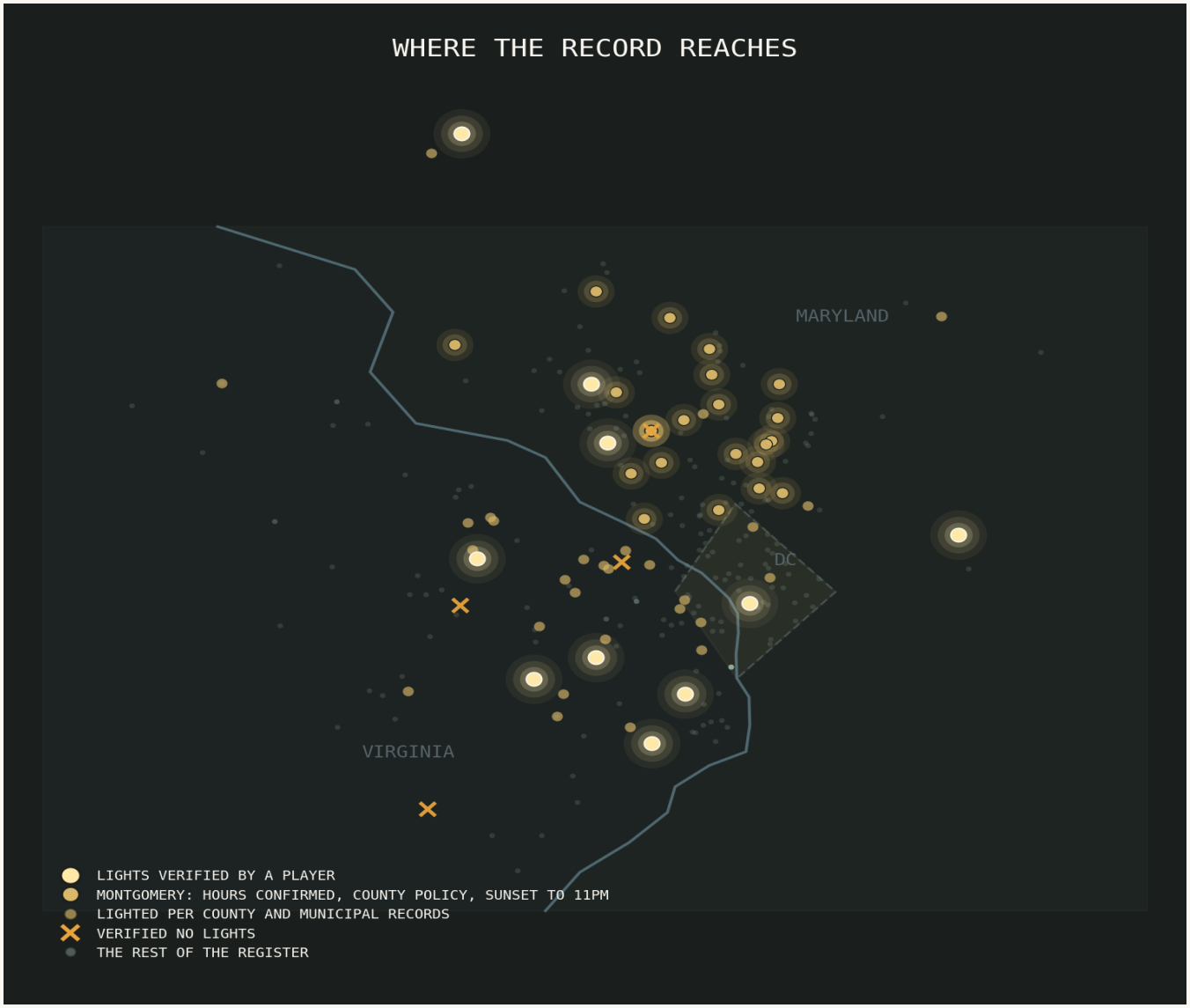
Each entry is one court, one verdict, and the name of the player who put it on the record. A **no-lights entry is not a failure**. Knowing a court closes at sunset saves you the same cold drive a floodlight schedule does, so the honest nos sit beside the yeses with equal billing. Cutoff times marked unconfirmed are exactly that: an invitation.

## THE LIGHTED RECORD AT A GLANCE

The register, built from county data and player submissions since July, lists **64 courts with lights** across the region. This census is the work of checking that original record against reality. As of this edition: **10** of those courts have lights verified working by a player on site, **25 more** carry hours confirmed under Montgomery County policy, and **29** more are lighted per county and municipal records. Four additional courts were confirmed to have **no lights at all**, which saves everyone a drive. Ten plus twenty-five plus twenty-nine is the whole lighted map, and every number in it moves as reports come in.

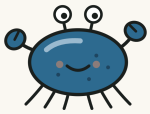
And one story that explains the whole project: on September 29, two lights went dark at Foxhill Park in Bowie. A founding member flagged it in the census. PG Parks opened work order #1273866 and quoted two to three weeks. The lights were back on by October 5. Paperwork, it turns out, is a team sport.

Every point is a court on the register. The brightest are player-verified lights. The warm band across Montgomery is one reader's county-policy confirmation at work, smaller gold points are courts lighted per county and municipal records, and the amber marks are honest nos.



## THE RECORD · FIRST EDITION · NOVEMBER 1, 2026

State by state, two layers each: what players verified on site this fall, then what the counties and municipalities themselves publish. Where the two agree, trust the court. Where they differ, the record says so, and a player report settles it.



# MARYLAND

MARILYN'S BEAT · MONTGOMERY, PRINCE GEORGE'S, FREDERICK, HOWARD

## 1 · PLAYER VERIFIED

**Glen Hills Local Park · Montgomery**
LIGHTS ON · CUTOFF 11PM

The record's first lights manual: push the button on the black pole by the basketball-court gate, and look for the white light on the green box to know it is dark enough. County policy runs lights to 11pm.
DOUG M. · OCT 22

**Diamond Farms Park · Montgomery**
LIGHTS ON · CUTOFF 10PM

Confirmed working. The player log says lights out at 10, county policy says 11. Settling that is a one-evening job for somebody.
PLAYER REPORT · OCT 2

**Foxhill Park · Prince George's**
LIGHTS ON · CUTOFF 11PM (AUTO-OFF)

The census's proof of concept. Two fixtures down Sept 29, county work order #1273866, fixed by Oct 5.
FOUNDING MEMBER · OCT 5

**Monocacy Village Park · Frederick**
LIGHTS ON · CUTOFF 10PM

Dawn to 10pm with lights, matching the city's own page.
PLAYER REPORT · SEPT 23

**Isreal Park · Montgomery**
NO LIGHTS

Two dedicated courts with nets, one lined tennis court (bring your own net), bathroom on site. Daylight only.
SALLY C. · OCT 9

## 2 · COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL RECORDS SHOW

**Montgomery (M-NCPPC):** lit courts open until 11pm, when the lights shut off, published at montgomeryparks.org. The sunset-on time and the no-lights-before-sunrise rule, tied to the county noise ordinance, came in writing from Montgomery Parks to reader **Doug M.** this October, and now sit on all 27 lighted Montgomery park records. The 25 parks carrying confirmed hours before any player visit: Bauer Drive, Buck Branch, Cannon Road, Damascus Rec, Dogwood, East Norbeck, Ednor, Good Hope, Hillandale, Indian Spring Terrace, Kemp Mill Estates, Mattie J.T. Stepanek, Meadowbrook, Meadowood, Morris, North Creek, Olney Manor, Olney Mill, Owens, Seven Locks, Sundown Road, Tilden Woods, Twinbrook, Welsh and Wheaton Regional. Outages: montgomeryparks.org/report-a-problem or 301-495-2595.

**Prince George's (PG Parks):** no published lights-out time, but the region's best outage desk: 301-699-2255, customerservice@pgparks.com, or the online maintenance form. That channel is how Foxhill's lights got fixed in under a week. **Frederick (city):** Monocacy Village Park runs dawn to 10pm with lights, officially; Overlook Park appears in city records. **Howard County:** publishes nothing on Rockburn Branch's lighting; third-party listings say lights, a player should say for sure. **UMD College Park:** Eppley's courts have user-operated lights, dusk to 1am, the latest in the region, though access is limited to the UMD community and RecWell members.



# VIRGINIA

VINNIE'S BEAT · FAIRFAX, ARLINGTON, ALEXANDRIA, LOUDOUN, PRINCE WILLIAM, MANASSAS

## 1 · PLAYER VERIFIED

**Wakefield Park / Audrey Moore · Fairfax**
LIGHTS ON · CUTOFF 11PM

Confirmed working. Evening play runs from 6pm until the cutoff.
PLAYER REPORT · OCT 2

**Pinecrest Swim and Tennis Club · Fairfax**
LIGHTS ON · PAST SUNSET, CUTOFF UNCONFIRMED

The club itself confirms all court lights working.
CLUB CONFIRMATION · SEPT 30

**Franconia Park / Franconia RECenter · Fairfax**
LIGHTS ON · CUTOFF UNCONFIRMED

In one player's words: not the brightest, but still playable.
PLAYER REPORT · OCT 2

**Landings Community Center · Fairfax**
LIGHTS ON · 2 OF 8 COURTS

Lights cover only two of the eight courts. Arrive early for the lit ones.
SUBMITTER · SEPT 16

**Fort Belvoir / Graves Gym · Fairfax**
LIGHTS ON · EVENING, CUTOFF UNCONFIRMED

Lights on for evening play. Base access required.
SUBMITTER · AUG 31

**Greenbriar Pool · Fairfax**
NO LIGHTS · PLAY ENDS AT SUNSET

An honest no that saves you the drive.
THEO H. · OCT 5

**Lewinsville Park · Fairfax**
NO LIGHTS · PLAY ENDS AT SUNSET

Another honest no, worth as much as a yes.
ANDY L. · OCT 5

**George Hellwig Memorial Park · Pr. William**
NO LIGHTS · DAWN TO DUSK

Free parking, and a porta-potty that is regularly maintained, which regulars will tell you is not nothing.
B.S. · OCT 12

## 2 · COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL RECORDS SHOW

**Fairfax (FCPA):** lighting is centrally programmed and remotely controlled (Musco Control-Link, per FCPA's own project documents), which means lights can stay dark when a site is closed for weather or construction. Jefferson District Park courts are officially lighted until 11pm daily. Players report some courts run to about 9pm with a push-button extension to 11; FCPA publishes no countywide court cutoff. Outages: 703-324-8594 or fcpaparkmaintenance@fairfaxcounty.gov. Provided by the municipality and not yet player-checked in Fairfax: Annandale Community, Autumnwood, Bready (Herndon reported its lights under repair), Capital One Metro Park, Cunningham, Franconia Park, Glyndon, Levelle Dupell, Linway Terrace, McLean Central, Rolling Valley West, South Run, Stratton Woods, Stuart Road, Tysons PBC, Van Dyck and Westgate.

**Arlington:** official policy says lighted courts end use at 10pm, though one county page says 11; the county's own site disagrees with itself, which is exactly what a player report settles. Walter Reed's courts are closed while the county builds six dedicated lighted pickleball courts, with temporary nets on the basketball courts Mon to Sat 8am-2pm and Sun 1-7pm. Lubber Run and Quincy appear in county records. **Alexandria:** ball courts run sunrise to sunset unless posted; the high school courts appear in city records. **Loudoun:** Franklin Park in Purcellville officially has lighted courts per loudoun.gov, added to the register the day we found it. **Prince William:** dawn to dusk across the board, no lighted public courts published, matching what players found at Hellwig. **Manassas City:** lighted courts run dawn to 10pm per the city map; Stonewall Park's lights still need a player.



## WASHINGTON, DC

DILL'S BEAT · THE DISTRICT

### 1 · PLAYER VERIFIED

**Jefferson Recreation Center**
**LIGHTS ON · CUTOFF UNCONFIRMED**

Two dedicated courts lighted; the lined tennis courts are not. Surface cracks and fence weeds noted, because the record keeps it honest.
ANH N., FIRST REPORTER · OCT 7

### 2 · DISTRICT RECORDS SHOW

**DPR** publishes no court-lighting hours, and its official court list carries no lighting column at all, which makes DC the jurisdiction where player checks matter most. Brentwood Hamilton Park is being rebuilt with lighting where budget allows, per DPR's 2026 construction update, and Takoma Rec appears in District listings. Report issues through 311. One court verified, two to go: the District could finish its census in a weekend.

## THE BYLINES

A guide like this usually comes from an agency with a budget. This one came from players with phones and a few minutes to spare. The first edition belongs to **Doug M.**, who wrote the Glen Hills lights manual and got Montgomery's official hours onto 27 court records with one email to the county; **B.S.**, who gave Prince William its first entry; **Sally C.**, who filed Isreal Park; **Anh N.**, DC's first reporter at Jefferson Rec; **Theo H.** and **Andy L.**, who put honest nos on the record; **Josh B.**, whose Foxhill flag became a county work order; the **Pinecrest club**, which spoke for its own lights; and every player who filed as simply *player report*. Thank you. The lights were always there. You made them findable.

## STILL DARK ON OUR MAP

Arlington, Alexandria, Loudoun and Howard have no entries yet, and a few dozen courts around the region are lighted per municipal records and waiting for a player to confirm on site. Those are not gaps. They are first-reporter flags waiting for a name, and first-reporter flags are permanent.

## GET IN FUTURE EDITIONS

**File a lights check.** One minute, no account. Working or broken, lit or dark, a no counts as much as a yes, and your name (or initials) goes on the entry, in the living guide and in future printed editions, if you want the credit.

SCAN, OR DMVPICKLE.ORG → RATE YOUR COURT

**Get the Sunday report.** Census updates, new courts, and the week in DMV pickleball, free every Sunday. Unsubscribe in one click and your email is never shared.

DMVPICKLE.ORG/SUBSCRIBE




See something wrong in this edition? That is the system working. Tell us at hello@dmvpickle.org and the living guide is corrected the same day, usually faster than the lights come on at Glen Hills.

Dill, Marilyn and Vinnie thank you for reading, for playing, and for writing things down. One for each jurisdiction, like the register itself.

**PICKLE FOR THE PEOPLE**