

# WAKEFIELD CHAPEL WOODS

## Newsletter

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### Notes from the President

Dear Neighbors

With spring just around the corner many of us are looking at our yards and planning how to improve our landscaping or maybe try growing some vegetables. We bought a lot of pots and soil a couple years ago to take advantage of our deck where we get a few hours of sun. Unfortunately, we didn't quite understand the fickle appetites of squirrels. After having too many half-eaten almost-ripe tomatoes and peppers left on the deck, we decided it's back to the farmers market for us.

Don't forget that our parkland also needs attention. **We will be gathering as a community on the morning of April 2 to do our yearly park maintenance.** Last year too few homeowners showed up to help, making it difficult for the ones who did. Please plan to be there this year to help us avoid having to hire outside help next year. Remind your teenagers that helping out the community means more service hours fulfilled.

**Please remember that our annual dues (\$150) should be mailed back by March 31.** Our dues are kept so low because of our volunteers. You might consider how you can do your part. There are committees to join and the spring clean-up of the parkland to attend. You can mark your choice on the

invoice that you mail back with your dues. If you did not receive an invoice, please contact Pura Valdez at [wcwha.org@gmail.com](mailto:wcwha.org@gmail.com) or call her at (703) 323-3998.

Hope you get a chance to enjoy the spring before it turns into the hot and humid summer!

Liz Segall

### **Spring Parkland Clean Up**

**Saturday, April 2,  
2016**

All members and friends of WCWHA are invited to help in the spring clean up of our Parkland on **April 2, 2016, between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.** If you have them, please bring gloves, loppers, rakes, wheel barrows, elbow grease and enthusiasm. If chainsaws are needed you will be advised before the clean up date. Please contact Allan Meyer at [703-978-2559](tel:703-978-2559) or e-mail at [allanemeyer@aol.com](mailto:allanemeyer@aol.com) for assignments and or questions. This is a great way for Civics students and people required to do Community work to earn service hours. Make this a family affair.

As you are on the fence about whether or not to participate to the clean-up, *please remember that the only reason we are able to keep our annual homeowners' dues so low is that we rely on volunteers to keep our parkland clean.*

## **Help in Individual Clean-up Projects**

Speaking of spring clean-up, the architectural committee reminds us that as we do our own individual spring clean-ups around our individual homes, we should pay attention to such things as mold on the house siding, overgrown trees and bushes, peeling paint or other areas needing repair. As you know, the appearance of each house is important in keeping our neighborhood a choice place to live.

## **County Options for Disposal of Large Items or Electronic Equipment**

We would also remind you that large items such as toilets and mattresses are not removed by the County or by most trash collectors as part of the regular pick-up. However, there are designated recycling/disposal centers where you can take large items or those needing special handling for disposal. Consult the Fairfax County website (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/recycling/>) for information on how to dispose of those items that **cannot** be put in the regular trash as well as which items are safe to put in your regular trash. You will also find information about where to donate items such as electronics, appliances, books, etc.

- **Computers and Televisions:**  
Beginning July 1, 2014, these materials will be accepted at the e-cycling stations

at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex.

- **Rechargeable Batteries and cell phones:** Accepted at the Household Hazardous Waste disposal sites at both the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill complex and at various government office drop-off locations.

**Annandale:** Mason District Office  
6507 Columbia Pike.

**Burke:** Braddock District Office,  
9002 Burke Lake Road.

### **Fairfax:**

Government Center Complex

DPWES Director's  
Office, Herrity  
Building, 12055  
Government Center  
Pkwy, Suite 659

Solid Waste  
Management Program,  
Fairfax County  
Government Center,  
12000 Government  
Center Pkwy, Suite  
458

Massey Building, 4100 Chain  
Bridge Road

Providence District Office,  
8739 Lee Highway

## **Donating Usable Items**

Consider donating usable items to charitable organizations such as **Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries, Purple Heart, and Vietnam Veterans**, all of whom will pick up certain kinds of donations. Check the website or call them to ask for specifics.

Local churches, hospital thrift shops and other community services are also good ways to make sure your still-serviceable items go toward a good purpose. Some, but not all, also offer pick-up. *Just keep in mind that most charities are forbidden by law to take used mattresses, older cribs, car seats and other unsafe children's items.* Some charities will still take upholstered furniture in good condition. Check with the individual organizations for details on what they will take and pick-up services available.

### **Hire someone to haul it away.**

If you are unable to transport large items yourself, you may consider having a special pick-up by your trash collector (for a fee) or consider commercial companies such as 1-800-GET-Junk, Junk King Fairfax ([703 348-8214](tel:7033488214)), Junk B Gone ([www.junkbgone.com](http://www.junkbgone.com)), ([junkremoval.com/](http://www.junkremoval.com/)) ([703 395-5522](tel:7033955522)). Most of these companies base cost of removal on volume, with a deduction for whatever they can sell. They generally recycle what they can. NOTE: **These are not offered as recommendations but rather as examples of the kinds of services available.**

If you have recently had large renovation projects or a large tree removed, the county offers a special collection service for the removal of oversize waste known as MegaBulk. This program is designed to help residents remove whole trees and very large loads of waste from their properties – including construction and demolition waste. Upon your request, the Megabulk office will provide you with a written MegaBulk cost estimate, valid for 10 days and based upon items set out for collection. The minimum charge is \$60 for county collection customers and \$250 for residents with private collection service. Payment is accepted by credit

card or check only. The amount of material must exceed 12 cubic yards. To learn more about the guidelines for MegaBulk service, call **703-802-3322, TTY 711.**

### **Interested in a community garage sale?**

In the distance past, we have held neighborhood garage sales. Individual or combined households held garage sales on a designated date. Advertising was managed by the homeowners association. Is there any interest in such an event? If so, are you willing to help with the organization of the event? Let us know your interest in participating in a garage sale and/or helping to organize by sending an email to us at [wcvha.org@gmail.com](mailto:wcvha.org@gmail.com).

### **Looking for a Few Volunteers**

Have you been around long enough to remember the annual picnic in the park, block parties and other neighborhood activities of long ago? Would you like to get together with your neighbors on occasion? Kim Wright is offering to head up a committee to make that happen. See her call to action below. Many thanks, Kim!

*Neighbors!*

*I would like to spark some interest in a social committee. I am seeking people with interests in bringing neighbors together. If you have little time to commit to a big project, this is for you! Let's start small and see what sparks. Please join me for coffee on Tuesday, April 5 at 11:00 at 4516 Banff St. I look forward to meeting you.*

*Kim Wright*

Please RSVP to [703-400-0590](tel:7034000590)

## **Native Seedling Sale: Order Now**

It's time to place your orders for the 2016 Seedling Sale! The Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District's Annual Seedling Sale makes low-cost bare-root native shrub and tree seedlings available to Northern Virginia residents. Seedlings go on sale in February and are available for pickup in late April or early May. Trees and shrubs help cleanse water, prevent soil erosion, provide habitat, cool our climate and clean our air. Consider adding native trees and shrubs to your community today!

*The Shrub and Small Tree Package features 10 seedlings for \$16.95. The Tree Package contains six seedlings for \$11.95. The theme of both is "Back by Popular Demand." Customers often tell us about favorite seedlings from past years, so this year's sale features shrubs and trees that have been some of the most popular and most requested year after year.*

Pictures and descriptions of the included seedlings and an online order form can be found on the District's Fairfax County website:  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>

## **Scheduled WCWHA Board Meetings in 2016**

March 28 - Segall

May 2 - Caruso

June 20 - Valdez

Sept 12- Payne

Annual Meeting - Wednesday, Oct 19  
(normally at Wakefield Forest Elementary School)

Dec 5 - Mannion

All homeowners are welcome, but if you are planning to attend, please let us know to make sure the date or place has not been changed. This schedule is also listed on the home page of our website:

[www.wcwha.org](http://www.wcwha.org).