

# Issue no.01

## WELCOME TO THE WRA

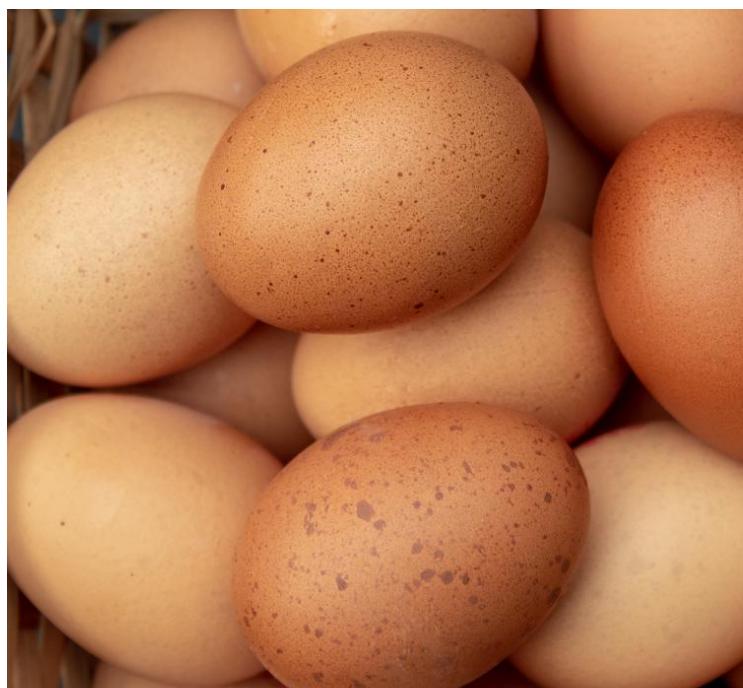


### *What is the Woodlawn Residents Association?*

The Woodlawn Residents Association (WRA) is a brand new non-profit which was founded by members of the Woodlawn community in July 2022.

The WRA was established for the purpose of promoting and improving the quality of life in Woodlawn. The aims of the WRA include bringing the community together through hosting events, improving quality of life in Woodlawn by advocating for community needs, and giving residents a voice in community decisions.

If you want to be part of the conversation, visit [WoodlawnResidents.ca](http://WoodlawnResidents.ca) and consider joining the WRA (it's free) and donating to the cause.



### *Fresh Eggs in Woodlawn*

Whether you like the idea or not, chickens might be moving into your neighborhood! The recent inflation in Nova Scotia has worsened concerns about food insecurity for many residents. To help alleviate this issue, residents of Halifax and surrounding areas have been granted permission to raise hens on their properties.

This controversial policy means that residents can enjoy an abundance of fresh eggs, sourced directly from their own properties. Each urban household is allowed to house up to 10 hens in their backyard, which must be contained in a proper coop or fenced enclosure.

Residents can even choose to sell their fresh eggs if they agree to adhere to provincial health and safety regulations. For more information and a complete list of rules and restrictions for hen-keeping in your neighborhood, please visit:  
[www.halifax.ca/home-property/animal-services/backyard-hens](http://www.halifax.ca/home-property/animal-services/backyard-hens).

### *We Need a Community Event Space*

Does Woodlawn have a great sense of community? Wouldn't it help if we had a community centre to gather at. Our options are limited to churches and going outside of Woodlawn to host community events. The ballfield up on Mount Edward is probably the only space large enough and even then, it's a little short of parking and the parking lot is basically just dirt.

Portland Estates has Birches Park with a lovely gazebo/outdoor stage where they host live music events from time to time. Montebello has the Dartmouth East community centre. What does Woodlawn have? Not much. Maybe we should look around and find a place to put a Woodlawn community event space.

### *Need crosswalks and traffic calming measures along Mount Edward*

The stretch of Mount Edward between Cranberry crescent and Spring Avenue is a speed related accident just waiting to happen. Imagine trying to cross the street at the bottom of Lucien or Topsail to catch the bus with your family, dreading that the next car that comes by (going 80kph) might not see you or your family. This is a real danger that some residents face on a regular basis.

It's time we introduced some traffic calming measures and/or crosswalks near bus stops along this stretch of road.



## *Leave your leaves, or take a break from the rake*

With the chill in the air in recent mornings, you can tell that fall is coming in quickly. Most of the homes in Woodlawn have been blessed with an abundance of mature maples, oaks, willows, and other hardwood trees that make our neighbourhood beautiful. It seems like every fall no matter how hard we beg or plead with the trees, they cover the lawn with leaves. So inevitably it ends up leading to hours of work for homeowners or the added cost of having someone come out and rake up all the leaves.

This fall, consider taking a break from the rake, or at least partially. It ends up that there are benefits to leaving all of your leaves where they lay or reuse them in your yard. If you have heard that there has been a decline in the number of natural pollinators, you can do your part to reverse that trend by putting your feet up and not raking. Fall leaves provide a winter home to some bees and butterfly larva while others burrow only a couple inches under the ground and fall leaves provide an insulating layer that protects them from the winter cold. Some of the same benefits to pollinators can still be realized by mulch mowing your leaves and leaving them on the ground; this method provides the added benefit of allowing the leaves to break down, and provide nutrients back into your lawn.

If you love the physical exercise that raking provides or just can't stand the look of a yard covered in leaves, consider reusing your leaves. If you must rake up your leaves, you can use the leaves you've gathered to mulch your garden beds. The leaves help keep weeds at bay and provide nutrients to the soil in the spring which will help your garden plants look the bushiest and brightest. Leaves also make excellent compost when mixed in with your regular compost pile.

So, consider leaving the leaves and save yourself some work, save yourself some time, and save some bees.

## *Fireworks in Woodlawn: naughty nuisance or neighbourly fun?*

Fireworks are part of Woodlawn. We hear them on a weekly basis in the summer and it doesn't seem to follow any kind of schedule but they're out there. They're easy to find, sold in many convenience stores in the neighbourhood. Not loved by all, but enjoyed by many, are fireworks a nuisance or just some neighbourly fun?

Fireworks can send dogs into barking fits, disrupting entire households and upsetting the animals. Some veterans find the sound of fireworks to be a reminder of difficult events. Some people love the sound and colours of the neighbourhood displays. For some, the fireworks are a way to bring neighbours together out on the street, chatting and enjoying the show.

What do you think? Nuisance or not?

## *Abenaki Aquatic Club Receives Funding for a New Boat House*

On July 28th, MP Darren Fisher announced that the Abenaki Aquatic Club would receive \$315,000 in funding to contribute to the addition of a new boat house at the club.

After making the announcement, Darren Fisher and Councilor Becky Kent even jumped into Bell lake in celebration of the exciting news!

The funding is being provided by the Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) and will allow the club to construct a brand-new boat house and club house.

The existing facilities at this non-profit aquatic club are more than 50 years old. By developing this new infrastructure, the female-led club will enjoy more capacity to continue with their inclusive programing for rowing enthusiasts of all ages.

