

Churchill Downs Newsletter

Churchill Downs Community Association

March-May 2025

Upcoming Events

Churchill Downs

Community Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the month,
6:30-8pm, Alfreda Schmidt
Community Center.

Neighborhood

Beautification

Saturday, April 5, 10am.
Wainwright Park.

Derby Day

Saturday, May 3rd, 2-5pm,
Wainwright Park. Come
dressed up and bring an
appetizer to share.

Neighborhood Garage

Sale

Saturday, May 17, 9am-5pm

3rd Ward Constituent

Contact Meeting

2nd Saturday of the month,
10am at the Alfreda Schmidt
Community Center to
converse with City Council
member Adam Hussain.

In Churchill Downs, we get together as neighbors to support and initiate activities that benefit our community, work cooperatively to solve problems, and establish communication links between neighbors and local government/other organizations. Everyone has a part to play in making our neighborhood an enjoyable place to live, and we are glad to have you with us.

New Event: Derby Day

Churchill Downs is not only the name of our wonderful neighborhood, but also the name of the racetrack where the Kentucky Derby is held on the first Saturday of May every year. For those who attend this race, the day is not only about horses, but also about fashion. Spectators show up in suits, gowns, and big hats. This year, on May 3, from 2-5pm, we are going to hold our own Derby Day in our Churchill Downs neighborhood. This will be an afternoon to socialize with your neighbors at Wainwright Park, get your picture taken, and enjoy some appetizers. So invite your neighbors, dress as fancy as you want to (big hats are encouraged), bring an appetizer to share, and let's have fun together!

This event is different from our Foot Derby youth race that we did last year. We are still doing that youth race in August, and from this year forward we are referring to that event as "Churchill Downs Youth Day".

Good Neighbor Awards

Is there a resident of Churchill Downs who you would like to thank for being a good neighbor? Fill out this [form](#) (also found on our website), and we will deliver a small yard sign to them, thanking them for making a positive impact in our community!

Neighborhood Beautification

Spring is here! And with the snow melted, the litter laying around our neighborhood is much more obvious. Join us on Saturday, April 5 at 10am to walk around and pick up trash to beautify our streets. We will meet at the tennis court at Wainwright Park, and we will provide trash bags. Bring your own gloves.

Mid-May we are also beautifying the neighborhood with flowers. We will have flowers to plant by each of the entrance signs of our neighborhood and a few other public places. If there are any flowers left over, we will need help planting those where they can be enjoyed by neighbors as well. If you would like to help plant and maintain these flowers, send us an email!

Neighborhood Garage Sale

We have had lots of fun with our garage sales the last few years, and we are looking forward to it again this year! As is the pattern, we will have our neighborhood-wide garage sale on the 3rd Saturday of May: May 17, from 9am-5pm. The morning of the sale, at 8am, a few volunteers will drive around the neighborhood to make a map of everyone who is participating in the sale. If you know ahead of time that you are planning to participate, you can email us to make sure we don't miss you.

We really encourage everyone else to take some time on this day to get out and shop around at our neighborhood's sales!

It is a great way to become familiar with more of your neighbors and make this place feel a little more like home.



Share this newsletter with your neighbors!

Currently our email newsletter is only reaching about 12% of the households in the neighborhood. We want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to hear about what is going on. **If you are willing to help pass out physical newsletters to your street or block, please email us and let us know!** And please encourage neighbors to sign up to receive this via email (sign up on our website), as that is the only way we can assure they will receive it every time.

SCRAM and Free Ring Cameras

The Lansing Police Department has talked to us at several of our community meetings about their SCRAM program, and at our February meeting, an officer came to give out free Ring cameras. SCRAM is a program where you register your home security cameras with the police department so they can contact you and request footage if a crime happens nearby. Registering your camera does not give the police access to what your camera sees, it only tells them where cameras are located so they can ask you to share footage if your camera caught something. Because security cameras are so important in helping the police solve crimes, and because they increase the overall safety of a house and a neighborhood, the Police Department is giving out Ring cameras for free. The camera can be used for real-time footage without a subscription, but a subscription is required if you want to be able to look back on past footage (plans start from \$5/month). If you would like a camera, please email us at churchilldownslansing@gmail.com, and we will pass along your request to the Police Department. If you would like to register your existing cameras in the SCRAM program, follow this link:

<https://www.lansingmi.gov/501/Security-Camera-Registry-Mapping-SCRAM>

Red Cross Home Fire Campaign

The Red Cross will be installing fire alarms in homes in our neighborhood for free on April 26. You may not imagine a fire happening in your home, but if it does, you will be thankful you have working alarms. Anyone who needs new fire alarms is encouraged to sign up for this event! To make this happen, the Red Cross is also looking for volunteers to help install the fire alarms on that day. Volunteers do not need any experience, as training will be provided. A Red Cross representative will be attending our March community meeting to tell us more about this program and to provide sign up sheets, both for receiving the alarms and for volunteering to install them. If you cannot make it to the March meeting, you can also sign up for these opportunities on their website: <https://www.redcross.org/local/michigan/about-us/our-work/home-fire-campaign.html> Or by calling 1-800-733-2767.

Get Involved!

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center from 6:30-8pm. This is a time to meet neighbors and talk about what is happening in the neighborhood. If you would like to be involved in some way other than the monthly meeting, consider any of these options:

- Attending or volunteering at neighborhood events
- Helping with communication like writing/distributing newsletters, putting up and taking down signs, making facebook posts, etc
- Distributing welcome packets to new neighbors
- Helping to write or implement grants for neighborhood projects

To get involved or if you have questions, send us an email or message us on Facebook.

Stay Connected

For more regular updates visit our website:
churchilldownslansing.info

Facebook Page:
Churchill Downs
Community Association

Facebook Group:
Neighbors
of Churchill Downs

Email:
Churchilldownslansing@gmail.com

If you have any events or activities you would like to share with your neighbors, even as simple as going on a walk to pick up trash, email that information to hossinke@gmail.com for it to be posted in the next newsletter. Newsletters are written bimonthly. We also encourage you to use our Facebook group to invite neighbors to activities.