

BBHCA Call for Volunteers!

Volunteering is the surest way to meet new people, make friends, and make a difference in your community. Enthusiasm, the ability to communicate (aka listen), and “work well with others” are the most important skills. Even if you haven’t done something before, consider this an opportunity to learn a new skill. We need you!

Volunteer Positions for May 2007- May 2008	Nominations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ President (approximately 5 hours per month: represent association, run member and board meetings, oversee all operations, work with county officials to address neighborhood issues, communicate regularly with community)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jeannie Henry
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Co-President (approximately 5 hours per month: share above responsibilities with the president)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open for nomination
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Vice President Newsletter (approximately 8 hours for each of 5 issues: editing, manage advertising, layout, coordinate with printer/mailer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sarah Kelly
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Vice President Membership (approximately 2-3 hours per month: update Excel database, promote membership)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open for nomination
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Treasurer (approximately 2-3 hours per month: develop budget, manage financial accounts, pay bills, report on fiscal status)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kevin Henry
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Secretary (approximately 3-4 hours for each of 5 meetings: take minutes at community meetings and submit for publication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open for nomination

If you are interested in volunteering for *any* of the above positions, please contact Jeannie Henry, BBHCA President, at (703) 525-8972 or president@bbhca.org. Elections will be held at the May 8, BBHCA Annual Business Meeting.

SPECIAL BBHCA PROGRAM How Does Your Garden Grow?



April 18, 2007 (Wednesday)
7:30 – 9:00 pm
Bush Hill Elementary School (Cafeteria)
\$5.00 donation requested

BBHCA surveyed its members by e-mail to determine their interest in a special program on gardening during the month of April. Twenty-six (26) members participated in the survey and 88% responded yes or maybe. Due to the positive response, we have invited Roberta Grimaldi, a Fairfax County Master Gardener as well as the Community and Grounds Services Manager for Kingstowne, to make a presentation on the three most popular topics indicated by the survey participants: lawn care, garden design, and tree care.

Lee District Neighborhood Resource Fair

Saturday, April 21, 2007
9:00 - 11:30 am
Franconia Government Center
6121 Franconia Road

Come get helpful advice and information from County experts who can help you address tough neighborhood issues. Sponsored by Lee District Supervisor Dana Kauffman. For more information, please call 703-971-6262.

9:00–9:30 am Registration

9:30–11:30 am Visit County displays and talk to experts on:

- Property maintenance and use
- Traffic
- Parking
- Trash
- Health concerns
- Construction without permits

Chairman Connolly Unveils “Cool Counties” Initiative

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2007/067.htm>



During his annual State of the County address on March 15, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerald E. Connolly announced a “Cool Counties” initiative in which Fairfax is partnering with a select group of counties across the U.S. and the Sierra Club to create a template for local governments to begin reducing their greenhouse gas emissions in favor of more environmentally friendly practices.

In partnership with the Sierra Club, the “Cool Counties” initiative will identify specific strategies and actions for the nation’s 3,000 counties to adopt as part of the regional, national and global effort to pursue smarter, cleaner energy solutions. A working draft of the “Cool Counties” initiative will be unveiled at the National Association of Counties annual conference in Richmond this July.

The State of the County address will be rebroadcast on Fairfax County Government Channel 16 at 5:30 pm on Fridays and Sundays and at 7:30 pm on Wednesdays. The

address also may be viewed anytime online through the county's Video on Demand at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cable/.

To download a PDF of the State of the County Address, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2007/stateofthecountyaddress.pdf>

Spring Clean Your Yard

Now is the time to get rid of invasive plants and make your yard eco-friendly. Rip out that invasive barberry, de-vine that native oak that is suffering from too much English ivy. Need identification help? Check out the Park Authority brochures "Invasive Backyard Plants" and "Invasive Forest Plants" at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/stewardshipbrochures.htm. If you are waiting to remove that pesky invasive plant from your yard until you know what to plant in its place, the new stewardship brochure "Native Backyard Plants" or a wide range of plant guides from Green Spring Gardens can help. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/gardening.htm

Your Back Yard: Planting Native Species

http://www.enature.com/native_invasive/

Find out what plants are native or invasive to Virginia from the National Wildlife Federation. "Native plants are adapted to local conditions and are easier to grow and maintain.... They stabilize soil and reduce erosion; they more effectively filter storm water than exotic plantings, thus improving water quality; and they promote biodiversity, offering the food, nectar, cover, and nesting areas that local birds, butterflies, and mammals need."

2007 Native Seedling Package

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm



Add beauty and attract wildlife to your landscape with the 2007 native seedling package from the Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District. The theme for this year's sale, "Winter is Our Season," reflects the color and beauty of selections such as the winterberry holly and the river birch for your landscape in winter and year-round. The 2007 package includes 12 tree and shrub seedlings and four ferns for \$17.95. Pre-paid orders are accepted until April 16, or while supplies last. You will receive a confirmation receipt and a map to the pickup site (in Fairfax County, off of Braddock Road). Trees will be available for pickup April 20–21. For more information, including pictures of what the seedlings will look like when mature, or for an order form, click on the link above, call 703-324-1460, TTY 711, or e-mail conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Stewardship of Our Natural Resources

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/stewardship.htm

Stewardship is working together to care for the environmental and cultural resources of Fairfax County. The Fairfax County Park Authority has published a series of brochures that explain stewardship and its benefits to the public. Stewardship action can be a small and simple thing, or it can be much bigger. Brochure on trees, wildlife, discovering natural treasures, and pets in parks are available at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/stewardshipbrochures.htm, Fairfax County Park Authority facilities and sites, and at libraries, community centers and district offices of the Board of Supervisors. The brochures also are available by contacting the county's Resource Management Division at 703-324-8674, TTY 711. Environmental protection is one of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' top priorities. The board's 20-year environmental agenda can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/environment/eip

Bumper Crop of Acorns May Lead to Outbreaks of Lyme Disease and Gypsy Moths

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?sec=health&res=9E02EED71139F935A25757C0A960958260>



The New York Times summarized an article in the May 1996 issue of Bioscience, saying “The bumper acorn crops influence the life cycles of mice and deer as well as the gypsy moths and the spirochetes that cause Lyme disease.” Based on the current heavy crop of acorns this past fall, we may want to prepare. Click on the link above to read the full story.

FAQs: Tree Care and Tree Issues

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/navbar/faqs/urbanforestry.htm>

Virginia Dept of Forestry

<http://www.dof.virginia.gov/index.html>

County Urban Forest Management
703-324-1770, TTY 711

Community Emergency Alert Network Expands Features

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean

A new Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN) feature now lets subscribers receive precise information by using an interactive map to pinpoint locations, such as home, work, school, day care or other places of interest within Fairfax County for location-specific messages. In addition, users also have the option of entering street addresses, which will allow updates on severe traffic or emergencies within a set radius. The CEAN also delivers important emergency alerts, notifications and updates during a major crisis or emergency for residents, as well as those who work in Fairfax County. Arlington County, VA, and Montgomery County, MD, are now included in the covered areas.

Other options include airport delays at Dulles and Reagan National; and rush hour alerts about Metrorail's Blue, Orange and Yellow lines. These alerts are in addition to Fairfax County's severe traffic, weather 8 am to 5 pm, weather 24/7, and government closings and delays.

Messages can be delivered to all registered devices, such as an e-mail account, cell phone, text pager, satellite phone or wireless PDA. To register for the CEAN, sign up for the new Arlington and Montgomery County traffic alerts and other features, or for further information, click on the link above.

No Season for Identity Theft

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>

As much as our lives are guided by the seasons, identity theft occurs year round. Sponsored by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), this website is a one-stop resource to learn about identity theft. While there are no guarantees against identity theft, there are steps you can take to minimize your risk and minimize the damage if a problem occurs. Click on the link above so that you are prepared if it happens to you.

Zoning 101

Signs, Signs, Everywhere are Signs

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoningordinance/articles/art12.pdf>

The original settlers of this country didn't have any signs to tell them which way to go—maybe they could have used some. Today, we still get lost despite being surrounded by signs—maybe we could get along with fewer. But once in a while we get annoyed by that one sign, that one sign that tips our tolerance scale. If you are wondering if that sign breaks the sign rules, click on the link above. But be patient. Lots of signs mean lots of rules. Note: Although this is a PDF, you can use the search feature for faster results.

Links To Keep

Green Springs Park

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/>

Located in Alexandria off Little River Turnpike and Braddock Rd, this gem of a park is less than six miles away. Green Spring's grounds are open dawn to dusk every day of the year. The Horticulture Center is open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 4:30 pm, and Sunday, noon to 4:30 pm. Walk the beautiful grounds or take a class.

Golden Gazette

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa/goldengazette.htm>

The *Golden Gazette* is a free, 24-page monthly newspaper dedicated to informing and serving senior adults in the greater Fairfax area. A large-print (24-point font) abridged version of the *Golden Gazette* and a recorded version are also available. For more information or to subscribe, click on the link above or call 703-324-5633. Published by the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging.

This electronic newsletter is sent to current members of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association (BBHCA). If you do not wish to receive this or any other e-mails from BBHCA, please respond to this e-mail and enter "unsubscribe" in the subject line.