

Call for BBHCA Board Nominations

The Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association is accepting nominations for the following Board positions:

- President
- Vice President—Newsletter
- Vice President—Membership
- Treasurer
- Secretary

Election of officers for the 2008-2009 membership year will be held during the May 13 meeting, 7:30 pm at Bush Hill Elementary School. For more information, please contact Jeannie Henry at president@bbhca.org.

Second Annual Edison TAG Day

April 5 - 6, 2008

Members of the Edison sports teams will be going door-to-door in the neighborhoods that feed into Edison requesting contributions for the [Edison Sports Boosters](#). If you have any questions, please call the Athletic Director at Edison, Martin Grimm by e-mail at Martin.grimm@fcps.edu or call 703-924-8090.

Fairfax Water Addresses Issue of Pharmaceuticals in Our Water

http://www.fairfaxwater.org/current/special_statement_030808.htm

Fairfax Water wants you to know the following information:

- Fairfax Water's primary objective is the protection of public health through the delivery of high-quality drinking water. Fairfax Water, along with water professionals across the nation, is researching the occurrence of personal care products and pharmaceutical compounds in drinking water supplies and is paying close attention to health effects research in this area. We have found there is no evidence of human health concern.
- Fairfax Water provides highly advanced treatment for the water we serve our customers. Research has shown that using the combination of ozone and granular activated carbon is very effective in removing broad categories of personal care products and pharmaceuticals. Fairfax Water uses both ozone and granular activated carbon as part of its multi-barrier water treatment approach that also includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection.
- To date, there are no approved methods for detecting personal care products and pharmaceuticals in drinking water. Fairfax Water has been actively working with leading researchers to develop an appropriate testing protocol for detection of very low levels for a variety of these compounds. We are currently developing a testing plan for our source and treated waters.
- As we continue to develop better methods for detection, we will be able to identify more compounds at lower levels. While these compounds may be detected at very low levels in water, people regularly consume or expose themselves to products containing these compounds in much higher concentrations through medicines, food and beverage and other sources. The level in which they are found in water is very small in comparison and does not mean the substance is harmful to humans.
- Fairfax Water, along with other water utilities regionally and nationally, is working to advance the science in the area of understanding and treating personal care product and pharmaceuticals.
- Fairfax Water, along with the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and the Washington Aqueduct, founded the Potomac Partnership to study water quality issues in the Potomac watershed.
- Fairfax Water, along with many water utilities across the nation, has contributed to and participated with the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWARF) to study endocrine disruptors, personal care product and pharmaceuticals. To date, AWWARF has conducted 21 projects totaling approximately \$4.9 million.
- Fairfax Water will continue to work with regional and national partners to advance the science regarding these issues.



>> [Fairfax Water Home Page](#)

Huntley Meadows Eco-Savvy Expo

Sunday, April 13, 2008

12 pm – 4 pm

3701 Lockheed Blvd



Native Plant Sale, Bee Boxes, Rain Barrels, Seed Mixes, How-to Presentations, and much more!

In cooperation with Green Springs Gardens' [Eco-Savvy Gardening Symposiums](#) and the [Audubon Society of Northern Virginia](#), Huntley Meadows is starting a new annual tradition.

Events: (\$3 per adult for presentations)

1:00 pm Butterfly Gardening Tips

1:45 pm Nature Walk with Park Manager

3:15 pm How to Build and Use Your Rain Barrel

Exhibitors:

Nature by Design Native Plant Nursery; Pollinator Partnership; Fairfax Releaf; Trout Unlimited; Audubon Society of Northern VA, and more!

For more information, call 703-768-2525

Alexandria Earth Day

Saturday, April 26, 10 am – 2 pm at [Ben Brenman Park](#)

<http://www.alexearthday.org/>

This year's theme is Alexandria: What's YOUR Footprint? and will focus on everyday activities citizens can do to reduce their environmental footprint. Additionally, the Alexandria Earth Day Committee has committed to making this year's event a [zero-waste](#) and carbon neutral event. Hundreds of Alexandrians will celebrate Earth Day with activities that include:

- Reuse Round-Up Event
- Live Music
- Youth Educational Activities
- Arbor Day Tree Planting
- A performance by Blue Sky Puppets
- A Green Home Fair and much, much more!

Neighborhood Watch

Robert D. L'Heureux, Chair, 703-609-2966

neighborhoodwatch@bbhca.org

Police Investigate Gang Activity; Nine Arrested

Fairfax Police Press Release, 3/25/08—After a closely coordinated effort amongst school resource officers, the gang unit, and several astute patrol officers assigned to the Franconia District station, police have charged nine young men with various gang-related activities that took place over the past three months.

Following a December 1, 2007, homicide at a Springfield Mall restaurant, graffiti was sprayed across the campus buildings of Lee High School between December 2 and 5. The writings were immediately identified as gang-related and an investigation began. The following men were charged with felony destruction of property and gang participation: Tarim Najmi, 28, of Springfield, Harold Guanilo, 21, of Alexandria, Carlos Perea, 22, of Arlington, and a 17-year-old from Arlington. They were charged between February 21 and March 14, 2008.

In January 2008, two students used markers to scribble gang-related graffiti in a boys' bathroom of Mark Twain Middle School. These writings were identified as affiliated with criminal gang activity taking place across the region. Police arrested two boys, ages 12 and 13, and charged them with destruction of a public building.

As a result of this investigation, police were able to develop information surrounding additional gang activity in the community. Police charged three boys, two 13-year-olds and a 14-year-old, with gang participation and recruiting gang members during the week of March 10. The alleged recruitment took place at the middle school.

The Fairfax County Police Department trains school staff and faculty on gang recognition. Once gang activity is recognized, officials move quickly to eradicate it. There is a zero tolerance policy in Fairfax County for these activities. Residents are urged to take quick action and contact police officials when they see graffiti appear.

Anyone with additional information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

>> *Franconia Crime Prevention Officers Alice Bennett and Jim Nida, (703) 922-8263*

State of the County Address

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/state-of-the-county-2008.htm



On March 28, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerry Connolly presented the state of the County. The County will

- Explore using its Penny for Affordable Housing program to purchase homes in foreclosure for resale at affordable rates as workforce housing.
- Support additional staffing and resources for the county's successful Enhanced Code Enforcement Strike Teams.
- Addressed critical investments in transportation, the environment, and education.

>> For more information on Chairman Connolly, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/>

Gardening 101: Stop Topping Trees!



Proper pruning can remove excessive growth without the problems topping creates. In addition, many arborists say that **topping is the worst thing you can do for the health of a tree**. It starves the tree by drastically reducing its food-making ability and makes the tree more susceptible to insects and disease. (Source: <http://www.arboday.org/trees/NineNum1.cfm>)

The misguided practice of tree topping (also referred to as stubbing, dehorning, pollarding, heading, and by several other euphemisms) has risen to crisis proportions nationally over the last decade. Topping has become the urban forest's major threat, dramatically shortening the lifespan of trees and creating hazardous trees in high-traffic areas. (Source: <http://www.plantamnesty.org/stoptopping/5reasonstostoptopping.htm>)

"Topping" trees is perhaps the most harmful tree pruning practice known. By removing a large portion of the tree's upper leaves, new problems can be created. Topped trees are more likely to suffer from stress and become vulnerable to sun damage, insects, disease and storms. If you have a tree that has grown too large, there are ways to correctly prune to reduce the tree crown without damaging the health of the tree. The rapid re-growth of shoots on a topped tree is an indication of stress and a weakened state of health. For appropriate methods to reduce the height or spread of a tree, an arborist can determine the best approach to pruning to preserve the tree's natural beauty, health and safety for the surrounding environment. For more information, contact the Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Division at 703-324-1770, TTY 711 or [e-mail](mailto:). Also go online to get answers to common tree care questions at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/navbar/faqs/urbanforestry.htm#why>)

>> Find a Certified Arborist at <http://www.isa-arbor.com/findArborist/findarborist.aspx>

Links To Keep

50 Ways To Save Water

<http://www.greenerchoices.org/products.cfm?product=50ways&pcat=homegarden>

Great ideas on how to conserve our most precious resource from Consumer Reports' "Greener Choices" web site.

Fairfax County Parks Calendar of Events

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/calframe.htm>

Check out the events for the month of April.

Digital TV Transition Coalition

<http://www.dtvtransition.org>

If you have questions about the transition from analog to digital TV, this is the site to visit. Note that "TV sets that currently receive programming through cable or satellite are not likely to be affected by the transition to digital."

BBHCA 2007–2008 Board

Jeannie Henry, President	president@bbhca.org
Sarah Kelly, VP Newsletter	newsletter@bbhca.org
Richard Frederick, VP Membership	membership@bbhca.org
Kevin Henry, Treasurer	treasurer@bbhca.org
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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, respond to enews@bbhca.org and enter "unsubscribe" in the subject line. The views expressed in eNews do not necessarily reflect the views of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association or its Board of Directors.

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association

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