



Partnering with Communities  
to create a better  
Prince William County

## 2009 Neighborhood Leaders Training & Meeting Schedule

All meetings take place from 7:00 - 8:30pm.

Date	Location	Summary of Agenda
January 8 (Thursday)	Occoquan Room, McCoart Building	How do you impart a sense of ownership and pride in your neighborhood? The question was researched and results shared. Personal contact is key to bringing neighbors together to build stronger personal, social connections and involving others in activities that will improve the community.
February 10 (Tuesday)	Occoquan Room, McCoart Building	Work on the group's strategic plan. We brainstormed what we want the group to do, and found that they can be grouped into 3 major goal areas 1) Foster effective communications between communities and government, 2) Facilitate community improvement through education and outreach, and 3) Improve neighborhood quality of life.
March 11 (Wednesday)	Occoquan Room, McCoart Building	Strategic plan work continued. Strategies were placed in the appropriate goal area and activities were listed. Leaders are to think about how to measure success in each area.
April 15 (Wednesday)	Development Services, 202	Strategic plan was completed; developed educational programs for next 6 months of meetings
May 11 (Monday)	Development Services, 202	"The Strange World of Zoning Ordinances" Speaker Nick Evers, PWC Zoning Administrator talked through the specifics of various zoning ordinances.
June 24 (Wednesday)	Development Services, 202	"IT Solutions to Neighborhood Communication" Kevin Crummett, IT support for Neighborhood Services, weighed the pros and cons of the different vehicles available to HOAs and neighborhood groups for communication, including social networking sites, Google and Yahoo Groups and portals. The leaders will pursue the idea of sponsoring a community portal.
August 13 (Thursday)	Development Services, 202	"Running Effective Meetings" Knowing how to maintain control while not stifling a group's enthusiasm takes a bit of skill. Techniques to improve a meeting leader's skill will be presented, including the use of Robert's Rules of Order. In addition, an update on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program in PWC and Neighborhood Services' year-end numbers of community improvement issues will be available.

September 21 (Monday)	Development Services, 202	(tentative) "Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers" There are strategies for engaging volunteers and getting them to return to assist with additional tasks and projects. This presentation will offer keys to what makes volunteers tick.
October 13 (Tuesday)	Development Services, 202	(tentative) "Growing Neighborhood Watch Groups" Neighborhood Watches provide a structure which enables neighborhood communication and a framework for community involvement. This session will both share lessons on how to start or strengthen a Neighborhood Watch as well as develop a plan to increase the numbers of watch groups.
November 18 (Wednesday)	Development Services, 202	(tentative) "Community Standards" This session focuses on the non-HOA neighborhoods which do not have rules that govern home appearances. Basic standards will be developed. Given that these neighborhoods have no enforcement for such standards; strategies for implementation will be created.
February 6, 2010 (Saturday)	2010 Neighborhood Conference	Mark your calendars for this annual event that brings together neighborhoods from across the county. Special classes for HOA/condo communities and neighborhood groups. Visit this site for updates!

## 2008

### Training Topics and Group Accomplishments

June 24 (Tuesday)	Occoquan Room, McCoart Building	Vacant houses; graffiti; help for elderly, disabled and income eligible for home repairs; successes on issues (unsolicited newspapers, recruiting volunteers, County Clean Ups, Neighborhood Watch)
July 24 (Thursday)	Potomac Room, McCoart Building	Dillon Rule and its impact on local government in Virginia Speaker - Senior Inspector Michele Janke on inoperative vehicles, commercial vehicles, and restricted parking districts
August 13 (Wednesday)	Potomac Room, McCoart Building	Graffiti Abatement Program Update on overcrowding pilot and neighborhood study Property Code Enforcement Intake process (Intake Technician Ana Borrero, speaker)
September 22 (Monday)	Potomac Room, McCoart Building	Speaker Inspector Claire Firebaugh on the new outside storage/trash and debris ordinance, civil versus criminal complaints Evaluation of meetings for determination of continuing to gather Summary of Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference Update on overcrowding pilot and neighborhood study
October 27 (Monday)	Potomac Room, McCoart Building	Inspector Barbara Valois spoke on the Spot Blight Program. The proposed mission statement was

		reviewed and adopted. The discussion was on foreclosures and vacant homes – action, resources needed.
December 2 (Tuesday)	Development Services Building, Room 202A	Further development of strategies on vacant homes and new residents (resources, partnerships, welcome packets, other). Work resulted in the publications, “Mitigating the Impacts of Vacant Homes” and “Welcoming New Residents” which are linked from the Neighborhood Leaders web page

The Neighborhood Leaders Group is supported by Neighborhood Services Division of Prince William County's Department of Public Works as part of the “Partnering with Communities” program. Please address any questions or comments to the Neighborhood Coordinator at 703-792-6892 or preilly@pwcgov.org.