Neighborhood Leaders Group Update…

Summer Break ~

**No NLG Meeting in July!**

Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 21st**, in the Development Services Building, located at 5 County Complex Court, **Room 202 A&B**, from 7p.m. ~ 9p.m.

Please join us as we discuss the 2019 Adopted Legislation by the General Assembly and its impact on Common Interest Communities. Attorney Heather Steele will be our Guest Speaker.

We are always looking for new members to join the group! Please consider inviting your neighbors to attend the next meeting with you.

Click [here](#) to access the 2019 NLG Calendar

2019 Dumpster Days

Click [here](#) to access the 2019 Schedule

Dumpster Days are facilitated by PWC Department of Public Works Neighborhood Services Division. The events are open for use by all County residents. We encourage residents to take part in organizing or participating in a community cleanup in their neighborhoods. Volunteers can participate in area litter pickups or simply utilize the free County dumpster to remove clutter and debris from their yards or other areas around their home.

HOAs and other neighborhood groups who wish to hold their own community cleanups should contact our community non-profit partner Keep Prince William Beautiful at [kpwb.org](http://kpwb.org) or 571-285-3772.
Securing your House of Worship
Worship Watch Training

Worship Watch is a program intended to encourage Houses of Worship to become more involved in reducing the opportunity for crimes to occur on their premises.

Topics covered:

- Creating a Safer House of Worship
- Introduction to the Worship Watch Program
- Active Violence Preparedness

Date: Thursday, August 8, 2019 from 6pm to 9pm


To RSVP, you must register below through Eventbrite by August 6, 2019.

https://worshipwatchtraining_aug19_2019.eventbrite.com
News from Our Community Partner

For the complete edition of Summer 2019 Watershed Newsletter, please visit:
https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/7e5859_9d72f1e7306e4acba7ed926c05650137.pdf
Stream restoration is time consuming and difficult work. In densely populated areas, buildings and other infrastructure need to be taken into account. In less populated areas, rough terrain comes into play.

The work, however, always pays off in the end, said Tom Dombrowski, a county environmental engineer. "It provides the opportunity for education, habitat improvement, fish passage, infrastructure protection and pollution control. It also protects sewer lines. It improves water quality and helps clean up the Chesapeake Bay."

Stream restoration includes directing the flow of water to the center of the stream channel to prevent bank erosion, introducing riffles that add oxygen into the water, adding riffle-pool structures to provide wildlife habitat and establishing vegetation along the stream.

Marc Aveni, Prince William County Environmental Services Chief, said that once restoration projects are done, everyone is happy. "The environmental community likes it because we're restoring the stream, and the public likes it because it looks like a park when we're done and it can increase property values."

In all, the county's Department of Public Works has completed 11 projects since 2013, for a total of $6.3 million, with at least half of that paid in state grants.

Aveni said the grants save county residents money. "It reduces the burden on our taxpayers… if we get millions from the state, we don't have to raise the fees on the homeowners who pay the stormwater management fee."

One of the county's projects recently earned the top award for Project of the Year from the American Public Works Association. Dewey's Creek Reach I project, at Possum Point Road, was recognized as the best restoration job in the state for its good use of construction management techniques, use of sustainable infrastructure, unusual accomplishments under adverse conditions and good quality control, among other things.

The project's objectives were to stabilize the creek, reduce bank erosion, provide infrastructure protection, enhance aquatic and terrestrial habitat, foster protection of residential and commercial properties, and prevent flooding at Possum Point Road.

Aveni said winning the award for the 1,380-linear-feet project establishes the county as a leader in the field. "We want to be seen as a model of how to do this."
News from Our Library…

Check out this Exciting Summer Lineup for Adult Learners at PW Public Libraries!

One-on-One Tech Tutor: Bull Run
By appointment
Library staff are available by appointment Monday through Friday to provide up to one hour of individual computer, personal device, software, or Internet assistance. Basic mouse and keyboard skills are necessary. Please call the Bull Run Information Desk at 703-792-4530 or come in person to make an appointment.

One-on-One Tech Training: Chinn Park
By appointment
Having trouble downloading e-Books or learning a new technology? Get expert help using PWPLS’s digital collection or research a collection, basic computer skills, and more. Call 703-792-4820 or email tfinn@pwcgov.org.

One-on-One Tech Help: Haymarket Gainesville
By appointment
Call 703-792-8704 or email wandes@pwcgov.org to make an appointment.

One-on-One Tech Help: Montclair
By appointment
Get expert help using PWPLS’s digital collection or research collection, filling out online job applications, basic computer skills, and more. Call 703-792-8740 or email mlecompte@pwcgov.org to schedule a meeting.

Prince William Photography Club: Montclair
Select Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
June 6, July 11, August 1
Find inspiration, motivation, education, and celebration of the art of photography. This group works to provide rewarding photography experiences, to give hands-on experience to increase image-making abilities, and to promote the art of photography throughout the community.

Creative Scappers: Central
Fourth Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.
June 27, July 25, August 22
Bring your own supplies and be ready for a fun night of scrapbooking: share ideas with other scappers and leave with perfect pages. Drop in.

Montclair Art Wall: Montclair
June and July—“The Views of Nature” by the Prince William Photography Club
Come view the beautiful artwork that is being exhibited by local artists.

*Stress Less at Central Coloring: Central
Love coloring? Have stress? Join the fun and win a book. No art skill or experience is necessary. Coloring sheets provided.
News from Neighborhood Services…

Our 2nd Quarter Numbers from NSD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spot Blight</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Zoning</strong></td>
<td>221</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>162</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Building</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance</strong></td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>53</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vegetation</strong></td>
<td>68</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>124</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Graffiti</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Refuse</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unsafe/Unfit</strong></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Illegal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roadside Signs</strong></td>
<td>1068</td>
<td>1396</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cases</strong></td>
<td>394</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>385</td>
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Neighborhood Services’ Mission is to assist residents understand, abide by, and raise concerns about compliance with Property Codes. The Codes are the basis for and guide the way we work together to maintain adequate health, safety and quality of life in the places where we live, work and enjoy Prince William County.

Property Code Enforcement staff members work to ensure our communities are properly maintained by educating and enforcing, when necessary the following:

- **Prince William Zoning Ordinance** (regulates how land is used)
- **Building Maintenance Code** (regulates safety and structural elements of existing structures)
- **Spot Blight Program** (addresses extremely deteriorated properties)
- **Illegal Roadside Signs** (signs placed illegally in the road right-of-way)
- **Tall Grass and Weeds** (seriously neglected lawns and properties)
- **Graffiti** (vandalism that is not removed or repaired in a reasonable time)
How Neighborhood Services Help Communities Thrive…

We're proud of the cost effective services provided by our Litter Crew. They have made Prince William County a better place. However, a truly effective program to keep our communities clean, safe and sustainable combines the efforts of everyone in the community. There are two major initiatives Neighborhood Services utilizes to support neighborhoods.

County Sponsored Dumpster Days

Our first effort is the PWC Dumpster Days campaign. This effort partners Public Works (Neighborhood Services, the Litter Control Crew, & the Solid Waste Division) with community volunteers and neighbors. Solid Waste provides dumpsters so residents can bring trash, debris and refuse items cluttering yards and other places around the home for proper disposal. This gives neighbors a chance to dispose of unused, unwanted and improperly stored items. It helps a community to improve its appearance and remove debris and other unwanted materials.

A few suggestions for how your neighborhood can join our campaign:
• Communities can combine the County Sponsored Dumpster Days opportunity with other events in their own neighborhood to bring residents together.
• Neighborhoods can get the word out through their email lists, door-to-door flier distribution, or Neighborhood Watches several weeks in advance.
• Volunteers can offer to drive pick-up trucks or trailers around the neighborhood to help others get their items to the dumpster sites and to transport items not appropriate for the dumpster separately to the County Landfill.
• County Sponsored Dumpster Days are generally held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. As mentioned household hazardous waste and consumer electronics will not be accepted in the dumpster, but can be collected and transported separately to the County Landfill by volunteers. (It is free for residents to deposit these items at the Landfill on Saturdays and Wednesdays between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm.)
These events offer a great opportunity to get rid of all of the clutter in yards and around the home!

Partnership with Keep Prince William Beautiful (KPWB)

The second effort allows Neighborhood Services to collaborate with Keep Prince William Beautiful, a non-profit organization dedicated to a clean and litter-free Prince William.

Keep Prince William Beautiful provides community cleanup guidance, a variety of educational materials, as well as supplies to support your cleanup effort. KPWB coordinates Adopt-a-Spot programs and will support your neighborhood cleanups. KPWB can be reached at 571-285-3772.
More News from Neighborhood Services...

Friday  
October 18, 2019  
8:00am-3:30pm  
5 County Complex Ct.  
Prince William, VA  
22192

2019 HOA/COA Leadership Seminar  
More information to follow soon...Watch for On-line Registration to Open mid-September

How Current is your HOA/COA Information???

Neighborhood Services maintains a HOA & Condo Database. It contains contact information for any group that voluntarily provides it to the Neighborhood Coordinator.

Check the information on file for your group and send any additions or corrections to nsd@pwcgov.org. The list is considered public information therefore other agencies may reach out to you so kindly be aware that other unsolicited mail may be received. Take a few minutes to review the database to ensure your Association’s information is up-to-date!
How Neighborhood Services Help Communities Thrive…

2019 Year to Date Dumpster Day Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2019 Tons</th>
<th>Last Year Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town of Quantico</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>5.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thousand Oaks</td>
<td>1.68</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Gate</td>
<td>3.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sudley</td>
<td>9.54</td>
<td>5.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodbridge</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you to all of our Neighborhood Leaders, Volunteers, BOCS and their Staff, Solid Waste Staff and our Litter Crew for making these events very successful year after year!!!

Reminder ~ What to do about Graffiti...

Report It & Remove It!

The Property Owner’s Responsibility

The property owner must remove the graffiti. Studies indicate that quick removal is the best deterrent. Be persistent, too. Research has shown that it may take an average of three times before vandals get discouraged with one spot. Keep America Beautiful and its partners also provide additional information at graffitihurts.org.

If the property owner does not remove or cover the graffiti within seven days of the date of legal notification by Neighborhood Services, County employees are allowed to enter the private property to remove or cover the graffiti. This will be done using the most cost-effective means available. While the utmost care will be taken in removing graffiti, do not expect paint colors to match and know that power washing may alter surfaces. Because the County cannot be held liable for any damage done to surfaces, it is best if the property owner removes the graffiti.
Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteers (VCE-MG) are trained educators who provide the public with environmental information that draws on the horticultural research and experience of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Virginia State University. Master Gardeners volunteer in a wide variety of programs by:

- Answering gardening questions in the Extension office, at local community functions, and at local garden centers.
- Diagnosing and providing recommendations for plant, insect and disease problems.
- Promoting safe use of pesticides, alternatives to pesticides, and fertilizers to protect water quality and the environment.
- Instructing the community on proper care of lawns, trees, shrubs, and vegetable gardens.
- Conduct gardening programs for groups of all ages within the community.
- Participating in community landscape and stormwater education site visits.
- Working with “Plant a Row for the Hungry” to collect produce at Farmers’ Markets for local food pantries.
- Participating and organizing seminars for continuing education.
- Participating in social events, field trips, and plant swaps.

From a 20-year veteran Master Gardener Volunteer: “The people at VCE are super people to work with. I know if I have a question about horticulture you would find the correct answer. I don't mind hard work I just like to make sure I am using the correct procedures. When I work with kids in the Science-in-the-Park they get up to date information that is information that I have received through VCE. Learning is a ongoing situation that never stops. I have an unbelievable garden and landscape thanks to VCE. I can't say enough positive things that the VCE offers Prince William County residents. I hope to continue as long as health permits. Thank you for what you and VCE has done for me. “

TO APPLY:
1. Attend one introductory class – 2019 information sessions are scheduled:

   8/20/19 Development Services Bldg. Rm 202 5 County Complex Dr. Woodbridge 6:30 pm
   8/22/19 McCoy Conference Rm Sudley North Government Bldg. 7987 Ashton Ave.
   Manassas 6:30 pm
   To register for one of these sessions, email master_gardener@pwcgov.org or 703-792-7747

2. Complete and return the application by your interview date. Interviews will follow intro classes.
3. Complete successful interview in Aug/September
4. Complete and pass a confidential background screening check through Pre-Search Background Services.
5. Tuition due by early September, approx. $235 – Checks collected at time of acceptance into the program and payable to “Treasurer of Virginia Tech” – hand carry or mail to VCE- Prince William 8033 Ashton Ave. Manassas, VA 20109 ATTN: Nancy Berlin, MG Coordinator) – fee covers Master Gardener handbook (approximately $90 for print copy), supplemental resources, hand lens & speaker fees and supplies. Partial scholarships are available, please email us for more information master_gardener@pwcgov.org

Classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights, 6:30 - 9:30 pm from mid-Sept. to mid-Dec. at Development Services Bldg., 5 County Complex Dr. Woodbridge, VA 22192, as well as other locations. There will also be a four Saturday morning field-type classes held at different locations.
12 Steps for a Greener Lawn

Dar Al Noor Islamic Community Center
Saturday, August 24th 2019, 10:00-12:15
5404 Hoadly Road, Manassas, VA 20112

Class provided by
Virginia Cooperative Extension – Prince William

Learn how to make the best use of valuable resources – your time and money – while learning about research-based best management practices for turf fertilization, maintenance practices and timings that prevent problems and help protect your neighborhood streams, lakes, ponds and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.

Free, but please register at 703-792-7747 or master_gardener@pwcgov.org

Saturday in the Garden 2019
Teaching Garden
9535 Linton Hall Rd, Bristow, 20136

Free classes at the Teaching Garden – please register 703-792-7747 or master_gardener@pwcgov.org in case of any changes. These classes are held outside, so please dress for the weather.

August 10 – Groundcovers for your Landscape and Feed Your Soil to Feed Your Plants. Learn the best groundcovers for your landscape and why healthy soil is essential for plant growth. Featured speaker is Julie Bourne-man of Watermark Woods Native Plants

Plant Family of the Month: The Grass Family

September 7 – Color Your Yard This Fall and Yoga for Gardeners. Ideas for colorful trees, shrubs and perennials for your yard, and tricks to work out the kinks and keep you gardening longer. MGPW Spring Plant Sale

Plant Family of the Month: The Aster Family

October 5 – The Great Plant Migration – Safely and Happily Moving Plants Indoors. If your plants had a summer vacation on your deck, it’s time to start getting them ready to move back inside for the winter.

Plant Family of the Month: The Rose Family
Help Us Help You Prevent Kids in Hot Cars

For Release
July 1, 2019

It's that time of the year when the forecast is predicting hot and humid weather. As periods of high temperatures continue, individuals should heed weather warnings to avoid becoming a victim of hyperthermia, a heat-related illness. Hyperthermia occurs when the body is exposed to excessive heat and produces or absorbs more heat than it can release causing the body's temperature to climb.

Hyperthermia can affect anyone, yet children and the elderly are most vulnerable. On average, 38 children, in the U.S., die annually from hyperthermia after being left unattended in motor vehicles. According to the Department of Meteorology & Climate Science (http://ggweather.com/heat/), there have been a total of 811 Pediatric Vehicular Heatstroke (PVH) deaths since 1998. Last year, there were a total of 52 PVH deaths, an increase from the previous year; and so far this year, there have been 16 children that have died in hot cars due to hyperthermia.

Although the month of July holds the record for being the deadliest month for children trapped in cars, any month with high temperatures is deadly to children left in cars. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) warns that on a 60° F day (spring weather), the temperature inside a vehicle can reach a dangerous 110º F within several hours. The onset for heatstroke in children is when the internal body temperature reaches about 104° F. The serious risk of death in children occurs when the internal body temperature reaches 107º F.

Unfortunately, the number of child hot car fatalities will continue to rise, even though most parents believe it could never happen to them. Acting System Chief Tim Keen, of the Prince William County Fire & Rescue System, in conjunction with safety advocates Kids and Cars and Safe Kids USA, remind parents and caregivers to be vigilant and practice safe measures in the prevention of injuries and deaths caused by vehicular hyperthermia.

Help us help you prevent kids in hot cars by following these simple safety tips:

NEVER leave children unattended in a car – NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE (video)

ALWAYS check the back seat of the vehicle before exiting (Beat the Heat, Check the Backseat (video))

√ Keep a teddy bear in the passenger seat directly next to you.
   This is a reminder to look for your little one when it's time to exit the car.

√ Always lock your car and keep all keys out of the reach of your kids.
   To avoid the risk of locking themselves in the car.

√ Slow down.
   Teach yourself to stop, take a minute and check your car when it's hot and you're responsible for children. This micro-minute can make a huge difference in car-seat rituals.

√ Pay attention to your sleeping habits.
   Those who have children under the age of 1 are at the highest risk due to juggling
many responsibilities on little sleep. When you are fatigued you are more likely to be forgetful.

✓ Place something valuable in the back seat.
   Consider items you never leave home without such as your wallet, purse, cell phone or items you
   absolutely must have for work such as your briefcase or laptop/tablet to keep in the backseat with your
   child as a reminder.

✓ Have a routine in place for morning drop-offs.
   Have the daycare worker call if the child has not been dropped off as expected.
   Take a photo of your child at the daycare drop-off and send to the other parent. If by a designated time,
   the photo is not received, the other parent would be alerted that the child has not been dropped off.

✓ Explore new vehicle and car-seat options – upgrade your gear or your wheels.
   SensorSafe Technology (phone app) – an alarm sounds if the seat is unbuckled while you're driving or
   if a child remains after you've parked.
   Rear Seat Reminder – alerts drivers that there may be something in the rear seat.

✓ Set a reminder on your phone.

**REMEMBER:**
Children and pets should NEVER be left in a car unattended for even a short period of time!

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News from Our Police Department…

National Night Out is Tuesday August 6th. The motorcade runs from 5-8:30 so if you plan on registering your block party make sure your party will fit that time frame. Due to the high demand and large number of watches, registration is first come, first serve basis.

For the neighborhood watches who may not be familiar with National Night Out, it is an annual event that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our community a safer place to work and live. For more information go to www.natw.org
National Night Out activity ideas

Simple refreshments
- Bring your favorite snack
- Coffee, tea, and dessert
- Cookie exchange
- Fruit and cheese plates
- Hot dogs and brats
- Ice cream cones/make your own sundaes
- Lemonade and cookies
- Mini-donut stand
- Popcorn
- Potluck
- Pretzels and pop
- Root beer floats
- Watermelon

Group conversations/mixers
- “Neighbor of the year” award
- Block e-mail list
- Block history stories
- Find block leader volunteers
- Have an ice breaker
- Interview politicians running for office
- Neighbor trivia game w/prizes for right answers
- Photos from past block parties and activities
- Share ideas and accomplishments on the block
- Skill swap
- Talk about area crime concerns and keeping an eye on each other’s houses
- Update block list for people and pets
- Update block contact list
- Welcome new residents

Activities for youth
- Bicycle parade/rodeo
- Chalk swap
- Coloring/maze sheet
- Dime/penny guess
- Duck pond
- Face painting
- Games
- Kiddie jump (“moon walk”)
- Make a banner or mural
- Piñata
- Riding bikes in streets
- Scavenger hunt
- Skits
- Talent show
- Races: minnow; cotton ball on a spoon
- Recognize kids’ accomplishments
- Scavenger hunt
- Sing-along/karaoke
- Soccer
- Storytelling (truth or fiction)
- Street dance
- Talent show
- Tour the gardens on the block
- Volleyball
- Water balloon fights
- Water balloon toss contest
- Welcome new neighbors
- White elephant exchange

All-ages activities
- Book exchange
- Book swap
- Build a milk carton boat for Aquatennial
- Cake walk
- Celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, etc.
- Dance
- Lawn mower beauty contest w/parade
- Ring toss contest
- Live music
- Movies
- Organize a book club
- Paint an old car with water colors
- Parade
- Plant exchange
- Prizes

Contribute to your community
- Beautify a common area
- Collect for a food shelf
- Cover graffiti
- Nominate a block club or an individual for a crime prevention award
- Plan a fall clean-up or bulb planting
- Presentation by an arborist (Dutch elm disease, etc.)
- Sign all ages up for library cards
- Use e-mail to communicate more with your block club
- Voter registration drive
- Community impact statements or petitions