

PUBLISHED BY THE  
FAIRLINGTON  
MEADOWS COUNCIL  
OF CO-OWNERS  
IN HISTORIC  
FAIRLINGTON

# Meadows Messenger

VOLUME XXVII, NO. 1

WINTER, 2009

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

B & G Update	2
Recycling News	2
Community Directory	4

## News from the Board

With another winter behind us, your Board of Directors wishes you a happy spring. We were very fortunate, from a budget standpoint, that we didn't get much snow this season.

The Board prepared an annex to our snow removal contract with ValleyCrest that outlined in detail our expectations of performance and contract fulfillment. We believe this resulted in an efficient snow removal process after the March storm, and therefore we will make the annex a permanent part of future contracts. Overall, things are going well in the community. We are very lucky to have Jack and Jose

Our contractor, US Sewer and Drain, has done an outstanding job under some very difficult conditions. We will begin work on the remaining five lines in April or May as soon as the ground is dry enough to permit safe digging.

The Board approved a resolution at its January 2009 meeting titled "Rules for Recreational Facilities in Fairlington Meadows." This resolution provides rules for use of the basketball court and the tot lot, something we have not had in writing until now. The document is posted online at our Web site: [www.fairlingtonmeadows.com](http://www.fairlingtonmeadows.com).

The following are a few general reminders for all residents:

Please use the sidewalks instead of cutting across the lawn areas. We have done a considerable amount of grounds restoration work and those areas are often soft and muddy. The grass seed needs to be left undisturbed so it has a chance to begin growing and renew the affected areas.

The tennis courts are for tennis only. Skateboarding, exercising dogs, and other non-tennis activities are strictly prohibited; they damage the playing surface,

leading to expensive repairs.

When the switch to digital television occurs in June, please do not leave your old set at the curb. The County accepts TVs, as well as other electronic devices, paints, hazardous household chemicals, and a host of other items, at its HHM drop-off facility located at 3151 S. Fern Street, right off Glebe Road.

The majority of items are accepted for free, but there is a nominal fee for computer monitors and televisions, which, on average, contain 6-8 pounds of lead and other harmful materials that must be reclaimed. The HHM facility is open most Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Having used this facility a number of times, I can tell you that it could not be simpler (it's even fun). This is a very valuable service to the community, so please do the right thing and dispose of your hazardous recyclables in a proper, earth-friendly manner. Everything you need to know about the County's recycling program is easily accessible on their Web site.

The Fairlington Historical

**Continued on page 3**



Welcome Spring!

on staff to keep up with everything, including items that pop up on a day-to-day basis.

The sewer lateral repair and relining capital investment project is nearing completion.

# Buildings & Grounds Update

By Chuck Edwards and Drew Thompson, Co-chairs



## Note to Unit Owners:

Meadows By-laws require you to submit a written request for any changes in excess of \$1,000 that you are considering making inside your unit.

The Board of Directors must approve these changes before any work is begun.

**Spring Planting:** Even in the cold of winter, the committee was already making plans for a small spring planting!

Please check the Meadows Web site for request forms. You may also write either Drew Thompson at 4307 S. 35th Street (thompsov@gmail.com) or Chuck Edwards at 3460 A-I S. Stafford Street (c-d@comcast.net).

Residents are reminded that the Buildings and Grounds Committee has two plantings each year — one in the spring and one in the fall.

**Grounds Work:** In early spring, ValleyCrest, our grounds contractor, will remove leaves and debris from the grounds, clean, edge and mulch the planting beds. After the threat of snow, they will clean our parking lots and begin general grounds work.

**Common Area Plantings:** Residents who are interested in planting a small flower garden outside a patio, whether in the rear or side of the patio, must

first receive permission from the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Please send a request to one of the two co-chairs, and the committee will review it. Such gardens are subject to removal if the resident does not maintain the space.

Please remember that permission is needed for any planting in common areas, and that these additional plantings become the property of the condominium association. There are many things to consider when planting. Some of these include the existence of sewer lines and underground utility lines, as well as the type of material planted and its impact on the community.

**Trees:** The committee would like to remind residents that our trees are living things that need to be nurtured and protected. They should never be used for signposts because nailing or stapling into a tree opens it up for disease.

The community spends many hours and dollars protecting our trees, and

we can all agree that they are essential to the overall ambiance of the Meadows and all of Fairlington.

**Community Pride:** The Meadows covers about 22 acres. All of us need to help with keeping our homes as attractive as possible.

Therefore, if you see a bit of debris on the grounds, please consider picking it up and disposing of it. All of us working together will help keep the community looking great.

If you are interested in joining the Meadows Building and Grounds Committee, please feel free to attend an upcoming meeting. They begin at 7:30 p.m. and last approximately one hour.

**May 6**  
Linnea Barry  
3460-A2 S. Stafford Street

**June 3**  
Janet Filer  
3444 S. Stafford Street

Meetings will not be held in July and August, but will resume in September.

## ~Recycling Reminder~

Residents can now recycle all plastics marked 1 through 7 (usually found on the bottom of the container next to the triangular recyclable symbol). This includes items that were not previously acceptable, such as plastic clam shells and yogurt containers. Please be sure to rinse all containers thoroughly and remove the lids before placing them in the recycling bins.

# News from the Board

*Continued from page 1*

Society has scheduled its 2009 Home and Garden Tour for Saturday, May 16. To nominate your home or garden, or to volunteer, visit their Web site at [fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org) or e-mail [FHS2009Home@aol.com](mailto:FHS2009Home@aol.com).

Spring is the time when folks get out of the house and enjoy the weather and the neighborhood, and it's great to see people working in the flower beds and in their patios.

The Board has received a number of very positive comments about how the community looks and how it continues to be well maintained. A large amount of credit for this goes to Jack and Jose; to the B&G Committee, which is co-chaired by Chuck Edwards and Drew Thompson; and to Jason Eglin, our property manager at CMC.

Unfortunately, we have also received a number of negative comments related primarily to people not being thoughtful of their neighbors and of our staff and contractors. We do not wish to dwell on the negative, but it is important for everyone to be aware of some of the oft-repeated complaints:

**Barking dogs left unattended all day or for long periods of time in the patio or in the house with the windows open:** Your dog may not bark when you are home but may do so while you are away. Please be considerate about this and don't allow your pet to create a noise nuisance. Neighbors should politely let each other know if this or any



other noise issues are a problem. Also, please do not allow your pet to walk through people's flower beds, or urinate on the lamp posts.

**Trash left out overnight or over the weekend:** We have found that people really do care about how the grounds look, especially those who invest time and energy in tending the common areas. In addition to being a violation of the Rules of Conduct, crows and squirrels tear the bags open and strew trash all over. Please place your trash—including bags of garden waste—out only at the proper time.



**Clipping of flowers and flowering branches:** Please leave these plants alone so that all can enjoy them. The community and individual residents spend considerable time, effort, and funds on these plantings. Please look, smell, and enjoy, but do not remove them.



On a positive note, many thanks to the majority of our residents who follow the rules and keep our community looking orderly and attractive—keep up the continued positive efforts! Working together, we can create an atmosphere that makes condo living pleasant for all.

In conclusion, the Board would like to thank Debbie Diener for her valuable service to the community. Debbie always brought serious and thoughtful comments and observations to the table. She made sure the

Board considered both sides of the issues by offering the “devil’s advocate” position whenever she felt it was appropriate. At the conclusion of last month’s meeting, Debbie announced her resignation from the Board, much to the disappointment of the other members, who greatly appreciated her contributions. We congratulate Debbie on her recent promotion, which will (unfortunately for us) mean she can no longer make the time commitment necessary to serve. Thank you for your years of service, Debbie. We wish you well and will not forget that you said you might be back some time in the future!

An ad hoc search committee has been formed to nominate possible candidates to serve out the remainder of Debbie’s term. Following that process, and a personal interview, the Board will make a selection. If you would like to add your name to the list to volunteer, please contact Jason Eglin at (703) 631-7200, ext. 212.

Our monthly Board meetings are generally held on the third Wednesday of the month at the Fairlington Community Center on South Stafford Street. If you plan to attend a particular meeting, please check the Web site in advance to confirm the date.

—John Thurber,  
Board President



# Fairlington Meadows Community Directory

## **Board of Directors**

John Thurber, president  
David Andrews, 1st vice president  
Lisa Farbstein, 2nd vice president  
(vacant), treasurer  
Jacqueline Maguire, secretary

*Send correspondence to the Fairlington Meadows Board of Directors in care of Community Management Corp. at the address listed below.*

*For copies of Board meeting minutes, see the Fairlington Meadows Web site, [www.FairlingtonMeadows.com](http://www.FairlingtonMeadows.com), view them on the community bulletin at the pool house, or contact Jason Eglin at CMC.*

## **Property Management**

Jason Eglin  
Community Management Corp  
12701 Fair Lakes Circle  
Suite 400, PO Box 10821  
Chantilly, Va. 20153  
Tel. 703-631-7200 (x 212)  
Fax 703-631-9786  
[jeglin@cmc-management.com](mailto:jeglin@cmc-management.com)

## **On-site Maintenance**

Jack Clark, manager  
José Rameriz, assistant  
Tel. 703-820-6799

## **Towing Requests**

A-1 Towing of Northern VA  
Tel. 703-979-2110

## **Messenger Volunteers**

Kathryn Utan, editor  
Rose Stack, distribution

*Send letters, article ideas, or other items to the editor at 3407B South Stafford Street or send an e-mail to [kathryn\\_utan@yahoo.com](mailto:kathryn_utan@yahoo.com).*

*Include your name, address, and contact information with all correspondence. Items will be printed at the editor's discretion.*

