

Sull-E Newsletter



A message from Kathy Smith

Happy April Fools Day tomorrow! Be on the watch for tricks and pranks. The newsletter this week includes helpful information about flood preparation, filing your federal taxes, and dog ownership. Please read on to learn more.

This week, we are also asking you to take action in your community in a couple meaningful ways. First, you can fill out the Fairfax County Survey on Homelessness. The deadline is next Saturday so please complete it soon. You can also sign up for the Homeless Pet 6k run and walk to be held at Lake Accotink Park on March 9. Finally, I encourage you to review the information below about how you can provide video testimony to the Board of Supervisors. Our most important job as public servants is being accountable to you and I hope you will take advantage of this new way to express your opinion on important issues.

Sincerely,

Katty

www.facebook.com/sullydistrict

| www.twitter.com/sullysupervisor



County Pilots Opportunity to Provide Video Input at Budget Public Hearings



As part of Fairfax County's efforts to expand public participation in our local government, the county is piloting a program that enables Fairfax County residents to provide a video link with their input on the proposed FY 2018 budget. The video will be viewed by the Board of Supervisors and the public during budget public hearings on April 5 and 6. The public hearings are live streamed and televised on [Channel 16](#).

Speakers may submit a video link, following county guidelines, in lieu of appearing in person before the Board of Supervisors at the public hearings.

[Video Submission Form and Information](#)

Guidelines for participating in this pilot program include:

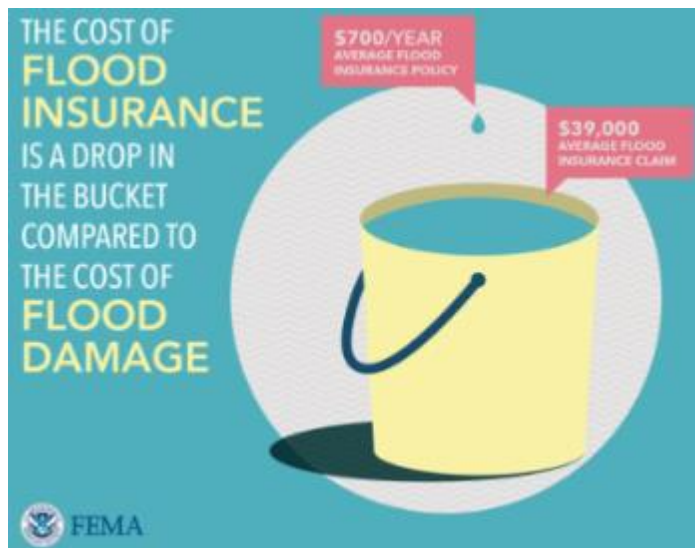
- A maximum of five videos will be played at each of the April 5 and 6 public hearings on a first-come, first-served basis. The video testimony will be played after in-person testimony is finished.
- If your video is not one of the five played at the public hearing and meets all the county guidelines, it will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for review.
- The deadlines to submit a video link for the budget public hearings:
 - **April 4** public hearing: At capacity, videos not accepted.
 - **April 5** public hearing: Tuesday, April 4 at 8:59 a.m.
 - **April 6** public hearing: Wednesday, April 5 at 8:59 a.m.
- Following the county's public hearing policy, you will have three minutes to speak in the video; five minutes if you are speaking for a group.
- Your video must be uploaded to and playable from YouTube.
- Video testimony must adhere to the same expectation for in-person presentations that speakers will deliver comments with the decorum and respect appropriate to the conduct of the public's business and comments will be limited to issues relevant to the budget.

The pilot video program is in addition to several other public input opportunities, including:

- Speaking at the [budget public hearings](#)
 - Emailing the [Department of Management and Budget](#) or [Clerk to the Board of Supervisors](#)
 - [Contacting your supervisor](#)
 - In addition, [town hall meetings](#) took place throughout March
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Following the pilot, the county will assess the program and determine next steps. For more information, contact [Tony Castrilli](#), Office of Public Affairs.

Spring Flooding Safety Tips



When spring hits, whether it is “official” — the first day of Spring is Monday, March 20 — or just feels like spring, many of us are eager to get out of the office and into the fresh air.

And while spring brings warmer temperatures, it also can bring heavy rain. But until the ground thaws, melting snow — which we haven’t had a lot of this winter — and rain cannot be absorbed into the earth. Spring storms can bring several inches of precipitation in just hours or can stall out over an area for days. These heavy rains can lead to severe flooding by oversaturating the ground, overflowing storm drains or causing rivers or lakes to spill over their banks or levees.

Floods are the most common and costly natural disaster in the United States.

Here are some things to keep in mind as the spring flood season draws near.

- Never drive or walk through flooded streets. It only takes six inches of moving water to sweep a person off their feet (and not in the romantic way) and 12 inches to move a car. Remember, **if a street is flooded, Turn Around; Don't Drown.**
- Floods are expensive. A few inches of water in a 1,000-square foot home could cost more than \$10,000 in repairs and replacement of personal possessions.
- **Most insurance does not cover flood damage.** Only flood insurance will cover the damage from floods. Speak with your insurance agent to learn more and remember flood insurance takes 30 days to take effect, so purchase now to protect your family.
- Talk with your family and make an emergency plan for you and your pets. No matter the disaster, it's always a good idea to have emergency supplies ready at home, at work, and in the car.

You can learn more about the dangers of flooding and find information about flood insurance at www.Ready.gov/floods and www.Floodsmart.gov.

Survey on Homelessness in Fairfax County



A group of George Mason University communications students is collaborating with Fairfax County's Office of Public Affairs and Office to Prevent and End Homelessness to get input from our community about the perception of homelessness in our county.

The deadline for the survey is **April 8 at 12:00 p.m.** and it is anonymous. It should only take a few minutes. Your input is critical and much appreciated. The results are expected to be published by early May. You can look for the results on [NewsCenter](#).

[Take the Survey](#)

Filing Federal Taxes?
Get Your Local Tax Info From MyFairfax Portal



We've all done it. You begin working on your federal and state taxes forms and realize you forgot where you left your car tax receipt or the notice from your mortgage company with your real estate tax amount.

With the April 15 Federal Income Tax deadline drawing near, there is a way to simplify your annual tax preparation. Instead of looking for those elusive pieces of paper, you can access personal property (car), real estate and even business tax information online via our new secure web portal called MyFairfax.

[Visit MyFairfax Portal](#)

MyFairfax is an ongoing customer service initiative to provide you with faster and easier access to county information in a secure environment. In addition to getting your tax payment information, you can use your MyFairfax account to:

- View/Pay tax bills online
 - Change your mailing address
 - View your online tax bill and payment history
 - Perform vehicle registrations and updates
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Signing Up for MyFairfax is Easy:

To get started, you will need:

- **Personal property (car) taxes:** DMV Customer ID and the last four digits of your vehicle's VIN number.
- **Real estate taxes:** Your property's map reference number and your web control number. These can be found in your Notice of Assessment Change that you received in the beginning of the year, or by calling DTA at 703-222-8234 (TTY 711).

Need Help?

Email [MyFairfax](#) Help for questions about logging in or signing up for the web portal. For other questions about your tax information, call DTA at 703-222-8234 (TTY 711).

April Events at Centreville Regional Library



Centreville Library 25th Anniversary

Date: Saturday, April 8

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Celebrate the 25th Anniversary with music and dance. Light refreshments. Cosponsored by the Friends of Centreville Library and the Fairfax Library Foundation. All ages.

GIVE Tutoring

Date: Saturday, April 1 & 22

Time: 12:45 p.m.

High school honor students provide homework help and tutoring to younger students (Grades K-6). No registration necessary.

AARP Tax Assistance

Date: Tuesday, April 4, 11, & 18

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Date: Wednesday, April 5 & 12

Time: 1:00 p.m.

IRS-certified volunteers from AARP Foundation offer free tax preparation; preference given to those 50 and older. No registration necessary.

Movie: The Secret Life of Pets

Date: Wednesday, April 12

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Bring a blanket/pillow if you like to sprawl out. 87 minutes, rated PG. Refreshments provided. All ages.

For the full schedule of events please visit the county's website at

<https://va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp?EventType=ALL&Libnum=03>.

Break a Sweat for a Homeless Pet



Date: Sunday, April 9, 2017

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: [Lake Accotink Park](#), Springfield

Join the Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter for the dog-gone best 6k event of the YEAR!

That's right, Break a Sweat for a Homeless Pet is back and better than ever. There are dogs. There are hot dogs.

There will be adoptable dogs from the Fairfax County Animal Shelter there to strut their stuff, and all participants are welcome to bring their own dogs for a bit of exercise with friends.

Registration is \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 12 years old and younger (event day registration is available, but prices will be \$20 and \$10, respectively).

Register online

at: <https://www.signmeup.com/site/reg/register.aspx?fid=XP2VCH7>

10 Tips for Responsible Dog Ownership



With more than 87,000 registered pups, many of us love our dogs (or at least like our neighbor's dog). Of course, there are some people who may not care for excessive barking or dog waste that's not picked up, too, so **it's important to be a responsible owner.**

It is in that spirit we present this simple list of 10 ways to be a responsible dog owner in our county.

1.) Identify Your Pet

Make sure your dog wears a collar with a current license and ID tag and has a microchip with up-to-date information.

2.) Vaccinate Your Dog

Proof of a valid rabies vaccine is required for licensing your dog in Fairfax County. Check with your vet to determine what other vaccines are most appropriate for your dog.

3.) Get Your Dog Licensed

All dogs four months and older must have a [license which is renewed annually](#).

4.) Spay or Neuter Your Pet

Each year, three to four million homeless pets are euthanized in the United States. By spaying or neutering, you are doing your part to reduce pet overpopulation. Dogs that have this routine surgery tend to have longer, healthier lives and are less likely to roam.

5.) Enroll Your Dog in a Training or Obedience Class

Positive training will allow you to control your dog's behavior safely and provides a terrific opportunity to enhance the bond you share with your dog. Training builds communication, understanding and mutual respect. The Park Authority offers basic and advanced obedience classes. Register by visiting [Parktakes Online](#).

6.) Keep Your Dog Physically Fit

Up to 45 percent of pets in the United States are overweight or obese. To keep your dog happy and healthy, make sure you exercise your dog every day. Twice daily walks are enough for some dogs while others benefit from

the additional exercise, play time and socialization they get from regular visits to a dog park.

7.) Obey Leash Laws

In Fairfax County, dogs are required to be on a leash at all times in public areas unless they're in a [designated off-leash area](#).

8.) Clean Up After Your Dog

Pick up dog waste and dispose of it in a public trash can or at home. Dog waste is not only unsightly, but it pollutes groundwater and is harmful to wildlife.

9.) Protect Your Dog From the Elements

If the temperature outside is too cold or hot for you, it is also too cold or hot for your pet. Pets should be kept indoors and never leave your pet in a car when the outside temperature is above 70 degrees.

10.) Give Your Dog Companionship

Dogs left alone for long hours are more likely to exhibit undesirable behaviors including aggression and separation anxiety. If you are away from your home long hours, consider hiring a dog walker or getting a companion for your pet. The [Animal Shelter](#) has lots of loving pets waiting to meet you!

Animal Shelter Corner



Meet Shadow!

Age: 10

Gender: Female

Color: Chocolate

Spayed/Neutered: Yes

Size: Medium

Shadow is a sweet, medium sized tripod who came to the animal shelter from one of their rescue partners. She may only have three legs, but she doesn't let that stop her! She loves to go out on walks and check out the sights and smells in the yard. She has been a little stressed at the shelter and takes awhile to warm up to new people. We can't wait to see her go to a new home where she can get comfortable and let her personality shine! To learn more about Shadow email the animal shelter at animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Volunteer Opportunity in Sully



Fitness Room Monitor/Cleaner at Cub Run

Description: Welcome and monitor customers for proper use of equipment as well as help us to keep our fitness room clean and organized.

Duties: Greet the fitness room patrons and keep count of all persons using the room; answer questions on usage regulations; report equipment needing repair and assist with maintaining the room in proper order and cleanliness. Light to heavy lifting.

Volunteer Benefits: Free RECenter facility use: *Park Services and *Resource Management volunteers who maintain an average of four hours of service per week or three weekly classes per class session as an Adapted Aquatics assistant, can use ANY RECenter's general facilities free of charge. Free RECenter classes: *Park Service and *Resource Management volunteers who have served a minimum of 32 hours and maintain an average of eight hours of service per week, or volunteer as an Adapted Aquatics assistant for four weekly classes, per class session are eligible to take one free FCPA Parktakes class per session on a space available basis. Family Discount Pass: All FCPA volunteers are entitled to purchase a 25-visit pass for their family use to any RECenter at a special county employee rate. Ten Percent Merchandise Discount: *Park Service, *Resource

Management and *Golf volunteers who serve four or more hours each month are entitled to a 10% merchandise discount, some exclusions apply. Fairfax County Credit Union Membership: Any active FCPA volunteer is entitled to free credit union membership.

Qualifications: Must be 16 years of age or older. Be an enthusiastic individual willing to interact with the public in a positive manner. Must be organized and have skills to deal with various tasks. Must attend site orientation and on-the job training as required. Mandatory safety training and facility based training will be provided.

Time Commitment: You will be expected to volunteer four hours per week for six months.

Location:

Cub Run RECenter
4630 Stonecroft Boulevard
Chantilly, VA 20151

Contact:

Ann Shields
703-814-7788

Ann.Shields@fairfaxcounty.gov

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