



The Braddock Beacon

James R. Walkinshaw Braddock District Supervisor

Volume 16 | Issue 3
3.01.2024

Dear Neighbor,

The best part of my job is the opportunity to see – and support – the amazing work that community volunteers and organizations do in collaboration with Fairfax County. Last week, I spent a day in the Annandale area of the Braddock District, visiting the many non-profits, faith groups, and volunteers providing support and opportunity to one of our highest-need areas. Annandale is one of our designated Opportunity Neighborhoods, facilitated by FACETS, a local non-profit, and funded by Fairfax County. Opportunity Neighborhoods is an initiative that brings together residents, service providers, and schools to create a shared vision to address needs and improve opportunities.

I started at the relatively new Annandale Community Center (ACC), a center we opened just last year. There, the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington and Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services offer free after-school programming for kids and teens. Kids can access technology, make art, get homework help, and just hang out. The Boys and Girls Club gives kids opportunities



and Community Services offer free after-school programming for kids and teens. Kids can access technology, make art, get homework help, and just hang out. The Boys and Girls Club gives kids opportunities

they might not have had otherwise and relieves hard-working parents from the costly burden of after-school and summer care.

From there I headed across the street to the Annandale United Methodist Church Mission Center for their Thursday food distribution, where each week they provide food and other necessities to hundreds of families.

Untangling some zoning and fire code hurdles allowed the Mission Center to partner with the [Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation](#) to open a low-income dental clinic in the basement. They haven't officially cut the ribbon but are already examining kids and connecting them to higher-level dental care.

Next, I headed over to [Burke Presbyterian Church](#), where they were hosting a hypothermia shelter. Every year I try to visit each of the faith community-hosted shelters in the Braddock District to thank the volunteers and get to know those experiencing homelessness.

Later that evening, I went back to the ACC, where the kids had gone home for the evening and the [English Empowerment Center](#) was holding a night class for English learners.

When planning for the ACC, we held a series of meetings to hear directly from the community about what they most needed, and language learning opportunities were the top request.



The following day I joined the School Board's Mason District Representative, Dr. Ricardy Anderson, at Braddock Elementary School to read with students through [Read On Young Readers](#), a non-profit partner that focuses on literacy learning loss by partnering trusted volunteers with students.

The organization was founded to mitigate the potential reading and English language loss to students due to remote learning during the pandemic. They began working at Mason Crest Elementary School and expanded to Braddock Elementary in 2022!

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Annandale area of the Braddock District had some of the highest need for food, medical, rent, and other supports that we provided. Since then, we've been working to fill in the gaps and provide support across the spectrum – from renovations at Braddock Elementary School, opening the ACC, and uplifting partner organizations like the Mission Center, the English



Empowerment Center, Read-On Young Readers, and more. While there is a lot of work to be done, it is powerful to see how far we've come by working together.

I'm deeply appreciative of the community members involved in these organizations, along with the dedicated staff of [Braddock Elementary School](#), [Annandale High School](#), and Fairfax County. If you'd like to get involved in or support any of this work, please reach out to my office.

Update on Proposed Stadium at George Mason University

Thank you to all the residents who contacted me with concerns about the proposed cricket facility at George Mason University's West Campus property. Late this morning, we received an important [update from GMU](#). GMU and Washington Freedom have committed to not begin construction on such a facility until they meet with the community to hear their concerns in person. They also stated that the discussion is for cricket matches to take place in July 2025.

Update on Proposed Stadium at George Mason University

Thank you to all the residents who contacted me with concerns about the proposed cricket facility at George Mason University's West Campus property. Late this morning, we received an important [update from GMU](#). GMU and Washington Freedom have committed to not begin construction on such a facility until they meet with the community to hear their concerns in person. They also stated that the discussion is for cricket matches to take place in July 2025.

Yours in service,

Supervisor James R. Walkinshaw

Read on to Learn More About:

[Walkinshaw in the Community](#) 5
[March Citizen of the Month](#) 7
[Seasonal Items](#) 8
[Community News](#) 9
[Environment & Parks News](#) 15
[Compliance Corner](#) 19
[Transportation Updates](#) 20
[Public Safety](#) 22
[Human Services Corner](#) 24
[Resources for Older Adults & Caregivers](#) 27
[Youth News](#) 30
[Land Use & Development](#) 32

Upcoming Events

Details on these events and more can be found in this edition of the Beacon or by contacting braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov.

- **March 1** First Day of Women’s History Month
- **March 2** Senator Dave Marsden’s Discussion at Kings Park Library
Last Day for Early Voting in Presidential Primary Election
- **March 4** [Community Fire and Rescue Academy](#) Application Deadline
- **March 4 - 29** Menstrual Supplies Drive at the Braddock District Office
- **March 5** Presidential Primary Election Day (*FCPS Closed*)
West Springfield District’s Community Engagement Meeting
Full Board Meeting ([View the 2024 Board Meeting Schedule](#))
- **March 6** [Fairfax County Housing Symposium](#)
- **March 7** Fairfax County [Consumer Affairs Day](#)
- **March 9** [Sound the Alarm](#) with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department
- **March 11** [2024 Braddock District Budget Town Hall](#)
Animal Services Consolidation Proposal Town Hall (Michael R. Frey Campus)
- **March 13** Animal Services Consolidation Proposal Town Hall (Lorton Campus)
- **March 19** Braddock District Land Use & Environment Committee Meeting
- **March 20** Braddock District Tree Forum
- **March 25-29** Spring Break (*FCPS Closed*)
- **March 31** Last Day of County Hypothermia Shelter Program

Walkinshaw in the Community



(Above, L-R)

Delegate Karrie Delaney, At-Large School Board Member Iryong Moon, Delegate Marty Martinez, Harold Pyon, Congressman Gerry Connolly, Supervisor Walkinshaw and Delegate Karen Keys-Gamarra at the Asian Community Service Center's Chinese New Year Festival on February 24



Supervisor Walkinshaw gave opening remarks and attended the Design and Environmental Achievement Awards on February 27

Supervisor Walkinshaw spoke to community members at a Citizens' Climate Lobby event, encouraging them to take advantage of incentives to reduce their carbon footprints on February 12





Supervisor Walkinshaw thanked Hypothermia Shelter site volunteers at Westwood Baptist Church and St. Matthews United Methodist Church on February 12

In February, Supervisor Walkinshaw also:

- Lobbied the General Assembly as part of the Virginia Association of Counties' Local Government Day on February 1
- Hosted an environmental roundtable discussion on February 5
- Recorded an [episode of Unscripted](#), the Department of Family Services' podcast, on February 9
- Joined Braddock residents for a virtual session of Neighborhood College on January 15
- Met with members of Fairfax County's General Assembly Delegation in Richmond on January 15
- Cleaned up Americana Drive with the Fairfax County Restoration Project on February 19
- Spoke with Burke Village residents at their HOA meeting on February 21
- Attended the Chapel Square Civic Association's Winter Party on February 25
- Joined Colony Park at their Annual Membership Meeting on February 26
- Spoke with Westcott Ridge residents at their HOA Board Meeting on February 27
- Met virtually with Boy Scout Troop 1346 on February 29

March Citizen of the Month

Lisa Connors

Braddock District's March Citizen of the Month is Lisa Connors!

Lisa is the Communications Director for Hunter Mill Supervisor Walter Alcorn. She has had an extensive career within Fairfax County, serving as the Public Information Officer for the Office of Public Affairs, Office of Elections, Fairfax County Police Department, and the Department of Management and Budget. For over 20 years, Lisa has dedicated her career to public service.

Lisa is a longtime Braddock District resident and a proud parent of Robinson Secondary School graduates. She volunteers as a mentor at Robinson as part of FCPS' [**MentorWorks**](#) [**program**](#).

At the end of this month, Lisa will be retiring, and we hope her time is spent doing what she loves most – traveling, hiking, exploring the outdoors, and bike riding!

Lisa's dedication to an extensive career in public service and her admiration for giving back by mentoring at a local school make Supervisor Walkinshaw proud to recognize her as March's Braddock District Citizen of the Month!

Congratulations to Lisa on her career in local public service. Enjoy retirement!



*Do you know a Braddock District resident who should be recognized as a Citizen of the Month? **Nominate them here.***

Seasonal Items

2024 Braddock District Budget Town Hall

Supervisor James Walkinshaw's priority throughout the months-long budget process is listening to constituents' thoughts, ideas, and concerns before the Board of Supervisors adopts the final budget in May.

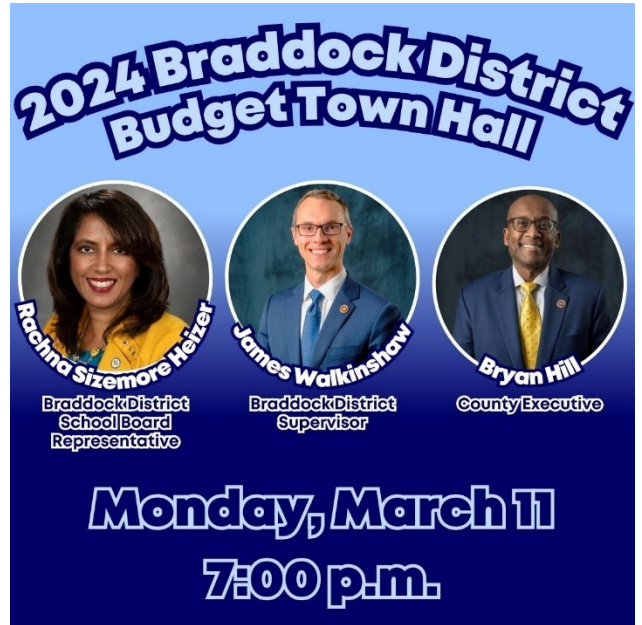
The Supervisor will be hosting a virtual Braddock District Town Hall on Monday, March 11, at 7:00 p.m. with Braddock District School Board Member Rachna Sizemore Heizer and County Executive Bryan Hill.

There are several ways to watch:

- [Facebook Live](#)
- Streaming on [the County website](#)
- Tune in to Channel 16 (Channel 16 on Verizon/Comcast or Cox Channel 1016)

You can also submit questions for the town hall using one of three formats:

- Email braddocktownhall@fairfaxcounty.gov
- Call (703) 324-1114 during the program
- Use the [Facebook Live chat](#)



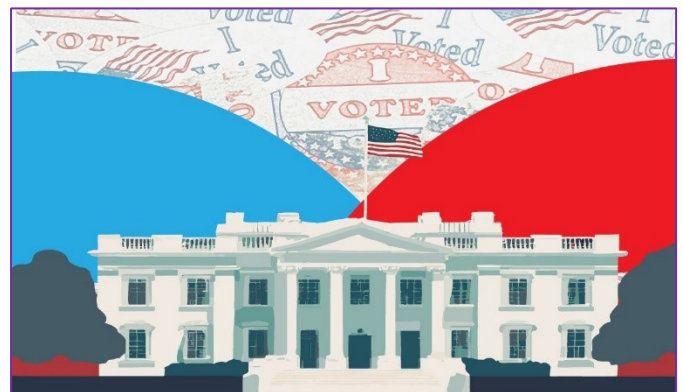
Presidential Primary Voting

Early Voting

Saturday, March 2, is the last day to vote early for the March 5 Presidential Primary Election. 16 early voting sites will be open Countywide from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., including three in or around the Braddock District:

- Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax)
- Burke Centre Library (5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke)
- West Springfield Governmental Center (6140 Rolling Road, Springfield)

You can find all the locations, operating hours, and detailed information for early voting on the County's Office of Elections' [website](#).



Voting on March 5

Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5.

- [Check your registration status](#)
- Find your [polling place](#)
- Bring an [acceptable form of identification](#)

For more information about:

- [Voting Early In-Person](#)
- [Returning Mail-In Ballots](#)
- [Voting on Election Day](#)
- [Fairfax Office of Elections](#)
- [Virginia Department of Elections](#)

Animal Services Consolidation Proposal Town Halls

The Department of Animal Sheltering and the Fairfax County Police Department are hosting two in-person town halls to discuss uniting animal care and control services under one department. The [proposed consolidation](#) would align Fairfax with industry best practices, expand service delivery to the community, and optimize County resources.



For more information on the proposed consolidation of animal services, visit the [Animal Shelter's website](#).

Town Hall dates are:

- Monday, March 11
 - 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
 - Fairfax County Animal Shelter's Michael R. Frey Campus (4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax)
- Wednesday, March 13
 - 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
 - Fairfax County Animal Shelter's Lorton Campus (8875 Lorton Road, Lorton)

Community News

Braddock District Menstrual Supplies Drive

"Period poverty" is the lack of access to safe and clean menstrual products and hygiene facilities. The inability to acquire these essential hygiene products impacts the overall physical and emotional health of those who menstruate.

Braddock Supervisor James Walkinshaw will be co-hosting a [Menstrual Supplies Drive](#), in coordination with Providence Supervisor Dalia Palchik's office, from March 4-29, to supplement those locally who may be in period poverty.



Supervisor
James R. Walkinshaw
Braddock District
Fairfax County, Virginia

Menstrual Supplies Drive

Tampons | Liners | Pads | Menstrual Cups

Support Annandale United Methodist Church Mission Center by donating unopened packages of menstrual supplies at the Braddock District Office (9002 Burke Lake Road)

March 4 - 29 | More info at bit.ly/WMHDrive

You can drop off new and sealed packages of tampons, pads, liners, and menstrual cups to the box outside of the Braddock District Office (9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke). Donations will benefit the Annandale United Methodist Church Mission Center.

Visit [Supervisor Palchik's page](#) for more information about the drive.

Senator Marsden Hosts Discussion

Senator Dave Marsden will host a community discussion on Saturday, March 2, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Kings Park Library Meeting Room (9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke). The discussion will focus on the state budget and other legislation in the General Assembly.

King's Park Library
9:00am
Saturday, March 2nd

9000 Burke Lake Rd
Burke, VA 22015



For more information, email Jimmy at senatormarsden@senate.virginia.gov

2024 Fairfax County Housing Symposium

Fairfax County and the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA), in partnership with the George Mason University Costello College of Business, will be hosting the [2024 Fairfax County Housing Symposium](#) on Wednesday, March 6, from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The event is free and [open to the public](#). The event will be held on the Fairfax Campus of George Mason University at the Harris Theatre (4471 Aquia Creek Lane, Fairfax).

This year's event will feature a panel discussion on the critical work and impact of the FCRHA, a brief tour of One University, a discussion on preventing and ending homelessness in Fairfax County, and a conversation on the complexities and decisions that play into the development, preservation, and adaptive reuse of affordable housing. Information about the 2024 Symposium is [available online](#).



Sound the Alarm Volunteers Needed

The American Red Cross, in partnership with the Fairfax County Fire Department, is looking for volunteers to support their upcoming [Sound the Alarm event](#) at the Waples Mobile Home Park on Saturday, March 9, from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Volunteers will visit homes to install free smoke alarms and share home fire safety education materials with the residents. Breakfast, lunch, snacks, and water will be provided.

[Sign up to volunteer online](#). After you've created an account, select In Home Fire Safety Event → Sound the Alarm Event → Fairfax County/March 9. Email Linda Kline with questions about volunteering at Linda.kline2@redcross.org.

ECHO's March Needs

ECHO is seeking clothing, housewares, and food donations including:

Clothes

- Boys' sneakers sizes 1-4
- Girls' sneakers sizes 1-6
- Men's sweatpants in all sizes
- Men's jeans in 30" or 32" waists
- Men's small and medium winter coats

Food

- Dried beans

- Canned fruit
- Boxed pasta
- Spaghetti sauce

Housewares

- Laundry detergent
- Dish detergent
- Hand towels
- Blankets and comforters (queen and twin sizes)
- Shampoo
- Washcloths
- Bathmats



- Shower curtains

For a list of the most needed food, clothing, and household items, visit [ECHO's website](#), which is updated regularly.

ECHO accepts donations at their office (7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield) Monday - Friday from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Tuesday - Thursday. You can also drop off your donations at the Braddock District Office (9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke) Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

THRIVE Applications Open Now!

Last year, Fairfax County introduced [THRIVE](#) – a technical assistance program dedicated to small business growth. Through this program, approximately 600 businesses will receive consulting services valued up to \$10,000 to help them reach their business goals and continue their post-pandemic recovery.



By offering coaching and consulting services, THRIVE aims to mitigate the negative COVID-19 economic impacts on local small businesses. Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors authorized \$7,000,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to establish the THRIVE program. The Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC) will serve as the program grant administrator.

THRIVE is accepting applications for businesses now. Learn more about eligibility and applying on the [THRIVE website](#).

Serve on a Board, Authority, or Commission

Are you looking for a way to serve your community? There are 84 [Boards, Authorities, and Commissions](#) (BACs) in Fairfax County that serve in an advisory role to the Board

of Supervisors on a wide range of topics. Most members of these BACs are appointed by the Board and are selected for their experience or expertise in the subject matter, their ties to the community, and their willingness to invest their time and energy. Supervisor Walkinshaw makes nominations to the Board when vacancies arise for Braddock-based and some at-large seats on BACs.

If you are interested in serving, please send your resume and an up-to-500-word statement of interest to braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov. As vacancies arise, Supervisor Walkinshaw refers to the Braddock District's list of those who are interested in serving. Several vacancies are now announced. Position descriptions and application information are below:

■ BOARD OF EQUALIZATION OF REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENTS

- The [Board of Equalization](#) (BOE) is an independent body appointed by the Board of Supervisors to review real estate tax assessments. The BOE, which currently consists of nine members, is concerned with the fairness and equity of assessment values determined by the Department of Tax Administration (DTA). The BOE has the power to increase, decrease, or keep the same assessment upon its review. The BOE acts under the authority and powers conferred upon it by Code of Virginia §15.2-840 and the provisions of Article 14 (§ 58.1-3370 et seq.) of Chapter 32 of Title 58.1 of the Code of Virginia, as amended.

All meetings are conducted in accordance with Chapter 37 of Title 2.2 of "The Virginia Freedom of Information Act" (VFOIA).

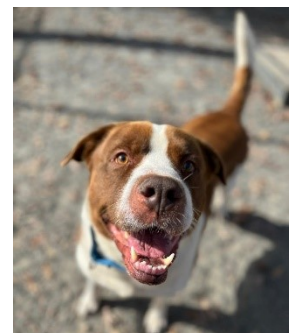
- Stipend: \$300 per meeting (The BOE normally meets three times a week seasonally at the call of the BOE Chairman)
- Job Duties:
 - Hear oral testimony and review applicable documentation and evidence presented by the Taxpayer/Taxpayer Representative and the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) regarding the current year's assessment.
 - In meetings guided by Robert's Rules of Order, after both sides have presented their arguments, the BOE members will generally vote to either increase, decrease, or affirm the assessment.
 - The BOE position is seasonal and may last from June through the following March; however, the season typically ends in November or December.
 - The typical number of cases heard on a specific date are between four and six.
 - Depending on the number of appeals, the BOE may have panel hearings on Monday and Thursday evenings if there is a quorum of at least three BOE members.
 - In accordance with Code of Virginia [§58.1-3374](#), as amended, when a BOE panel hears an appeal concerning a commercial, industrial, or multi-family residential, at least one panel member must be a

commercial or residential real estate appraiser, other real estate professional, builder, developer, legal professional, or financial professional.

- **Minimum Qualifications:**
 - Must be a Fairfax County resident.
 - The BOE is generally comprised of nine members who are residents, and a majority are property owners in Fairfax County. Of the nine BOE members, three shall be members at-large and six shall be commercial or residential real estate appraisers, other real estate professionals, builders, developers, or legal or financial professionals.
 - The BOE members serve in two-year staggered terms with the Chairman and Secretary of the BOE elected annually by the members of the BOE.
 - Must have knowledge of and experience with commercial and residential real property.
 - To serve, each prospective member must attend and participate in the Virginia Department of Taxation BOE training every four years and take continuing education instruction provided by the Tax Commissioner.
 - Must be available to attend hearings as scheduled, currently on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Government Center as advertised in the annual Notice of Meetings.
- If you are interested in serving on the Board of Equalization, please contact Chairman Jeff McKay's office at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov and be prepared to provide a current résumé. Please note that certain members of the BOE must file financial disclosure statements upon appointment and annually thereafter.
- Members of the BOE must follow the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (VFOIA). This act ensures that the people of the Commonwealth have ready access to public records in the custody of a public body or its officers and employees and free entry to meetings of bodies wherein the business of the people is being conducted.

■ **ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

- The [Animal Services Advisory Commission](#) serves in an advisory capacity to the [Animal Shelter](#) Director and the Board of Supervisors on issues relating to animal health and welfare. It serves to enhance the existing mission and goals of the agency, i.e., to promote responsible pet ownership, to reduce euthanasia and pet overpopulation, and to continue to maintain certification for Shelter Standards of Excellence.
- Supervisor Walkinshaw seeks a Braddock District member for the term running through February 28, 2026. If you are interested, please send a



resume and up to 500-word statement of interest to braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov.

■ BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

- The Board of Zoning Appeals has [upcoming openings for two members](#). One seat is available now and the other will open on June 14.
- Interested candidates for either position must apply by March 15 to the [Fairfax Circuit Court](#), which appoints the board's seven members.
- Applicants should send their resume to Chief Judge Penney S. Azcarate, Fairfax Circuit Court, by email entitled "Board of Zoning Appeals Application" to kim.callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov OR by first-class U.S. mail to:
 - Chief Judge Penney Azcarate
4110 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
 - NOTE: THE APPLICATION SHOULD BE SENT VIA ONLY ONE FORM OF CORRESPONDENCE, WHETHER EMAIL OR U.S. MAIL.
- This position will be for a five-year term from the date of appointment. Members of the Board of Zoning Appeals are appointed for staggered five-year terms; are compensated at a bi-weekly rate of \$357.69; and serve as private citizens, not as County employees.
- Applicants **must** be residents of Fairfax County. Previous applicants are encouraged to reapply.
- The Board of Zoning Appeals' powers, duties and procedures are outlined in state law, and they are further detailed in the County's [Zoning Ordinance](#).
- These duties include:
 - Hearing and deciding appeals of administrative decisions made pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance.
 - Hearing and deciding applications for [special permits](#) and [variances](#) as authorized by the Zoning Ordinance.
 - Hearing and deciding applications for interpretation of the [zoning map](#) where there is uncertainty about the location of a zoning district boundary.
- For more information, contact Brent Krasner; Zoning Evaluation Division, [Department of Planning and Development](#), at (703) 324-1280, TTY 711.
- Learn more about the Board of Zoning Appeals [on their website](#).



Environment & Parks News

Braddock District Tree Forum

Save the date for the [2024 Braddock District Tree Forum](#)! This year's theme is "Trees Need More Than Hugs: How to Care for Your Trees." The forum will be on



Wednesday, March 20, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of Kings Park Library (9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke).

Hear opening remarks from Supervisor Walkinshaw followed by presentations from three experts in the

field about tree care. Information tables will be set up to visit before and after the talk. You could win a chance to receive a free native tree seedling! Come to learn about why you should care, and how to care for your trees. [View more information.](#)

Clase en español | Aprenda sobre plantas nativas y manejo del paisaje natural

Abierto para propietarios, diseñadores, foremen, laborers, y empleados de garden centers en Viernes, 8 de marzo a la 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. [Haga clic para registrarse gratis!](#) Se proveerá el almuerzo.

Temas

- Por qué las plantas nativas son un buen negocio (Manuel Rivas)
- Cuidado de arboles (Linda Barfield)
- Identificación de plantas invasoras comunes (Jo Doumbia)
- Cómo controlar las enredaderas invasoras (Patricia Greenberg)
- Seguridad (lesiones, calor, equipo de protección personal) (Jack Person)
- Tus comentarios: ¿qué necesitas de la campaña de plantas nativas? (Andre Passos)
- Fauna silvestre que encuentras en el trabajo (Alonso Abugattas)

Segunda Conferencia Anual para Profesionales del Paisajismo

Abierto para propietarios, diseñadores, supervisores, gente de trabajo, y empleados de centros de jardinería

Viernes, 8 de marzo de 2024
9am - 1pm

Fairfax County Government Center
Sala de juntas
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax

PlantNovaTrees.org/clase-en-espanol

La inscripción es obligatoria y debe hacerse antes del 7 de marzo.

¿Preguntas?
PlantNovaNatives@gmail.com
(703) 829-6267



Aprende estas prácticas para atraer más clientes

- Por qué las plantas nativas son un buen negocio
- Identificación de plantas invasoras comunes
- Cómo controlar las enredaderas invasoras
- Seguridad
- Cuidado de arboles
- Reptiles en el jardín

¡Gratis!
Se proporcionará almuerzo y refrigerios.

La conferencia se realizará en español.



2024 Conference for Spanish-Speaking Landscape Professionals

Sponsored by Plant NOVA Natives, the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Fairfax County Park Authority will host a [Conference for Spanish-Speaking Landscape Professionals](#) on Friday, March 8 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax).



Second Annual Conference for Landscape Professionals - to be held in Spanish!

Please share with your Spanish-speaking colleagues

Friday, March 8, 2024
9am - 1pm

Fairfax County Government Center
Board Room
12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax

PlantNovaTrees.org/clase-en-espanol

Registration required by March 7

Questions?
PlantNovaNatives@gmail.com
(703) 829-6267

Learn about these practices to attract more clients:

- Why native plants are good business
- Identification of common invasive plants
- How to control invasive vines
- Safety (injuries, heat, personal protective equipment)
- Tree care
- Reptiles in home gardens

Free!
Lunch and snacks will be provided

The conference will be held in Spanish.

[Professionals](#) on Friday, March 8 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax).

Attendees will learn more about the benefits of native plants and tips for managing invasive species. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

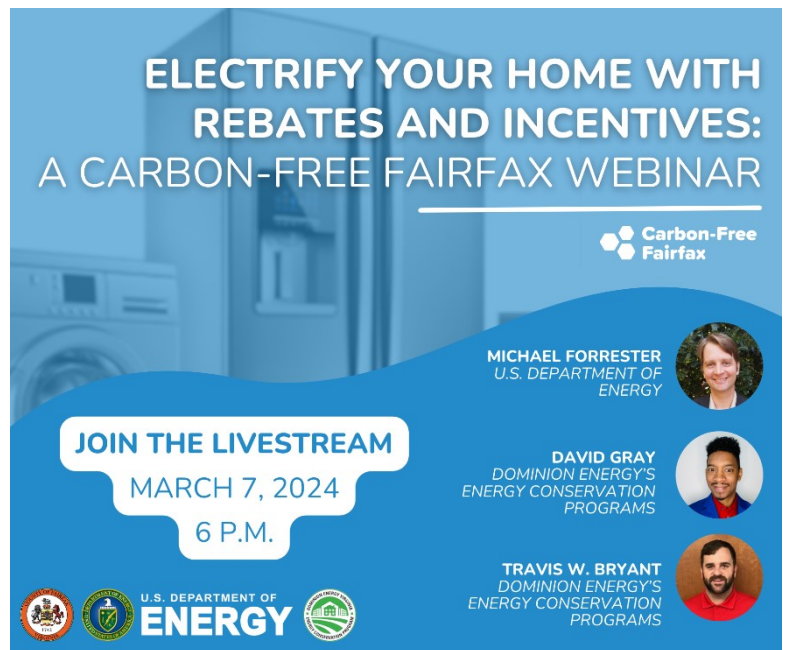
Questions about this event can be directed to plantnovanatives@gmail.com.

Electrify Your Home with Rebates and Incentives: A Carbon-Free Fairfax Webinar

The Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination is hosting "[Electrify Your Home with Rebates and Incentives: A Carbon-Free Fairfax Webinar](#)" on Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m.

The event will highlight tax credits available to homeowners for making energy efficiency and electrification upgrades, as well as Residential Energy Conservation Programs available through Dominion Energy. The event will include speakers from the U.S. Department of Energy and Honeywell Smart Energy.

Learn more on [OEEC's website](#).



ELECTRIFY YOUR HOME WITH REBATES AND INCENTIVES: A CARBON-FREE FAIRFAX WEBINAR

Carbon-Free Fairfax

JOIN THE LIVESTREAM
MARCH 7, 2024
6 P.M.

MICHAEL FORRESTER
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DAVID GRAY
DOMINION ENERGY'S ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

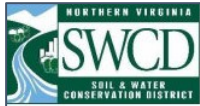
TRAVIS W. BRYANT
DOMINION ENERGY'S ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

NVSWCD's Annual Seedling Sale

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) will begin accepting orders for the [2024 Annual Native Seedling Sale Program](#) on March 14.

For over 40 years, NVSWCD has provided a low-cost option for residents to purchase native seedlings to enhance the urban forest and support local environmental



NORTHERN VIRGINIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Annual Native Seedling Sale

Our 2024 seedling sale features shrubs and trees that are songbird and pollinator favorites. They will also help clean our water and air, prevent soil erosion, sequester carbon, and add year-round beauty to your landscape. Enjoy!

| NECTAR LOVERS \$20 | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>2 False Indigobush (<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>)</p> <p>6-12' tall. Full sun to part shade. Moist to dry soils.</p> <p>Loose, airy shrub with small purple to dark blue spike-like flower clusters April – June. Can form thickets. Larval host to silver-spotted skipper and gray hairstreak butterflies. Especially valuable to native bees.</p> | <p>2 Buttonbush (<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>)</p> <p>6-12' tall. Partial to full shade. Moist to wet soils.</p> <p>Showy shrub with fragrant white to light pink flowers that resemble pincushions July - August. Tolerant of wet soils and standing water. Beneficial to birds, butterflies, moths, and native bees. Ducks and waterbirds eat the seeds.</p> | <p>2 Silky Dogwood (<i>Cornus amomum</i>)</p> <p>6 - 12' tall. Full sun to part shade. Moist soils.</p> <p>Shrub with clusters of yellowish white flowers March – August followed by blue or gray berries in the fall. Gets its name from silky hairs on twigs and underside of leaves. Attracts birds and pollinators.</p> |
| SONGBIRD FRIENDLY \$20 | | |
| <p>2 Smooth Alder (<i>Alnus serrulata</i>)</p> <p>10-15' tall. Full sun. Moist to wet soils.</p> <p>A multi-trunked shrub or small tree with dark green leaves that turn to yellow tinged with red in the fall. In late winter, slim, green, male flowers and red, female flowers mature.</p> | <p>2 American Hazelnut (<i>Corylus americana</i>)</p> <p>10-15' tall. Part shade. Dry to moist soils.</p> <p>Multi-stemmed shrub that naturally forms thickets. Ideal for dry sites with poor soil. Brown or red flowers March – April. Yellow to copper red fall foliage. Edible nuts attract many species of birds and squirrels.</p> | <p>2 Chickasaw Plum (<i>Prunus angustifolia</i>)</p> <p>15' tall. Full sun to full shade. Dry to moist soils.</p> <p>Fragrant white flower clusters February - May and yellow fruit ripening to red in August - September. Plums can be eaten fresh or made into preserves. Attracts birds and butterflies.</p> |
| <p>ORDERING OPENS THURSDAY MARCH 14, 2024.</p> <p>Seedling packages will be made available on the sales website at 10am, 2pm, and 6pm on Thursday, March 14, 2024 and will remain available until sold out.</p> <p>WE ACCEPT THESE MAJOR CREDIT CARDS</p> <p>Learn more about the seedling sale and how to purchase seedlings: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/native-seedling-sale You must purchase your seedlings in advance, no day-of-sales or extras will be offered.</p> | | |
| <p>A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order.</p> <p>You will receive a confirmation receipt and directions to the pickup location at the Sleepy Hollow Bath and Racquet Club in Falls Church.</p> <p>For questions or if you need accommodations, please email us at ConservationDistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov</p> <p>This program is offered in partnership with the Virginia Department of Forestry's Potomac Work Area and Fairfax County's Urban Forestry Management Division.</p> | | |

stewardship and engagement programs. Over the last 20 years, over 100,000 native tree and shrub seedlings have been distributed to Fairfax County residents and those in the surrounding area, through this annual sale. In 2021, NVSWCD partnered with the Fairfax County Park Authority to target socio-economically vulnerable communities identified through One Fairfax that also have poor tree canopy coverage. NVSWCD donated over 2,000 seedlings to be planted in these areas by FCPA Invasive Management Area volunteers.

All seedlings are native to Northern Virginia and were selected with advice from the Fairfax County Urban Forestry Management Division, and the Virginia Department of Forestry. Sale proceeds help to support the stewardship and engagement programs offered by NVSWCD that also support Fairfax County's Environmental Vision, including those that engage the Fairfax

County community in additional local reforestation efforts, volunteer stream monitoring, our local Envirothon high school competition, storm drain marking and education, Green Breakfasts, and others.

Seedlings can be ordered at nsvwcdevents.myrec.com. If you have questions, email conservationdistrict@fairfaxcounty.gov.

FLAP March Events

Join the Friends of Lake Accotink (FLAP) for their Monthly Park Clean-Up on Sunday, March 10, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Lake Accotink Marina (7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield). [Sign up today!](#)

Help FCPA Enhance Equity

The Fairfax County Park Authority is committed to enhancing equity in all aspects of the park system – including equity of access to park programs, services, and amenities.

To help in this effort, they are seeking to know more about residents' experience with Fairfax County Parks and the potential barriers that may be preventing them from taking full advantage of recreational opportunities they provide.



To collect this information, they have issued the [2024 Park Equity Survey](#).

- The survey is available in 9 languages: [English](#) | [Español](#) | [한국어](#) | [Tiếng Việt](#) | [中文](#) | [اردو](#) | [አማርኛ](#) | [فارسی](#) | [العربية](#)
- All responses are anonymous
- All responses are due by Monday, April 1

By taking five minutes to participate in the online Park Equity Survey, you can help the Park Authority address any existing barriers to the use of our park amenities and inform solutions to remove obstacles for everyone. Your experiences will make a difference.

If you have any questions, contact the Park Authority at Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Tax Credits Can Now Be Applied at Point of Sale for EVs

It's easier now to claim the tax credits available for the purchase of new and used electric vehicles. Since January 1, 2024, buyers of new and used electric vehicles (EV) have been able to reduce the upfront purchase price of their vehicle by the amount of their Clean Vehicle Tax Credit if they transfer the credit to their car dealer.



Previously, eligible EV buyers could only receive this credit after filing their tax returns. Additional requirements apply for vehicles delivered on or after January 1, 2024, and the amount of the credit will depend on whether the vehicle meets critical minerals

and battery components requirements for vehicles delivered after April 17, 2023. Visit the Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination's [Electric Vehicle page](#) for more information and resources to support your EV buying decision. You can also find more information from the IRS on [Transferring Clean Vehicle Tax Credits](#).

Compliance Corner



Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance (DCC) Who are we and what do we do?



What is compliance? How does it work?

Compliance means following the rules and regulations that apply to properties in the County. DCC responds to reports of code violations and prioritizes cases where there is danger to the health and safety of the public.



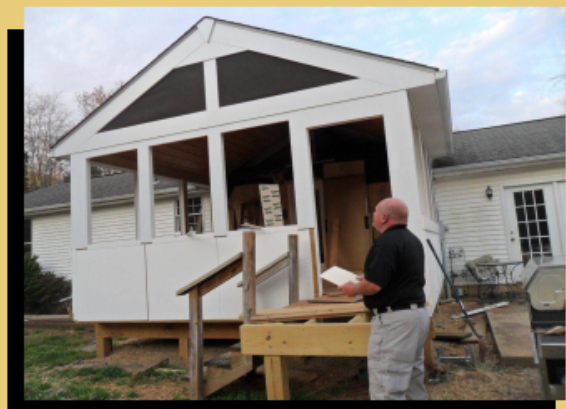
What rules should I know about?

DCC handles various code violations, such as: zoning; property maintenance & fire safety; construction without approval; tall grass; bamboo; noise; and illegal signs in the roadway.

What happens during an investigation?

Reports are received and assigned to investigators. If problems need to be fixed, we issue a "Notice of Violation," or NOV, which says what needs to be done by a deadline.

We work with the community to seek solutions and compliance. However, refusal to comply may result in legal actions.



Contact Us



We are here to help – if you have questions, want to make a report, or if you are the subject of enforcement and need to contact us. You can report problems online, reach us via email (codecompliance@fairfaxcounty.gov), phone (703-324-1300 / TTY 711), or visit us in person.

Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance
12055 Government Center Parkway Suite 1016, Fairfax, VA 22035



To request this information in an alternate format, contact the Department of Code Compliance.

This Fairfax County, VA Publication (published 2023) summarizes a few regulations. See relevant codes for specific requirements.

Published October 2023

Transportation Updates

Rolling Road Widening Project – Phase 2

Rolling Road between Viola Street and Old Keene Mill Road

The widening of a 1.3-mile stretch of Rolling Road from Viola Street to Old Keene Mill Road is moving forward. The project is split into two phases:

Phase 1 (Complete): Construction of an additional turn lane from northbound Rolling Road to westbound Old Keene Mill Road and the addition of a dedicated right turn lane from northbound Rolling Road to eastbound Old Keene Mill Road. The signal was upgraded and the alignment of the intersection improved. This is now working to ease some of the congestion at the Rolling Road and Old Keene Mill light.



Phase 2: Widening Rolling Road from 2 to 4 lanes along the corridor, including a grass median in sections, adding pedestrian and bike facilities, a new traffic signal at Greeley Boulevard, and construction of noise barriers. The pedestrian and bicycle facilities include an 8' asphalt path on the west side and a 5' concrete sidewalk on the east side. Land acquisition is complete and utility relocation is ongoing.

Construction should start by the end of the year and take two years to complete. When the contractor is selected and on board later this year, a more detailed construction timeline will be available that includes milestones and will be shared at a “Pardon our Dust” meeting.

View the presentation from the [public hearing in 2018](#) to see the different road sections and improvements for each; [visit the VDOT project website](#) for more information.

FCDOT Conducting Route 29 Study

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is conducting a study on the Route 29 corridor, between Buckleys Gate Drive/Summit Drive near the Fairfax County Parkway (VA 286) and Jermantown Road.



The purpose of this study is to reassess the long-term needs of the corridor and develop solutions that serve residents and commuters, including multimodal options. Feedback from this survey will help inform the Fairfax County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

The deadline to provide feedback is close of business on Friday, March 1. To participate in the survey, please visit the [Route 29 Study Survey](#) online or leave a recorded message at (703) 890-5898, Project Code 3941.

FCDOT will present the survey results at a virtual public meeting on Tuesday, March 12, at 7:00 p.m.

For more information on the study and public meeting, please visit the [Route 29 study webpage](#) or [read the County's press release](#).

Metro Budget – Comment through March 5

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority invites the public to [comment on the FY 2025 Budget](#). Unless additional funding comes in from DC, Maryland, and



Virginia, drastic cuts would take place, including the [elimination of the 17 and 18 Bus routes](#) that serve the Braddock District. However, WMATA's management provided a [revised forecast](#) that would "maintain bus service levels and begin Better Bus implementation." Virginia's commitment is contingent upon funding from both the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Northern Virginia localities that are served by Metro.

As Chair of the Board's Legislative Committee, Supervisor Walkinshaw is pressing the General Assembly for the inclusion of Metro funding in the State Budget, which is currently under consideration in Richmond. Fairfax County's [proposed FY25 Budget](#) includes the County's share of Metro funding.

Accessible Off-Street Parking Survey Now Available

The federal Americans with Disabilities Act gives people with disabilities the right to access public programs and public accommodations. Having accessible parking spaces, and the ability to reserve those spaces for people with disabilities, is vital for access.

Fairfax County's Land Development Services focuses on the safe and sustainable building of our communities, which includes the regulation of off-street parking areas. LDS is conducting a [survey to determine the nature and extent of available accessible, off-street parking within Fairfax County](#). Information from the survey will help provide a more informed view of accessible parking as the County considers and evaluates future options. If you have an accessible parking placard or license plate from the Department of Motor Vehicles or if you are a caregiver for a person with a placard or license plate, please consider participating. The survey is available through April 15.

Notice of Willingness to Hold a Public Hearing – Burke Centre Shopping Center Left Turn Restriction

From VDOT: Find out about plans to prohibit left turns from the Burke Centre Shopping Center (5815 Burke Centre Parkway) easternmost access to eastbound Burke Centre Parkway (Route 643) to improve safety.

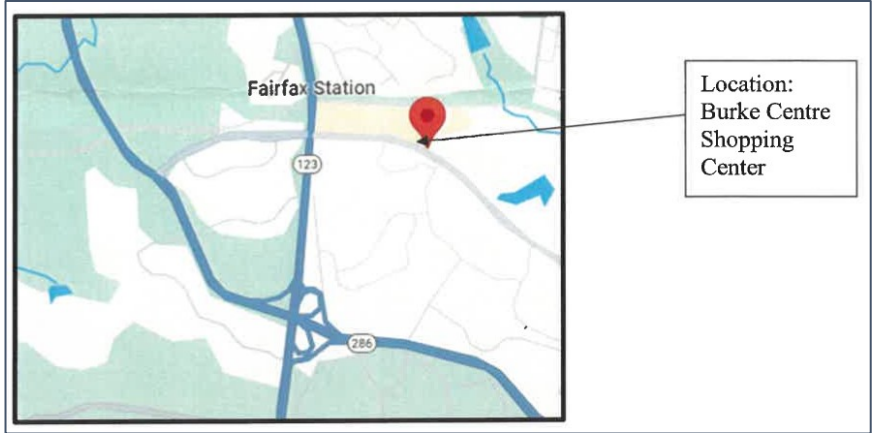


New pavement markings, signs, and flex posts will be installed at the intersection to restrict left turns out of the shopping center.

[Review the project information](#)

[online](#) or in-person at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office (4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax). Call ahead at (703) 259-2239 or TTY/TDD 711 to make an appointment with appropriate personnel.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request by March 11 to:



Mr. Andrew Beacher, P.E.
Virginia Department of Transportation
4975 Alliance Drive
Fairfax, VA 22030

If upon receiving public comments it is deemed necessary to hold a public hearing, a notice of date, time, and place of the hearing will be posted.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

Public Safety

Community Advisory Committee Community Engagement Meeting

The West Springfield District Community Advisory Committee (CAC) will host a Community Engagement Meeting on Tuesday, March 5, at 7:00 p.m. These meetings offer the community a chance to dialogue and communicate more effectively with officers of the Fairfax County Police Department. The meeting will be held in person at the West Springfield District Station (6140 Rolling Road, Springfield).

Sign up for the West Springfield CAC newsletter by emailing wscacmailbox@gmail.com. CAC meetings are generally held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., and all ages are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, contact MPO Tony Capizzi at (703) 277-2363.

Community Fire and Rescue Academy

Do you want to learn more about your Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department? Join a fun-filled, eight-week Community Fire and Rescue Academy (CFRA) program that will show you what firefighters and paramedics do every day!

The CFRA is open to County residents 18 and older. [Learn more](#) or [apply by Monday, March 4.](#)



FPCD Warns of Law Enforcement Impersonation Scams

In the law enforcement scam, victims are contacted by phone, email, or in person, by a person claiming to represent the police or other government agencies. These scammers often use intimidation tactics, such as threatening arrest or legal action if you fail to comply with their demands. They may tell you a family member has been arrested or involved in a crash that requires immediate financial assistance. The scammers demand money, gift cards, cryptocurrency, or even gold to avoid arrest.



Remember, the police will

never call you to ask for money, demand immediate payment to resolve legal issues, or offer to drop charges or warrants in exchange for payment. If you get a call about a family member being arrested or in a crash, hang up and call them immediately.

How can you protect yourself? Remember these tips and share them with your family members to help avoid falling victim to a scam:

- 1. Verify the Caller's Identity:** If you receive a suspicious call, ask for the caller's name, badge number, and department. Hang up and independently verify their identity by calling the official non-emergency number of that specific agency. Scammers will spoof real government phone numbers in an attempt to legitimize their scheme.
- 2. Stay Calm and Skeptical:** Scammers often use intimidation tactics to pressure victims. Remember, legitimate authorities will not rush you into making payments or divulging personal information.
- 3. Guard Personal Information:** Avoid sharing sensitive information like social security numbers, banking details, or personal identification numbers (PINs) over the phone.
- 4. Question Unsolicited Offers:** Be wary of unexpected calls or messages claiming you've won a prize, inherited money, or that you are entitled to refunds. Always

verify the authenticity of such claims. Remember, if it sounds too good to be true - it probably is.

- 5. Gift Card Payments:** Legitimate organizations and agencies do not request payment via gift cards. Treat this demand as a red flag and refrain from making any transactions.
- 6. Educate Yourself:** Stay informed about the latest scams and fraud tactics circulating in your area.

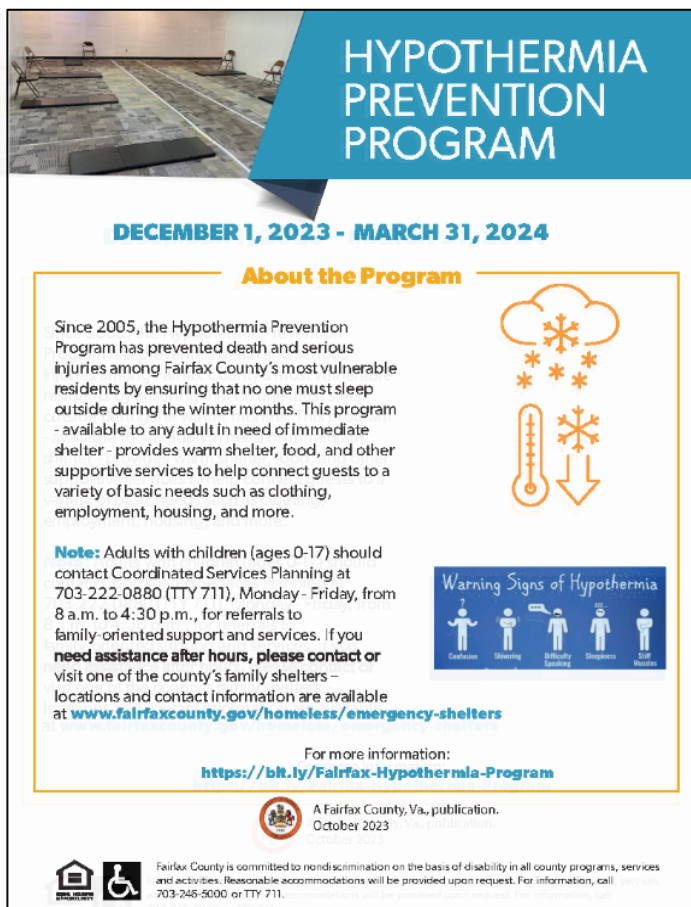
Report Suspicious Activity: If you suspect a scam or have fallen victim to one, report it immediately to the appropriate authorities. You can file a report with FCPD's [Financial Crimes Unit's online portal](#).

Human Services Corner

Hypothermia Prevention Program

Since 2005, the Fairfax County [Hypothermia Prevention Program](#) has prevented death and serious injuries among people experiencing homelessness by ensuring that no one must sleep outside during the winter months. This program – available to any adult in need of immediate shelter – provides warm shelter, food, and other supportive

services to help connect guests to a variety of basic needs such as clothing, employment, housing, and more. It remains a highly effective partnership between government, nonprofits, and the faith community. The program is open every day around the County until March 31.



HYPOTHERMIA PREVENTION PROGRAM

DECEMBER 1, 2023 - MARCH 31, 2024

About the Program


Since 2005, the Hypothermia Prevention Program has prevented death and serious injuries among Fairfax County's most vulnerable residents by ensuring that no one must sleep outside during the winter months. This program - available to any adult in need of immediate shelter - provides warm shelter, food, and other supportive services to help connect guests to a variety of basic needs such as clothing, employment, housing, and more.

Note: Adults with children (ages 0-17) should contact Coordinated Services Planning at 703-222-0880 (TTY 711), Monday - Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for referrals to family-oriented support and services. If you **need assistance after hours, please contact or visit one of the county's family shelters** – locations and contact information are available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/emergency-shelters

For more information:
<https://bit.ly/Fairfax-Hypothermia-Program>

A Fairfax County, Va., publication.
October 2023

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For information, call 703-248-5000 or TTY 711.



Warning Signs of Hypothermia

Confusion, Shivering, Slurred Speech, Stumbling, Loss of Consciousness

Overflow shelter capacity in the year-round adult shelters is available each night but is limited. Sign up for [Fairfax Alerts](#), specifically "Homelessness Cooling and Heating Resources," for information on overflow activation.

If you have questions about the program, contact Dee Johnson at danien.johnson@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit the County's [Office to Prevent and End Homelessness website](#).

Tier One Domestic Violence Training

The Fairfax County Domestic Violence Network and CCR Prevention and Training

Committee are offering **Tier One Training** on Saturday, March 16, and Sunday, March 17, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Fairfax County Health Department (10777 Main Street, Fairfax).



Tier One is a two-day training on the dynamics of domestic violence, systems that respond, and resources available in our community.

ABOUT THIS TRAINING

The training is designed for professionals interested in learning the dynamics of domestic violence in order to deepen their work with clients and community members, and anyone interested in volunteering with Domestic and Sexual Violence Services.

Is this training right for you?

Tier One training explores topics that may be challenging. Sometimes learning about these topics or providing support to other people impacted by domestic and sexual violence may trigger difficult feelings for participants. If you have questions about the training content or concerns about participating, please contact Angie Acosta at angela.acosta@fairfaxcounty.gov.

To complete this training and receive a Certificate of Completion, participants **must** register for both days.

LOCATION

Fairfax County Health Department
10777 Main Street (Kelly Square)
Rowland Training Rooms A&B
Fairfax, VA 22030

Saturday & Sunday
Mar. 16 & 17, 2024
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

QUESTIONS?

Contact: **Angie Acosta**

703-324-9484

or

angela.acosta@fairfaxcounty.gov

This training is free, but registration is required

REGISTRATION LINK:


<https://bit.ly/47b2nFC>



Tier One is a two-day training on the dynamics of DV (domestic violence), systems that respond, and resources available in the community.

The training is designed for professionals interested in learning the dynamics of domestic violence to deepen their work with clients and community members, and anyone interested in volunteering with Domestic and Sexual Violence Services.

To complete this training and receive a Certificate of Completion,

 Where a TTY number is not indicated, use 711/Virginia Relay. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request, call 703-324-5730.



participants must register for both days. **Registration is required** for this free training. Email questions to Angela Acosta at **angela.acosta@fairfaxcounty.gov**

National Consumer Protection Week

The [Fairfax County Department of Cable and Consumer Affairs](#) is committed to ensuring that Fairfax County consumers – from young adults to seniors – have the resources they need to understand their consumer rights, avoid fraud and scams, and make informed decisions.

Join the Department's [Consumer Affairs Branch](#) in celebrating this year's [National Consumer Protection Week](#) (March 3-9) at their Fairfax County Consumer Affairs Day on Thursday, March 7, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Board Auditorium at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax).

The event will be televised live on Channel 16 (Cox/Verizon/Comcast) and streamed live on [Channel 16's website](#).

For additional information, call (703) 222-8435, TTY 711 or email consumer@fairfaxcounty.gov.



FAIRFAX COUNTY CONSUMER AFFAIRS DAY

NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK



Thursday, March 7, 2024
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Fairfax County Government Center
Board Auditorium
12000 Government Center Pkwy
Fairfax, Virginia 22035

Presentations on...

- Consumer 101
- Tenant - Landlord:
 - Understanding Lease Agreements
 - Dealing with Maintenance Issues
- Medical Billing
- Vehicle Purchase and Maintenance Issues
- Scams

EXHIBIT BOOTHS

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

THE EVENT IS FREE

We ask that you RSVP to consumer@fairfaxcounty.gov

MORE INFORMATION

(703) 222-8435 TTY 711

More Information: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/csd

Live Stream: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/channel-16/stream

Watch Live: Fairfax County Channel 16 (Cox/Verizon/Comcast)



Virginia Department of Treasury
Unclaimed Property Program
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Do you have
money waiting
for you?



To request this information in an alternate format, call 703-222-8435, TTY 711



A Fairfax County, Va., publication, February 2024

View the Consumer Affairs Day Flyer
in: [English](#) / [Spanish](#) / [Korean](#)

Resources for Older Adults & Caregivers

Dementia Friends Information Session

Dementia Friendly Fairfax envisions our community as a place where people living with dementia and their care partners can engage in a variety of activities, be supported in the highest quality of life, and can live independently for as long as possible.

A [virtual information session](#) with Dr. Jennifer Pauldurai of INOVA Parkinson's and Movement Disorders Center will take place on Wednesday, March 20, from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

This session will educate caregivers on how neurodegenerative disease can be a very stressful time for the brain. When the brain experiences stress, it can manifest as depression, anxiety, insomnia, hallucinations, or delusions. Understanding why someone might be experiencing these behavioral changes can help family caregivers better help them. [Register online today.](#)



Jennifer Pauldurai
MD, MS, Cognitive Neurology | Inova
Neurosciences Inova Parkinson's and
Movement Disorders Center

LLI March Forum

The Lifetime Learning Institute at Northern Virginia Community College ([LLI/NOVA](#)) is a nonprofit organization offering educational and cultural pursuits to those ages 50 and over.

For their March Forum, they'll be joined by recently-retired Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross. Former Supervisor Gross will speak on her perspectives on life in public service, including some of the most rewarding aspects and some of the more challenging parts of being a Supervisor.

Join LLI/NOVA on March 6, at the Little River United Church of Christ (8410 Little River Turnpike, Annandale) at 9:30 a.m.; the speaking program will begin at 10:00 a.m. [Visit LLI's website](#) for more information.



Insight Memory Care Events

Insight Memory Care offers an entire calendar of events including support groups, information sessions, memory cafes, meet-ups, and more. You can view their monthly calendars [on Insight's website.](#)

Free Events at the Wellness Center for Older Adults

4027B Olley Lane, Fairfax, VA | Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

March 2024

WCOA Daily Activities Key

AC = Activity Connection
 Community Partner Led Event
 Cooking or Staff Choice Activity
 Lunch @ Noon
 Community Outing**-*Weather
 Special Activity w/ Community
 Permitting*
 VCAA = Virtual Center for Active Adults

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| <p>4 <i>ORDER LUNCH!</i> 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:00 March Modern Jeopardy (AC) 11:15-12:00 Health and Safety with Val: Shelter-In-Place and Severe Weather 12:30-2:30 Movie Club: Leap Year 2:30-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>5 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Spot the Difference(AC) 10:30-11:00 NOVA Scripts Workshop: Dental Health 11:00-12:00 Card Games 11:00-2:00 'Brown Bag' Med Checks 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize</p> | <p>6 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Puzzles: Junk Drawer Detective (AC) 10:30-12:00 Creativity Leads to Wellness 1:00-2:00 Chair Yoga 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>7 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Morning Mindfulness 10:30-11:00 Healthy Nutrition– The importance of Leafy Greens 11:00-12:00 Cooking Activity with Arukah: Spinach Tortilla Roll-Ups 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>8 <i>International Women's Day</i> 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-12:00 MASON: Rhythm and Nature 1:00-2:00 Celebrating Women's History/The History of Women's Rights 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> |
| <p>11 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:00 The History of St. Patrick's Day 11:00-1:00 Shopping and Lunch with Arukah 11:00-12:00 Karaoke: Irish/Spring Theme 1:00-1:30 Chair Zumba 1:30-2:30 Community Walk</p> | <p>12 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:00 Parachute-Beachball Activity 11:00-12:00 Letter Writing: Thank your Case Manager or Social Worker 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>13 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Puzzles: Dot Doodles 10:30-12:00 Creativity Leads to Wellness 1:00-2:00 Music Lover's Unite (VCAA) 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>14 <i>WCOA's Anniversary</i> 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Morning Mindfulness 10:30-11:30 Better Brain Health: Insight Memory Care Presentation 11:30-12:30 Pi Day and WCOA's Two Year Anniversary 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize 2:30-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>15 <i>Wear Green!</i> 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-12:00 MASON: Rhythm and Nature 1:00-1:30 Arm Chair Travel: IRELAND 1:30-2:00 Time Slips 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> |
| <p>18 <i>ORDER LUNCH!</i> 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:00 Chair Zumba 10:00-2:00 Memory Screenings- Insight Memory Care Center 11:00-12:00 Wii Bowling 12:30-2:30 Movie Club: TBD 2:30-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>19 <i>First Day of Spring</i> 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:00 Spring Jeopardy 11:00-12:00 Arts and Crafts with Renee 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>20 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Puzzles: Cranium Crunches (AC) 10:30-12:00 Creativity Leads to Wellness 1:00-2:00 Chair Yoga 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>21 <i>World Down Syndrome Day</i> Wear Crazy Socks! 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Morning Mindfulness 10:30-12:00 Container Gardening 10:30-1:00 Shopping and Lunch with Eva 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize 2:30-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>22 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-12:00 MASON: Rhythm and Nature 1:00-1:30 Great Women Inventors (AC) 1:30-2:00 Time Slips 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> |
| <p>25 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:00 Travelogue: New Jersey (AC) 11:00-12:00 Participant Choice Karaoke 1:00-1:30 Chair Zumba 1:30-2:30 Community Walk 2:30-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>26 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:00 March Music Madness (AC) 10:30-1:00 Picnic in the Park at Ellmore Farmhouse with Renee 11:00-12:00 Card Games 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>27 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Puzzles: Word Searches (AC) 10:30-12:00 Creativity Leads to Wellness 1:00-2:00 Decluttering: AARP Presentation 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>28 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-10:30 Morning Mindfulness 10:30-11:30 Arts and Crafts with Eva 11:30-12:00 Community Walk 1:00-2:00 BINGOcize 2:30-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> | <p>29 9:30-10:00 Daily Chronicles 10:00-11:30 Wii Bowling 12:30-1:30 Birthday Bingo and Celebration 1:30-2:00 Time Slips 2:00-3:00 Computer Assistance</p> |

Program Descriptions (listed alphabetically)

Better Brain Health

Learn more about age-related changes in memory and learning, and practices to keep your brain sharp! Learn what to expect, what's "normal," and when it's time to seek a doctor's input. This program is presented by the [Insight Memory Care Team](#).

Bingo-cize

This 10-week class meets twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays (through March 28) and is facilitated by [Elderlink](#). The program combines a bingo-like game with exercise, fall reduction, and health education. The goals of the class are to improve mobility and independence, learn and use health information, and provide social engagement.

Birthday Celebration

Happy Birthday, March babies! Join staff on the last Friday of the month at 12:30 p.m. to celebrate with cake!

'Brown Bag' Medication & Workshop

[NOVA Scripts Central](#) will present a workshop at 10:30 a.m. for all to join. The topic for March is "Dental Health". They offer free, confidential

medication reviews and educational materials. Appointments are in 30-minute increments from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Reserve your appointment!

Creativity Leads to Wellness

Join creative art sessions led by local artist, Sharon Fishel, from the [McLean Project for the Arts](#). This class will focus on individuals discovering their creativity by working in the mediums of drawings, paintings, and mixed-media collages. All materials are provided.

Community Walk

Wear Crazy Socks and help raise awareness of Down Syndrome. Both scheduled walks are to promote awareness of Down Syndrome as well as exercise.

Decluttering Workshop

This presentation by [AARP](#) on decluttering and downsizing explores why holding on to stuff is so important to some people and teaches practical, easy-to-follow tips on decluttering, from focusing on clearing one 2-foot square area at a time to removing

one object from the house for every new one you bring in.

Letter Writing

March is National Social Worker Month. Join the effort to thank a social worker by making cards for staff that work in Fairfax County. Volunteer alongside our day program individuals to help make 100 cards. All materials will be provided.

Morning Mindfulness

Join George Mason Fellows and start your day learning and practicing mindfulness. In this group, you will practice activities that promote calm in the mind and body and increase your ability to remain in the present moment.

Movie Club

Join the Monday movie club experience. This activity is centered around watching quality films and having a discussion following the movie.

Memory Screenings

[Insight Memory Care Center](#) offers free, confidential memory screenings and educational materials to people with concerns about their memory

or who want to check their memory now for future comparison. Call to reserve a 30-minute appointment at (703) 970-3601.

Rhythm and Nature

Are you interested in joining a study that offers free holistic programming that involves your choice of drumming and/or garden-based activities for enjoyment, socialization, and self-expression? Join George Mason University faculty and students for this academic-led activity on Friday mornings. The drumming and nature-based activities will last up to 2 hours.

Time Slips

George Mason University facilitates creative engagement and storytelling to stimulate creativity and imagination.

VCAA – Virtual Center for Active Adults

Join live, interactive programs, and engage with other adults. *These online activities are streamed with in-person adaptations. For more information on the VCAA, visit bit.ly/NCSvcaa

Youth News

Support FCPS Science Fairs

Are you a scientist looking to give back and inspire future scientists? FCPS School-Based and Region Science Fairs are looking for you!

Volunteers are needed to judge high school and regional science fairs. [More information available from FCPS.](#)



Paint It, Fairfax!

The County is looking for artists who can contribute their creative flair to the community and you are invited to join the debut mural program, "[Paint It, Fairfax!](#)"



This initiative is geared towards building a pool of talented artists eager to participate in transforming [Commercial Revitalization Districts and Areas](#) (CRDs/CRAs), such as Annandale, Lake Anne, and Springfield, through community-focused public art.

Summer Fun at GMU

It isn't too early to begin making plans for the summer. George Mason University offers a variety of programs to engage children through academics, the arts, and sports/recreation camps.

Participants can explore conflict resolution, conservation, game design and technology, podcasting, theater, music, and more. Camps are available on the Fairfax campus, Science and Technology (Manassas) campus, and virtually. Visit [Mason Camps' website](#) for details.



Volunteers Needed for Body Safety Program

The Department of Family Services' [Body Safety Program](#) needs bilingual volunteer classroom instructors (English/Spanish) to help empower students in elementary school with tools to prevent or interrupt child abuse and exploitation. This free, school-based program gives children a comfortable, non-alarming way to talk about the sensitive and complex problem of child abuse.



The Childhelp® Speak Up Be Safe curriculum used by the Department of Family Services is designed to teach children the skills they need to stay safe. Children will learn:

- They own their body
- Differences between appropriate and inappropriate touching
- Adults are supposed to keep them safe
- It is never too late to ask for help
- To identify their safe adults
- They have choices in unsafe situations
- It is never too late to ask for help
- It is never their fault if someone abuses them

If you have a heart for kids and you are available to facilitate pre-K through sixth-grade classes in Fairfax County Public Schools during the school day, this is a great opportunity for you! Visit the [program website](#) to learn more, or [complete a volunteer application](#) online. Email dfsbodysafety@fairfaxcounty.gov or call (703) 324-7459 for more information. ¡Nosotros necesitamos su ayuda!

School Board Boundary Policy Review

On February 13, the School Board unanimously approved a Forum Topic directing the Governance Committee to review FCPS' Boundary Policy ([Policy 8130](#)), which has not been updated since 1986. No specific school boundary changes are being considered and any discussion on school boundary changes would need to follow the process in [Regulation 8130](#).

In the 38 years since the policy was adopted, Fairfax County's population has grown by over 500,000 people and FCPS has grown by nearly 60,000 students during this timeframe. For more information about the Forum Topic, view the [Board's document online](#).

Land Use & Development

UPCOMING MEETINGS & HEARINGS

Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee Meeting

- March 19 at 7:00 p.m. – Virtual

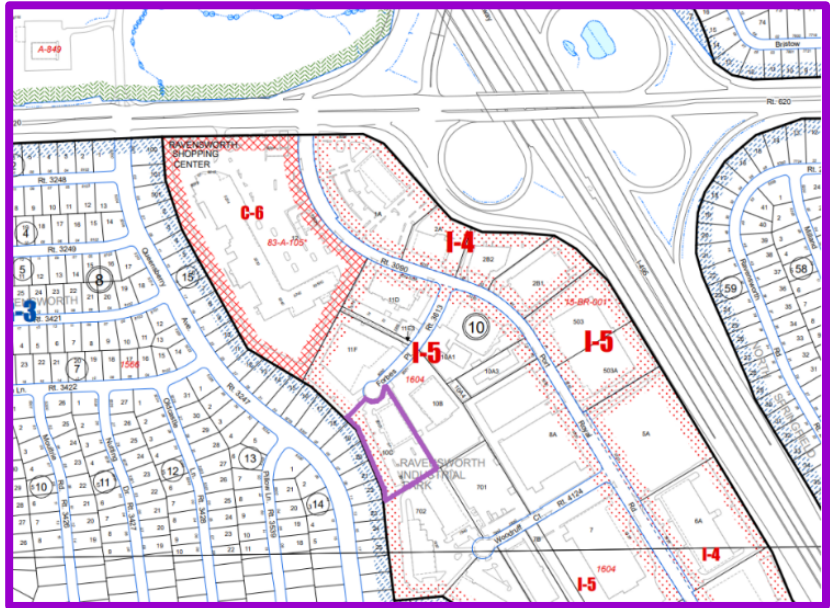
Planning Commission Hearing on Application for Adult Day Care Facility Scheduled for April 24

The Friends Health Care Team filed an application for a Special Exception to operate an adult day care facility on the third floor of an existing office building at 8003 Forbes Place in Springfield, near the intersection of Forbes Place and Port Royal Road and south of the Ravensworth Shopping Center. The property is zoned to the I-5 District.

The applicant previously operated an adult day care within the Calvary Church of the Nazarene in Annandale and now proposes to relocate and enlarge its operation.

According to the application, they are proposing to convert the third floor, or approximately 15,329 square feet, of the office building to adult day care use for up to 200 adults, with the first two floors of the building remaining occupied by office uses. A portion of a grassy area along the side of the building, measuring approximately 20 feet by 170 feet, would be used for outdoor recreation, consisting primarily of walking. Four standard picnic tables would be located in that area. Approximately 40 employees would be on site at any one time. Operating hours would be 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays. The applicant has stated that there would be minimal traffic impact, because the majority of clients would arrive by buses or minivans. The daily impact is estimated at 100 trips, primarily at 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Based on information the applicant presented to the Health Care Advisory Board (HCAB) and the Braddock District Land Use and Environment (BLUE) Committee, the applicant now plans to locate the facility on the second instead of the third floor of the building and said there would be additional changes to address concerns expressed by staff and the BLUE Committee. The applicant will submit a revised application reflecting these



changes. To allow time for the plans to be resubmitted, for staff to review the new materials, and for a Staff Report to be drafted, the Planning Commission hearing on the Special Exception application has been deferred until April 24. A Board of Supervisors hearing has not yet been scheduled.

Information on the application is available on the [PLUS website](#). If the record does not show up from the link, select the "Zoning" tab and enter the application number, SE-2023-BR-00015, in the search box on the right side. Click on the "Record Information" arrow on the left and then click on "Attachments" in the drop-down menu. The most recent documents should be at the end of the list. Details on the application are typically in the "Statement of Justification," and the "Special Exception Plat" shows the drawings. Any schedule updates will also be listed.

Braddock District Land Use & Environment Committee Meeting

The Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee will hold a virtual meeting on **Tuesday, March 19, at 7:00 p.m.** The agenda will include updates on pending Braddock District land use cases and related proposals.

Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee meetings are open to the public and interested residents are encouraged to participate. Join [online](#) or by phone: (571) 429-5982, Phone Conference ID: 730 922 969#.

Board of Zoning Appeals Approves Application by Church of the Good Shepherd

The Church of the Good Shepherd owns 10.31 acres at 9350 Braddock Road in Burke. In general terms, the Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance allows religious assembly uses to locate within residential zoning districts under the controls, limitations, and regulations of a Special Permit approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). The purpose of this is to help ensure the proposal is compatible with the surrounding residential uses. The Church of the Good Shepherd has received several Special Permit



approvals over the years which permitted building additions, site modifications, and an increase in land area.

Last fall, the Church of the Good Shepherd requested to amend their previous approval for a religious assembly with childcare center to modify site conditions and remove a 3.12-acre portion of land at the northern end of the site. The Church stated that they no longer need all the previously approved building improvements. This application reduces the size of the proposed sanctuary addition from 9,000 square feet to 3,963 square feet and reduces the maximum number of seats from 942 to 688. The second and third phases of development have been combined into a single administrative building which would be three levels, measure 10,000 square feet in area, and be 36 feet tall. This building would replace the single-family dwelling located along Olley Lane. A 3.12-acre parcel at the northern end of the property would be separated so that the Church could sell the land.

The decision in this matter was made by the BZA, a quasi-judicial body consisting of seven at-large members and one alternate who are appointed by the Circuit Court of Fairfax County. The Board of Supervisors had no role in the decision-making process. The BZA determined that the proposed development with fewer buildings, less gross floor area, less impervious surface, an updated stormwater management system to meet current requirements, and new transitional screening along the north lot line would comply with the County Zoning Ordinance and on February 14 approved the application to modify the plans and remove 3.12 acres of land from the Special Permit area.

The approval was subject to numerous development conditions. The Church committed to maintain the existing 35-foot-wide conservation easement along the east lot line. A portion of the existing conservation easement will be removed from the Special Permit area. However, the BZA imposed conditions requiring the applicant to enlarge the conservation easement on the remaining Church property by an equivalent amount to retain the overall 0.9-acre size of the easement should the land area to be deleted from the Special Permit approval be developed in the future. Supplemental plantings will be provided along the site's Braddock Road and Olley Lane frontage. Transitional screening must be provided along the new north lot line adjacent to the Olley Lane driveway.

The full application, staff report, development conditions, and other information on this BZA case are available on the [PLUS website](#). If the link doesn't take you directly to the application, select the "Zoning" tab and enter the application number, SPA-81-A-025-02, in the search box on the right side. Click on the magnifying glass and you will see the application. Click on the "Record Info" arrow on the left and then click on "Attachments" in the drop-down menu. The most recent documents will be at the end of the list.

Ask The Experts: Is My Deck Safe?

As warmer weather approaches, Land Development Services is reaching out to County residents regarding deck safety. Collapses and failures of decks, porches and balconies accounted for about 2,900 injuries between 2016 and 2019, according to the Consumer

Product Safety Commission. Jay Riat, Fairfax County's Building Official, answers a few questions to help residents ensure their decks are safe. "The health, safety and welfare of you and your family should never be compromised," said Riat.



What is the average lifespan of a deck?

The answer to this question varies. It depends on the materials used to build the deck; how much "load" or stress your deck has undergone and how often; the quality of the work done by the builder; how well the deck was maintained; and more. But in general, if the deck was built and inspected to code and maintained properly, it should last 20 years or more.

How can I ensure my deck is safe?

You should be evaluating your deck on an annual basis and maintaining it as recommended by your builder. However, we recommend that you have it inspected by a licensed contractor regularly. The older your deck, the more often it should be inspected.

Is there anything I can do to extend the life of my deck and identify any potential issues before they become dangerous?

Make sure you follow manufacturing and building recommendations for cleaning and maintenance. Minimize the stress your deck experiences. For example, you should shovel the snow off your deck after a heavy snowfall. Look at [this checklist](#) from the North American Deck and Railing Association and review the following critical safety elements of your deck. If you see any issues with the connection points or wood quality, consider staying off your deck until a professional inspects it, repairs it, or replaces it.

- Is the material of your wood deck still solid, no wood rot or splitting or insect damage, including the posts at the ground? If your deck is composite, is there mold growth, breakage or delamination?
- Are all the places where your deck is attached to your home secure?
- Is there rust or corrosion on any of the fasteners used to connect your decks, rails, beams, and joists together? (Look at the fasteners, bolts, brackets, etc.)
- Are the guards, rails, and stairs sturdy and well secured?

Please make sure you use your deck safely as well:

- Don't add large heavy items such as swimming pools or hot tubs on top of your deck; this is dangerous and could cause a deck to collapse.
- Make sure all stairs are well lit for safe travel after the sun goes down. This can be as simple as adding inexpensive solar powered lights.

- If you are using grills, heaters, and/or outdoor fire pits on decks, be careful and follow all rules regarding their use. In addition to structure failure or collapse, fire is also a deck hazard.
- Do not overcrowd the deck beyond its designed load bearing capacity.

Remember, before building a new or replacing an existing deck, building permits are required.

Helpful Links to Apply for a Deck Permit:

- [Permit Library](#) – Decks fall under the residential addition/alteration permit type.
- [Typical Deck Details](#) – These details may be revised soon to meet the 2021 Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- [Deck Boot Camp](#) – Watch Land Development Services (LDS) staff member, Kyle Kratzer, guide you through the Deck Boot Camp training.
- [Hire a Contractor](#) – Learn about finding a licensed contractor.

Update on Ilda's Overlook Senior Residences on Braddock Road

Residential Use Permits for the 80 residential units and Occupancy Permits for the common areas have been issued for Ilda's Overlook, the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing's affordable senior housing project on Braddock Road. Thirty-two of the units are leased, so March will be a busy month as residents move in. A ceremonial grand opening will be held later this month. A few updated interior photos are below which show the furnished common space and one of the residential floor hallways.



Update on Erickson Living's Woodleigh Chase Project

Erickson Living's Woodleigh Chase campus on Braddock Road is also preparing to open this month. Emerson Square, at the center of the first three buildings, is expected to begin accepting their first residents on March 12. Erickson Living has said that move-ins will proceed slowly, with only one to two per day. Fulton Landing, just to the west, will start accepting residents on March 18. The buildings are not expected to be fully occupied until summer. Move dates haven't been confirmed for Stafford Glen, the building on the east side.

Update on the One University Project

Public improvement work associated with the One University project is currently underway. Open cuts are being made along University Drive for installation of sanitary sewer connections. The work is proceeding from west to east. Lateral connections are

being completed for the senior affordable housing building, and connections for the multifamily affordable housing building will follow.

Extension of the northbound left turn lane along Ox Road and reconstruction of the median should be complete within the next three weeks. Pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Ox Road and University Drive are scheduled to begin on March 20 and will take eight weeks to complete (two weeks per corner). Upon completion, connection of the remaining lateral sanitary sewer connections along University Drive will proceed.

The completion of the senior and multifamily affordable housing buildings is anticipated in May 2024. One Main, the student housing project, is scheduled for completion in July 2024.



Cases Filed with the Board of Zoning Appeals

The Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) hears and makes decisions on requests for variances (relief from specific zoning regulations such as lot width, building height, or minimum yard requirements) and Special Use Permits. It meets on Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m. BZA meetings are aired live on the County government's cable TV Channel 16. Residents who have concerns about an application are encouraged to submit a letter for the record or testify at the hearing on the case in person, by telephone, or by pre-submitted video. For information on how to submit comments or testify, please visit the [Board of Zoning Appeals website](#). These matters will not come before the Board of Supervisors but will be decided by the BZA. Staff reports are normally available online a week before the scheduled hearing.

Access to information on BZA cases is available through the Planning and Land Use System, or PLUS. This system allows users to create and submit applications online, pay fees, track the status of applications, and receive electronic notifications. It also offers more information to the public than the previous system and does so in real time. Visit the [PLUS website](#) for more information on this land use platform.

➤ **Trustees of the Church of the Good Shepherd – 9350 Braddock Road, Burke**

SPA-81-A-025-02

The Church requested to amend its previous approval for religious assembly and a childcare center to permit site modifications and the removal of approximately 3.12 acres from its existing Special Permit. The BZA approved this application with Development Conditions on February 14. See article in the Land Development section of this newsletter for more details. Additional information, including a map of the site and staff report, may be found on the [PLUS website](#).

➤ **Gonzalo Alberto Acha Garcia – 7517 Hamlet Street, Springfield**
SP-2022-BR-00132

The applicant is requesting a reduction in setback requirements to permit an addition 6.6 feet from the side lot line. This application has been scheduled for a BZA hearing on March 13. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the [PLUS website](#).

➤ **Tyler W. & Jill G. Wolverson – 4717 Trotting Lane, Annandale**
SP-2023-BR-00201

The applicants are requesting a reduction in setback requirements to allow a second story addition over an existing garage that would be 7.1 feet from the south side lot line. This application has been scheduled for a BZA hearing on May 1. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the [PLUS website](#).

➤ **Karoline Patricia Pershell – 7914 Greely Boulevard, Springfield**
SP-2024-BR-00004

The applicant is requesting a modification to the provisions for the keeping of animals (chickens). This application has been scheduled for a BZA hearing on May 1. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the [PLUS website](#).

If you have questions regarding these land use cases or any other issues of concern to you, please email braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov or call the Braddock District office at (703) 425-9300.
