



October 2011 Newsletter

Hunter Mill Highlights

From Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

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**Hunter Mill District
Supervisor Cathy Hudgins**

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Hunter Mill Highlights is my electronic newsletter. Please share this issue with your organizations. To be added to our mailing list, e-mail us at hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov

Dear Hunter Mill Friends,

October is such a remarkable month here in Fairfax County! Coming up on the 22nd is National Make A Difference Day, a day where your involvement can make a difference in your community. In Fairfax County, [Volunteer Fairfax](#) has organized the 17th annual VolunteerFest with projects to benefit schools, nonprofits, parks and libraries throughout the County. Check out their website for a listing of service opportunities.

Here in the Hunter Mill District office we are once again collecting items for the Hungry Kids Backpack Food Program. Many of our children rely on school breakfast and lunch programs for their primary meals. This effort provides area children with nutritious meals and snacks for the weekends. Hunger is a real issue in Fairfax and even more of our Hunter Mill District schools have asked to be included in this year's program. Listing of items we are collecting is on page 3 of this newsletter. I hope you can help out with your contribution.

October is the month to focus on our public safety professionals. On Saturday, October 15th, each of the County's Fire Departments will host an Open House in celebration of Fire Prevention Week. On that same Saturday, our Police Department is presenting a Crime Prevention Expo and Open House in Reston. Both of these events are family oriented and feature displays, equipment and vehicles, and other fun and informative activities. The children love the chance to hold the steering wheel of a fire truck, or sit in a real police car. I hope you can stop by and take this opportunity to show your support of our public safety officers who put their lives on the line to keep us safe.

Have a safe and happy Halloween!



Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout

Bring unused or expired medications (just pills or liquids) to your local police station for disposal. Clearing out unused or expired medications prevents accidental poisoning, drug abuse and environmental. Disposal is free, convenient, confidential and safe.

Monday October 10-14: Drop off at Fairfax County District Police Stations

North County District - 12000 Bowman Town Drive, Reston

McLean District - 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean

Fair Oaks District - 12300 Lee Jackson Highway, Fairfax

Saturday, October 29: Drop off at Vienna Police Department - 215 Center Street.

Announcements



*Saturday, October 22
3 to 5 p.m.
Reston Community Center
at Hunters Woods
2310 Colts Neck Road
Reston
703-476-4500*

Looking Back, Moving Forward to a Sustainable Reston

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, in cooperation with a coalition of Reston civic organizations, would like to invite the community to participate in the Sustainable Reston Forum being held on Saturday, October 22nd from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Reston Community Center at Hunters Woods.

The Forum will feature Michael Shuman, Director of Research, Cutting Edge Capital as the keynote speaker. In addition, a panel of sustainability champions in the areas of transportation, home and lifestyle, environment, and buying local will give remarks and lead discussions.

Pre-registration is recommended. To register for the event, access RCC's on-line registration at http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/arts_community_SustainableReston.shtml, or call the Hunter Mill District office at 703-478-0283.

Additional information is at [Sustainable Reston Forum website](#).

Lake Fairfax Skatepark Design Meeting: Thursday, October 27

A new skatepark is coming to Lake Fairfax! The Fairfax County Park Authority is ready to meet with area skateboard enthusiasts to review the design plan and contribute their expertise. A community meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 27**, 7 to 9 p.m. at Armstrong Elementary School, 11900 Lake Newport Road in Reston.

Spohn Ranch, a skateboard design firm, began the design process over the summer after meeting with local skateboarders and Park Authority planners. Ideas generated from that initial meeting along with input via the [Park Authority/Lake Fairfax Skatepark website](#) have been considered in the new configuration.

[Information on the skatepark](#) along with comment section is available online.



From the Vienna Farmers Market

Vienna Farmers Market Sponsors Used Clothing Drive for Homeless Youth

Our vendors, farmers and managers have decided to work on a joint venture this year and that is a used clothing drive for homeless youth. Although we cannot do anything about encroaching cold weather, we can do something about keeping individual children warm. Right now needy children make up over 1/3 of the homeless population of Fairfax County. They need warm clothing for the winter months. The clothing drive will take place on consecutive Saturdays starting on October 8 and running through October 29.

The Saturday Vienna Farmers Market operates May to October in the Caboose Parking lot near 138 Church Street NE, in Vienna. Please bring gently used clothing to the front or back of the market and deposit them in the bins during operating hours of 8 a.m. to noon. For a comprehensive listing of needed items, please visit our [website at Vienna Farmers Market](#) or our [Facebook/Vienna-Farmers Market site](#).

Helping Hungry Kids Backpack Food Program

Here in the Hunter Mill district, my office and **Connections for Hope** will be collecting food items for the **Helping Hungry Kids Backpack Food Program**. This program provides nutritious, kid-friendly food items to kids in our area who don't get enough to eat on the weekends. Many of our kids rely on school breakfasts and lunches for the majority of their nutrition. On the weekends, many go hungry.

One of our district schools distributes **100 food backpacks each week** to its students. And, this year, more schools have asked to be included in the distribution. Your items and contributions are greatly needed to keep up with the demand and stem hunger for our students. Items will be collected now through October 30th.

Items may be dropped off at my office, North County Government Center, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive in Reston, Connections for Hope, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon, or Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated. For information, contact my office at 703-478-0283.



Items needed: (individual servings/non-refrigerated)

- instant oatmeal packages
- individual cereal boxes
- granola bars
- cheese or peanut butter crackers
- cup of soups
- Easy mac 'n cheese
- microwavable ravioli and pastas
- tuna pouches
- Fruit cups
- fruit snacks
- juice boxes
- milk boxes
- pudding snacks
- snack packs of pretzels/crackers
- Pop-tarts

Southgate 
COMMUNITY DAY

FREE

Join the fun at Southgate Community Center's Annual Community Day celebration, a family fun and informative event.

Featuring entertainment, children's games, fun activities, plus agency resources and more.

Call 703-860-0676 for additional information.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 1-6 PM
12125 PINECREST RD, RESTON, VA

Music & Bands

Games

Giveaways

Basketball Tourney

Crafts

Refreshments

**BUILDING
A STRONG
COMMUNITY**

Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership Program: Grants of Up to \$5,000 Available to Improve the Quality of Life in Your Neighborhood

If you have an idea or project to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood, Fairfax County is now offering up to \$5,000 in matching grants to make your community a better place to live. The grants are available to neighborhood or civic groups, homeowner's associations or nonprofits through the Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership Program (NEPP). Applications are due by Monday, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m., and additional information about groups or projects eligible for funding can be found [online](#).

In the past, communities have received money to repair or expand children's playgrounds, put up community signs, plant community gardens, and build paths, bridges and outdoor pavilions to help connect neighbors and neighborhoods. Because the NEPP is a matching grant program, organizations must contribute a matching amount of cash; in-kind donations; discounts on goods or services; and/or sweat equity. Eligible projects also must include at least 25 percent volunteer labor as part of their match.

For more information about the program, information sessions, or application process, contact Rachel Robinson, Fairfax County Department of Administration for Human Services, at 703-324-5639, TTY 711.



[Fairfax Community Connections](#) is a virtual collaboration network that brings people together countywide to gather, give, and get involved. Fairfax County is an active and diverse community providing a variety of opportunities each week. Fairfax Community Connections makes it simple to be aware of what is going on as well as share what you are doing by linking websites and social media networks of chambers, non-profits, businesses and community groups throughout the county.

Use Fairfax Community Connections to find ways to give and get involved, post your experiences, and share photos from your event. Fairfax Connections website is at <http://www.fairfaxcommunityconnections.net/>

Rental Subsidy for People with Disabilities on Housing Wait Lists

A limited term (i.e. up to 12 months) rental subsidy may be available to singles and families on Fairfax County's affordable housing wait lists through the Bridging Affordability Program. Subsidies are dependent on continued availability of program funds, but participating families can receive approximately \$655/month for rent (participants must dedicate 30% of their income towards rent and utilities). In order to be eligible, participants must be homeless (as defined by HUD) or on the voucher, Public Housing, CSB, or Shelter wait list. Income and county residency eligibility criteria also apply. Applicants must agree to a background check. This program can provide supportive services, if appropriate, and is designed to assist participants in increasing their self-sufficiency so that they remain independent after the end of the subsidy.

Applicants who qualify for a Bridging Affordability subsidy will have to work with a Housing Locator assigned by the program to search for an apartment. For more information on the full list of eligibility criteria and other program details or to obtain program contact information, contact Carl Varner at the Fairfax County Department of Family Services/Disability Services Planning and Development at 703-324-5219 or 703-449-1186 (TTY) or carl.varner@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Crime Prevention Expo and Police Open House

The Fairfax County Police Department and the Reston Association are hosting the first countywide Crime Prevention Expo on **Saturday, October 15, 2011**. The Expo features seminars and tips that will enable you to protect yourself, your property, and your piece-of-mind. All seminars and events are free. In addition, families will enjoy a variety of police equipment displays, including vehicles, robots, moon bounce, McGruff the Crime Dog and more. All events will take place at the Reston Association located at 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20191.

Educational Workshops will begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.

10:30- 11 - Business Seminar on Camera Placement

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.- How to start a Neighborhood Watch

12 p.m. - 1 p.m. & 2 p.m. -3 p.m. - Home Security and Safety

1 p.m. - 2 p.m.- Keeping a Neighborhood Watch Active

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.- Recruiting Volunteers in Your Community

If you are interested in any of these classes, please fill out the [registration form](#) and return it to restoncpo@fairfaxcounty.gov or fax it to 703-318-9872.



College Fair for High School Students

Fairfax County Public Schools will host its 2011 College Fair on **Sunday, October 16**, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Fair Oaks Mall. A second event will be held on Monday, October 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary School in Alexandria. High school students and their families are encouraged to attend these two events to explore postsecondary educational opportunities. Representatives from approximately 400 colleges and universities, including two year and four year colleges as well as military academies and business and technical schools, will be on hand at both events to talk to prospective students.

At College Night, students can attend workshops on college and career planning, the role of standardized tests in the application process, writing the college application essay, financial aid, and information for student athletes and students with disabilities. Workshops are presented by college and university representatives and FCPS employees.

Students are strongly encouraged to register online for these events. Registered students will receive an admittance pass which will be scanned electronically by representatives from the colleges they visit. Electronic registration eliminates the need for students to fill out separate information card for each college. Students can register at <http://www.fcpscollegefairs.com/>. Additional information is available at the [FCPS website / College Fair & Night](#)

From Fairfax County Sheriff's Office -

Fairfax County Sheriff's Office Helps Parents Monitor Kids' Online Activity



The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office is offering parents Internet monitoring software to help them quickly and easily assess what their children are doing online. The ComputerCOP software scans the computer for potentially objectionable images and text associated with pornography, drugs, weapons or violence.

The ComputerCOP software will be available free of charge for Fairfax County residents at child identification/fingerprinting events sponsored by the Sheriff's Office. Please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/sheriff/news/fingerprint.htm or www.facebook.com/fairfaxcountysheriff for a list of upcoming events.

Status of Hunter Mill District Land Use Projects

Reston Spectrum LP, Tax Map 017-1 ((1)) Parcels 3K, 3P and 3Q: with a total acreage of 24.29 is seeking approval of Planned Residential Community (PRC) plan 86-C-121-04 for mixed use development. The three Land Bays will consist of the following: Land Bay A is planned for 546 dwelling units, 255 hotel rooms, 172,000 square feet of office and 62,500 square feet of retail uses; Land Bay B is planned for 643 dwelling units, 270 hotel rooms and 48,650 square feet of retail uses; and Land Bay C is planned for 237 residential uses and 134,896 square feet of retail and bank uses (84,000 square feet of this retail is currently existing and will be retained). **The Planning Commission decision has been deferred until October 13, 2011 @ 8:15 p.m.**

Fairway Apartments Redevelopment Proposal: The Fairway I & II Residential LLC (Applicant) Planned Residential Community (PRC) Plan (**PRC A-502-2**) has been revised. The Applicant is now proposing a reduction in the market rate units from 940 to 806/reduction of 134 units and phased development. Fairway West will consist of approximately 570 residential units in a mix of townhomes and wood-frame multifamily construction, with the proposed high-rise tower with above grade parking being eliminated. Fairway East will consist of 233 residential units in a mix of townhomes and wood-frame multifamily construction. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of this application on July 21, 2011. **The Board of Supervisors' public hearing scheduled for September 27, 2011 was deferred until January 10 @ 4:00 p.m.**

RTC Partnership, LLC filed a Planned Residential Community plan (PRC 77-C-076) to remove the current office building known as the "Town Center Office Building" @ 1760 Reston Parkway, and redevelop a 23-story, Class A mixed-use office and retail building. The building will consist of approximately 413,700 square feet of office uses and approximately 5,200 square feet retail use, with a Floor Area Ratio of 4.08. Parking for the proposed building will feature both below – and above-grade parking spaces. The above ground portion of the parking will sit atop retail uses and will be screened with a context-sensitive façade treatment that will be harmoniously integrated in the office structure. Planning Commission date is scheduled for November 17, 2011 @ 8:15 p.m.

Reston District Police Station and Governmental Center: Proffer Condition Amendment (PCA 74-2-113-4)/Development Plan Amendment (DPA 74-2-113-8)/PRC Plan PRC 74-2-113-2 and Feature Shown 2232-H11-18 has been accepted to allow for the construction of a new Reston District Police Station and Governmental Center with associated parking, located at 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. (Tax Map # 017-1 ((1)), Parcel 4B. The new two-story building will be located on the west side of the site, directly south of Cameron Glen Drive. There will be an increase in both the secured and public parking, in addition to the relocation of the fuel island and sustainable development features. Demolition of the existing building will occur after the new facility is completely occupied and operational. The Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for December 15, 2011 @ 8:15 p.m. and the Board of Supervisor public hearing is set for January 10, 2012.

CARS-DB1, LLC have filed rezoning applications for Dominion Square 1580, 1586 and 1592 Spring Hill Road: Tax Map 29-3((01)), Parcels 2C1, 2C2 and 2D to rezone from the Regional Retail (C-7), Highway Corridor Overlay (HC) and Sign Control Overlay (SC) Districts to the Planned Tysons Corner (PTC), HC and SC Districts. RZ 2011-HM-012 concurrent with RZ 2011-HM-013 proposes to redevelop multiple car dealerships into a vibrant, transit oriented mixed-use neighborhood with office, hotel, retail and residential uses. Included in the development will be five (5) residential buildings, a large public park/facility near the stream valley area to the south. The low-rise retail structures and multiple surface parking lots will be replaced with high-rise buildings and structured parking. **Planning Commission public hearing has not been scheduled.**

Continued on next page

Land Use projects continued from previous page:

Luis and Carla Marty of 1307 Deep Run Lane, Reston, VA. 20190 have filed a **Special Exception application (SE 2011-HM-010)** to increase the number of children in their childcare operation from seven (7) to 10 children. The property is located at Tax Map 012-3 ((04)) (6) 0046. The Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for December 8, 2011 @ 8:15 p.m.

Tysons West Residential, L.L.C. and JBG/Tysons Hotel, L.L.C. have filed a **rezoning and Conceptual Development Plan (CDP) application proposing to rezone the property from the General Industrial (I-5), Regional Retail (C-7), Highway Corridor Overlay (HC) and Sign Control Overlay (SC) Districts to the Planned Tysons Corner Urban Center (PTC), HC and SC Districts.** The property is currently developed with the Sheraton Premier Hotel and the former Moore Cadillac/Hummer dealership. The Applicant seeks to transform the Property, referred to as “Promenade at Tysons West”, into a walkable, transit-oriented neighborhood with a mix of residential, retail, office and hotel uses. The Property is located at Tax Map 29-1 ((1)) 10D and 29-3 ((1)) 1B and 29-3 ((20)) C1. Planning Commission public hearing has not been scheduled.

Q-R Spring Hill, LLC (Perseus Realty) has filed a **rezoning and Conceptual Development Plan (CDP) application for 1577 Spring Hill Road, Tax Map 029-3 ((1)) Parcel 2F to rezone / Conceptual Development Plan to rezone the property from Regional Retail - C-7, Highway Corridor Overlay (HC) and Sign Control Overlay (SC) Districts to Planned Tysons Corner (PTC), HC and SC Districts.** The proposed mixed-use development is near the Tysons West Metro Station and will consist of office, hotel, residential and retail development. This Applicant has joined with the owners of the property to the southwest, Tax Map 29-1 ((1)) 2G (Sunburst). The Planning Commission public hearing has not been scheduled.

1587 Springhill Holdings, Inc. located at Tax Map 029-3 ((1)) 2G has filed a **rezoning and Conceptual Development Plan (CDP) application to rezone from Regional Retail - C-7, Highway Corridor Overlay (HC) and Sign Control Overlay (SC) Districts to Planned Tysons Corner (PTC), HC and SC Districts.** The property is currently developed with a motel and restaurant that were constructed in 1982. The proposed mixed-use development is near the Tysons West Metro Station and will consist of two office buildings and one residential building, all of which will have ground floor retail. This Applicant has joined with the owners of the property to the northeast, Tax Map 29-1 ((1)) 2F (Perseus Realty). The Planning Commission public hearing has been scheduled.

Reston Association: Dogwood Pool Renovation, 2460 Green Range Drive, Reston: Reston Association has filed a PRC (**PRC-C-099**) plan for substantial renovation of the 31 year old aquatics facility. At the request of the applicant, this application has been indefinitely deferred.

JBG/RIC, L.L.C. and RIC Retail, L.L.C. (Reston Heights) 11800 & 11842 Sunrise Valley Drive: Tax Map 17-3((3)), Parcels 1C & 1D: has submitted a revised Planned Residential Community (PRC) plan PRC B-846-03 to previously approved plan for 145,000 square feet of above grade retail, 100,00 square feet of below grade retail, 428,225 square feet of office with 498 residential units. The revised plan does not change the density or use allocation. The plan proposes a new grocery and neighborhood retail into pedestrian friendly, urban-type streetscape with mid-rise residential above. **At the request of applicant, this application has been indefinitely deferred.**

RPB & M, LCC: 11401, 11403, 11407, 11411 & 11417 Sunset Hills Road, Reston: RPB & M, LLC has filed rezoning application **RZ 2010-HM-004 and Final Development Plan 2010-HM-008.** The application proposes development at Section 913, Tax Map 17-4((19)) Parcels 1,2,3,4,5A and 6A and 17-4((24)) 4B to develop one mid-size multi-family residential building (520 units), office building 170,000 sq. ft. and 8,000 sq. ft. of support retail. Planning staff is waiting for additional information from the Applicant regarding the 527 traffic analysis.

Land Use Special Projects and Programs

Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force:

The Reston Master Plan Special Study Steering Committee met on July 19th to discuss the allocation of George Mason University 2030 High Development Levels. The Department of Planning and Zoning updated the full Task Force on the activities of the Steering Committee and a presentation on allocation of Forecasted Absorption and next steps at the September 13, 2011 meeting. Copies of the presentations and scheduling information can be found by accessing http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/meetings_taskforce.htm.

Lake Anne Village Center:

On July 13th 2011, Supervisor Hudgins and the Office of Community Redevelopment and Reinvestment invited the Reston community to participate in a discussion on exploring partnership opportunities to stimulate positive change in the Lake Anne Village Center. Guest speakers Barry H. Biggar, President and CEO of Visit Fairfax and Patti Stevens, Executive Director of Fairfax County Office of Partnerships shared information on the benefits of creating successful partnerships and identified ways their particular organization can assist with promoting Lake Anne Village Center and opened the door for future dialogue.

UPDATE: Reston for a Lifetime

On October 1, 2011, for Reston for a Lifetime held an exciting educational seminar entitled "Staying in Reston for a Lifetime: Can I Afford It?" This free event was held at the newly expanded Reston Community Center at Lake Anne, and covered topics such as Fairfax County tax relief, the cost of home ownership and apartment rental in Reston, senior housing options, home modifications, legal documents to protect your assets, investment strategies, and accounting and financing strategies.

The expert panel was able to touch upon the agenda topics to the residents who joined them on the rainy Saturday morning. Provocative questions focused on estate planning, costs and solutions to modify homes for accessibility, getting a better understanding of how reverse mortgages work, and how to take full advantage of tax benefit programs.

As always, visit www.restonforalifetime.org or email aginginreston@gmail.com with your questions, comments or suggestions. Many of the topics that were discussed at the Reston for a Lifetime education forum will be featured as part of the RCC spring 2012 program season:



RESTON FOR A LIFETIME



LEFT: Kick-off event last fall was well attended!

RIGHT: Supervisor Hudgins and Board Chairman Sharon Bulova enjoyed meeting with participants at last year's event.



Countywide Bicycle Transportation Master Plan Open House

Thursday, October 20th, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunrise Valley Elementary School - 10824 Cross School Road, Reston

This meeting is an opportunity for your input making streets and roads bicycle-friendly. Your input is needed to help shape the Countywide Bicycle Transportation Plan that addresses bicycle access throughout Fairfax County. Information on this effort is found at <http://tooledesign.com/fairfax/>

Tysons Metrorail Station Access Management Study Update

The final draft of the Tysons Metrorail Station Access Management Study (TMSAMS) report has been completed. The study investigated improvements surrounding future Tysons Corner Metrorail station using alternative transportation like bicycles, pedestrian walkways, and transit. A final public meeting was held on October 4th to report the findings of the survey to the community. There were several important findings relevant to the Hunter Mill District discussed in the meeting. Some of the findings are listed below:

- 1 in 2 people plan to use a neighborhood bus.
- Frequent, reliable service and proximity to a bus stop are most important factors in getting people to use bus service.
- 1 in 3 people plan to use the buses which operate within central Tysons Corner
- 56.8% of respondents in Tysons area live or work near a bicycle facility or bike route
- 44.8% of respondents say they will walk to Metrorail

Fairfax County Department of Transportation staff will present the TMSAMS findings to the Board of Supervisors in November. The projects listed within the report will get cost estimations and prioritized for completion. For more information and to read the final report, view <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/tmsams/>.

Virginia Department of Transportation Snow Removal

It's hard to believe with all these beautiful days, but the winter season is quickly approaching the Hunter Mill District. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is tasked with snow removal on all public roads in Fairfax County. Our office is asking residents to gauge snow removal efforts on their street. We are compiling a list of snow removal problem areas to send to VDOT for this upcoming snow season. Our goal is to proactively work with VDOT to make a difference. If you have questions about our effort, please feel free to contact my office at 703-478-0283.

Hunter Mill Road Bridges Challenge District Drivers

Both bridges on Hunter Mill Road have had their problems recently, impacting the commute for many district residents. The one-lane bridge over Colvin Run (near Baron Cameron Avenue) was closed for almost a month after September's big storms due to wash out of the asphalt leading to the bridge. This office stayed closely connected to Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to keep residents current on the bridge's status and ensure a timely repair.

The two-lane bridge over Difficult Run near the W&OD trail was evaluated before the big storm and rated as failing. The annual inspection revealed significant deterioration of the structure and recommended complete replacement. VDOT has not yet scheduled the replacement work but is expected to make an announcement in the next week or so. Hunter Mill Road in this section will be closed to accommodate the work. A temporary bridge will be installed, requiring closure of a few days. A permanent bridge is still in the planning stages.



From Fairfax County Urban Forestry:

Our Urban Foresters contribute seasonal information on tree care and issues.

Time to Plant Trees



The benefits of trees have been researched and cited, from environmental benefits such as improvements to air quality, water quality and mitigation of storm water to socio-economic benefits including reduction in crime rates, increases in retail sales, increased property values and energy conservation. As with most decisions, there are pros and cons to planting trees. The cons can be minimized and the pros maximized with the proper planning, planting, and care of a new tree during the first several years after it has been planted. Fall is, in many ways, the best time to plant trees.

Right Tree, Right Place

Your favorite tree may not be the best species for the conditions you have to plant in. Have several options that you would be happy with when visiting the nursery or talking to your landscaper. Your soils may be wet or dry, compacted or well drained. Light exposure at your planting site may be shade, part shade or full sun. Know what your objectives are in planting a tree. Is it purely for ornamental value? What ornamental features are you interested in? Remember flowers are beautiful but, in many cases, don't last long. Bark and foliage, even branching patterns and texture contribute to your landscape for six to 12 months of the year. Do you want to provide shade for a specify area of the property or your home? Do you want dense shade or dappled shade? Consider the ultimate size of the tree and the space you want to plant in, both above and below the ground. Roots need room to expand too. Keep in mind that your favorite tree will not perform as you expect if it is planted into an environment it doesn't like.

Planting

Tree roots are relatively shallow. Your hole should be no deeper than the height of the root ball, but make it two to three times wider so the roots can easily expand the first few years. Once the tree is established and has replace many of the roots that were lost when the tree was dug from the nursery, it is better equipped to adapt to any changes in its new environment. Make sure the flare at the base of the tree, where the trunk transitions to the roots, is at or a couple of inches above grade. This might require taking some soil off the top of the root ball. Cultivation practices in the nursery often pile soil over the base of the tree so the base may need to be uncovered before you plant. Once you've got the tree in the hole, backfill with the same soil you dug out, tamping lightly and watering in to eliminate air pockets. Any amendments used to loosen heavy soils should be spread on top of the ground in the area around the hole and worked into the first few inches of soil. This will improve the soil in areas where roots will be expanding. Fertilizer should not be applied at the time the tree is planted. Spread 2-3 inches of mulch over the area within a 3 to 4-foot radius around the tree.

Early Care

During the growing season, continue to water the tree weekly or more often during periods of drought for the first couple of years after planting. Prune only broken and dead branches at the time of planting. Three to five years after planting, pruning designed to encourage good structure should be performed. A certified arborist should be contracted to do this work. Early pruning is important as it can eliminate problems that might otherwise develop as the tree grow larger. Dealing with these same problems later is less effective in dealing with the issue, more expensive, and usually involves larger pruning cuts. Larger cuts are more vulnerable to decay and pathogens which can result in additional challenges for the tree and adversely affect its health, condition, performance and value. Expand the mulch area as the tree increases in size and its root system expands.

Properties with healthy, thoughtfully planted trees sell more quickly and at better prices than those lacking trees. Strategically placed trees can reduce heating and cooling costs by as much as 25%. In most cases a tree only becomes a liability through poor planning or neglect. We get one chance to plant a tree. Getting it right can prevent many problems and improve its performance and your enjoyment for many years.

Update from Fairfax County Library:



Kindle Users Can Now Download Library Books

Kindle users can now download free eBooks available through the library's catalog. The library has offered eBooks and other e-material for several years now but until recently, library customers who had Kindle eReaders were not able to access the library's free eBooks. An influx of donations has enabled the library to expand its eBook collection recently, reducing the waiting times for the most popular books.

10 Lessons for Surviving a Zombie Attack: Author Max Brooks

Bestselling author of *The Zombie Survival Guide*, will present his "10 Lessons" on Tuesday, October 25, 7 p.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Fairfax County Government Center. Register online or call 703-324-8428.

Brooks, son of Mel Brooks, is also the author of *World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie War* and Emmy-award winning writer for Saturday Night Live. Call 703-689-2700 for information.

Fairfax Library Foundation Jubilee: *Let Loose in the Library!* Saturday, October 15,

Show your support for the library and foundation at this year's fundraiser. Event features music, refreshments, silent and live auctions. Held at Thomas Jefferson Library, 7415 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church. For details, visit the [Library Foundation](#) website, or call 703-324-8300.

Youth Leadership Program: Paid Summer Internship Opportunities



Fairfax County Youth Leadership Program (YLP) is an opportunity for Fairfax County Public School students in their junior year to learn about local government and participate in a paid summer internship with a County agency or office. This program is sponsored by the Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools.

The curriculum and activities are designed to develop citizenship skills and encourage participants to become active, involved citizens in the future. Through a summer internship, training opportunities and site visits, participants will expand their knowledge of public service and their own community.

APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER 2012 INTERNSHIPS ARE DUE OCTOBER 31, 2011. More information on the program and the application form are on the [Youth Leadership Program website](#). Brochures are available from FCPS Guidance Directors and Social Studies Departments.

Bullying and Cyberbullying Videos Available in Multiple Languages

Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) has developed a new video to help parents and students deal with bullying. "Bullying and Cyberbullying" video is available in multiple languages and shows how being a bullying victims affects other aspects of a student's life, signs to look for, and how you can help. Student actors from Fairfax County schools helped make these videos. Check them out on NCS webpage at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/news/ni2011/bullypsa.htm>.



Equestrian Task Force Seeks Your Input

There is still time to take part in the Equestrian Task Force survey on opportunities for horses and their riders. The Task Force will be considering needs and services relating to the equestrian community and will present recommendations to the Board in March 2012. The Task force has prepared an on-line survey to get your opinions and input. Additional information on the [Equestrian Task Force](#) and [link to the survey](#) are available on the county's website.

Stations Host Fire Prevention Open House Countywide

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department will host Fire Prevention Week Open House, Saturday, October 15, 2011, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at all stations throughout the County. The theme for Fire Prevention Week is, “It’s Fire Prevention Week. Protect Your Family From Fire!”

Firefighters and paramedics will have displays and activities emphasizing fire safety, including preventing fires and fire injuries, especially in the home. Residents are encouraged to visit a nearby fire and rescue station to participate in the activities and learn more about fire safety.

For 90 years, Fire Prevention Week has been sponsored by the National Fire Prevention Association and is proclaimed by the President of the United States each year. This is the longest running safety commemoration and is the premier fire safety program of the fire service, drawing the participation of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and other fire departments in the U.S. and Canada. To learn more about fire prevention go to www.firepreventionweek.org.

Notices

***Connecting with Supervisor Hudgins* Cable Show: Safe Routes to School**

Channel 16 (Cox Cable) and Channel 28 (Comcast) host Supervisor Hudgins’ monthly cable show, *Connecting with Supervisor Hudgins*. This month’s show investigates the Safe Routes to School efforts that help facilitate safe pedestrian and bicycle routes to local schools for our students. Guests on the show are Jeff Anderson, Hunter Mill representative on the Trails and Sidewalks Committee, and Doug O’Neill, School Safety Coordinator with Fairfax County Public Schools. Shows are broadcast three times during the week, or can be viewed on your computer with video on demand. [Channel 16’s website](#) had details on showtimes and subjects.

***First Mondays* with Supervisor Hudgins:**

November 7 - Patrick Henry Library, Vienna

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins holds **First Monday** each month to hear from you. Locations alternate the Patrick Henry Library in Vienna and the Reston Regional Library in Reston. **First Monday** hours are from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, or if you prefer, you can schedule an appointment by calling the Hunter Mill District office at **703-478-0283**, or email to hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Electric Sunday Recycling Event: October 23, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax 22030

Residents can recycle televisions, computers, monitors and peripheral electronic devices such as printers, scanners, speakers, keyboards, mice and external drives. Also collected at these events are unbroken fluorescent tubes and fluorescent light bulbs.

Document Shredding: October 22 , 8 a.m. to noon

North County Human Services Center, 1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston. Residents can shred up to five medium-sized boxes of paper per household. For disposing of sensitive documents (tax, medical, financial).

Safety Seat Saturday: October 29

Sheriff’s deputies trained and certified in child safety seat inspection will help parents and caregivers ensure that a child fits securely in the safety seat and that the safety seat fits securely in the vehicle seat. Bring your vehicle and safety seat(s). Bring your child too! Safety Seat Saturday is held on the last Saturday of each month, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Fairfax County Public Safety Center, Public Parking Garage, 10550 Page Avenue, Fairfax. For further information, email shf-safetyseatinspections@fairfaxcounty.gov.