



Birchfield Woods Cluster Association Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2002

Community Web Site: www.geocities.com/bwca.geo

Annual Meeting Scheduled

Mark your calendars! The Annual Meeting for the cluster association is scheduled for **March 4, 2003, at 7:30 PM** in the Neil Armstrong Elementary School cafeteria. New officers and members of the board of directors will be nominated and elected, and a budget, including assessment levels, will be adopted. Everyone is welcome and is strongly encouraged to attend. Pizza will be provided. More information will be distributed as the meeting date approaches.

Paint Spills in Parking Lot

As you have undoubtedly noticed, a large quantity of paint was spilled in the parking lot during trash collection in early September. The Board of Directors is currently discussing responsibility for the damage with our trash removal contractor, AAA Rainbow.

To help prevent future situations such as this, please remember that **paint cannot be disposed of in the trash**. Oil-based paints are considered by Fairfax County to be a Household Hazardous Waste. Although Fairfax County does not classify latex-based paints as hazardous waste, our trash collector, AAA Rainbow, will not pick up any paint products, either latex- or oil-based.

To dispose of unneeded paint, you must take it to the Waste Transfer Station at 4618 West Ox Road, near I-66. Hours of operation for the Household Hazardous Waste facility are Thursday, 8:00 AM to Noon; Friday, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM; and Saturday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For more information, please see the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services web page at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/DPWES/trash_home.html, or call 703-802-3322.

Cluster Cleanup Day / Yard Sale

A big thank you to all the people who helped with the cluster cleanup day on Saturday, October 5. The biggest accomplishment was the cleaning of the tot lot. Approximately 20 large garbage bags of assorted brush, branches, and other material was collected and removed, and mulch was added. The area is now much more open and inviting. In addition to the tot lot, the sign at the entrance to the neighborhood was cleaned, trash was cleaned up from the edge of the woods at the entrance to the cluster, and trees were trimmed along the sidewalks. Thanks to everyone who helped keep our common areas in shape.

Pasta Pot Luck Dinner

On October 26 Birchfield Woods neighbors enjoyed a crisp autumn evening at our Pasta Pot Luck Dinner. There was good food, great company, and fun Halloween games and activities for the kids. If you missed this one, stay tuned for other neighborhood socials to follow.

Parking Bylaws Amended

The Board of Directors amended the cluster association bylaws at its August meeting. The change clarified the fact that visitors' parking spaces are meant for visitors, and may not be abused by residents. If you notice a resident's car parked in a visitors' space, please contact a member of the board of directors. The Board will investigate the situation and take appropriate action, including towing the violator's car. The complete and official article of the bylaws regarding parking is available at the BWCA web site, www.geocities.com/bwca.geo. If you do not have access to the Internet, please ask a member of the Board for a copy.

Fall Walkabout

During the Fall Walkabout, the committee was pleased to find that many homeowners had used the pleasant spring and summer weather to spruce up their houses. Siding, trim, and doors were painted, window grids replaced, Reston Association standards satisfied, and the community's overall look enhanced. Whether requested by the walkabout committee or not, thanks to all who have made improvements to the exterior of their homes. It is nice to see concerned homeowners trying to do their part to beautify our neighborhood. Remember that during the Spring Walkabout, all townhouses will be evaluated for their general upkeep, curb appeal, and compliance with community covenants. Keep making Birchfield Woods look sharp!

Neighborhood Email List

A free neighborhood email list has been set up through Yahoo! Groups. This list can be used by anyone in the neighborhood for announcements or discussion. To join the

mailing list, send an email to BirchfieldWoods-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Please Stay Off Retaining Wall

The Maintenance committee is currently evaluating the condition of the retaining wall in the center of the cluster. In the meantime, please do not walk on the wall or pull on the boards. This will help the wall last longer and avoid a costly maintenance or repair expense. Parents, please remind your children that the wall is not a play area.

Officers and Board Members

Board meetings are held once a month on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM. Meetings are typically held the second Wednesday of the month, but may change to accommodate schedules. Announcements of meetings are posted on mailboxes approximately one week in advance of the meeting. All cluster residents and homeowners are welcome to attend the meetings to discuss issues of concern. If you are unable to attend a meeting but have an issue you would like to discuss, please give your comments to a member of the Board before the meeting.

Officers

Office	Name	Phone	Email
President	Joe Kamide	703-481-3717	jkamide@aol.com
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Board of Directors

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Committee Chairs

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