CALENDAR

May 2011
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Get Connected and Stay Informed!!!!
Sign up for e-mail alerts and notices at
www.nscivic.org/EMailNotification.htm
or visit www.nscivic.org for current community information

General Meeting – May 4
7:30 pm at the School

Lily Whitesell, Watershed Programs Coordinator of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, will give a presentation about non-point pollution and the storm drain labeling project. If you are interested in environmental issues, looking for volunteer opportunities or need community service hours, this is the meeting for you.

Being a good neighbor means:

Being involved with your community; stay current on the things that are happening and participate when you can. We have a community yard sale, cleanup day and social coming up in May; all need volunteers. There’s also the opportunity to help with labeling storm drains and neighborhood watch. Once the sound wall on Leesville is relocated we’ll need volunteers to help clean up and reforest the area. From now through early fall we’ll be mowing and maintaining all the community entrances and common areas; we can always use more help with that. All of these things are great opportunities to involve the whole family in a worthwhile project that gives back to your community.
President’s Message
Norma Heck

April 22nd was Earth Day; on May 7th the topic for Supervisor Cook’s Leadership Institute is Healthy Watersheds, Healthier Communities. Our May meeting addresses this issue; it will be informative and an opportunity for parents and their children to learn more about the environment in our community and what each of us can do to keep it clean.

As of the newsletter deadline for this edition, the redistricting and budget issues that we have been tracking are still unresolved. We will post any developments that affect our community on the website and in an e-mail notice.

Our annual Community Yard Sale is set for the morning of May 14th. Gather up all those unused items that are in good condition and make them available to others who could use them.

Our annual Community Clean Up Day is set for May 21st from 8 am to noon; see Ron Kinzer’s article for details. Be sure to check out our "Treasures" area. Everything is FREE. Even if you are not coming to drop off items, come by and you may find just the item you want. We usually have a variety of household items including furniture, bikes, toys, lawnmowers, etc. If you are bringing items that are in good condition/working order, be sure to let us know so we can put them in the “Treasure” area.

Our second annual Community Social is set for May 21st from 11 am to 3 pm at the pool. It will be a great time to meet some of your neighbors, enjoy some free food and live music, and learn about the various community organizations and businesses serving North Springfield. There will more activities for the kids this year including a moon bounce, police car, fire truck and more games to play.

Membership
Tricia Barnes

Thank you to all those residents who have sent in their 2011 dues and those who also included donations. If you haven't already joined the Civic Association, this is your chance; we will be collecting dues at Clean Up Day on May 21st. Checks can be made out to NSCA or you can pay cash. Dues are $15 for the year. Please fill out the membership form in this newsletter and bring it with you.

Please check an area you are interested in helping with or suggest a program topic. None of the offices or committees takes a lot of time.

Spring and summer always brings new owners and renters to North Springfield. If someone moves in on your block, please be a friendly neighbor and welcome them to the community. The membership chairman has extra copies of the newsletter and would be happy to give you a copy to take to the new residents or can drop off community information to the new neighbor directly. Contact tbarnes@cox.net.

AAA Recycling and Trash Contract

For those using AAA’s trash service our annual community contract comes up for renewal in September. AAA offers a discounted price to residents of our community. If you are a current AAA customer you will receive a new contract in the mail before September. The new agreement will be at the same rate and will run through September 2012.

If you are interested in signing up or finding out the cost of their service, their number is (703) 818-8222. Please tell AAA you live in North Springfield and want to know/have our contract rate. Your contract can start anytime.

NSCA does not endorse AAA; North Springfield residents may choose any private trash and recycling contractor they wish. A list and contact information for those companies serving North Springfield is on our website.

Volunteers Needed

The civic association is looking for volunteers to help with Clean Up Day and the Community Social on May 21st. For the cleanup activities we need volunteers with pickup trucks and "a few good men or women" to provide a pickup service for residents that are unable to get their
debris to the school. We also need people to help collect dues, oversee the Trash to Treasure area, direct cars and unload cars. For the community social activities we need volunteers to greet neighbors, set up/clean up and monitor the kid’s games. Please call/email Tricia Barnes tbarnesva@cox.net (703) 354-0134 if you can help or need more information.

**Accotink Watershed**

Many of our residents don’t realize that the storm drains along are roads are not part of the sewer system; they are connected directly to Lake Accotink. Everything that enters these drains ends up in our waterways.

Using lawn and garden chemicals sparingly you can improve the health of Lake Accotink and the watershed. When it rains, runoff carries garden chemicals and other non-point pollution sources (non-point source pollutants include pet and yard waste, pesticides and herbicides, paint, and motor oil) straight into the storm drains on our neighborhood streets. These drains run directly into the Accotink watershed which drains into the Potomac River and eventually the Chesapeake Bay.

You may have noticed that most of North Springfield’s storm drains have been labeled with a warning that makes people aware of where trash and chemicals go when they enter a storm drain; this labeling was done as Eagle Projects by members of our Boy Scout troop. As part of our community cleanup on May 21st we have arranged for labeling the remaining neighborhood storm drains. It will take place between 9-11 am with a rain date of Sunday May 22nd from 1-3 pm. If you would like to volunteer and/or need some community service hours, please come to our meeting on May 4th. If you have any questions please contact Stan Bottcher at srblegoman@gmail.com.

Here are some ways you can help to decrease pollution in our watershed:

- Replant bare areas to prevent soil erosion. When possible, plant native trees and bushes.
- Sweep, don’t wash fertilizer off of sidewalks and driveways. Try to decrease fertilizer use in general. If you are going to use fertilizer, use phosphorous-free types.
- Put pet waste and litter in garbage cans, and pick up trash off the road to keep it out of storm drains. Much street litter is plastic, which takes hundreds of years to break down, and is often mistaken for food by marine animals.
- Don’t blow or rake leaves into storm drains—this can cause drain backups and street or home flooding.
- Report storm drain dumping to the Hazardous Materials Division of the Fire Department, 703-246-4386.

**North Springfield Cleanup Day**
Ron Kinzer

Fairfax County will provide refuge trucks in the North Springfield Elementary School main parking lot between 8:00 am and Noon; please do not drop off any item before the trucks arrive. The trucks leave promptly at noon so please be there no later than 11:45 am. This is a great opportunity to get rid of old appliances, sheds, tires, lawn mowers, lumber and other kinds of junk. The County will not accept explosive materials, paint, or any dangerous items. The County usually does not accept yard waste, dirt, glass or wood used in fire places and reserves the right to reject any item. Contractors with unusually large loads must unload their own vehicles and are subject to County approval.

Check www.rbrc.org for the locations of local stores that will recycle your used rechargeable batteries. Some of the stores near us are Home Depot, Sears, Radio Shack, and Office Depot. You can take old/unwanted cell phones to the nearest police station. The phones are given to potential abuse victims for emergency use.

To learn about Hazardous Waste disposal you can listen to a recording at (703) 324-5068 or check the website www.fairfaxcounty.gov and click on environment on the right hand side of the screen.
**Teen Job List**

The Spring & Summer Teen job list is published in this newsletter and is always accessible via our website homepage.

**Neighborhood Watch**
Maryann Germaine

Participating in Neighborhood Watch is easy. All equipment is provided, and it’s completely up to you to decide when you do your patrol. You’ll be given a quick training when you pick up the equipment. Please check your calendar and select a week you’d like to help out. Email us at NSNW@googlegroups.com or call 703-861-1849.

**Beautification**
Ed Stock

Spring has finally arrived and our community is especially beautiful this time of year. It is good to see the apple and dogwood blossoms on Leesville Blvd. The planting of twenty six trees several years ago was a fine idea and we thank all those who contributed the funds to make that happen. The homeowners on Leesville deserve much of the credit for watering and helping to maintain them. Thanks to Cal Salch, who planted the tulips we are enjoying on the Leesville median along with John Everett for maintaining the shrubs and the flowers, also on the median.

We have had limited success in keeping up with calls for repairing the potholes that we dodge on our way through the community. The number to call for repair is 1-800-367-7623. Our request to repair the damaged shoulders at the Heming and Ferndale entrances has been submitted.

We are meeting with representatives from VDOT and Fluor- Lane to repair the damage sustained at the Ravensworth entrance during construction of the Hot Lanes sound wall. To add to the mix, an upgrade to some power poles was required at that entrance along with other selected poles in North Springfield. Their cooperation is essential in restoring the entrance area to its original appearance. The lights at the Heming Avenue underpass have been repaired and metal cages were placed over the globes to protect them.

Thanks to all those walkers who go about the community and pick up trash or call the authorities to report conditions that need their attention. We all have a part to play in keeping North Springfield a vibrant, well kept neighborhood and the place we call home.

**BSA Boy Scout Troop 990**
Skip Chaples

We have a list of house numbers to paint on the curb and will be around as soon as the weather is warm and dry enough.

To learn more about our program contact Skip Chaples at (703) 644-1311.

**Cub Scout Pack 890**

Cub Scout Pack 890 continues with a very active program. In May all the Cub Scouts will move up to their next rank.

All boys in grades 1-5 are urged to join. We meet the third Thursday of each month at NSES, in the cafeteria. If you have any questions please contact Andy Butler at (571) 436-4292.

**NSCA Website**
Skip Chaples

Our website contains the newsletter as well as valuable information about the community and local government. You can subscribe to our e-mail list on line and we will automatically notify you every time something new is added to the website or if there is important information that should be disseminated between newsletters.

If you are looking to carpool send us your name, phone number, destination, and time of commute.
Newsletter Advertising

Take advantage of our low prices and your ad will be seen both in print and on our website by over 2,200 households in February, March, April, May, October or November.

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Mail your business card or camera-ready proof with a check for the appropriate amount by 15th of the preceding month to:

N.S.C.A. Newsletter
P.O. Box 1007
Springfield, VA  22151

Now you can have your ad posted on our website during those months that we do not publish a newsletter. The monthly rates for this service are:

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Calendar Year January – December 2011
NSCA, P.O. Box 1007, Springfield, VA  22151
$15.00 Membership – Contributions Welcome

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Phone #: __________ Date: __________ Amount Paid: __________
E-Mail: ____________________________ Are you a new resident? Yes
Suggestions for program topics: ___________________________________________________

NORTH SPRINGFIELD CIVIC ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER DRIVE
NSCA, P.O. Box 1007, Springfield, VA  22151

We are always in need of volunteers for the various committees of the North Springfield Civic Association. If you would be interested in serving on a committee, or have suggestions for topics of upcoming General Meetings or programs, please fill out the form below and mail it to the above address.

Name: ____________________________ Phone #: ______________________
Address: ____________________________

- Circle committee(s) or position of interest -

BEAUTIFICATION
MEMBERSHIP
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
PLANNING & ZONING
SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAMS

SUGGESTIONS FOR:
Other Committees: ______________________
Topics for upcoming programs:
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
## TEEN SUMMER JOB LIST

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### Boy Scout Fundraiser

**Need your House Number painted on your curb?**

**Call Boy Scout Troop 990 (703) 644-1311**

### North Springfield Elementary School PTA Fundraiser

**Do you shop at Giant?** If so, you can help NSES PTA fund school activities by purchasing Giant grocery cards.

Use the cards like cash at Giant. The school gets 4% from Giant for every dollar purchased. Buy $20, $50, or $100 cards. They never expire.

Contact **Beth Buckreis at 703-913-7115** to purchase the cards. We will deliver them to your door.