

BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL *NEWS*

Of Community Associations

October 2011

Volunteer * Participate * Contribute * <http://www.bdcfx.org/> * Attend * Help * Enrich *

NEXT BDC MEETING

Wednesday, October 12, 2011 7:30 PM

Fairfax County Park Authority updates

Braddock Hall
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA 22015
(703) 425-9300

FUTURE BDC MEETINGS:

Thursday, October 20, FCPS Candidates

Wednesday, November 9, BRAC

Wednesday, December 14, Taste of Braddock

MESSAGES FROM THE CHAIR:

Braddock District Council News:

BDC Meeting (Wednesday, October 12, 7:30 PM, Braddock Hall):

Updates on Fairfax County Parks Authority projects.

Thanks to our Braddock Representative to the FCPA Tony Vellucci for arranging this very informative evening. Three FCPA Divisions will discuss projects that affect almost all Braddock District neighborhoods.

Planning & Development Division - Master Plan Planning Process / Future Skate Park Plans (Wakefield) / Monticello Park / Encroachment - Details the master planning process for FCPA parks, future skate park plans at Wakefield, ongoing master planning efforts at Monticello Park, and encroachment issues at FCPA parks - what constitutes encroachment and remedies.

Resource Mgmt Division - Invasive Management / Deer Management Program - Details invasive (non-native species) management control on both park land and for HOAs / private homeowners. The deer management program is provided as this is the first year Braddock District is involved in the county's deer harvest program at Accotink Park.

Park Operations Division - Park Maintenance / Review of Recent Storm Damage / Friends of Parks Program / Mastenbrook Grants - Braddock District is split between FCPA Maintenance Areas Two and Four. This discussion will provide an overview of park maintenance efforts, a review of recent (Hurricane Irene / Tropical Storm Lee) storm damage and current recovery/rehabilitation efforts, the Friends of Parks Program - such as Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP), and Mastenbrook Grants - and how they can be used to further park efforts in specific communities (e.g., The Katie Thelin Playground at Royal Lake Park).

Fairfax County School Board Forum (Thursday, October 20, 7:30 PM, Fairfax High School):

Hosted by Braddock District Council and Providence District Council, this is a "meet and greet" with audience Q&A with all FCPS School Board At-Large candidates and the Providence and Braddock District candidates. As of October 6, seven candidates have said they will be

participating. This is your chance to hear, see, and query these important citizens striving to represent your voice in school affairs. The general public and all members of our respective District Councils are invited.

Braddock Communities News

Oak Hill Mansion Work Day (Saturday, October 8, 9 AM to 1 PM):

Help freshen up the Oak Hill Mansion grounds and buildings on one of Fairfax's most historic properties in preparation for the Oak Hill Festival on the following weekend. Bring your own yard tools and proper clothing. This is an excellent community project for Scouts and youth public service. Contact is Mary Lipsky.

35th Annual Fall Festival City of Fairfax (Saturday October 8, 10 AM to 5 PM):

Visit 400 arts, crafts, information, food & gourmet food vendors, children's activities and fabulous musical entertainment. This year's Fall Festival will be even bigger and better with the closing of North Street to bring the festival more into downtown Fairfax.

A Classic Car Show will be part of the attractions to the festival along with the business expo area. This year's festival hosts three stages with music and entertainment for all ages.

Amusement Rides will be providing more rides than before! For more info, go to <http://fairfaxva.gov/SpecialEvents/FallFestival/FallFestival.asp>.

Guinea Road Bridge emergency repair at Long Branch:

Repairs will begin on **October 10, 2011**. VDOT will close the bridge to thru traffic from 9:30 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday as well as for up to 4 weekends over the duration of the 9 month contract. For more info contact Rosemary Ryan in Braddock District office at 703-425-9300.

Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout - Drop-offs can occur anytime from Monday, October 10 through Friday, October 14, 2011.

Bring your unused or expired medications (pills and liquids only) to your local Fairfax County district police station for disposal. Clearing out unused or expired medications prevents accidental poisoning, drug abuse and environmental pollution. In a 2009 survey, approximately 1 in 13 Fairfax County high school students responded that they had abused prescription drugs and/or over-the-counter medications in the previous month.

Nationally, prescription drug abuse is growing problem with all age groups. Disposal of your unused and expired medications is free, convenient, confidential and safe. Visit

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/dontflush> for more information about proper disposal of medications. For more information on your nearest police station, call 703-425-9300.

Community Pools Meeting with Supervisor Cook (October 11, 7:30 PM, Braddock Hall):

This was originally scheduled to take place on September 28. Last fall, Supervisor Cook hosted a community round table in the Braddock District to discuss the challenges and best practices that are involved in keeping our community swim clubs alive and well. It was a great

opportunity for our pool members to share ideas, and several have asked that we get together again.

Ellen Eggerton, Ombudsman for Religious and Community Groups, and Susan Langdon from the County Planning and Zoning Office will be there to talk about how you can use your pool property in the off season and what permits might be needed Contact Ann Sharp, 703-495-9300.

Raintree Headwaters Project (Sunday, October 16, 1 to 6 PM):

This is an ambitious community project help restore a tributary of Accotink Creek by reducing erosion and storm water runoff from adjacent roads and parking lots by creating "sponge gardens" using native plants. This is a demonstration project, showing how communities can address storm water issues and help protect Accotink Creek in the back yards.

We will be weeding, mulching, and digging. Wear work clothes and sturdy garden shoes. Youth fewer than 16 are welcome with an adult. Meet in parking lot adjacent to 3344 Wheatwheel Lane, Annandale, Fairfax, VA. This is in the SE quadrant of the intersection of Gallows Road and 495. Please RSVP beforehand to krisunger@gmail.com. Cell: 301-980-5621.

Wakefield Skatepark expansion public meeting (Wednesday, October 26, 7 - 8:30 PM):

Meet in Club Room 3 at Audrey Moore RECenter, the representative from Spohn Ranch will present the concept plan and the community will have the opportunity to offer their input.

University Community Forum (October 26, 7:30 PM)

Meeting in Fairfax City Hall Chambers, 10455 Armstrong Street: Originally scheduled for October 5, the meeting will largely serve as the Mason West Campus Connector Open House, though normal business of the University Community Forum will be discussed as well.

The delay was to allow George Mason University consultants more time to address concerns and informational requests generated at the most recent West Campus Connector Advisory Group meeting. Contact Ann Sharp, 703-495-9300.

Royal Lake clean up / trail maintenance / park rehab (Saturday, October 29, 8 to 12 AM):

The Kings Park West Civic Association has coordinated a work plan with FCPA Area 4 Maintenance Manager Mark Rogers and is sponsoring their clean up / trail maintenance / park rehab effort of Royal Lake at both Lakeside and Royal Lake Parks. POC is Dawn Gunning at dawngunning@yahoo.com .

2011-2012 GMU Vision Series Schedule – ongoing thru April 2012:

Our George Mason University provides wonderful and informative lecture series that we the neighbors of GMU should enjoy. Everybody will find a topic that's of their interest:

- Local Theater: Tracing a Contemporary Theater's Redefining of Creative Passion
- Music and Math: Bridging the Two Cultures
- The Future of History
- Before Toni Morrison and Alice Walker: The Forgotten Fiction of Ann Petry
- Why Creationism and Intelligent Design Should Not Be Taught in the Public Schools

- Strange Mix of Entitlement and Exploitation: The African-American Experience in Predominantly White College Sport
- Religion and Conflict Resolution in Africa: The Case of Nigeria
- Doing Justice: How Professionals Understand and Make Justice Decisions
- Obama and the Constitution: War Powers, Czars and Signing Statements

Friends and neighbors of George Mason University are encouraged to attend the Vision Series lectures - lectures by top researchers, scholars and artists from diverse disciplines. This year lectures will take place on all three of Mason's campuses. Please see the schedule below for a date and location near you. For complete descriptions and locations, please visit http://visionseries.gmu.edu/2011-12/vs_Fairfax_schedule.html.

Accotink Creek Fall Cleanup Schedule:

Accotink Creek runs through one of the finest wildlife corridors in Fairfax County. Accotink Creek passes through Eakin, Wakefield, Lake Accotink and Accotink Stream Valley Parks; Ft. Belvoir and the Accotink Bay Wildlife Refuge, then drains into the Potomac River, affecting waters of Chesapeake Bay.

FRIENDS OF ACCOTINK CREEK is committed to protecting, promoting and restoring the water quality, natural habitat, and ecological well-being of the Accotink Creek watershed.

When

Where:

October 15, Saturday Lake Accotink Park 9:00 – 12:00
 Fall Watershed Clean-up Day, all ages,
 POC Julie Tahan, Park Supervisor 703-569-0285
julie.tahan@fairfaxcounty.gov

Lake Accotink Park was hit particularly hard by the flooding spawned by Tropical Storm Lee. Clean-up and recovery will take a long time, but members of Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP) and others in the community have been helping and can continue to help by collecting trash and moving debris off trails and throughout the park. Read about it at <http://burke.patch.com/articles/area-parks-still-to-recover>.

October 22, Saturday Accotink Creek
 at Pickett Road 9:00 – 11:00
 at Barkley Road 12:00 – 2:00
 at Woodburn Road 3:00 – 5:00
 Info or sign-up with steward@accotink.org.

October 29, Saturday Accotink Creek 9:00 – 11:00
 at Franconia-Springfield Parkway
 Info or sign-up with steward@accotink.org.

What trees do - National Tree Benefit Calculator for storm water and other benefits:

Now here's some real interesting info on our trees, complements to our Braddock District Tree Commissioner Duane Murphy:

A 20-inch Red Maple in Burke, VA would intercept 5,926 gallons of storm water runoff this year.

A 20-inch White Oak in Burke, VA would intercept slightly less of storm water runoff than a Red Maple; 5,592 gallons.

If you are planning to replace or plant a tree, check out its benefit in your zip code at <http://www.treebenefits.com/calculator/ReturnValues.cfm?climatezone=South>

Review additional benefits of trees at <http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/uesd/uep/research/studies.php?TopicID=4> .

Finally, the BDC calendar of Dates and Events for 2012/2012 will be posted to the [BDC website](#) for everybody's on-line convenience. It will be kept up-to-date and can be downloaded or printed from the site. Maybe share it with your neighbors to show the many activities the BDC is providing to our members. Shoot, why not just invite a neighbor to a meeting.

See you at the Oct 12 meeting - next Wednesday!

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William Barfield, Chairman
Braddock District Council
Of Community Associations
www.bdcfx.org

Braddock District Council Officers

Chair: William Barfield
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