

The Lamplighter



THE WOODBRIDGE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 3197
Catonsville , MD 21228

A covenant-controlled community
Email: wvica@woodbridgevalley.org
Web: www.woodbridgevalley.org

Volume 51 Number 1
October 2023

The President's Message

Our Association President, Tina Brown, has had a small injury and cannot type out her President's Message for this issue of the Lamplighter. She has, however, overseen the publication of the newsletter you are now reading and wants you to know the following information:

1. **Dumpster Day is October 21** from 8 a.m. to noon or the dumpsters are full, whichever occurs first. See the poster in this newsletter.
2. **Shred-it Day is November 11** from 10 a.m. to noon. This opportunity is available only to dues paying Woodbridge Valley residents. See the poster in this newsletter.
3. **MEMBERSHIP DUES are Due (see last page)**
4. **ANNUAL MEETING**



PLEASE DO NOT PUT "THE LAMPLIGHTER" IN MAILBOXES!

**WOODBIDGE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION
YOUR BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2022-2023**

Tina Brown	President	1002 Pleasant Valley Dr.	410-747-7069
Nicole Smoot	VP & Social	1428 Pleasant Valley Dr.	443-255-3131
Dorothy Habersham	Treasurer	7209 Pinecrest Rd.	410-455-0135
Carla Jones	Secretary	1202 Pleasant Valley Dr.	443-691-1088
Deborah Ball	Welcoming	1238 Pleasant Valley Dr.	410-747-0494
Vernise Burs		22 Stuart Mills Pl.	410-747-1394
Myles Carpeneto	Website	5 Big Stone Ct.	410-455-0277
Rose Marie Hellmann		10 Sparrow Hill Ct.	410-747-0041
Dianne Houston-Crockett		1430 Pleasant Valley Dr.	443-848-1686
James McFall		1231 Pleasant Valley Dr.	443-326-7244
Gregory Meckes		3 Big Stone Ct.	443-883-5376
Ben Miller		11 Big Stone Ct.	410-869-9380
Joy Reber		7 Union Hall Ct.	410-869-7499
Charles Springer	Covenants	13 Forest Rock Ct.	410-455-0069

WELCOME!
NEW NEIGHBORS

If you have new neighbors, please call **Deborah Ball at 410-747-0494**. We would like to welcome them to our community.

Renting a Woodbridge Valley Property?

A question often raised is, “Do Woodbridge Valley Covenants allow owners to rent their property?” Our Covenants do allow owners to rent their property; however, Baltimore County law regulates the renting of family dwellings.

Summary of the law

In 2007, the Baltimore County Council passed Bill 87-07. That law requires that if you own a building in Baltimore County that contains one to six dwelling units that you intend to rent, each rental unit must be registered and licensed, or approved for exemption, by Baltimore County before tenants move into the property. Unless otherwise exempted, the law applies to all rentals, including Short-term Rentals advertised on such sites as AirBnB or VRBO; Section 8 rentals; and, BRHP assisted rentals.

The purpose of the law is to help enforce the County’s codes and regulations that protect and promote public safety, health and welfare.

A person who owns and rents a dwelling unit or a portion of a dwelling unit without a license may be subject to (1) the denial, suspension, revocation, or non-renewal of the required license and (2) civil penalties of (a) \$25 per day for each day a violation occurs, (b) \$200 per day for each day a correction notice is not complied with, and (c) a \$1,000 fine for not complying with the Rental Registration Law.

Note: This law only applies to residential rental properties with one to six units. Larger rental complexes are covered by other County laws and regulations that ensure the safety and wellbeing of the tenants.

Reporting non-compliance

If you are concerned that a rental property is not registered with the County, call 410-887-6060. If the property is not registered, you may enter a complaint (anonymously if you wish) and a letter will be sent to the property owner requesting specific information. The owner will have 30 days to comply.

Security Square Mall Redevelopment Project

On August 24, 2022, County Executive Johnnie Olszewski and House Speaker Adrienne Jones announced Baltimore County will acquire the former 202,653 Security Square Sears building. Residents of Woodlawn, Catonsville and surrounding communities were invited to participate in a series of meetings that were held from October through November 2022. The goal of these meetings was to give residents the opportunity to weigh in on the redevelopment of the 93-acre Security Square Mall and surrounding area. As of result of these meetings Baltimore County and the State allocated 20 million dollars to rehab the Security Mall. Mr. Olszewski and Ms. Jones whose districts include Security Mall each donated 10 million dollars from their jurisdiction's development budgets to fund the project. The Randallstown NAACP spearheaded the investments when the chapter organized a Security Square Revitalization Task Force and lobbied elected leaders to resolve crime and address infrastructure concerns at Security Square. Currently the Mall has many owners who operate a variety independent business in the actual property. It is also home to a Macy's department store, AMC movie theatre, the Woodlawn Health Center, the North American Trade School drivers' academy, and the Set the Captives Free Outreach, Worship and Education (OWE) Center. For more information email securitysquaremall@baltimorecountymd.gov or visit <https://reimaginesecuritysquare.com/>

Let's All Work together to Reduce Pollution from Plastic Bags!

Have you noticed how often you see plastic bags on the streets of Woodbridge Valley? They are an eyesore! You notice them flying around on breezy days, stuck in trees, or piling up on storm drains. They also add to the amount of trash you discard every week.

Many of us don't think about what happens to a plastic bag after we throw it away. Every year around 500 billion plastic bags are used worldwide...500,000,000,000! To put this into perspective, every man, woman and child on our planet uses 83 plastic bags every year. That's one bag per person every four and half days. Of those 500 billion bags, 100 billion are consumed in the United States alone. That's a lot of bags. So many, that over one million bags are being used every minute, and they're damaging our environment, our oceans and the delicate ecosystem of the Chesapeake Bay.

Here are some easy ways to help reduce the pollution caused by plastic bags:

- Buy products in bulk.
- Decline bagging for easy-to-carry purchases.
- Reduce your use of disposable bags by buying low-cost, durable shopping bags or containers at your local grocery or department stores. Just make sure to clean them regularly to reduce germs from food spills and crumbs.
- Reuse old plastic bags for multiple shopping trips.
- Re-purpose plastic bags as trash liners or pet waste bags.
- Recycle clean and dry disposable bags at stores or other drop-off sites, but make sure to remove your receipts. **DO NOT PUT THESE BAGS OR OTHER "TANGLERS" IN CURBSIDE RECYCLING.**

When plastic bags and other "tangles"—long or stretchy items, such as plastic bags, clothing, linens, rope, electrical cords and chains—get caught in the equipment at the County's Materials Recovery Facility, malfunctions occur. Tangles bring the whole operation to a full stop, which wastes time and money, and endangers workers. **Even if** a plastic bag is marked as "for recycling," "recyclable" or "compostable," it is **not** acceptable for recycling by Baltimore County. If a tangler cannot be recycled at a store, put it in the trash.

Reducing pollution from plastics does not have to consume your time. Collect bags for recycling and put them in your car for your next grocery trip. Keep reusable bags in your car for quick shopping trips. Teach your children to not toss plastic bags in the streets. A little effort can make a large impact in reducing the amount of plastic that is in our environment.

FREE OF CHARGE FOR PAID WVICA MEMBERS

Please bring your identification or WVICA membership card with you

JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

November 11, 2023 | 10 am to Noon
Near intersection of Crosby Rd. & King William Drive

On-site shredding of all paper

Watch your documents get destroyed in seconds and feel good that it will still be recycled. *Please remove bindings like old check covers, 3-ring binders, etc. when possible.*

We will also collect your electronics for recycling **ONLY**. Vangel undertakes no responsibility or obligation to destroy any data storage devices collected at community shred events. Please remove or call Vangel. **NO CRT TV'S OR MONITORS!** Flat screens are OK. **NO** household appliances, electric toothbrushes, toys, speakers, stereos, items with freon, etc. No hazardous waste.

Vangel reserves the right to reject any item.

Sponsored by Woodbridge Valley Improvement and Civic Association. Secure on-site shredding of paper. Witness your documents being destroyed. All paper will be recycled.

You must remain with your items. WVICA and Vangel will not shred and will not be responsible for items left unattended.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Tina Brown at (410) 747-7069.



Get ready for Woodbridge Valley's

DUMPSTER DAY

SPONSORED BY WOODBRIDGE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT & CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Near intersection of Crosby Road & King William Dr.

Saturday, October 21, 2023 (rain or shine)

8 a.m. to 12 noon OR UNTIL DUMPSTERS ARE FILLED

For more information, please call Tina at 410-747-7069.

We need you!

Volunteers needed any time from 8 a.m. until the dumpsters are filled to help guide traffic. Do you have 2 hours to volunteer? With your help, we can continue to offer these services! Contact Vernise at 443-257-2026 if you can help.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP PROHIBITED/RESTRICTED ITEMS

HOUSEHOLD ELECTRONICS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED. County Law prohibits disposal of household electronics (computers/equipment, TVs, VCRs, DVDs, phones, answering machines, stereos, fax machines, video display devices) in community clean-up containers.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Acids, caustics, pesticides, chemicals | Household hazardous materials |
| Animal carcasses | Large stumps |
| Antifreeze | Liquids or liquid waste |
| Asbestos shingles (or other asbestos materials) | Medical/radioactive waste |
| Asphalt/Blacktop | Paint |
| Batteries (vehicle and marine) | Oil |
| Concrete/Rock | Refrigerators/air conditioners/freezers/appliances with freon |
| Drums or tanks (unless clean and cut in half) | Wood/logs greater than 8" in diameter and 6' in length |
| Explosives or flammable materials | Most large items that cannot be lifted manually |

Unless listed above, most other trash and household items would be acceptable for disposal. For further information, see the County "blue" regulation or contact Eastern Landfill at 410-887-5956.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES & UPDATES

We would like to take a moment to update everyone about membership changes this coming year. We are making an effort to be more environmentally friendly as well as reduce costs to the association. We will not be printing and distributing individual membership cards or phone directories moving forward. Membership records will be on hand at any association activities that require membership verification for participation.

Membership Application by PayPal

We encourage you to pay your membership dues (\$25) online via PayPal. By following this link. <https://paypal.me/woodbridgevalley>

To setup recurring payments, please click on the PayPal button from our website. <https://www.woodbridgevalley.org/>

Note: Please include your name and address in the "Add a note" section.
If you need assistance, email woodbridgevalley@gmail.com

Membership Application by Mail

If you prefer to mail your dues: Please fill out, and mail the following form, along with a \$25 check made payable to **WVICA**. The mailing address is: **WVICA, P.O. Box 3197, Catonsville Maryland 21228.**

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Your email address WILL NOT be made public, but please let the Association have it so that we can contact you about emergencies and Association business.

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER SOME TIME HELPING WITH
AT LEAST ONE OF THE ASSOCIATION'S PROJECTS?

YES ___ NO ___