

Preserve at Rock Creek Community Newsletter Qtr. 2 2022



Spring Maintenance and Inspections

It's that time of year again for spring cleaning and maintenance. PMP will be conducting spring inspections during the month of May. Maintenance includes:

- Proper mowing of the lawns
- Grass edging
- Mulching of trees and landscaped areas
- Removal of trash or debris in swale and drain (ditch area between sidewalk and street)
- Removal of mold on vinyl siding located on side or rear of home or of any other structure such as a deck.
- Removal of tree stakes in swale
- Painting of porch areas and gutters if needed

Community Reminders

Please pick up after your pets in all areas of our community especially on our walking trails. Our community has two convenient dog stations equipped with disposable bags and trash can.

Please do not park on the Heartwood Drive grass area near the Magruder High School fields. If you see any cars parked on the grass please call the non emergency 311 police.

All winter fencing must be removed by May 15 per architectural guidelines section 7.

All vegetable gardens must be placed in the rear of home and are only allowed up to 1% of the total lot square footage. Anything greater than that must

be approved by the ACC per our architectural guidelines section 11.

Trash Service Update

Thank you to all who attended the April 4 special meeting to discuss our trash service. Based upon the feedback from our fellow homeowners and discussion that occurred during this special meeting, the board publicly reached a decision to extend our trash service with Potomac Disposal for an additional three years. Each homeowner will receive a new 96-gallon trash toter and service will be a weekly Thursday pickup (after the toters are delivered). We realize this process is taking longer than expected however, Potomac Disposal promised to notify us 2 weeks prior to delivery of the totters.

Upcoming Events

2022 Annual Community HOA Meeting June 8 @ 7-9 pm Via Zoom. Election for new board member will be held.



[Community Tree Project by Damon Riley](#)

This winter you may have noticed that new trees were planted in many of the common areas. Our association was given the trees by Montgomery County. The Tree Montgomery program provides native shade trees to increase the overall tree canopy in the county. Increasing the tree canopy has benefits that are too numerous for me to go into here, but I invite you to visit the Tree Montgomery website to learn more, and to sign up for your own free shade trees. I personally received three trees through the program, and I believe one other owner in our association received eight trees.

Once our application was accepted, we started making decisions about which types of trees to request and in which locations. Jeff Chen, Erik Kuo Hwa Wang and I walked all over the common areas, mapping out which spots we wanted to see get shade trees. The program has some limitations about tree locations, such as distances from property lines, distance from existing trees and structures, and on what land. The association can't request trees for the space between the sidewalk and the street, because trees in those spaces are already the responsibility of another county department. Although it might have been nice to get some cherry trees, or ornamental trees, the program is limited to native shade trees.

Eventually the board approved a plan and sent a request for 144 trees in common spaces all over the neighborhood. After some time, Tree Montgomery responded with a "counteroffer" to provide 58 shade trees. They didn't go into much detail about which trees we were not getting, though they did say the proposed line of red maple trees we requested for along Bowie Mill Road were too close to the overhead power lines, and other spots were too close to the storm ponds. We were very happy to be getting the 58 trees.

Tree Montgomery's contracted tree service then went all over the neighborhood, installing Red Maples, Sycamores, White Oaks, Red Oaks,

Hackberrys, American Elms, Sugar Maples, Yellow Poplar, and probably some varieties I'm forgetting. I'm impressed with the size of the trees provided. I estimate the value of the trees we received to be at least \$23,000.

If you're interested in improving our common areas, I invite you to get involved with our Landscaping Committee. If you think your property would be improved with some free shade trees, the website for Tree Montgomery <https://treemontgomery.org>.



Your Communications Team-

Jim Liaw and Taline Diarbi