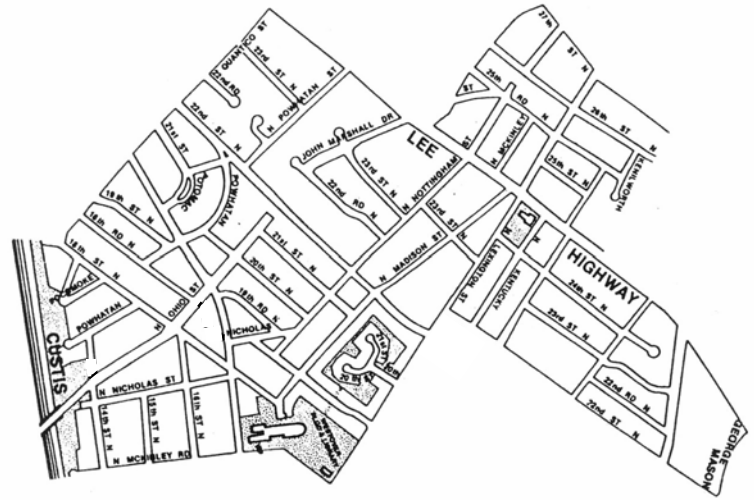


The Leeway Overlee Leader

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Civic Association
<http://www.leewayoverlee.org/>



VOLUME 31, NUMBER 1

APRIL 2009

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2009

7:30 p.m. - Rivendell School Multipurpose Room
5700 Lee Highway (N. Kensington St. entrance)

A New Day for Recycling in Arlington

Featured Speakers

Kristin Rannels
Arlington Recycling Specialist

Refreshments provided

Arlington Launches New Recycling Guidelines

Interest has risen in many households following the announcements that, beginning April 1st, the County will implement a single-stream recycling program. This means not only that many more reusable materials can be recycled, but also that the steps that householders must follow will be simplified.



Over an eight week period this spring new, much larger recycling carts will be provided to each home. The carts for single-family homes will be 65 gallons in size. Apparently they will be of a different color than the black Eagle Carts used in the County for collection of unrecyclable trash. Homeowners will retain their current smaller recycling bins for use in "feeding" the larger, covered carts which will likely remain outside the house.

Arlington has been a leader in recycling materials for over a decade. The recycling portion of County's web site (<http://www.arlingtonva.us/recycle>) contains a wealth of information on the local materials recovery program.

See **Recycling**, page 2, column 1

What Can You Recycle Under New County Guidelines?

New Program Began April 1

The spring meeting of the civic association will focus on the County's new residential recycling efforts. For years we have been limited in the kinds of plastics and other materials that should be placed in our home recycling bins. Other rules restricted how certain materials should be prepared for pick up. How does the new program change these requirements? What other initiatives can be expect in the future? Ms. Rannels will answer these and other questions at the April meeting.

Other business at the meeting includes an update on the Crest Development lead pollution suit on the former AT&T Long Lines property and a review of the Leeway projects in line for future funding under the County's Neighborhood Conservation program. See articles on page 5.



**The Leeway Overlee
Community Day and
Yard Sale will be held
Saturday, June 6. See
article on page 3.**

Community News Via E-Mail

Do you want a day-in-advance reminder of civic association meetings? How about prompt notice of other local community issues that arise between newsletters? Your address is not displayed to others when messages are sent. To be added to the addressee list, send your name and e-mail address to:

leewayoverlee@hotmail.com

Recycling...from page 1

For example, tree leaves, brush, old electronics, and Christmas trees are among the items that the County collects each year and recycles, in addition to certain types of food packaging, cardboard boxes, and newspapers.

The County's Utilities and Environmental Policy Division, which handles water treatment in addition to disposal of solid waste, is part of the larger Department of Environmental Services (DES). Several other divisions have been consolidated into DES since they all have a major impact on the County's environmental footprint. But in many ways, the success of this program depends upon YOU.

In 2004 the County Board established a new Solid Waste Management Plan that called for significant increases in the collection of reusable materials. By 2014 the goal is to reuse 37% of the materials collected from all sources in Arlington; by 2024 this goal rises to 47% of all collected. In 2004 34% of all waste was recycled in the County, with most of the remainder going to landfills. The new residential recycling program—with your help—should ensure that this community quickly exceeds the 2014 target.



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LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Officers

President:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754
Vice-President:	Pierre Boyer	703-532-1868
Secretary:	Ladd Connell	703-241-2422
Treasurer:	Carolyn Connell	703-241-2422

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Leeway

Representative:	Rob Swennes	703-532-6101
Alternate:	Michael O'Connor	703-237-5432

Highland Park/Overlee Knolls*

Representative:	Bill Hamilton	703-531-0566
Alternate:		

*The HPOK NC representatives are elected by the HPOK Civic Association.

Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates:	Vicki Howard, Jerry Auten, Pierre Boyer, Jennifer Michener
Alternates:	Ed Robinson, Carolyn Connell, Rob Swennes, Suzanne Idziak

The Leeway Overlee Leader is edited by Rob and Kathee Swennes (703-532-6101); distribution coordinator is Amy Appelbaum (703-241-8446). The association webmaster is Jim Mountain (703-536-4082). Articles and other news items can be mailed to the editors (6101 N. 22nd St. 22205) or sent by email (kswen@juno.com).

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$5.00 per adult to Carolyn Connell, 6113 N. 22nd St., Arlington, VA 22205.

Make check payable to:

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

_____ Check if you wish a receipt. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

_____ Check if you are willing to help with the distribution of THE LEEWAY OVERLEE LEADER.

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Thanks for your support!

Community Day and Yard Sale Set for June 6

The 31st annual Leeway Overlee Community Day and Yard Sale will take place along the John Marshall Drive/Ohio Street greenway on Saturday, June 6th from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. The community will be out in force to exchange information and greetings, sell unneeded household items, and pick up a few bargains. The civic association is working to arrange live music for the event, as has been the custom for several years.

Over 100 families set up tables for the festivities, which take place along the six-block stretch of the greenway between Lee Highway and Washington Boulevard. Vehicle traffic will be restricted on the affected parts of N. Ohio Street during the event. Residents who have not sold in the past are encouraged to set up between Lee Highway and N. 22nd Road. Please show consideration to nearby residents and do not set up before 7:00 a.m. The sale will be advertised in *The Washington Post*.

During the event a civic association representative will come by to collect \$5.00 from each seller to help defray the costs of the newspaper advertisement and the entertainment. Be considerate of neighborhood residents when parking for the yard sale. Ensure that all goods and rubbish are removed at the end of the event. Rain date is Saturday, June 13th.

Please leave your dogs at home. The civic association has received complaints about situations that arise due to the presence of pets in the crowd.

Join us and make THIS your annual selling event. For more information on the yard sale event, call the Schneiders at 703-533-0748 or the Swenneses at 703-532-6101.



Is the price right on this toy?

Retiring in Place

With millions of Baby Boomers reaching retirement age in the early years of the 21st century, the focus of home remodeling is shifting from new families to old families. How can retirees and older adults maintain an independent and comfortable living situation at home? One answer may be to hire a builder with a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) designation. AARP and other organizations created the CAPS program. CAPS teaches builders the skills to create home modifications for the aging-in-place.

The National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB) is a strong supporter of CAPS. Its Professional Designations Directory (<http://www.nahb.org/directory.aspx?sectionID=667&directoryID=1415#>) allows one to seek out builders in Northern Virginia with particular expertise such as CAPS. Bateman Custom Construction in Fairfax and Butler Brothers in Manassas are identified on that site. Regent Builders of Chantilly has apparently also recently received CAPS designation. The point is that if you are aging to the point that utilizing your current home is (or may soon be) a challenge, there may be ways you can stay in place by judicious remodeling. It is an option worth considering.

SIRI BAUER, CPA

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County Tree Give-Away

Once again Arlington County is offering local residents a limited number of trees for planting this spring on private property to help increase local tree cover and reduce summertime heat. The native species trees available this year are the Bur Oak (a large shade tree) and the American Hazelnut (a smaller, ornamental tree). This offer was announced several weeks ago to subscribers to the Leeway Overlee listserv (hint!), but this year there is still time available to get your name on the list for one or more of these trees.



Check the internet or the library to learn the characteristics of these species. The oak especially needs good room to grow, so it shouldn't be placed near a house or under utility lines.

Sign up for one or two trees **by April 15th**. Either leave a message for Vicki Howard at 703-304-4487 or send your request to the association's listserv address: leewayoverlee@hotmail.com. Provide your name, address, phone number, and type of tree desired. You will be contacted around May 1 about tree pickup. Trees are limited in number, and allocation will be based on signup order.

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Library Department Recommends Closing Westover for 3 Months

As one of several cost-reduction measures, the Director of Libraries has recommended to the County Manager that the Westover Branch Library be closed for three months beginning July 1 in order to facilitate the moving of the Library to its new site by October. The County Manager had solicited cost savings suggestions from many County departments as part of the annual budget process. The closing of the library would save over \$30,000. About 50 people met with Diane Kresh, Director of the Department of Libraries, at the Westover Branch on March 17th to voice their concerns about the proposal. They learned that the July 1 closure date is based on the new library opening date in October and can be changed if there are construction delays. The staff based the three month closure period on the time Shirlington Library was closed in moving to a new facility. However, some at the meeting noted that Shirlington was closed for that long in part because of water damage in the old building. They questioned whether three months were really needed to move the Westover collection.



Several concerns were lodged by those at the meeting: An extended closure of the library would affect the children's summer reading program, internet access for both job seekers and patrons who do not have home web access, and the safety net the library provides for some children whose parents work. Westover library serves a diverse population, many of whom walk to the library either because it is convenient to do so or because they do not have cars. The branch has the second highest circulation record of all the Arlington libraries. Westover patrons will need to go somewhere to use library assets. Central is already very crowded, and other branches will reduce their hours beginning July 1 if the recommendations from the Department of the Libraries are accepted by the County Board. Have these facts been considered?

Ms. Kresh said staff would take into account the issues raised at the meeting. She reminded attendees that the County Board has the final say on any recommendations. She urged those with comments on the issue to attend the budget hearings or write the County Board. Review and adoption of the budget is scheduled for the April 28, 2009 recessed meeting of the Board. The officers of the civic association may send in a letter critical of the three-month closure proposal.

Prioritization of Neighborhood Conservation Projects

Final funding of the N. 22nd Street improvement project (N. Powhatan St. to N. Quantico St.) is expected this summer. Now is the time for the neighborhood to reexamine its future project needs. The County's Neighborhood Conservation program currently limits a neighborhood to two projects that can be waiting for future funds. During the wait period the identified projects can be designed and costs of improvements determined so that construction can take place about a year after funding.

The civic association officers are aware of three proposed street improvement projects in the Leeway area. Others may surface by the time of the meeting. Proponents of any of these projects are encouraged to attend to state their case. The County will be notified of the two projects identified at the meeting as the neighborhood's priorities.

The known projects proposed by residents (and a short description) are as follows:
N. Nottingham Street – Lee Highway to N. 22nd Street. Narrow the street from 36 feet to 31 feet in width, and construct a sidewalk on the west side of the street in the reclaimed right of way. This project has already been partially designed by County staff.
N. Illinois Street – Lee Highway to N. 22nd Street. Narrow portions of the street as needed to complete sidewalk on the west side of the street. Rebuild the street

portion near N. 22nd Street to add curb, gutter and sidewalk.

N. 24th Street – N. Illinois Street to N. Kensington Street – Narrow the street width sufficiently to allow construction of sidewalk on a side yet to be determined.

All three projects would collaterally tend to slow vehicular traffic in the neighborhood due to the narrower paved street width.

Newsletter Deliverers Needed

Volunteers are need to help distribute the civic association newsletter four times each year. We have a dedicated group now, but they could use some additional help. If you are able to help out, please contact Amy Appelbaum at 703-241-8446. We'd also like someone to look at the current routes and see if they can be adjusted so that their sizes are fairly even. Contact Amy if you are interested in taking on this task. Thanks.

Lead Pollution Triggers Suit by Local Developer



Peeling lead paint is visible on this section of the tower.

Crest Development, LLC has filed suit in state court seeking injunctive relief against American Tower Management, Inc. American Tower operates the tall communications tower between N. Harrison Street and N. George Mason Drive just south of Lee Highway. Crest is constructing 16 homes on portions of the old AT&T Long Lines property adjacent to the tower. Crest acquired the property several years ago.

Crest discovered recently high concentrations of lead in the soil around the tall tower. The tower was erected many years ago. Crest purchased the land for home construction subject to a long-standing lease to American Tower for the operation of this tower. The suit alleges that lead-based paint chips shedding from the structure "severely reduces . . . the marketability of the lots." The impact on existing homes along N. Harrison Street and other properties nearby is uncertain but a matter of concern. The civic association is investigating the situation.

Community Notes

Arlington Career Center

The County's Career Center has been referred to as the community's "best kept secret". The Center is at 816 South Walter Reed Drive, just north of Columbia Pike. The Center offers vocational, technical, academic and enrichment programs to high school, middle school, elementary and adult students. Instruction is Monday through Saturday during the school year, and again during a six-week summer enrichment session. To see if the Center has something you would like to learn or a skill you would like to master, call 703-228-5200 or go to the Arlington schools web site (<http://www.apsva.us/aps/site/default.asp>) and select the Center from the "Find a School" listing at the top of the page.

Parkhurst Park Renovation Underway

Construction began in mid March on improvements to Parkhurst Park (popularly known as Horseshoe Park) between N. Lexington and N. Madison Sts. near the Westover/Reed School area. This "secret" park is a favorite for families with young children but has needed upgrading for years. The improvements are funded through the neighborhood conservation program. Sections of the park will be closed until work is completed in mid August. The County's construction manager for the project is Tunji Akiwowo. He can be contacted via 703-228-3000.



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25th Annual Capital Hospice Annual Plant Sale

The 25th annual Hospice Plant Sale will take place Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Halquist Memorial Inpatient Center, 4715 N. 15th St. between the hospital and Glebe Road. Rain date is Sunday, May 3 (same hours). Sale items include reasonably priced native plants, perennials, annuals, shrubs, trees, bulbs, ground cover, and gardening items. Admission is free and refreshments will be available. 100% of the proceeds go to the Hospice Landscape Fund, which provides maintenance of the grounds and gardens at Capital Hospice's Acute Care Facility. Capital Hospice is a non-profit, 501(c) (3) organization serving Northern Virginia, Washington, and Prince George's County. It provides comfort and care to individuals and families facing loss and the end of life, regardless of the nature of their illness, availability of a caregiver, or ability to pay. For additional information about the plant sale, call Diane at (703) 820-1311.


Residential Brush Pickup

The County will pick up tree and bush trimmings that you collect this spring—but **only if you request a specific pickup**. Place the brush curbside and do one of the following:

- ◆ Call the Solid Waste Division 24 hours a day at (703) 228-6570 to schedule a pickup using your touch tone phone.
- ◆ Contact Customer service at the above number by between 8 am - 5 pm. Call by 5p.m. the day before your trash day.
- ◆ Request a pickup online by going to the County web site (<http://www.arlingtonva.us/>) and click "Trash and Recycling" from the list at the right. Then go to the "Yard Waste" topic for more information.

Please follow County guidelines for preparing brush for pickup.

Ron Coddington is pleased to announce the publication of his second book *"Faces of the Confederacy: An Album of Southern Soldiers and Their Stories"*



Autographed and inscribed copies - \$25 each.
Author is available for speaking engagements.

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