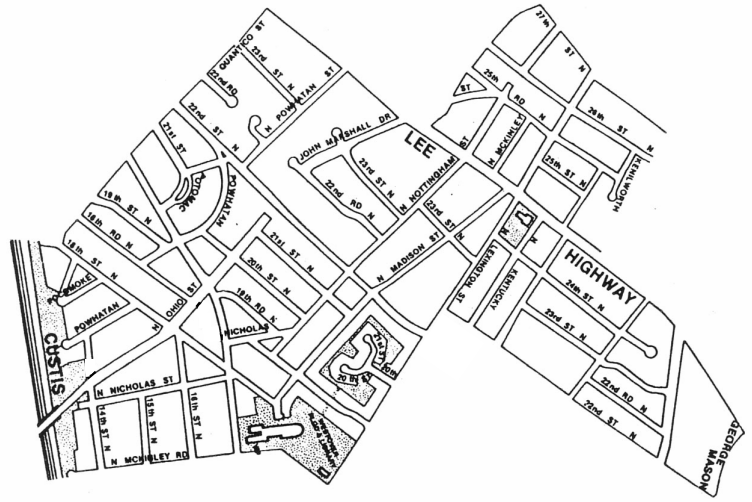


# The Leeway Overlee Leader

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



VOLUME 33, NUMBER 4

SEPTEMBER 2011

## General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 4, 2011 -- 7:30 p.m.  
Meeting Room, Westover Library  
1644 N. McKinley Rd.

### Residential Additions

*Featured Speakers*

**Cecelia Espenoza**  
Board of Zoning Appeals

**Ellis McKinney, Inspections Section Chief**  
Inspection Services Division

*Refreshments provided*

## Learn more about the permit process for enlarging a home

The present economic conditions have reduced the number of teardowns in our neighborhood. But families are still growing and may need a home addition. Planning a home addition can be daunting for property owners. At our October meeting we will have two experts who can explain key parts of this process. Ms. Espenoza will explain the variance process which is triggered when one wants to build outside the normal buildable area of the lot. Mr. McKinney will address the role of the County inspectors who check the work done by electricians, plumbers, and others during construction. If you are thinking about a future addition to your home, their guidance could be valuable to you.

## Help choose a new project for neighborhood improvement

It is time to start thinking about what new neighborhood improvement projects should be undertaken on public land in the Leeway neighborhood conservation area.

The County Board recently approved construction of key right of way improvements on N. Illinois St. (Lee Highway to N. 22<sup>nd</sup> St.). The work will be paid for by the County's Neighborhood Conservation bonds. The desired sidewalk on N. 24<sup>th</sup> St. (N. Kensington St. to N. Illinois St.) now moves into place as the neighborhood's new first priority project. We



need to select a second priority project that County staff can do early work on in anticipation of funding in a few years.

The current Leeway Neighborhood Conservation Plan, endorsed by the County Board in April 2011, identifies a number of candidate neighborhood street segments that lack curb, gutter, and/or sidewalk. These are:

- North 22<sup>nd</sup> Rd. – install curb, gutter and sidewalk between North Illinois St. and North Harrison St..
- North 23<sup>rd</sup> St. – install curb, gutter and sidewalk between North Illinois St. and North Kensington St.
- North 23<sup>rd</sup> St. – install curb, gutter and sidewalk between North Lexington St. and North Nottingham St.
- North John Marshall Drive – install curb, gutter and sidewalk on the east side between North 25<sup>th</sup> Rd. and North 25<sup>th</sup> St., and just north of North 26<sup>th</sup> St, which

See **Neighborhood Project**, page 3, col. 1

## Leeway Overlee Discussion Listserv continues to grow

The association launched a discussion listserv back in April so that subscribers could share community items of interest and seek advice from others living nearby. A number of residents have asked about service providers (plumbers, carpenters, etc.) that their neighbors have been pleased with, and others have responded with recommendations. By June 76 individuals and couples had joined the discussion listserv.



That number is now up to 113.

The listserv, identified as LO-CA, is affiliated with yahoo groups and is moderated by a group of neighborhood volunteers. To sign up, send an email with your name and street address to the moderators. The address for the request is [LO-CAAdmin@yahogroups.com](mailto:LO-CAAdmin@yahogroups.com). Once approved by a moderator, you will be added to the subscriber list and notified by email. You can unsubscribe from the email at any time.

The use of the listserv for commercial purposes is not authorized.

### LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2011 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$5.00 per adult to Jennifer Michener, 5605 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Thanks for your support!*

### LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

#### Officers

President:	Karla Brown	703-536-8299
Vice-President:	Kim Klingler	703-489-7408
Secretary:	Ladd Connell	703-241-2422
Treasurer:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754

#### Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

##### Leeway

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

##### Highland Park/Overlee Knolls\*

Representative:	Dennis McGarry	703-533-3698
Alternate:		

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

#### Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates:	Ed Robinson, Jerry Auten, Pierre Boyer, Karla Brown
Alternates:	Ladd Connell, Rob Swennes

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. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. 22205) or sent by email ([khswnnes@gmail.com](mailto:khswnnes@gmail.com)).

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## Neighborhood Project... from p. 1

will complete the sidewalk on this artery to Lee Highway.

- North John Marshall Drive – install curb, gutter and possibly sidewalk on the east side between North 23<sup>rd</sup> St. and North 22<sup>nd</sup> Rd.
- North Madison St. – install curb, gutter and sidewalk between Lee Highway and North 22<sup>nd</sup> St.

Other potential projects in the area to the north of N. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street may be suggested, including park improvement.

The association leadership would like to have the community discuss the merits of several projects before a decision is made as to which one to select as our new

### What's your Idea?

- \* Curb and gutter
- \* Sidewalk
- \* Improve playground
- \* New lighting

### Let us know!

second priority project. An initial discussion will take place at the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. The selection will likely be made at the following general membership meeting in December or January.

How worthwhile is the project? That is one of several factors which help determine which project will be chosen as second priority. A “champion” is needed for each

candidate project—someone who is willing to put in the many hours of work needed to bring such a project to fruition. The time required stretches over years, not months. This champion is more familiarly known as the block captain. Another key factor is the level of support (and conversely the level of opposition) for the project among the homeowners whose properties abut it. In many ways a neighborhood conservation project involves politics at its most local level.

If you favor improvements on your street or in a nearby park, come out to make your case and start talking to your neighbors!

Neighborhood conservation improvements for the area south of N. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street are managed through the Highland Park/Overlee Knolls Civic Association.

## Leeway Overlee area awarded canopy trees

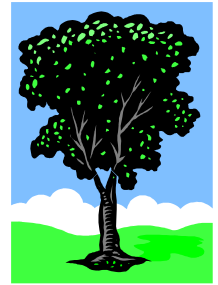
Five homeowners in the Leeway Overlee area have been awarded trees through the Tree Canopy program which is administered by Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE). The trees will be planted in the fall by a County contractor. These are larger trees than those available normally through the County. The civic association's request for trees was one of 34 projects funded this year through ACE.

## Arlington County's Free Tree Distribution

The County's annual handout of shade and ornamental trees to homeowners is in progress. If you are interested in obtaining one of the offered trees and planting it on your property, the time to act is **NOW**. Trees can be reserved on line. Tree pick up will be in mid October. To reserve a tree, go to [www.tinyurl.com/TreeDistribution](http://www.tinyurl.com/TreeDistribution).

The program, administered by the Arlington County Parks and Natural Resources Division, is offering a wider variety of native

species trees than in the past. Nine large canopy tree species and eight smaller understory trees have been selected to increase the resistance of the County's tree canopy to disease and pests. The variety also increases the habitat available for birds, butterflies and wildlife. The trees offered range in size from small whips in 2 gallon containers to 6 foot tall saplings in 7 gallon containers. At pickup all will fit into a passenger car with open windows. The species are listed on the web site provided above.



Since the number of available trees is limited, it is presumed that they will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis for those who apply via the web site. (NOTE: Those subscribed to the civic association's announcement and discussion listservs received notice two weeks ago about this offer.)

There is an educational component to this year's program. Those administering the distribution want to ensure that homeowners choose the correct tree for their lot, plant it promptly, and place it correctly.

## Overlee Community Association will begin renovation this fall

The Overlee swim club at Lee Highway and N. John Marshall Drive will be undergoing major renovations over the next nine months. The big pool in the complex will be completely rebuilt, as will the baby pool and other poolside features. The historic clubhouse (a clapboard farmhouse built in the 1890s) will be replaced by a much larger clubhouse with some of the architectural features of the original one. Pat Shapiro, a former Overlee Board member, will serve as Overlee's liaison to the neighborhood for any issues that might arise during the rebuild. She can be reached by email at [Patse2@aol.com](mailto:Patse2@aol.com) or by phone at 703-536-7420.

# Community Notes

## Arlington E-CARE

On Saturday, October 15, the County will offer residents a chance to safely get rid of hazardous materials like paint, solvents, garden chemicals and items containing mercury and to recycle electronics, bikes, small metal items, shoes, eyeglasses, books, and durable medical equipment. The Arlington Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) will take place at Thomas Jefferson Middle School located at 125 S. Old Glebe Rd. The collection site will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For more information about E-CARE including details about acceptable items, call 703-228-6832 or visit the E-CARE Web page <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/environmentalservices/EnvironmentalServicesEnvex.aspx>.

## Housing the Homeless for the Coming Winter

Arlington is looking for volunteers to help identify each homeless person sleeping on the County's streets and assess their health and housing needs. Data collected the week of Oct. 16-21 will produce a "Vulnerability Index" of homeless persons most likely to die if not housed quickly and will give them priority for housing and related services. For more information or to volunteer, go to <http://100homesarlingtonva.org/>.

## Friends of the Lee Center

Local residents who are interested in preserving and improving the grounds of the Lee Center at Lee Highway and N. Lexington Street are encouraged to work with Friends of the Lee Center. This informal group will work with County staff to maintain the Butterfly Garden behind the building, take care of other vegetation and trees, and do an educational outreach to children and adults who use the facility. If interested, text Vicki Howard at 703-975-3743 and provide your phone number so she can contact you.

## Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes Due

October 5<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for payment to Arlington of annual taxes on personal property (mostly automobiles) and for semiannual payment of real estate taxes. Each year scores of Arlington residents fail to pay by the deadline and are saddled with substantial late fees. The safest way to ensure timely payments is to sign up for automatic drafting of your bank account on the due date. For more information, check on the County's web site: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Treasurer/TreasurerAutoBankDebit.aspx> or call 703-228-3091.

## 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](mailto:leewayoverlee@hotmail.com)



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