

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 4

CARDEROCK SPRINGS COMMUNITY NEWS

ANNUAL FALL MEETING

**CARDEROCK SPRINGS
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2014
6:30 PM Wine and Cheese Social
7:15 PM Speaker**

We are pleased to have Amanda Rockler of the University of Maryland speak to us on storm water management. With all the torrential rain we have had, washed away yards, wet basements, and leaky roofs are just a few of the water problems Carderock neighbors have been struggling with. Amanda will visit Carderock prior to her talk so she will be able to link concrete suggestions on how to address our water problems to recent efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

Carderock Springs Community Calendar

All events are at the Club unless otherwise noted

(See Page 6 for details)

<u>Date/Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
Oct 21, Tuesday	2:00	Getting All Around - Transportation Options for Older Adults: Abby Levine
<u>Save the Date</u>		
Nov 9, Sunday	6:30	Annual Fall CSCA Meeting
Nov 18, Tuesday	7:00	The Art of Woodturning: Phil Brown
Dec 16, Tuesday	2:00	Clearing Out Clutter: Tips, Tools and Strategies for De-Cluttering: Mary Lou Shannon

Climate Change in Carderock: A MainSTREAM Problem

Deteriorating roads, crumbling rights of way, water entering homes and garages for the first time, severe erosion of slopes. This is our neighborhood and it will affect property values, safety, and our quality of life. One result of climate change in the Mid-Atlantic is torrential rainstorms that overwhelm our gutters, drains, and lead to water racing from one home to another.

About twenty of your neighbors recently gathered to discuss these problems facing our community. Concerns ranged from water entering homes and garages to the severe erosion along our roads. Are you also facing these problems? We can take action to address the water problems facing our community, but it will take all of us working together.

Here are some of the tips shared:

Storm Water Entering Homes:

--Try going outside during a bad storm and watching where the water flows. This could provide basic information on how to address your issues.

--Make sure that the yard has appropriate grading so water drains away from the house.

--Keep gutters, downspouts, and any landscaping pipes free flowing and clear of debris. Check to see if you have the right number of downspouts.

--If your home is receiving water from up the hill, try to identify ways of slowing the water flow. Try to work with your neighbors. Methods could include drystream beds, wattles, terracing, and plantings. Grass, while better than concrete, is not good at absorbing and slowing water flow as a variety of plantings.

--Use mulch or wood chips in areas where soil is exposed as a quick response.

Jean Ratner

Erosion Along Our Streets

Check the road outside your home. If there is erosion either in the swale or right by the road, call the county at **311** to report it. And if you see erosion somewhere else, go ahead and report it. More calls are better than none! And sooner is better than later--especially since our roads are scheduled to be repaved. We don't want the new roads to crumble or the erosion to become worse because the new road is higher than before.

Generally, the erosion is most severe along slopes. If you are one of the homeowners where the erosion along the road could pose a danger to passing cars or people, save the confirmation number provided by the county in case any questions arise later about legal liability for harm to people or property.

Over the Long Term

As part of the effort to clean up the Chesapeake Bay, many programs have been initiated to deal with storm water run off. Have you heard about the rain tax? Well, Montgomery County has had this since 2001. The funds raised are used to deal with storm water management and

help to fund programs like the rainscapes program.

The county's website for the rainscapes program (<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep/water/rainscapes>) is great. It provides information on how to get rebates from the county for storm water management as well as information on how to implement such projects either as a do-it-yourself project or with contractors who have taken the rainscapes training.

Possible projects include rain gardens, tree plantings, rain barrels, permeable pavers, and green roofs. Homeowners at moderate cost can do many.

Prevention is cheaper and better than addressing water damage. We do not want Carderock to become "waterfront" property.

Jean Ratner

Carderock Covenants: Continued

One of the current priorities of the Carderock Springs Citizens Association (CSCA) is making sure that all residents of Carderock, both newcomers and old-timers, are aware of our neighborhood covenants. These are the founding principles, restrictions and conditions that keep our unique community architecturally special, respectful of nature, safe and attractive. We will be highlighting different covenants in the coming months as part of this education effort. This summer the newsletters covered the requirement that exterior modifications to homes and properties be reviewed by the CSCA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) before work begins.* This month we are focusing on the covenants for street parking and trash.

According to the Carderock Springs covenants, vehicles are not to be parked on the paved portion of public streets or joint driveways, except for temporary purposes. Why? The streets of Carderock Springs were not designed for street parking. They do not have sidewalks, and they are very curvy, limiting sightlines. As a result, when vehicles are parked on the road they endanger pedestrians, cyclists and motorists by dangerously forcing them into the middle of the street and possibly incoming traffic. So, please, keep street parking to a minimum.

As for trash, the covenants state that trash and garbage containers are to be kept out of public view except on days of trash collection (note: placing trash cans by the street the night before is acceptable). So, please, try to minimize the time your trash and recycling cans are at the street, before and after they are emptied by the County. In addition, there is no burning of trash, or storage of trash permitted on any lot.

*The recent CSCA newsletters explaining the necessary process of going through the CSCA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) for exterior modifications to homes and properties, including additions to the residence, changes in exterior paint colors, adding fences, retaining walls, and outbuildings, along with additional information on our community's architectural guidelines, and a complete set of the covenants for your property, are available on the www.carderocksprings.net website.

Update on Tax Credits for Renovations to Bennett Homes

The September issue of Community News explained the tax credit program available through Maryland Historic Trust to owners of homes in the National Register of Historic Homes. At the time my article was written I had just submitted my application for a number of

home improvements. I am pleased to report that they were *all approved*, including insulation, roof, gutters, sliding doors, exterior paint and a hot water heater. I may not do them all but have 24 months to complete the work and file the final paperwork and photos. They refer to the work as "rehabilitation" but their guidelines are very generous as long as the work is to the house, and not the grounds. It's obviously not just rehabilitating to preserve the integrity of the structure as was first understood.

I would be happy to guide homeowners through the application process and share what I have submitted.

Mary Lou Shannon

Architectural Review Committee Meetings, 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm

The Citizens' Association has an Architectural Review Committee (ARC) meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Clubhouse. If you are considering an addition or exterior modification of your home, submit your plans for review by the 20th of the month. Design and review procedures plus other documents are available at CarderockCitizens.org. The ARC was created by the covenants which govern your property in Carderock. ARC meetings are open for any & every community member to attend, whether you are renovating or not.

New to Our Neighborhood

The Ansaldo's are settled in their new home at 8000 Park Overlook Drive. Alex and Anna are proud parents of Aviv (18 months) and Leonora (3 months). They can be contacted by email on alexansaldo@gmail.com or by phone 202-577-7669.

Daniela Capbert Krum and Steven Krum celebrated birth of their first child Caroline Krum September 3rd, shortly after moving into their new home at 8712 Tomlinson Avenue. Congrats to both big occasions! You can reach them on dcapbert@gmail.com

The newest residents to Carderock are an engaged couple Katie Crean and Dan Goldman. Their two cats Romeo and Ruby joined them when in moving into 8216 Stone Trail Drive. The best email is katiecrean@gmail.com; Katie's phone is 703.462.4235 and Dan's is 202.215.3655. They hope to get connected to the CS-Chat and join in the chatter.

Mary Lou Shannon, Welcome Chair

Classified

Cabin John Dog Walking: Midday walks to keep your pets happy and healthy. Many happy Cabin John and Carderock pet owners and their pets will happily give their recommendations. Call Carolyn at 240-204-2953.

Looking to Rent: Do you have more space in your home than you need? Empty nester or travel frequently and don't want to leave the house unattended? You could rent that extra space! Cabin John renter for many years is looking for private space with private bath. Impeccable references, including current landlord for the past four years. Quiet, dependable and considerate. Please email Carolyn at: cdcabinjohn@gmail.com or call (240) 204-2953

The Carder-Eco Column

It has been wonderful that several CS neighbors have stepped up to the plate and volunteered to provide information, group discussion and/or results with recent neighborhood concerns. Judith Marshack has been working on the repaving/drainage problems around the community and Jean and Gary Ratner and others have been working on the more general problems of drainage and flooding in the community. Sue Eastman and Michal Freedhoff continue to be activists with power issues and Pepco. I encourage anyone with such a concern to offer to lead and/or get a group together for that purpose.

Thanks and bravo to these neighbors!

Fall Chores: Now that Fall has arrived, it is time to be thinking about all of those leaves that will soon be falling from our trees. There are alternatives to raking, collecting them and having them hauled away. Leaf mold (which is the end result of decomposition) used in gardens helps retain water, is used as a soil conditioner, and can be added to potting mix, aged compost or worm castings to drought proof and enrich the soil. The end result is called "humus". Using a lawn mower to chop up leaves and leaving them on your lawns enriches soil. Some neighbors chop up leaves on driveways by going over several times with the mower, and then using this to cover beds, thus preventing damage to and providing nutrients to perennials and other plantings. One can also purchase various types of grinders, either free-standing or an additional function of certain leaf blowers. Be sure, however, that should you use leaves, be sure that they are not matted as to prevent water and air from reaching roots. Diseased leaves should be discarded and not used on your plants or in your home composting area.

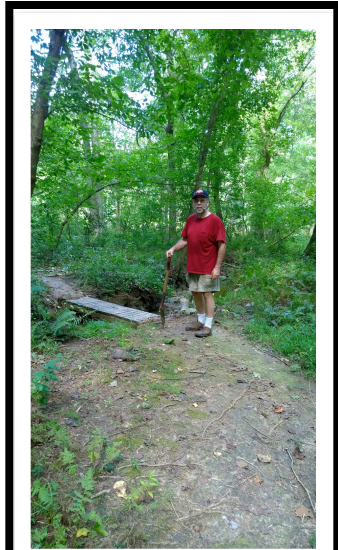
Neighbors in CS compost in several ways. Some use plastic or wood composters, others use the free-of-charge types provided by the county and available at several places in the county, including the River Road Whole Foods Market. Some just pile up the leaves in their wooded areas and wait a bit longer for usable garden material. I recommend any of these methods.

Food Gardens: You can extend the growing season and easily produce your own greens and other cool-weather vegetables by using floating row covers. Made of light material as well as plastic (each type has advantages) and using hoops (9 gauge wire, can be purchased as hoops or formed at home) to raise them and then soil or rocks, water

filled bottles, or other means to hold them down, you can grow many types of lettuce, kale, chard and more . The permeable type allows air, water, and light to pass through and also acts as an insect barrier. Plastic needs more vigilance, because temperatures can be as much as 30 degrees higher inside, and ventilation during the day and covering at night is required. You can also build a cold frame but that, too, requires more attention on a regular basis.

Winter Protection for Beneficial Insects: By not removing logs, brush piles or dead groundcover, you are providing habitat for beneficial insects and worms to over-winter.

Diane Karlik (dianekarlik@verizon.net) CSCA environmental chair



Carderock Springs Citizens Association acknowledges and thanks Rob Stern for his hard work and diligence in clearing fallen tree limbs and debris and reconstructing the footbridge over the stream below the Club following the summer monsoons.

Senior Meetup Program

Getting All Around - Transportation Options for Older Adults

Tuesday, October 21, 2:00 PM, Carderock Clubhouse

Seniors are concerned about getting around for shopping and appointments when they can no longer drive. Montgomery County is well aware of this challenge and is now sponsoring the Connect a Ride program (CAR) that originated at the Jewish Council for Aging. The CAR staff provides personal assistance to each caller, to give available resources and referrals most likely to meet their needs.

Abby Levin of the Jewish Council for the Aging will give an overview of transportation options. She is a Certified Information and Mobility Specialist, has both a bachelors and master's degree in the field of aging and has worked in the Connect-A-Ride program for the past ten years.

Learn about program at [www. AccessJCA.org](http://www.AccessJCA.org) and come with questions and concerns.

Save the Date for Remaining Fall Programs

November 18, 7:00 PM: The Art of Woodturning, Phil Brown, well known woodturning artist and Carderock resident, will show examples of his turned wood bowls, describe the process from log to finished piece, and demonstrate turning a small bowl on a wood lathe.

December 16, 2:00 PM: Clearing Out Clutter: Tips, Tools and Strategies for De-Cluttering . Mary Lou will pass along her tips and tools for de-cluttering. Others are invited to contribute their strategies as well.

If you would like to receive emails of the senior programs, send an email to me at maryloushannon@verizon.net

Satisfaction with aging is about friendships and being able to manage your environment. The Carderock Springs senior program aims to help with both.

Carderock Springs Board Members

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The Carderock Springs Citizens Association publishes The Community News at least six times each year. Residents of Carderock Springs and surrounding areas may join the Citizens Association for an annual due of \$50 for a membership year ending December 31, 2014. Dues and family information for the Carderock Springs telephone directory may be mailed to the Carderock Springs Citizens' Association at P.O. Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818-0237. Our Association represents the Carderock Springs community and implements its land covenants.