

## CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

May 2011

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Citizens' Association*

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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, 2011. 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.

## CSCA ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 26

6:00 p.m. Social Networking

7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

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## Carderock Garden Day 2011

Saturday, May 7, 2-5 p.m. see pg. 3

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## Carderock Entrance/Stream Clean-up

Saturday, May 21, 9:30 a.m. see pg. 3

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## Presentation: Gardening in the Footsteps of Rachel Carson

Sunday, May 22, 2:30 p.m. Club. see pg. 4

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## Regular May Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, May 17, 7:00 p.m. at the club

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## Change in Monthly Board Meeting Day—Third Monday of the Month

STARTING IN JUNE, in order to accommodate the schedules of all the board members, a new monthly day has been set for the regular monthly meeting of the CSCA Board. The monthly meeting will now be held on the third Monday of each month, beginning with the June meeting (June 20).

Because of a conflict with the club's schedule, the May meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17. All meetings will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the club. All members of the Carderock Springs community are welcome to attend.

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## Safety Committee Proposal for Bump-Outs on Fenway Road

This past year the CSCA Board created a Safety Committee to be responsible for identifying and responding to safety concerns in Carderock. At its first meeting in the fall of 2010, the committee identified two areas of immediate concern: property theft in the community and speeding on Fenway Road.

In an effort to deal with the issue of theft, the committee sponsored a public talk on ways to

better protect personal property from theft. Articles on the issue were published in the March and April CSCA newsletter. The committee is currently looking into the best way to create a "neighborhood watch" to further protect residents from theft.

Most of the committee's time has been spent on the concern of speeding on Carderock roads, in general, and Fenway Road, in particular. Early on, the committee voted unanimously that speeding is a serious problem on Fenway Road, posing a threat to pedestrians and pets and further voted to look into what might be done to resolve this problem. Committee members also spent time trying to identify who the speeders are and concluded that most are not members of our own community but people "cutting through" Carderock. With the increased traffic on River Road heading toward Potomac (and with the even greater increase when the two new developments are completed), the committee believes there will be increasing numbers of people cutting through Carderock to avoid long lines of cars going toward Potomac. This will also affect Lily Stone. However, because Lily Stone currently has both speed bumps and a stop sign, the committee did not think it was as necessary to focus on the increase of traffic there, as much as on Fenway.

The Safety Committee has met twice with county officials from the Department of Transportation, specifically Tracy Wroe an engineer with the Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations. The following is a summary of what the committee learned from these conversations:

1. A few years ago, the county focused effort and money to place speed bumps on roads as a way to reduce speeding in several neighborhood communities. Since then, however, the county has developed strict guidelines for present/future use of speed bumps. Of these guidelines, the one that affects Carderock the most is the requirement for a minimum number of cars per hour traveling on a road. The issue is that fewer cars travel on Fenway than the minimum required by the guidelines; therefore Fenway is not eligible for having speed bumps used to reduce speeding.

2. The county has studied the effectiveness of stop signs in controlling speeding. It concluded

that stop signs are not effective in controlling speeding; therefore does not recommend them when trying to reduce speed in a neighborhood.

3. What the county is now focusing on is the use of bump-outs for speed control in communities such as Carderock. These bump-outs vary in design. The committee was given different locations in the county where bump-outs have been constructed and was encouraged to visit them to see what these designs actually look like. A few committee members did so and felt they were both esthetically designed and effective in controlling speed.

The committee then asked Tracy Wroe (Division of Engineering Studies) to design a specific plan for Fenway Road. He did so and presented the blue prints to the committee. The committee accepted the plan and presented it to the CSCA Board with a process proposal (which the board accepted). Specifically:

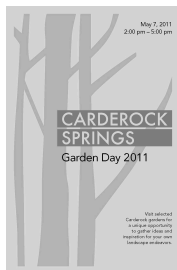
- The Safety Committee will present the proposal "formally" to the community at the annual meeting of the CSCA (April 26).
- The county will mark on Fenway where the bump-outs will go.
- Residents are encouraged to visit Leland Street in Bethesda (left off of Bradley just past Arlington) to see first-hand what bump-outs look like in a neighborhood similar to Carderock.
- A public hearing will be held sometime in May to discuss the proposal, offer opinions, objections, concerns, etc. (See below). Wroe and the Safety Committee will be present.
- The Safety Committee will meet to revise its proposal, taking into consideration comments made at the public hearing.
- A final proposal will be presented to the CSCA Board for its consideration and it will vote at the June monthly meeting.

The committee is currently working with county engineers to resolve several concerns it has with bump-outs. First, the committee wants some kind of "path" or walkway placed on the bump-outs so that walkers/bikers do not need to go further out into the road. Also, the committee is working on what material(s) will be used to construct the bump-outs; some options are brick, cement, or dirt (for planting grass or other landscaping).

PLEASE NOTE: It was previously announced that the public hearing would be held on Thursday evening, May 5th. However, this date was picked based on the CSCA annual meeting (and the presentation of the proposal by the Safety Committee) being scheduled for Sunday, April 17th. Now that the annual meeting has been changed to Wednesday, April 27th, the committee does not think eight days is enough for the community to visit Leland Street and consider the proposal, so a later date is being planned. After arrangements can be made, a date will be chosen and announced both on the CS-chat and at the annual meeting.

It is important to state that the Safety Committee sincerely hopes residents who live on Fenway Road and all others in Carderock Springs share its concern for DOING SOMETHING to reduce speeding on Fenway Road, BEFORE DOING NOTHING ends up with the loss of someone's life. The committee has heard over the past few months several accounts from residents about "near misses" while walking, biking, or running on Fenway Road and is committed to doing what is necessary to protect neighbors from this current danger.

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## Carderock Garden Day 2011

### Community Event and CSCA Fundraiser

Who: Seven of your Carderock neighbors

When: Saturday May 7, 2011, 2-5 p.m.

Where: Here in Carderock, at these addresses:

1. Shannon Garden, 7 Carderock Court\*
2. Everett-Nannes Garden, 8311 Comanche Court\*
3. Clark Garden, 8316 Comanche Court
4. Carlson-Goldberg Garden, 8008 Fenway Road
5. Roman Garden, 8017 Fenway Road
6. Wilcox Deyo-Deyo Garden, 8216 Lilly Stone Drive

### 7. Graham-Gordon Garden, 8617 Fenway Road

\*tickets available only at these gardens

Why: A unique opportunity to visit selected Carderock gardens, gather ideas and inspiration for your own landscaping needs, and raise funds for the Citizen's Association. See solutions for shade, deer, drainage and other issues, as well as native plants and sustainable gardening techniques.

What you need to know:

-Cost: \$10/person; \$15 couple; to benefit CSCA  
 -Tickets: available only on the day of event at the Shannon or Everett-Nannes gardens. Start at one of these gardens to buy your ticket, visit the gardens in any order, and show your ticket at each stop.

-Other helpful information:

- Event to be held rain or shine
- Cash or check only, please
- Garden Day is not recommended for children under 12. No strollers or pets permitted.
- Wear comfortable non-slip shoes or boots

Please join us for this new Carderock event!

We are looking for neighbors who are willing to participate in next year's tour. If you might be interested or have questions, please contact Nancy Everett at [Boxwooddesign@comcast.net](mailto:Boxwooddesign@comcast.net) or Mary Lou Shannon at [ML@Maryloushannon.com](mailto:ML@Maryloushannon.com). Special thanks to Melissa Wilets for design and original graphics for our ticket/brochure.

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## The Carder-EcoColumn

### *News from the Environmental Committee*

- ◆ On **Saturday, May 7**, the Carderock Garden Tour will show how our local designers and landscapers have developed wondrous gardens and yards. After admiring their gardens, make sure you learn how to care for your gardens in an environmentally friendly way.
- ◆ On **Saturday, May 21**, at 9:30 a.m., join with the Green Neighbors and the Environmental Committee for a Carderock entrance and stream clean-up, weather permitting. Please bring gloves, hand clippers, and wear long

sleeves and old clothes/shoes. We encourage you to bring your kids! Bags will be provided. For last minute information, contact [dianekarlik@verizon.net](mailto:dianekarlik@verizon.net) or watch the CS-chat as the date approaches.

- ◆ To commemorate the up-coming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rachel Carson's 1962 groundbreaking book, *Silent Spring*, join us at the clubhouse on **Sunday, May 22**, at 2:30 p.m. for a presentation by Dr. Diana Post, president of the Rachel Carson Council. Dr. Post's topic will be "Gardening in the Footsteps of Rachel Carson." Carson was the founder of a contemporary environmental movement and publicized the long-term effects and dangers of using pesticides and chemicals. The presentation is free, but donations to the Council would be appreciated. For those interested, a biography of Rachel Carson was written by a former Carderock Springs resident, Linda Lear! (For information see the website [www.rachelcarson.org/](http://www.rachelcarson.org/) -- Books about Rachel Carson)
- ◆ Did you know that the Maryland legislature is discussing new curbs on Chesapeake Bay pollution from lawn fertilizers, similar to what NY and NJ have already done? That is good news since lawn fertilizers used to grow green turf, a dominant crop within the bay's watershed, are used in excess and introduce problematic nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus into the bay via runoff.

([http://cbf.typepad.com/bay\\_daily/2011/03/](http://cbf.typepad.com/bay_daily/2011/03/) -- Scroll down to 3/24/2011)

- ◆ Did you know that by telephoning '311' you can schedule, free of charge, a special collection for items that do not fit into a bag or garbage container, such as old TVs, old furniture, assorted large household goods (five free bulk collections are permitted annually). Bulk requests must be scheduled by 11 a.m. the business day before your regularly scheduled trash pickup day. The collection will be made between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. on your trash collection day. All items must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on the day of collection.
- ◆ Recycling update. You can now recycle rinsed, wax-coated milk/juice cartons, and produce and frozen foods cartons in your wheeled cart of mixed paper. You can also now recycle non-hazardous aerosol cans with your commingled plastics and metals. However, those ubiquitous clamshell and Styrofoam containers are still NOT accepted in the recycling program in either of the blue containers...Reuse, repurpose, or trash only.

### Citizens' Association Contact Information

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