



FALL IS IN THE AIR!

*"Autumn is a second spring
when every leaf is a flower."*

- ALBERT CAMUS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Board would like to invite Loft Ridge residents to attend monthly Board meetings, generally held the second Tuesday of each month. Until further notice meetings continue to be held via Zoom.

Check Loft Ridge website for updates www.loftridge.com

HOA Board Meetings

- October 11
- November 8
- December 13

BOARD UPDATE



The Board has committed to several upcoming grounds related projects. As happened last fall, turf remediation will occur in various locations across Loft Ridge. Once the new seed and cover are installed, please take care to avoid walking on or taking trash cans through these locations so the new grass has the best chance to grow strong. A tree planting is scheduled for December for a couple dozen trees through a program run by Casey Trees. The next round of tree maintenance and removal is planned for late Fall. The tennis courts will undergo maintenance and one will be converted to a multi-sport court sometime this fall. We will let everyone know once we have a firm schedule.

As many neighbors have reported lately, our area is abundant with wildlife including deer, foxes, and coyotes. Remember not to put food out - including bird feeders - in your front yards or on any of the common areas as they may attract small wildlife on which larger wildlife may prey. Also make sure to bring in your trash cans as soon as possible after trash pickup, and do not leave bulk items at the curb unless you have arranged for a bulk pickup through the county.

LOFT RIDGE COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The deadline is October 15, to participate in the Loft Ridge Communications Summer Survey emailed last month. We value your opinion and suggestions for the Loft Ridge quarterly HOA newsletter, the "Limelight". [Click here](#) to complete the survey. Have a story idea? Or want to nominate a Loft Ridge resident to be featured in the Limelight? Email: ComChair.loftridge@gmail.com



DON'T FORGET TO FALL BACK – DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 6

Could daylight saving time ever become permanent?

Earlier this year, the U.S. Senate passed legislation that would make daylight saving time permanent starting in 2023, ending the twice-annual changing of clocks. Called the **Sunshine Protection Act**, the bill has to pass the House to become law.

LET'S GROW: FALL LANDSCAPING TIPS

Fall is the ideal time of year to plant spring-flowering bulbs. In Virginia, you can typically plant until early December. Example bulbs are tulips or daffodils.

Plant bulbs 6 to 8 inches deep (pointed side up!), and should be placed about 4 inches apart.

WINTER PREPARATIONS

To minimize damage from weight of ice, heavy snow or heavy winds, trim tree limbs that hang over your roof. Clean out leaves and other debris from your gutters, repair any holes and look to make sure they haven't pulled away from the edge of the house. Gutter guards are a good idea to reduce leaf accumulation.

LOFT RIDGE HOA AWARDED FAIRFAX COUNTY'S "FRIENDS OF TREES" AWARD!

from the Conservation Committee

For the past several years, our HOA Board has been continually supportive of initiatives to plant more trees and invest in invasive management of our forested edges in order to preserve the natural beauty we have. Thanks to their great support and the engagement of so many community members to help with planting days over the years, Loft Ridge has been awarded the "Friends of Trees" award from Fairfax County's Tree Commission. Look for more info on their website coming soon! Thank you to all who helped over the years to make this recognition be possible! <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/tree-commission/friends-trees-awards>

CAR TAX SCOOP

For Fairfax County car owners, personal property tax bills are due October 5. And while the Board of Supervisors approved 15% tax relief for vehicle owners, the typical household's personal property tax increased by \$151 or 36%, from \$420 to \$571. — *Source: Fairfax County Times*

The good news is homeowners who itemize their tax returns can deduct taxes they pay on their personal property on their Virginia State tax return. Consult a tax professional for details.

For many longtime and first-time Virginia residents, a vexing question weighs on their minds: Why does Virginia have an annual "car tax" that many other states do not? Here's the scoop from **WTOP News**.

OH, DEER

In the early 1900s, deer were scarce in the Chesapeake watershed. Their habitat had been diminished by mass timbering and their numbers greatly reduced by unregulated market hunting. But deer have come roaring back, thanks to reintroduction programs and accommodating suburbs. Virginia has between 850-thousand and 1-million deer.

— *Source: The Daily Item*

The goal of the **Fairfax County Deer Management Program** is not to eliminate deer from county parks but to reduce their population to a healthier, more sustainable level – and has embraced bow hunting as its preferred way to reduce deer numbers. Botanists are seeing rare plant species rebound, and vehicle collisions with deer on the decline. And in the last four years, deer have generated nearly 50k pounds of venison for food banks and the Hunters for the Hungry program.

To reduce deer-related property damage, Fairfax County suggests refraining from feeding deer, planting deer-resistant plants, using deer repellants or building deer exclusion fencing. You can find more in-depth deer damage prevention tips [here](#).



THE MARKET IS HOT!

CLOSED

Address	Sold	Close Date	
5670 Ridge View	\$560,000	6/22/22	
5710 Ridge View	\$620,000	6/30/22	
4331 Gingham Ct	\$620,000	7/08/22	
4329 Gingham Ct	\$525,000	7/29/22	
5702 Medallion Ct	\$519,000	8/02/22	Concessions \$700
4328 Gypsy Ct	\$589,000	8/15/22	

RENTAL

5676 Ridge View	\$2,900	8/16/22
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— Source: Bright MLS

FALL LEAF PICK-UP

Please place all the leaves you remove in paper bags and set them out after 5pm on Monday away from regular trash/recycle cans for collection by the “leaf truck.” Please do not place them in our wooded areas.

CHANGE FURNACE FILTER

If you don't replace your filter as recommended, it becomes overwhelmed with dust and creates a strain on your HVAC system. This might increase your electric bill or worse, cause irreparable damage to your system.

CONTRIBUTORS CORNER

NEW LAW HIGHLIGHTS ENERGY CONSERVATION, SAVINGS FOR RESIDENTS

by Matt Iden

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), signed into law on August 16, 2022, has provisions across a number of categories, but two in particular are relevant for both conservation and Loft Ridge residents: (1) tax credits for the purchase of electric vehicles and, (2) assistance for residential electrical upgrades.

With zero operating emissions and fewer working parts, interest in electric vehicles is growing. The IRA extends the current \$7,500 tax credit to purchasers of qualified new EVs out ten years until 2032 (\$4,000 for used EVs). Sales cap restrictions on successful EV manufacturers (such as Tesla and GM) have been lifted, allowing those vehicles to qualify for credits for the first time in years. But not all EVs may qualify for tax credits. In order to qualify for the tax credits, EVs are required to be assembled mostly in North America, meaning that fewer models currently qualify.

The IRA's benefits for home electrification offers rebates (subject to income restrictions) for home sealing and insulation, heat pump installation, as well as panel and wiring work to bring your system up to spec. Residential solar panel installation tax credits have been returned to their original 30% (a percentage that had been shrinking and slated to sunset entirely by 2024).

With the passage of the IRA, there's never been a better time to make both your commute and your home more energy efficient.

FALL SAFETY TIPS FOR PET PARENTS

Check for ticks: Use caution when playing in leaves and always check your dog after returning from the outdoors.

Lighten up: As the days get shorter, investing in reflective gear can protect you and your dog during walks in the dark.

Avoid outdoor snacking: Be careful around mushrooms or tree nuts as some are highly toxic to pets.

Source: [Animal Wellness Magazine](#)



SPECIAL PICK-UPS

Make sure you call 703-802-3322 or schedule [online](#) by Tuesday 2pm. Before you add to an existing pile, ensure pick-up has been scheduled. The material scheduled must be out by 6pm on Tuesday placed away from trees and trash/recycle cans.

BACK TO SCHOOL

STOP when bus has red lights flashing and stop arms are extended.

SLOW to 25 mph in school zones.

LOFT RIDGE REMINDERS

Trash/Recycle Cans

Out after 5 on Monday
In by dark Tuesday

Drive Twenty-Five
Speed Limit 25mph

Call 811
To mark utility lines before you dig!

FREE NOTARY SERVICE

Kelly Campagne – 202-607-6331
Cheatham Court

Louise Whitt – 703-960-0428
Ridge View Drive

No charge to Loft Ridge owners
and residents

AROUND TOWN

ROSE HILL SHOPPING CENTER REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL – BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD

The proposal to redevelop the Rose Hill Shopping Center has been put on pause. After seeking community feedback, shopping center owner Combined Properties announced it is working on “a potential change” in approach and an associated redesign of the shopping center. While the existing shopping center is an approximately 154-thousand strip mall anchored by Safeway, as well as Walgreens, Dollar Tree and Tuesday Morning, the initial proposal called for replacing the shopping center with two multi-story apartment buildings with parking garages and ground-floor commercial space, with construction beginning at the earliest in 2027.

Combined says it thinks the changes could respond effectively to some of the more consistently raised concerns regarding density, height, overall scale, use of structured parking and the benefit of keeping some retail open during what Combined calls “repositioning”, reports Carl Sell, President of the nearby Rose Hill Civic Association. For more information, kindly refer to the Rose Hill Civic Association’s newsletter [here](#).

ALEXANDRIA NAMED AMONG ‘BEST CITIES IN THE U.S.’

For the first time ever, Alexandria was honored with a placement on Travel + Leisure’s “[Best Cities in the U.S.](#)” list. Votes from T+L readers put Alexandria at the #8 position among 15 cities including tourist hotspots, Charleston, New Orleans and Austin.

NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day will take place on Saturday, October 26. Take any unwanted medicines (pills or liquid) to the Franconia Police Station inside the Lee District Government Center, 6121 Franconia Road, across from Paradiso restaurant. There will be a large bin directly ahead – no questions asked.

In addition, Fairfax County Police stations and area pharmacies now provide permanent drug disposal dropboxes where residents can safely dispose of their unused or expired medications anytime of the year

FALL 2022 EVENTS

Maryland Renaissance Festival: October 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 & 23; 10 am-7 pm.
See [website](#) for details.

Alexandria Colonial Tours’ Ghosts & Graveyards Tour: Recurring daily
October 1-31. See [website](#) for details.

Mount Vernon Fall Wine Festival & Sunset Tour: October 7-9; 6 pm-9 pm.
See [website](#) for details.

Old Town OysterFest: Recurring daily October 15-23. See [website](#) for details.

27th Del Ray Annual Art on the Avenue: November 12; 10 am-6 pm.
See [website](#) for details.



LOFT RIDGE BOARD

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FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE (ACC)

The ACC meets on the third Monday of each month. Please check loftridge.com for dates/times.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The Conservation Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month. Please check loftridge.com for dates/times.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

As needed. Please contact the Communications Committee Chair (ComChair@loftridge.com) if you're interested in contributing or serving on the committee.

LIMELIGHT STAFF

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Suicide and Crisis Lifeline	988
Non-Emergency (Police and Fire)	703-691-2131
Animal Control	703-830-1100
Poison Control	202-625-3333
Fairfax Connector	703-339-7200
Fairfax Water	703-698-5600
Dominion Virginia Power	866-366-4357
Fairfax County Trash	703-802-3322
Clermont Elementary School	703-971-2400
Mark Twain Middle School	703-313-3700
Edison High School	703-924-8000
Post Office - Franconia (22310)	703-971-1003
Post Office - Jefferson Manor (22303)	703-317-9286
John Marshall Library	703-971-0010
Voter Registration	703-222-0776
Washington Post	202-334-6100
Verizon	888-363-4498
Dominion Towing	703-339-2400