



SPRING IS IN THE AIR

"Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love!"

- SITTING BULL

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

- April 11
- May 2
- June 13

HOA Annual Meeting

- May 9

BOARD UPDATE



BOARD SEAT VACANCIES

The business decisions affecting Loft Ridge are made by a Board of Directors. There are no specific requirements to be a member and amount of time devoted depends on your level/areas of interest. Board members must consider the Community as a whole and not have a specific agenda. You will have input in creating a budget, make decisions regarding issues of non-compliance and ACC violations, review contracts and delinquencies, generate resolutions and oversee our committees. There will be four seats open in May. If you would like to be a candidate, consider attending an upcoming Board meeting to see what's involved.

Board Member Nomination Forms are due April 19. The Annual Meeting is planned for May 9.

BOARD UPDATE

To ease the time commitment for ACC members, the Board voted to have the management company assume exterior inspections. Inspections will begin in April. The ACC and management will work to answer homeowners questions regarding violations.



LOFT RIDGE REMINDERS

- **Trash & Recycling Cans** Out
Out - Monday after 5
In - Tuesday Night
- **Tax Day**
Federal – April 15
VA State – May 1
- **Drive Twenty-Five**
Speed Limit 25mp
- **Please Don't** Climb Trees or
Break Branches
- **Don't Feed Wild Animals,**
Food Attracts Critters like rats!
- **Scoop the Poop** – If Can is Full,
Take Baggie Home
- **Call 811**
To mark utility lines before
you dig!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY – SUNDAY, MAY 14

*"Of all the gifts that life has to offer,
a loving mother is the greatest of
them all."* – UNKNOWN

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK!

May 8, 2023 - Fri, May 12, 2023

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY!

April 27, 2023. U.S. Also known
as Take Your Child to Work Day
encourages parents to take their
children to work for one day. It's
designed to help children explore
careers and the workforce.

NEW ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE (ACC) MEMBERS WANTED!

by Mark Brunner

You may have seen these messages from me in the past at this time of year, but this year is different!

Earlier this year the Board voted to have Sequoia management perform the annual exterior property inspections. *What does that mean for the ACC?*

Although we'll still be conducting sale disclosure inspections and reviewing requests for change (RFCs), the time commitment to serve on the ACC committee will be less without the annual inspections. This will give the ACC more time to update the Loft Ridge handbook and work on other projects to improve our community.

If you had considered volunteering with the ACC in the past, but were deterred by the time commitment, now is the perfect time to join us. You may contact me with your interest or any questions at accchair@loftridge.com.

IT'S AS EASY AS A B C: ARE YOU PLANNING AN EXTERIOR CHANGE?

Ask the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) if your intended change or construction is within guidelines by submitting the request form found at Exhibit A in the [Handbook](#).

Be approved. The ACC has 30 days after receipt of your request to provide their decision by annotating and signing the request form.

Commence with your project. Please remember construction or material delivery vehicles are not allowed to drive on common ground. Call Miss Utility at 1-800-552-7001 before digging.

12 HOME MAINTENANCE PROJECTS TO ADD TO YOUR LIST

According to Better Homes & Gardens, warm weather welcomes these essential spring home maintenance tasks. With upgrades for both interiors and exteriors, these home improvement projects, including cleaning gutters, pressure-washing patios, and repairing windows, will keep your home in top shape and prepare it for hosting guests during warmer months. Weather you complete each task yourself or hire a pro to help check things off your to-do list, make sure you get proper ACC approvals before starting your project! Learn more [here](#).

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Check Railings, Fences, and Walkway | 7 Service the Air Conditioner |
| 2 Update Windows | 8 Set a Post-Spring Cleaning Schedule |
| 3 Clear the Roof and Gutters | 9 Fix Damaged Screens |
| 4 Start Kitchen Renovation Projects | 10 Power-Wash Surfaces |
| 5 Update Exterior Lighting | 11 Install or Update Ceiling |
| 6 Refresh Exterior Paint and Stain | 12 Tackle Outdoor Landscaping |

CONTRIBUTORS CORNER

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A PROBLEM LIKE TRASH?

by Kathleen Allen & the Loft Ridge Conservation Committee

Often, whether you are a DIYer or you've hired someone to complete a home renovation project, you finish up a project and have something left over that just doesn't go in the weekly trash. This might include mixed concrete, mixed grout, or even the garden weeds you've spent your Saturday morning pulling. What to do?

The first answer is – *Not the Woods*.

The woods are certainly convenient and just a few feet away, *but never* the right place to dump anything from our homes or gardens. There are better options, ones that protect us from accidentally putting toxic waste into the environment. The yard waste? Fairfax County picks it up each week (between March - December) on regular trash day, but in its own paper bag or rigid container, which can be purchased at any of the local big home stores or Amazon. Here is a link to the county page for yard waste: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/county-collection-customers/yard-waste>.

Recycle or Trash - What Goes Where?

When in doubt about where to dispose of something, please refer to this county webpage for the answers: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/residential-materials>.

Fairfax County provides easy-to-use information, and one-pagers great for hanging on your refrigerator to make sure we have the information we need to keep the environment clean and free of trash. When in doubt, refer to their website <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-and-trash>.

Reminder: Though many of the contractors we hire are completely responsible for the trash they generate when they work on our homes, some are not. Each of us can remind them that any trash they generate will need to be disposed of according to Fairfax County regulations. Please be prepared to discuss this with any contractor you hire. Make sure you both agree, during the initial negotiation phase of your project, how they (or you) will dispose of the trash. Again, the woods are not an option for disposing of anything that comes out of our homes or gardens.

A few other good resources:

- To report a missed pickup: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/solid-waste-feedback-form>
- Ditch the Filthy Five: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/sites/publicworks/files/assets/documents/pdf/publications/filthy-five-factsheet.pdf>
- To request a special pickup: <https://specialpickup.fairfaxcounty.gov>

2023 SEASON - FARMERS MARKETS

Kingstowne Farmers Market

May 5 – October 27,
Fridays, 3pm to 7pm
Located in the Giant
Supermarket parking
lot at 5935 Kingstowne
Town Center. Learn more [here](#).



McCutcheon/Mount Vernon Farmers Market

April 19 - December 20, 2023,
Wednesdays, 8am to 12pm
Sherwood Regional Library,
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane.
Learn more [here](#).

Old Town Alexandria Farmers Market

The Market is open every Saturday,
7am to 12pm, 301 King Street,
Alexandria, VA. Learn more [here](#).

Old Town North Alexandria Farmers Market

The Market is open Thursdays, 3pm,
to 7pm and Sundays 10am to 2pm,
901 North Royal Street, Alexandria,
VA. Learn more [here](#).

Del Ray Farmers Market

The Market is open every Saturday,
year round, 8am to 12pm 203 E.
Oxford Ave., Alexandria, VA. Learn
more [here](#).

LOFT RIDGE MULTI-SPORTS COURTS

Email or call Management for
multi-court combinations at
management@loftdige.com or
703-803-9641

AREA EVENTS

Cherry Blossom Festival

March 20 - April 16, 2023 —

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is a spring celebration commemorating the March 27, 1912, gift of Japanese cherry trees to the city of Washington, D.C. Enjoy food, fun, culture, and entertainment. Learn more [here](#).

Shenandoah Apple Blossom

Festival April 28 - May 7, 2023 —

Winchester's signature event! Held over a 10 day period, it boasts over 30 events, including two huge parades, a carnival, dances, concerts, a 10K race, wine festival, golf tournament, and so much more! Learn more [here](#).

Spring Wine Festival and Sunset

Tour May 19, 2023 — Mount Vernon's most popular event. Taste unlimited samples of wines from Virginia's finest wineries. Learn more [here](#).

SPECIAL TRASH PICK-UP

It's FREE! All you have to do is schedule [online](#) or call 703-802-3322. On regular trash day, the County Trash will pick up bulk items too large for cans, i.e. mattresses. Set items away from regular collection points in an area without trees, light poles, etc

YARD WASTE PICKUP

Please place yard waste at the curb or street line so that crew can collect trash when they are able to come through the neighborhoods.

AROUND TOWN

NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL – MARCH 20 – APRIL 16, 2023

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is a spring celebration in Washington, D.C., commemorating the March 27, 1912, gift of Japanese cherry trees to the city of Washington, D.C.

LEE DISTRICT HAS BEEN RENAMED FRANCONIA DISTRICT!

The former Lee District has been renamed to Franconia District.

Other county facilities and districts renamed include the:

- Lee District Park is now Franconia Park.
- Lee District Rec Center, which is now known as the Franconia Rec Center.
- Lee High Park is now Lewis High park.
- Lee Residential Permit Parking District is now the Lewis Parking District.
- Lee Community Parking District is now renamed the Franconia Parking District.

Learn more: [Fairfax County Government NewsCenter](#)

METRO TO DULLES?

Silver Line Metrorail trains began operating to Dulles International Airport on November 15, 2022. The newly opened station at Dulles is connected to the main terminal by an indoor pedestrian tunnel with moving sidewalks. The underground path is approximately five minutes from the station to the terminal. The trip to Dulles from Metro Center is about 53 minutes (Silver Line; from Bethesda is about 1 hour, 10 minutes (Red/Silver line); and from Springfield is about 1 hour, 14 minutes (Blue/Silver Line).

ROSE HILL SHOPPING CENTER UPDATE

by Renee Grebe

A possible redevelopment of Rose Hill Shopping Plaza is being discussed by the county as part of the Site Specific Plan Amendment process (nomination ID LE-001), but has been scheduled for a slower timeline to allow further community engagement. For several months, the developer has been engaging with the community to discuss a future vision for this shopping center. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will meet on Tuesday, April 11, to consider the Site-Specific Plan Amendment for Rose Hill Plaza shopping center.

The current status of the Rose Hill nomination is that the Planning Commission has tentatively recommended that it be added to the work program as a Tier III item and deferred for consideration pending additional community outreach by the developer.

The best way to drive positive change in our community is to be involved.

You can learn more [here](#).

SPRING BREAK TRAVEL TIPS

Travel to Europe. Springtime in Europe usually means fewer crowds and a strong dollar. Plus, it's not as hot.

Explore with Club Adventures. Looking for a enriching vacation with family or your closest group of friends? Check out Club Adventures by AAA, where you can explore exotic destinations through a local lens in small groups. Their commitment to sustainable travel, local guides and authentic experiences make each tour unique and unforgettable.

Book theme park visits in advance. Theme parks are getting busier now that families are comfortable traveling again. Book your vacation before it's too late.

Hit the high seas. Cruising is back and bigger than ever. Record-breaking sales and gargantuan ships means you can enjoy activities like go carts, waterslides, roller coasters and ziplining. Plus, there are numerous types of cruises, from big Caribbean cruise ships to intimate European river cruises.

Protect your investment with travel insurance. Flight delays, cancellations and other travel mishaps can come with unexpected expenses. It would also be wise to add baggage insurance and coverage for non-refundable expenses.

Go all-inclusive. If you're looking for a vacation with the best value, try an all-inclusive package. They can be especially cost-effective for families.

—from AAAToday

Download the DC Airports App Before your next journey out of IAD or DCA, download the DC Airports App for travel an airport information at your fingertips. Using the app you can see flight status, connect to free Wi-Fi, and even book travel, parking and order food in advance. App users can opt in for push notifications to your phone and smart watch.

COMMUNITY POLICE ACADEMY

Interested in learning more about local law enforcement?

The Community Police Academy (formerly Citizens Police Academy) is designed to give participants a glimpse behind the badge and to provide information about training, policies, and the many units and divisions within the Fairfax County Police Department.

The Spring 2023 session runs March 16 to May 20 – with the Fall 2023 session meeting September 14 to November 18, 2023.

Learn more about the application process, curriculum and requirements [here](#).

For more information, please call 703-246-4315 or email CPA@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax County also offers a Teen Police Academy

The Teen Academy offers high school student the opportunity to explore careers in law enforcement and participate in hands-on activities. Learn more [here](#).

LOFT RIDGE REAL ESTATE

ACTIVE (As of February 28, 2023)

| Address | Listed |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 5648 Ridge View Dr. | \$594,000 |

CLOSED (As of February 28, 2023)

| Address | Close Date | Rented |
|------------------|------------|---------|
| 4313 Gypsy Ct | 1/16/23 | \$2,900 |
| 5763 Ridge View | 2/03/23 | \$3,000 |
| 5732 Lofthill Ct | 2/08/23 | \$2,800 |
| 4322 Gingham | 2/13/23 | \$2,400 |
| 5737 EKC | 2/13/23 | \$2,500 |

— Source: Bright MLS

SPRING JOKES

Q: Does February like March?

A: No but April May.

Q: What did the tree say when it first saw spring?

A: What a re-leaf!

Q: When is the most impossible time to plant flowers?

A: When you haven't botany.

SCOOP THE POOP

It's Fairfax County Law. Pet owners who violate the County's pooper scooper law may incur a fine up to \$250.

DOING A LITTLE SPRING CLEANING?

It's that time of year to build/replace fences, decks and sheds so please remember that wheeled vehicles are not allowed on common ground.

YOUR EYES HELP

If you see any of the following, please report them to board@loftridge.com.

- Irrigation sprinklers on during the day
- Apparent irrigation leak
- Dumping
- Multi-court gate open
- Street lights off or malfunctioning

Any suspicious activity should be called in immediately to 703-691-2141.

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

IN THE LIMELIGHT

IN THE LIMELIGHT: MEET MATT IDEN

"In The Limelight" is a new edition to our newsletter featuring various Loft Ridge residents. This quarter, the Communications Committee Chair selected Matt Iden.

Q: Hi Matt – Can you tell us about yourself?

A: I was born and raised west of Pittsburgh but have lived in Virginia, California, and Alaska. I love to travel and set foot on my seventh continent almost ten years ago. My education is in English, but I worked in IT for a time before ditching it all and begin writing mystery novels. I've been self- and traditionally published for twelve years now and love my life.

Q: How long have you lived in Loft Ridge? And what is your favorite part about living here?

A: We've been in Loft Ridge for just over twenty years (gulp...time flies) and in that time I've come to love the fact that we're half an hour outside the capital city, but back up to what amounts to a private sixty-acre park. Not many people can claim that.

Q: Do you have a tip or suggestion for your Loft Ridge neighbors?

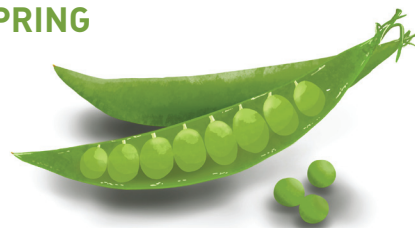
A: Don't be blinded by the attractions in DC—we're just a stone's throw from world class destinations like Huntley Meadows, Old Town Alexandria, Mount Vernon. There are rewards just around the corner from where we live.

If you would like to nominate a neighbor to be featured in the next Limelight, please email: ComChair.loftridge@gmail.com.

COOKS CORNER

53 OF THE BEST RECIPES FOR SPRING

According to Bon Appétit, Spring time yields some of the best fresh produce, and to celebrate that, Bon Appetit has compiled 53 recipes to do just that. Click [here](#) to see their list of 53 very best spring recipes—bring on the peas!



24 ONE-POT VEGETARIAN MEALS THAT ARE SAVORY AND SATISFYING

One-pot dinners are an awesome way of cooking because it typically requires fewer steps and, of course, less mess than other types of dinner recipes. Click [here](#) for Martha Stewart's easy vegetarian recipes that are guaranteed to delight!

FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE (ACC)

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

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

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

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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 |

LOFT RIDGE BOARD

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