



IT'S SUMMERTIME!

*"Summertime is always the best
of what might be"*

- CHARLES BOWDEN

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HOA Board Meetings

- July 11
- August 8
- September 12

The Board would like to invite Loft Ridge residents to attend monthly Board meetings, 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

BOARD UPDATE



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

At the June meeting, the Board voted to hold a National Night Out celebration on August 1, 2023. The celebration will be held at the tennis courts. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided but we ask attendees to bring a dish to share. Stay tuned for details and a signup email.

HOA DUES ... AND DON'TS

DUES increase from \$285 to \$300 this quarter to accommodate increased overall costs due to inflation and to bring our reserve contributions into alignment with the newly updated reserve study so that we are prepared for projected community costs for the next 20 years. DON'T forget you can pay online by registering at sequoia.cincwebaxis.com.

IN A DROUGHT, CONSIDER HELPING OUT

The area is currently experiencing a drought and we don't yet know how the summer will unfold! If you see a thirsty tree or dry looking grass, consider giving it a drink when you're watering your own. Keep an eye on plants by checking your soil and watering your garden deeply when it is dry.

- Check your soil: Dig 2" - 4" down with a trowel several times a week. If it feels dry, it needs to be watered. If it feels moist, you do not need to water.
- Water your plants DEEPLY when you water, e.g. leaving a hose on the soil for several minutes with a gentle water stream around each plant, particularly shrubs and trees. For newer plants, this may involve watering more often than for more established ones.



LOFT RIDGE REMINDERS

- **Trash & Recycling Cans**
Out - Monday after 5
In - Tuesday Night
- **Drive Twenty-Five**
Neighborhood Speed Limit is 25mph
- **Don't Feed Wild Animals,**
Food attracts critters like rats!
- **Please Don't** climb trees or break branches
- **Call 811**
To mark utility lines before you dig!

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

SCOOP ON THE POOP: PET WASTE STATION ETIQUETTE

We've added a new pet waste station near the multi-sports court. Please dispose of pet waste in the designated pet waste stations, and if full, please dispose at home in your own trash can.

AROUND TOWN

CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY!

July 4th

National Independence Day Parade (Washington, DC)—The parade route is one mile in length, starting at the corner of Constitution Ave. NW and 7th St NW, and ending at Constitution Ave. NW and 17th St NW; 11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

A Capitol Fourth–PBS Live Stream (Washington, DC)—PBS' annual salute to America streams live at 8 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. on PBS and streaming platforms, including: <https://www.pbs.org/a-capitol-fourth/>

Fireworks at the National Mall (Washington, DC)—The National Park Service organizes a breathtaking fireworks display each year. Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool; 9:07 p.m. – 9:42 p.m.

Viewing areas include—

Washington DC: U.S. Capitol, Lincoln Memorial, National Mall, Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the White House Ellipse, West Potomac Park, East Potomac Park, and Anacostia Park

Virginia: George Washington Memorial Parkway, including US Marine Corps War Memorial, Netherlands Carillon grounds, Lyndon Baines Johnson Memorial Grove, Gravelly Point Park, and along the Mount Vernon Trail from the 14th Street Bridge to Theodore Roosevelt Island. Parking is allowed in designated parking areas only.

July 8th

Alexandria Fireworks—The City of Alexandria will celebrate its 274th and the USA's 247th birthday on Saturday, July 8, at Oronoco Bay Park (100 Madison St.). The event includes a performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, ending with the Grand Finale—a fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free! <https://www.alexandriava.gov/Birthday>

CALLING ALL WRITERS!

Do you have an idea for our quarterly community newsletter? We are looking for volunteers to help write articles for our Loft Ridge "Limelight".

If you would like to join the Communications committee or have ideas for content, please email: ComChair.loftridge@gmail.com.

GET INVOLVED: JOIN A COMMITTEE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Architectural Control Committee (ACC) – Contact: accchair@loftridge.com
- Communications Committee – Contact: comchair@loftridge.com
- Conservation Committee – Contact: conservechair@loftridge.com

To learn more about each committee, visit loftridge.com or contact the designated member.



AUDIT REVEALS SKY HIGH SURVIVAL RATES FROM 2021 PLANTING!

by Chris Bodner from the Conservation Committee

In fall 2021, the Conservation Committee—with the help of six volunteers from the community and the support of the Board of Directors—planted 54 native shrubs and trees across Loft Ridge. The plants, which ranged from smaller Spicebush shrubs to seedlings of majestic oak trees, were donated by members of the Conservation Committee. Seedlings were chosen over mature plants because seedlings can survive without regular watering and tend to grow stronger and healthier than trees and shrubs that are planted when more mature. Placement of each seedling was based on an earlier walkaround survey conducted by the Conservation Committee, during which we considered factors such as moisture, shade, and soil quality to improve the chances of each plant surviving to maturity. To further increase survival rates, the Committee and volunteers installed wire fencing around each to protect them from predation by deer.

In April and May of 2023, 16 months after the initial planting, Committee members conducted an audit, visiting every planting to check on its health and perform maintenance around its base, if needed (e.g. cut grass, remove weeds, repair broken cages). The Committee is incredibly happy to report that over 90% of all trees and shrubs planted in 2021 survived! This is an unusually high survival rate for seedlings, and one that the whole community can be proud of.

Native trees and shrubs not only beautify our neighborhood, but also play a critical role in providing habitat for local wildlife, soaking up excessive rain, and helping fight against erosion. Also, many of the trees in our neighborhood, especially the non-native Bradford Pears, have been damaged or felled by bad weather in recent years, and replacing them with hearty, native trees is crucial in keeping Loft Ridge green, healthy, and resilient long into the future.

The Conservation Committee is currently seeking new members. If you'd like to see more initiatives like this around the community, please consider joining us and contact ConserveChair@loftridge.com for more information.

BAG YARD WASTE - USE PAPER (OR CONTAINERS), NOT PLASTIC

Yard waste is picked up March through December in conjunction with trash day. As a reminder, yard waste must be collected separately from trash using paper yard waste bags or reusable containers. Items placed in plastic bags will not be collected. You also have the option of disposing of yard waste on your own by taking items to the I-66 Transfer Station of the I-95 Landfill.

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](#).

Alexandria West Farmers Market

The Market is open Sundays,
8:30am, to 1pm, 4800 Ben Brenman
Park, 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](#).

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



MAKING HOME IMPROVEMENTS?

We have a new ACC handbook this year, including an expanded list of approved trex and stain colors. Please refer to it before making changes to your home's exterior by visiting loftridge.com or contacting management for a hard copy.

LET'S PLAY!

Don't forget to take advantage of our newly renovated multi-sports court! Email or call Management for the code to access the multi-sport court at management@loftridge.com or 703-803-9641.

SUMMER JOKES

Q: Where do sharks go on vacation?

A: Finland.

Q: What is the best day to go to the beach?

A: Sunday!

Q: What do bees say in the summer?

A: It's swarm, isn't it?!

IN THE LIMELIGHT

IN THE LIMELIGHT: MEET CARIE ROGHENBACHER

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

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

A: I grew up in Minnesota. My teaching career took me out of cold Minnesota and on to sunny California. From there, I went overseas and worked in the DoD American schools in Germany and England teaching reading and special education. After returning to the US, I taught in the teacher preparation program at The George Washington University. I am now retired and enjoy traveling, watercolor and reading as well as visits to museums and the theaters.

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

A: My husband Frank Gallivan and I moved to Alexandria and bought 5704 Evergreen Knoll Court in 1993. I love living in Loft Ridge and being right in the middle of a park. I feel fortunate to have great neighbors, happy children nearby, and lots of places to hike.

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

A: My suggestion to neighbors is to get out and enjoy our wonderful community and to do what you can to keep Loft Ridge the fine place it is.

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

LOFT RIDGE REAL ESTATE

UNDER CONTRACT (list prices)

Address	Listed	List Price
4323 Gypsy Ct	5/29/23	\$585,000
4321 Gypsy Ct	5/15/23	\$595,000
5722 Lofthill Ct	5/21/23	\$599,000

CLOSED (As of May 30, 2023)

Address	Close Date	Rented	Sold
5773 Ridge View Dr	3/6/23	\$3,000	
4332 Caprice Ct	3/15/23		\$517,000
5648 Ridge View Dr	4/17/23		\$517,000
5646 Ridge View Dr	4/27/23		\$610,000

— Source: Bright MLS



FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE (ACC)

The ACC has no future meetings planned, as it needs volunteers. ACC duties will be managed by the Board in the interim. Sequoia now performs community inspections, but Loft Ridge could still use your help! Please check loftridge.com for updates or email board@loftridge.com if you are interested in volunteering.

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.

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

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