

S P R I N G 2 0 1 6

LOFT RIDGE LIMELIGHT

Loft Ridge Home Owners Association – Alexandria, VA – www.loftridge.com

Spring Arrives March 20



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.

Seven of your neighbors comprise the Board. There will be two seats open this spring. If you would like to be a candidate, consider attending the March, April and/or May Board meetings to see what's involved.

Elections will be held at the **Annual Meeting May 19, 2016.**

News from the Board

A list is being generated of work needed throughout the Community. Draft budget has been started. Grass will be planted in front of the row of new trees along Franconia Road. We are working with the police department to address speeding.

Ridge View Paving

The Ridge View paving is still on the 2016 schedule but currently no dates are available.

Memorable January Snow

Not only did Snowzilla tie for #4 in historical snowfall amounts but it brought out the best in residents. As one homeowner reminded us "Crisis doesn't create character, it reveals it." We should all be proud of the way neighbors pitched in to relocate that massive amount of snow. It's great to live in such a wonderful neighborhood!!

ACC Inspections

ACC inspections are coming in April.

Are you ready?

Is that blowing trash yours?

Please don't put loose items in your trash cans/bins. If they don't make it into the trash truck, they stay on the ground and no one picks up litter.

Re-Purpose Winter Sand

Sweep the sand from your parking space. Keep it stored in a container in your trunk in case you need it next winter if your vehicle gets stuck.

April is Distracted Driving Month

Please remember
"One Text or Call
Can End It All"

Vehicles on Common Ground

It is the time of year to build/replace fences, decks and sheds so please remember that wheeled vehicles are not allowed on common ground. We realize that it is an "inconvenience" but you are responsible for damage.



Grounds Contract Summary

Ongoing

Mowing early Spring – late Fall every 7-10 days to 3” – 4”
 Edging every other mowing
 Pruning of beds and tree saucers
 Herbicide treatment walk, curb & hard surface weeds

To-Be-Determined

Pruning shrubbery, 2-5 times
 Ground cover pruning, max 5 times

Fall

Fertilization of grassy areas
 Turf aeration, fertilizing and overseeding
 Leaf removal (2x)



Spring

Clean-up (removal of winter debris, prune deadwood)
 Fertilize trees, shrubs & ground cover
 Pre-emergent weed control (2x)
 Cutback of perennials

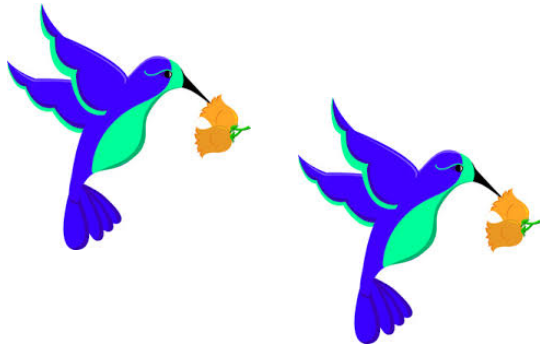
Spring and Fall

Edge & mulch plant beds & tree wells
 Post-emergent weed control
 Seasonal flowers in entrance beds



Don't Fertilize in Spring

Fairfax County does not recommend fertilizing in early Spring on fescues like Kentucky 31. Stimulation of additional growth by nitrogen during this period will usually cause a depletion of food reserves. This will make grass more susceptible to drought injury, disease and insect infestation later in the summer.



Plant Going to Live?

Wait until mid-April or May until buds are showing to make this determination.

To see if a plant is dead or alive, scratch back a little bark with your fingernail or a knife. If the bark is green, it is alive; if brown, it's dead or dying. You may be able to save the plant by pruning off the dead branches.

If your plant appears okay and then suddenly turns brown or silver green as weather warms, the roots were most likely frozen or damaged and the plant will probably die.

Attracting Hummingbirds

Hummingbirds start arriving in April. If you want to enjoy them this summer:



- Place the feeder in a spot you can see and enjoy. The more red the feeder the better!
- Keep the feeder clean. Nectar spoils quickly. In hot summer, you should change the nectar daily and run the feeder through the dishwasher weekly.
- Place colorful annuals and perennials nearby; they like lantana and petunias. Pots on your deck are fine.

And you don't have to buy pre-made nectar. Just dissolve ¼ cup of sugar in 1 cup of boiling water.

No Mosquitos? Guess Again!

This cold winter didn't kill them off, they just postponed laying their eggs and as soon as temperatures rise, they will all begin to lay in unison. Mosquitos can lay eggs in 50 degree weather. Melting snow creates puddles for those eggs and unfortunately mosquitos don't wander far from their birthplace. To minimize your yard's appeal, get rid of all standing water, even in small items like bottle caps.

Grocery Bags and Your Trash

Please don't put your trash out in flimsy bags. The birds and other animals can easily open them and spread contents. If you don't want to use a trash can, at least put your garbage out in thick black bags. Your neighbors care what their street looks like.

Thank You's

Myrnelle Ortiz has joined the ACC and Don Wheeler reinstalled a sign post at no charge.

May Weather?

Since we set a snowfall record in January, let's see if this May can equal 2015's, which was the warmest since record keeping began for Washington in 1871. And the six days above 90 were the most since 1991.

Spring is when you feel like whistling

Even with a shoe full of slush

Loft Ridge Reminders

Federal – April 18
VA State – May 1



Don't Feed Wild
Animals



Food Attracts Critters

Trash & Recycling Cans
Out Tuesday after 5
Back Wednesday night



Contact Board



If those inside court
are not playing tennis

Loft Ridge Real Estate Update – Spring is Selling and Buying Time!

Active	TH Type	List Price	List Date	
5678 Ridge View Dr	End	\$424,000	02/24/16	
Under Contract		List Price	Cont Date	
5742 Evergreen Knoll Ct	Int	\$399,900	02/16/16	
4323 Gypsy Ct	Int	\$439,000	02/17/16	
5728 Evergreen Knoll Ct	Int	\$375,000	02/12/16	
5702 Medallion Ct	Int	\$369,000	02/02/16	
Sold		Sold Price	Seller Subsidy*	Sold Date
5646 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$413,900	\$10,000	01/08/16
4404 Churchman Ct	Int	\$432,000	\$ 6,000	02/01/16
5708 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$444,000	\$ 2,450	02/16/16
4328 Gypsy Ct	Int	\$444,000	\$ 6,700	02/16/16

Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	
4407 Cheatham Ct	Int	\$2,100	
Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	Date Rented
5714 Medallion Ct	Int	\$1,800	02/12/15
5625 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$2,000	02/12/15



*Seller Subsidy is the total seller contributed towards buyer's closing cost. It reduces the net sold price thus affecting future appraisals of other Loft Ridge homes.

Source: Metropolitan Regional Informational Systems, Inc. Courtesy of Maren Seubert (Neighborhood Realtor)

Nearby Spring Festival

Winchester will host the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival from April 22 thru May 1st this year. The idea of the Festival is to celebrate the passing of winter with miles of pink and white apple blossoms that dot this Virginia apple-growing belts.

The celebration draws about 250,000 visitors. The Winchester-Frederick County area is rich in Revolutionary and Civil War history and features museums, plantation-style homes with remarkable architecture. Winchester is the home of country-western singer Patsy Cline, explorer Admiral Richard E. Byrd and novelist Willa Cather.



Updated information can be found at www.thebloom.com

Bike Lanes on Franconia

Marking of bike lanes occurred from Van Dorn to Rose Hill Drive last Fall. The bike lanes will continue to Mark Twain school after paving of that area is done. Schedule is unknown at this time.

During this effort remember that work zones are dangerous to workers and drivers. "Expect the Unexpected" is a good idea.

Loftridge Park Damage

Recently someone "created" what appears to be a mountain bike or ATV trail by cutting saplings and raking a path. Destruction of County property is illegal as is riding any wheeled vehicles within the park, even on asphalt paths.

If you see any suspicious behavior or destruction within our Association, call police non-emergency number of 703-691-2131.

One Person's Junk is Another One's Treasure

A new email list has been created to sell, give-away or request items. It's named classified@loftridge.com

If you have an item to sell, indicate "FS" or "For Sale" and price in subject line (i.e. FS Sofa \$100)

For an item to give-away, indicate "FF" or "For Free" in subject line (i.e. FF Moving Boxes)

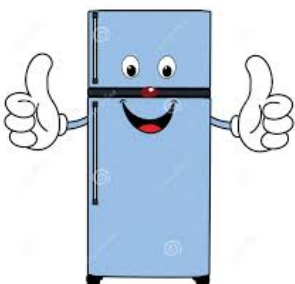
If you are in search of an item, use "Wanted" in subject line (i.e. Wanted Desk)

Most importantly, if you want to respond, use "Reply" and NOT "Reply All"

To join, email classifieds-subscribe@loftridge.com, with "Subscribe" in subject line

Restore Open Daily Now

ReStore, operated by Habitat for Humanity, has a large selection of items for purchase from electrical parts to chandeliers, from newer appliances to kitchen cabinets. Selection depends on donations and some are new. Located at 869 S. Pickett St, you can shop or donate Monday-Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 9am-5pm and Sunday 10am-3pm. Call 703-360-6700 to arrange for pick-up of large items you wish to donate. Painted cabinets, computer equipment and appliances older than three years are about all they won't accept.





Happy Mother's Day

Few people fully appreciate the fact that a mother makes more decisions in one morning than the Supreme Court makes in three years!!



Smiling at DMV

You can now smile in your Virginia DMV photos thanks to improvements in facial recognition software.

Cheaper Postage Stamps

The price of postage stamps is due for a **DECREASE**. A review by postal regulators said the size of last increase was unjustified. The 47¢ Forever stamps will go on sale April 10.

LOCAL FARMER'S MARKETS

Springfield Towne Center Farmer's Market

May 7 – October 29

Corner of Spring Mall & Loisdale Roads
Saturdays 10:00am – 2:00pm

Kingstowne Farmer's Market

May 6 – October 28

Parking lot where Giant is located
Fridays 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Mount Vernon Farmer's Market

May 4– December 14

Parking lot at Sherwood Hall Lane Library
Wednesdays 8:00am – 12:00noon

Metro Paper Ticket – Thing of the Past

Metro has issued its last paper ticket for rail and bus use. Each rider must have a plastic SmarTrip card which can be purchased at any Metro station for \$10.

Circus Elephants Retiring

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus will retire 11 elephants currently on tour in May, 18 months earlier than planned. They will join the 32 elephants already at the company's 200 acre Center for Elephant Conservation in central Florida.

LOCAL POOLS

Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road
703-765-9642

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/leerec.htm

Free Spray Park

Cameron Run Regional Park

4001 Eisenhower Avenue
703-960-0767

www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron_run

Water slides, wave pool, miniature golf, batting cages, and picnic area

LOCAL FUN EVENTS

March Fridays 10:30am – “WUBBULOUS World of Dr. Seuss” at John Marshall Library, Rose Hill Dr. Ages 2-5. Bring blanket and snack.

March 18-20 – Harlem Globetrotters at The Patriot Center, www.eaglebankarena.com

April 1-2 – Cameron UMC Children's Consignment Sale, corner Franconia/Telegraph Rd, Fri 9am-8pm & Sat 9am-noon

April 6-10 & 14-17 – Ringling Bros Circus at The Patriot Center, www.eaglebankarena.com

April 21-23 – Once on This Island, Edison High School, at 7pm

April 25 – Mason Neck Eagle Festival. Games, rides for the kids, live band. www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/masonneck

Thru May 8 – “Crocs – Ancient Predators in a Modern World,” National Geographic Museum, 1145 17th St NW, daily 10am-6pm. 202-857-7700 for ticket info or nationalgeographic.com/museum

LOFT RIDGE BOARD
board@loftridge.com

President

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Facilities

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Loft Ridge Group Email
group@loftridge.com

Loft Ridge Classifieds Email
classified@loftridge.com
(For Sale, For Free or Wanted)

Archived Newsletters

<http://www.loftridge.com/news/newsletter>

Loft Ridge Mom's Group

groups.yahoo.com/group/loftridgemoms

Sequoia Management

703-803-9641
management@loftridge.com

ANNUAL MEETING, Thursday May 19

Board Meetings – 7:00pm

Mark Twain Middle School Lecture Hall

Thursday, March 17

Thursday, April 21

Thursday, May 12

ACC Meetings – 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 11, 5631 Ridge View Dr

Wednesday, June 8, 5670 Ridge View Dr

LIMELIGHT STAFF

Communications Chair

Louise Whitt
ComChair@loftridge.com

Contributors

Louise Whitt, Maren Seubert, Lesa Jones



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

Both are Board members but each paid
for their certification

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency	911
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
USA Today	800-872-0001

