

S U M M E R 2 0 1 7

Loft Ridge Limelight

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



*Rainbows apologize
For angry skies*



HOA DUES INCREASE

Effective July 1, HOA dues will be \$237 a quarter. If you have direct debit, make a note.

Thank You to Outgoing Board Members



Thanks to Jonathan Heisey-Grove and Chris Maletz for their efforts the last three years. Enjoy the “calm.”

Welcome New Board Members

Congratulations to Trish Skinner and Karine Wills who were elected to 3-year terms.

Grounds Contractor

The contractor is being evaluated after each visit. If you have compliments or complaints, contact the Board.

Congratulations Grads!!

ES grads, say hello to lockers!

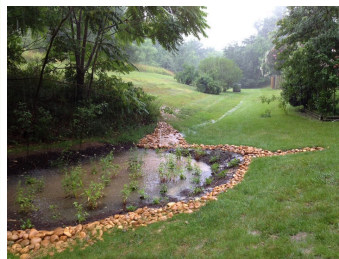
MS grads, say hello to more activities/events!

HS grads, best of luck in college, trade school, or the workforce!



College grads, welcome to the 9-5 world!

Our Rain Garden is “Famous”



Fairfax County is so impressed with our rain garden that there was a front page picture and article in Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District’s “Conservation Currents” AND we have been selected as a stop on the June 11 Sustainable Garden Tour.

Read more about our success at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/newsletter/cap-profiles.htm>

Top Soil and Seed Program

Thanks to all who signed up. If there is enough interest, it might be offered again in the Fall. This round of participants are enjoying the green!

Irrigation System

The stations all have rain gauges and are set to turn on, when necessary, while you sleep. If you see sprinklers running during the day, excessive water on the street or damage, please contact the Board.

Tennis Only

There is a new sign on the tennis court gate. It says “tennis only.” This is not a multi-purpose court and even when playing tennis, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Damage through misuse (like chalk markings for kids’ games) costs money. The surface can’t be patched and replacement will cost around \$19,000.



What is that in the Woods?

The deer population has caused major damage to our woods by eating everything green but they didn’t bring in all the flower pots, cement blocks, bricks, dead plants, etc. that abound. Please don’t dispose of anything in the woods! We love our beautiful Community.

And if you see any illegal dumping, call Health Department at 703-246-2205 or police non-emergency number.

Total Solar Eclipse

On Monday, August 21, there will be the first total eclipse since 1918 with its path crossing the Pacific and Atlantic coast. The longest duration of totality will be 2 minutes 41.6 seconds. Details in local media as date nears.

Your Yard Debris

PLEASE don't put it out earlier than Tuesday night.

Porch Lights Deter Vandals

To deter vehicle vandalism, **please turn your porch light on** to illuminate the area. A motion detector is nice if it turns on when someone is further away than the sidewalk but some of our parking spaces aren't right in front of our home. And don't forget to lock your cars.



Little Free Library

There is now one on Ridge View across from Churchman. Take a book or leave a book; children and teens on lower shelf, adults on the top. Stacie Carrier built and installed it and will be maintaining it. Hopefully our residents will enjoy this especially the kids during the summer vacation since Marshall Library is undergoing renovation.



Our Common Grounds

Please don't let your children climb trees or break off branches; they don't grow back.

To ensure no ruts or other damage to our grounds, **no vehicles on common grounds.**

And if you want to use any area for a party, picnic, etc, please contact the Board for approval to avoid a conflict in usage.

Loft Ridge Bluebird Boxes

We now have them in Cannon Lane field, around the tennis courts and across from the Ridge View tot lot. They are monitored by Renee Grebe, Kelly Campagne and Susan Thompson keeping records on the nests, eggs, and young produced.

Many of the boxes have families in them. In order to aid survival, **please stay at least 20' from the poles and boxes.** If you or your children want to accompany one of the monitors to visit the boxes, please contact grebebird@yahoo.com.

Besides being beautiful, bluebirds are among a handful of birds that are especially successful in naturally controlling insects, so we are invested in seeing that many families of bluebirds come to Loft Ridge.



Fragile Tree Plantings in Our HOA

Fairfax County has been managing a stream restoration effort (across from the tennis courts) for several years. In the fall of 2016, hundreds of trees were planted to restore the canopy and improve soil stabilization in this area. However, in May 2017, a large number of trees were found bent over and broken at the top of tree tubes (which are being used to minimize deer browse damage). The cause of this damage is unusual and unknown to the County's Ecological Restoration Specialist. These plantings are extremely fragile. Please help us to improve the restoration by staying clear of the area and ensuring human interference is not part of the problem

Invasive Plants Prohibited

Ecological inspiration for Loft Ridge can be drawn from The Reston Association (RA), the HOA for the large, planned community of Reston. It has more than 1,300 acres of open space including 800 acres of woodlands, four lakes, four wetlands, three ponds, and fifty meadows. The community was founded on the preservation and appreciation of natural areas and to this day a strong environmental stewardship ethic is nurtured in the community.

In 2008, their Board of Directors banned eight species of invasive plants. Invasive plants (aggressive plants not native to our area) often get their start in yards and gardens and spread rapidly to nearby lands, ultimately decreasing plant diversity and harming the wildlife that depends on native plants for survival.

Have you considered planting or do you have any of the following species in your garden? If so, consider native alternatives.

- Bamboo (Bambusa species)
- Bush Honeysuckle (Lonicera species)
- Flowering Pears (Pyrus calleryana cultivars)
- Japanese Barberry (Berberis thunbergii)

- Burning bush (Euonymus alata)
- English Ivy (Hedera helix)
- Ornamental Bittersweet (Celastrus orbiculatus)
- Wisterias, Chinese and Japanese (Wisteria sinensis, floribunda and hybrids)

Thanks To:

- All those who shoveled neighbor's sidewalks, stoops and access to mailboxes during our single snow event this "winter."
- Those who continue to pick up the trash around the Community, especially during those strong March winds.
- Renee Grebe for installing the two bluebird boxes in the field across from the Ridge View tot lot and to Susan Thompson for monitoring them.

National Ice Cream Day

Celebrate it on July 17 with your favorite flavor and toppings.



Happy Father's Day

Remember you are your son's first idol and your daughter's first hero.



Broken Glass in Trash

Wrapping it in several layers of newspaper will make sure it doesn't end up on the street when trash is collected. And it won't cut the collectors or damage the truck or its equipment.

FREE Slurpee



For their 90th anniversary, on **July 11** your local 7-11 will be giving away a free Slurpee to each customer from 11am -7pm.

Loft Ridge Reminders

4th of July Kids Festivities on EGK

Check Loft Ridge Group email for details on neighborhood 4th of July parade

Trash/Recycle Cans

Move back to rear yard Wednesday night



National Night Out

Tuesday, August 1
6pm – 8pm
Tennis Court area
Moonbounce
Refreshments
Meet policemen and maybe firemen

Pet Care in the Summer

Don't leave your pets outside without shade and water



Loft Ridge Real Estate Update ---- Spring is in Full Bloom, Prices on the Rise!

Active	TH Type	List Price	List Date	
5660 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$449,900	03/30/17	
5673 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$462,000	04/14/17	
5716 Lofthill Ct	End	\$525,000	05/23/17	
5738 Evergreen Knoll Ct	Int	\$395,000	06/02/17	
Under Contract	TH Type	List Price	Contract Date	
5654 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$449,900	05/04/17	
5775 Ridge View Dr	End	\$487,000	04/26/17	
Sold	TH Type	Sold Price	Seller Subsidy*	Sold Date
4319 Gingham Ct	Int	\$460,000	\$7,000	04/28/17
5718 Gladden Ct	Int	\$474,900	\$6,500	05/10/17
5712 Medallion Ct	Int	\$385,000	\$0	05/09/17

Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	Date Rented
5698 Medallion Ct	End	\$2,250	
Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	Date Rented
5716 Gladden Ct	Int	\$2,250	03/04/17
5629 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$2,495	05/02/17



* 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 (Realtor)



Real Estate Taxes



New Water Rates

County has announced there will be NO INCREASE for 2017 bills so the \$1.13 per \$1000 of assessed value will remain in effect.

Effective April 1, the basic quarterly billing charge went up \$2.10 to \$12.20, water usage per 1,000 gallons went up \$.13 to \$2.81, but peak usage charge remains at \$3.80 per 1,000 gallons consumed.

DO's and DON'Ts to Prevent Home Burglaries

DO have good locks. A high-quality one-inch deadbolt lock on every outside door is basic. And a lock or bar in the track, or pin in the top of your sliding glass door is essential.

DON'T hide a key outside your home. Leave that extra key with a trusted neighbor or friend.

DO plug a radio into a timer set to go on when you're away. Set the radio to an all talk station or leave the volume low to give the impression you're talking to someone.

DON'T leave your home unlocked, even for a short trip to the store, check the mail, go to the tot lot or visit a neighbor.

DO make it appear you're home. Lights turned off and on by timers gives a home a "lived-in-look" if you're away.

DON'T put a name or address tag on your house or car keys for safety if you should lose your keys.

DO have a neighbor remove packages and newspapers from your porch.

DON'T open your door and keep screen door open even if locked.

Hot Weather Safety Tips

As temperatures increase, sunny days are the perfect time to be outdoors. Here are a few safety tips to protect you from overheating and overexposure to the sun's rays.

- Limit your time in the sun. When there, remember to wear a hat, use sunscreen and wear light-colored clothing. An umbrella will provide shade.
- Do errands in the cooler time of the day.
- Eat light meals and snacks that don't require use of oven or stove.
- Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated. Avoid caffeinated and alcoholic drinks.
- Be aware of air quality readings.
- Check with friends, family and neighbors during extremely hot weather.



Too Much Sun Could Mean 9-1-1

Only Rain Down the Storm Drain

Did you know that the water that goes down the storm drain on your street flows right into your local stream? How can you prevent water pollution?

- Properly dispose of used motor oil and household hazardous waste, such as paint, batteries and household cleaners. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-5068 for information.
- When you are sprucing up your yard, avoid excess fertilizer or pesticide, especially when rain is predicted.
- Bag yard waste to include grass clippings, shrub clippings, plants and fallen leaves.
- Wash your car in a location where the soapy water won't run into the storm drain.

What to do with "Unusable" Flags



According to Federal law, the U.S. Flag is to be disposed of when damaged, soiled or torn and no longer suitable for display.

You can dispose of yours 24/7 at the Franconia Police Department in a white bin. It will be ceremoniously disposed by Fairfax Police Department Honor guard members in coordination with the Fire Department.

And if you buy a replacement one soon, you can fly it on June 14 (Flag Day) or July 4 (Independence Day).

Summer Fun and Frolics

LOCAL FARMER’S MARKETS

FREE CONCERTS

**Springfield Towne Center
Farmer’s Market**

May 6 – October 28
Corner Spring Mall &
Loisdale Rds
Saturdays 10am – 2pm

Farm Stand

Opened in May
Bush Hill Presbyterian Church
(Across from Rose Hill
Safeway)
Saturdays 8am – 1pm

Lee District Park Amphitheater

Wednesdays at 7:30pm
Inclement weather, call 703-324-7469 after 6pm
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance

**Kingstowne Farmer’s
Market**

May 6 – October 28
Parking lot / Giant Grocery
Fridays 4pm – 7pm

Huntington Market

Opened May 6
Red Brick House next to
Metro
Thursdays 3pm – 7pm

June 28 City of Fairfax ‘Main Street Community Band’

July 5 Thrillbillys (Roots music)
12 Four Star Combo (Rockabilly/Honky Tonk)
19 Dead 27s (Rock & Roll/Classic Soul)
26 The Nighthawks (Blues)

Aug 2 Washington Balalaika Orchestra (Russian)
9 Mariachi Los Amigos (Mariachi)
16 Ryan Shupe & the Rubber Band (Country/Rock)
23 The Annandale Brass (American Popular Music)

21st Century Explorers

Visit the National Geographic Museum for “Earth Explorers” through September 4. This interactive exhibition showcases audio-and video-enhancement and features such as a walk-in arctic cabin, a climb-in replica of a deep-sea submersible and a hot-air balloon surrounded by a 180-degree video of the African savanna. More information on these experiences for family audiences at www.nationalgeographic.org/museum.

Fairfax County’s 275th Birthday



Saturday, June 17, 10am-4pm at Historic Fairfax Courthouse enjoy free activities including family-friendly activities, entertainment, history exhibits, living history, performances and more. Visit www.fairfax275.org for more events

scheduled for this celebration.

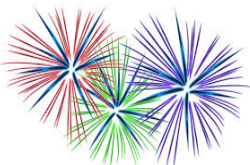
Sharks: On Assignment with Brian Skerry

While there, you can also enjoy a large collection of videos and pictures of those toothy predators. \$15 through October 19.

4TH OF JULY

Fireworks, parades, and other activities for Virginia, Maryland, and DC may be found at <http://dc.about.com/od/specialevents/a/4thofJuly.htm>

City of Alexandria celebrates USA and Alexandria birthdays on July 8, 2017 from 6pm – 9:30pm. <http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation>



LOCAL FUN EVENTS

June 10 – Civil War Camp Day, re-enactors interpret soldier and civilian camp life, 10am – 4pm, www.fortward.org

Sundays, June 25 – summer, Gadsby’s Tavern Museum Family tours led by junior docents grades 4-7, www.alexandriava.org/events

June 26, 27 and 28 – Civil War Kids Mini Camp to explore life during civil war through fun and educational activities, 9am-noon, www.fortward.org

July 22 – Del Ray Music Festival at Mt Vernon Recreation Center, 3pm-8pm, www.delraymusicfestival.com

July 30-31 – Real World of Science behind Harry Potter, at Stabler-Leadbetter Apothecary Museum, www.alexandriava.gov/apothecary, 703-746-3852. July 30 at 1pm, family-friendly tour/July 31 at 6pm, adult tour

August 11-19 – Prince William County Fair at Prince William County Fairgrounds, www.pwcfair.com, 703-368-0173

August 26-October 22 – Maryland Renaissance Festival in Crownsville, MD, www.rennfest.com, 800-296-7304

LOFT RIDGE BOARD
board@loftridge.com

Elections to be held June 15th

Richard Everett ('18)
703-350-5685 (cell) – rick.loftridge@gmail.com

Will Goodyear ('18)
703-898-6382 (cell) – wlgoodyear.loftridge@gmail.com

Drew Lucino ('19)
703-795-1032 (cell) – ddlucio.loftridge@gmail.com

Chris Payne ('19)
703-582-5325 (cell) – cpayne.loftridge@gmail.com

Trish Skinner ('20)
918-839-9319 (cell) – trish.loftridge@gmail.com

Louise Whitt ('18)
703-960-0428 – louise.loftridge@gmail.com

Karine Wills ('20)
703-960-4569 – karine.loftridge@gmail.com

Loft Ridge Group Email
group@loftridge.com

Loft Ridge Classifieds Email
classified@loftridge.com
(for sale, for free, or wanted)

Archived Newsletters
www.loftridge.com/news/newsletter

Loft Ridge Mom's Group
groups.yahoo.com/group/loftridgemoms

Sequoia Management
703-803-9641
management@loftridge.com



Board Meetings – 7:00pm
Mark Twain Middle School Lecture Hall
Thursday, June 15
Thursday, July 20
Thursday, August 17

ACC Meetings – 7:30pm
To Be Determined

LIMELIGHT STAFF

Communications Chair - Louise Whitt
ComChair@loftridge.com

Contributors

Louise Whitt Renee Grebe
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



Keep Kids Alive

Drive Twenty-Five



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