



Neighborhood News

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OCTOBER—NOVEMBER 2013

HOA/COA Leadership Seminar

Neighborhood Services will host our 2013 Homeowner & Condominium Association Leadership Seminar on Friday, October 25. The Seminar will be held in the County's Development Services Building located at 5 County Complex Court, Suite 202 A&B from 8:30a.m.-4:00p.m.

This seminar is a perfect opportunity for board members and owners alike! Board members will gain a greater awareness of their duties and responsibilities for serving on the board and owners will gain a broader perspective on the relationship between owner, association board, property manager and association attorney within their community. The seminar will also offer the attendees an opportunity to network with other associations.

Seminar speakers include Attorney Sheyna Nicole Burt; Deborah Carter, General Manager, Westridge Swim and Racquet Club; Heather Gillespie, Common Interest Community Ombudsman, Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation; Attorney Jeremy Moss, MercerTrigiani and other industry experts that are well known for their expertise, excellent presentation skills and eagerness to answer attendees' questions.

Seminar presentations include:

- "Understanding Board Basics"
- "Protecting the Aesthetic and Financial Integrity of Your Community ~ Proactive Approaches to Covenant Enforcement & Collections"
- "Office of the Common Interest Community Ombudsman Update"
- "Navigating Maintenance Responsibilities"

Registration Details

The seminar will be held in the Development Services Building at 5 County Complex Court, Prince William, VA 22192. Space is limited; **Registration is now open** and will close when filled. Registrations are **not** considered complete until payment is received. The registration fee of \$25 includes seminar materials, lunch and breaks. **No refunds after Thursday, October 17, 2013**, but another attendee may be substituted. (Kindly let us know in advance so your substitute can be properly welcomed!) A confirmation notice will be emailed to you after your registration is received. Registration forms will be available on our website www.pwcgov.org/hoa

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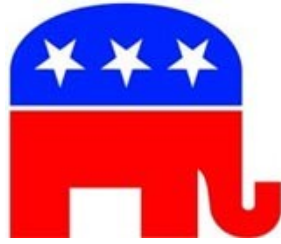
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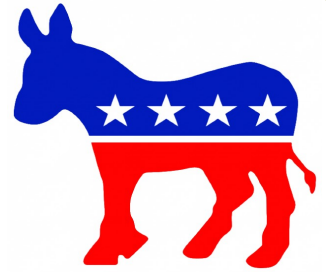
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Guidelines for Political Signs



In advance of each election in Virginia, political signs appear in the rights-of-way, in the medians and along roadsides throughout Prince William County. The Neighborhood Services Division is responsible for enforcing Section 33.1-373 of the Code of Virginia, which designates these signs as illegal (click [HERE](#) and search "Signs")

Placing signs in the right-of-way may result in a fine of \$100 per sign. There is no exemption for political signs or signs that are placed for even a short duration. Signs are only permitted on private property with the permission of the property owner. No matter the origin or intent, any sign in the right of-way will be removed by the County's Litter Crew, Property Code Enforcement Inspectors or Neighborhood Services Volunteers.

The County has historically received complaints from residents about the placement of these signs in public rights-of-way. We encourage candidates to inform campaign volunteers and staff of the legal issues associated with the placement of signs in the medians and rights-of-way.

Also, please be aware that the maximum campaign/political sign size allowed on residential properties is 16 square feet while a campaign/political sign on a non-residential property can be up to 32 sq. feet.

The exception is along Highway Corridor Overlay Districts (Prince William Parkway, Route 234 Bypass, Hoadly Road, Nokesville Road, Dale Boulevard, Dumfries Road, Gordon Boulevard, Old Bridge Road, James Madison Highway, Lee Highway, Neabsco Mill Road, Minnieville Road, Spriggs Road, and Jefferson Davis Highway between Dumfries Road and Neabsco Road) where the maximum size of a sign is four square feet for all properties.

All campaign signs **must** be removed within 5 days of the election.

It's Election Time
Please Remember to Vote!

November 5, 2013



Prince William Recycles Day & Paper Shred



The Prince William County Landfill will host its annual Recycles Day event on Saturday, October 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free event will feature two shows by environmental “edutainer” Billy B, along with lots of games, prizes, face painting, free food, recycled art contest, equipment displays and landfill tours.

Prince William residents are encouraged to attend to learn more about recycling waste reduction and the landfill in Prince William County.

Regionally known Billy B. will perform his “Recyclemania” show at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and landfill tours will take place throughout the day.

In addition, there will be free paper shred services for Prince William area residents at landfill and the Balls Ford Road facility from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is a limit of four boxes.

The landfill is located at 14811 Dumfries Road, Manassas, VA and the Balls Ford Road Compost facility is located at 13000 Balls Ford Road, Manassas, VA.

Prince William Recycles Day is the local celebration of America Recycles Day, which is officially November 15 each year. For more details on Prince William Recycles Day activities visit

www.pwcgov.org/trashandrecycling



Volunteer Prince William is hosting a Volunteer Management Training Series each Thursday beginning January 9, 2014 through February 13 from 9 to 11 a.m.

All classes will be held at the ARC of Greater Prince William located at 13505 Hillendale Drive, Woodbridge, VA. Topics include planning your volunteer program, matching skills with needs, training and supervising your volunteers as well as how to evaluate the effectiveness of your volunteer program. Please visit www.volunteerprincewilliam.org **after November 1st** to register.



Suggestions for Fall Foliage Removal

The Department of Solid Waste Offers some helpful removal tips...

As summer gives way to fall and trees give up their beautiful leaves, Prince William County citizens can collect and recycle nutrient rich leaves by starting backyard compost. The resulting humus like material can be used to enrich garden soil and improve lawn and soil quality.



Prince William residents can purchase a compost bin from the Solid Waste Administrative office or Balls Ford Road Compost Facility for \$25 and start a backyard compost pile. Compost bins are also available at most local lawn and garden centers.

For information and publications on backyard composting and its numerous benefits visit the Virginia Cooperative Extension website www.ext.vt.edu and <http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/HORT/HORT-49/HORT-49-PDF.pdf>.

Citizens can also bag their leaves and bring them to Prince William County Landfill or Balls Ford Road Yard Waste Compost Facility free of charge and the facility will compost them. There is no limit on the number of bags, but citizens are requested to empty leaves and yard waste from the bags into the containers marked yard waste. Bulkier items such as trees, stumps, logs may be accepted in limited quantities at the discretion of the Solid Waste Superintendent.

So whether you decide to compost at home or bring it to a County facility for composting, the good news is that leaves and other yard waste with beneficial nutrients are recycled and returned to the garden or landscape. Plus, valuable nutrients that can be used to help enrich our soil, beautify the lawns and gardens in our communities and promote a healthier environment are not wasted, buried in the landfill --reducing landfill capacity.

The Prince William County Landfill is located at 14811 Dumfries Road, Manassas, VA 20112 and the hours of operation are: Monday – Saturday and Holidays* 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sundays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Balls Ford Road Yard Waste Compost Facility is located at 13000 Balls Ford Road, Manassas, VA 20109. Hours of operation: Monday – Saturday and Holidays* 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Solid Waste Administration Office is located at 5 County Complex Court, Suite 250. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on holidays.

Fall is for Tree Planting

Nancy Berlin, Natural Resource Specialist
Virginia Cooperative Extension – Prince William



Fall rains and cooler temperatures provide a good environment for establishing tree roots. Trees increase the value of your home, provide shade, beauty. Trees filter pollutants and add oxygen as well as reducing runoff. Be sure to choose the right plant for the right place. Consider sun exposure, wetness or heat at the site, location of overhead and underground wires, soil type and the mature size of the tree. Do you want seasonal color, flowers, shade, food for wildlife, a windbreak, for screening? Once you decide the answers to these questions, consider these tips for selecting, planting and caring for your new tree.

- ✓ Check the plant carefully before you buy it for healthy roots, leaves and trunk.
- ✓ Carefully remove the root ball from the container or ask a staff member to do it for you to examine the roots
- ✓ Before planting remove burlap, basket, string, wraps, tags and labels before planting
- ✓ Limit pruning of new trees to correction pruning of broken branches and removal of multiple leaders. Any pruning cuts should be done correctly. No stubs, no flush cuts. Prune broken branches. Inspect for bark injuries beneath trunk wraps. Trees should not have trunk wraps after planting.



You should be able to see the trunk flare, the spreading trunk at the base.



Do not injure the branch collar when pruning

- ✓ A well planted tree does not need staking. If you must, remove staking or deer protection after one year.
- ✓ Dig a \$100 hole for a \$20 tree. Dig a shallow planting hole two to three times as wide as the root ball. Wide shallow holes encourage horizontal root growth and healthy trees. Don't dig the hole deeper than the root ball.
- ✓ Do not amend the soil in the planting hole with compost, peat moss, or anything other than native soil. Backfill the hole with existing unamended soil.
- ✓ If the roots are circling, cut the roots in a few places. This will prevent girdling under the soil which can eventually kill a tree.
- ✓ Water a new tree root area well after planting. This new tree will need at least an inch a week unless there is precipitation. Even mature trees need 1" of water a week when precipitation is insufficient.
- ✓ Mulch to drip line, keeping mulch 2-3" away from the trunk.
- ✓ Mature trees do not need regular fertilization. If a tree develops symptoms, such as yellowing or spotted leaves, bring a sample to the Extension office 8033 Ashton Ave., Suite 105 Manassas, 20109—Monday—Friday 8 a.m.—5 p.m. Any fertilization should be done only based on a soil test.

Join us for **Fall Landscape Tree Selection & Maintenance – Saturday, October 19 – 10 am until noon** – Chinn Park Regional Library 13065 Chinn Park Dr. Prince William, VA 22192 – Free, but please register at 703-792-7747 or master_gardener@pwcgov.org

For a diagram and more information on tree planting and selection consult http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/430/430-295/430-295_pdf.pdf
Want advice from a Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteer? Call the Extension Horticulture Help Desk at 703-792-7747 or master_gardener@pwcgov.org

Need an arborist? Go <http://www.treesaregood.org/> and search by your zip code