

Bentana Woods West

Issue 1

visit our website at www.bwwca.org

February 2010



Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars! This year's Annual Meeting falls on Sunday, April 25th at 7pm, the location is TBD. The purpose of this meeting is the election of Board Members. There are three Members whose term expires this year. Residents who are interested in being on the Board should submit their names to a Board Member now to get on the ballot. More details will follow in our March newsletter. ❖

RA Assessments Due

Reston Association's annual assessment notices have been mailed to all residents. If you haven't received yours, contact RA at 703.435.6530. Payment is due no later than March 1 – penalties apply if received late. A six month installment plan is also available, but initial payment is still due on March 1. Membership in the Reston Association is mandatory for all residential property owners. ❖

Winter Weather Reminders

Residents are responsible for shoveling the sidewalks in front of the own houses, and their own parking spaces.

Make sure that your guests do not take another resident's parking space. (Doing so may be especially tempting when it is particularly uninviting to walk from North Shore during winter weather conditions.)

If you have not already done so, turn OFF your outside water. ❖

Your Cluster Dues at Work

In January, three very dangerous trees were cut down. In one day of work, the removal of many branches, trunk segments and the chipping of wood were accomplished. Winter rates enabled us to have Twin Oaks do the work in their off season. They are the tree company that performs the Cluster's tree work as it becomes necessary. Many residents also benefited from special rates that were arranged for work on their properties. ❖

Design Review Board Process

Now that the December holidays are behind us and spring is ahead, your thoughts may be turning to spring projects you'd like to get started on. If any of those projects involve exterior changes to your property, you probably will need permission from the Reston DRB (Design and Review Board).

Obtain a DRB Application

The first step in gaining this permission is filling out a DRB application. An application can be obtained from a Bentana Woods West Board Member (names and addresses on the back page), from going to the RA website (Reston.org), or by picking up one from the Reston Association Headquarters (1930 Isaac Newton Square).

Write a Description of Your Project

First, the application asks for a brief description of your proposal and suggests that you include attachments for more detailed plans, scale drawings or brochures. Note that these accompanying documents become a necessity if your project isn't based on an established cluster standard. Going to the Reston.org web-site and looking at the "Design Guidelines" is useful in understanding what the Reston covenants are, regarding such items as fencing, doors, windows, sheds, etc. The site is also useful in helping you to know what details you should include in your application.

If you still find yourself confused, you can turn to the Covenants Counselor for Bentana Woods West, Eddie McEver, at 703.435.6527 and he'll be happy to help you. As a Covenants Counselor, one of Eddie's jobs is to act as an intermediary between cluster residents and the DRB, and to counsel or help residents understand what is to be expected throughout the application process.



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Obtain the Necessary Signatures

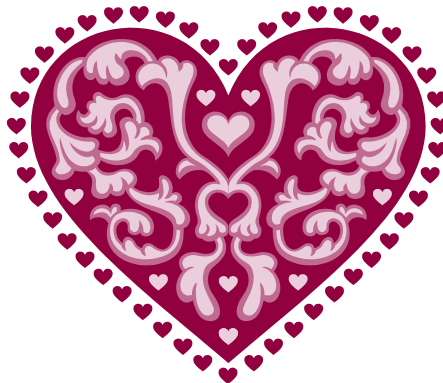
When you complete the description of your proposed project, you sign the application and take it to your two nearest neighbors and to at least one Bentana Woods West Cluster Board Officer (not simply a Board Member) for their signatures. Both Eddie and the application make clear that these signatures are not an expression of approval but are merely an acknowledgement that you have notified these three people of your proposed project by showing them your application. The signatures strictly represent notification.

If any of these three people have concerns, they should check the box next to their signature indicating that they intend to register as an "affected party". Registering in this way will allow them to attend the meeting where your application is presented and to voice their point of view to the Design and Review Board Panel. However, to have this privilege they previously had to present their concerns in writing (via letter or email) to the Reston Association within five days of signing your application.

Send in Completed Application

When you have gathered all your signatures, turn your application in to Eddie at the Reston Association Headquarters or mail it to him. Some time later, you will receive written notification of the approval or disapproval of your project. The length of time it takes for this notification somewhat depends upon the level at which your

application has to be heard. Some routine proposals can be acted on by Eddie at the staff level, and others at the consultation level which is Eddie and a member of the DRB. Less routine matters have to go before a panel of three members of the DRB. All proposals involving an affected party have to be heard at the panel level. Very large and very complicated proposals have to be presented to the entire nine-member Design and Review Board which is composed of seven people who are professional architects or engineers and two lay people. ❖



Quote of the Month

"People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those who are doing it."

George Bernard Shaw

We encourage residents to submit their favorite quotes. If you think you have a quote you'd like to see here, send an email to the editor at bwwnews@gmail.com. ❖

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

CLUSTER BOARD MEETING

FEB 2 – 7:30PM @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR

GROUNDHOG DAY

FEB 2

LUNAR NEW YEAR

FEB 14 – THE YEAR OF THE TIGER

VALENTINE'S DAY

FEB 14

PRESIDENTS' DAY

FEB 15

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING

FEB 16 – 7:30PM @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR

February Cluster Meeting

Board meetings are open to all members of BWW and usually held at 7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month. Want to say something? You can! Board meetings always begin with a Resident's Forum.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 1504 Scandia

If you have any documents requiring Board Member discussion or signatures, this would be a great time to get them!

Landscape Committee

Jane LeGros	703.787.8388
Victoria Christie-Healy	703.507.0708
Martin Dapot	703.435.8521
Bill Wagner	703.953.1913
Janet Brennan	703.834.0439

Cluster Management

TWC Association Management
Kim Hendon
phone 703.437.5800
fax 703.471.6578
email twcmanage@aol.com

Reston Association

Eddie McEver
Covenants Counselor
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email eddie@reston.org

Cluster Board of Directors

John Brigham, President 1533 Park Glen Court 703.787.8084	Jane LeGros, Vice President 1504 Scandia Circle 703.787.8388
Bryant Smith, Treasurer 1537 Park Glen Court 703.435.9276	Eileen DuBose, Director 1510 Scandia Circle 703.435.1738
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Our Cluster
is a
Certified
National
Wildlife
Federation
Habitat

