

Bentana Woods West

Issue 3

visit our website at www.bwwca.com

Winter 2015

Winter is Here!

Don't forget to have your chimneys cleaned for the winter season of toasty fires. And make sure you check for a reputable chimney sweep. ❖



Spigot Alert

Don't forget to turn your spigots off for the winter. Be sure to turn the faucet off that is in the inside of the house. ❖

Leaf Pickup

The last leaf pickup date of the year is (weather permitting) Monday, Dec 7th.

Remember, if it's raining, they won't pick up, and will come another day.

Rake your leaves onto the sidewalk or to the edge of the road in front of your property. Leaves from the rear of your property must be brought around to the front by you for pickup by Cardinal, leaves must NOT be bagged as they are directly vacuumed into their work truck. If you miss one of these dates follow the yard waste instructions. ❖

Yard Waste

Remember that yard waste needs to be put in clear plastic or brown paper bags. Branches, sticks and twigs should be bundled and put out Tuesday evening for early morning Wednesday pickups. ❖

Smoke Detectors

Don't forget to replace your smoke detector batteries every year. Winter is a good time to replace old smoke detectors and/or batteries. ❖

Drainage Pipes

If you have those black corrugated drain pipes which redirect gutter overflow when it rains, it is important to know that the Reston Association guidelines require installing an underground drainpipe that ends in a French Drain. A French Drain is a small trench with gravel or small stones. It also needs to have a slope of at least 1% so the water will flow down and not pool. You can call Cardinal Landscaping to install for a reasonable fee. ❖

Trash Pickup

Please make sure you put your trash out Monday and Thursday mornings before 8:00am for pickup. Critters seem to get into the white trash bags, so please put your trash in the dark green bags or a trash receptacle for pick up. ❖

Cluster Safety

Be sure to keep your vehicle and doors locked, and any kid's toys inside. If you have been a victim, make sure to call the police to report, but also tell a board member. It's important that we all keep an eye out for each other. ❖



Don't Forget About the Birds

Winter: When it starts to get cold and snowy here are some foods extremely popular with backyard birds.

Black-Oil Sunflower Seed – The hamburger of the bird world. Most birds that visit feeders will eat black sunflower.

Peanuts – De-shelled, dry-roasted, and unsalted. Woodpeckers, jays, nuthatches, chickadees, titmice, cardinals and finches will readily visit a feeder for this high-protein, high-energy food.

Good Mixed Seed – These mixes have a large amount of sunflower, cracked corn, white proso millet, and maybe peanut hearts. Read the ingredients to avoid junk seeds.

Cracked Corn – Sparrows, blackbirds, jays, doves, quail, and squirrels are just a few of the creatures you can expect at your feeders if you put out cracked corn. Whole corn that is still on cob is not a good bird food because the kernels are too big and hard for most small birds to digest. Cracked corn is broken up into smaller, more manageable bits. ❖

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Metro Fare Cards?

If you need a fare card to ride the new Reston Metro go to:

Connector Store at Reston Town Center Transit Station

12051 Bluemont Way

Reston, VA 20190

703.464.9135

Monday - Friday 6:30am - 7:00pm ❖



Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights

Get your tickets online for a beautiful exhibit of lights, open daily from now until Jan 3rd. It's a fun night for all ages. Use the coupon code PRIME15 to get \$2 off the regular admission price (expires Dec 10). Visit their website at winterwalkoflights.com for more information. ❖

Newsletter Worthy

Have something for the newsletter? Please contact JoAnne on 202.494.4578. ❖

Food for Those Who Need

Winter is a harsh season and can be especially hard on families struggling to feed themselves and provide other basic necessities for their loved ones.

Food banks are especially in need of shelf-stable items like rice and dried beans. If you would like to donate food or volunteer your time locally, please contact Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith), Reston Bible Church or St. Anne's Episcopal Church.

cornerstonesva.org

restonbible.org/foodpantry

outreach.stannes-reston.org ❖

See Something / Say Something

Safety is our concern. If you see something out of the normal, notify a board member as soon as possible or contact the non-emergency line with Fairfax County Police 703.691.2131.

If it is a cluster matter, contact a Board Member. ❖

Have a Question, Complaint, or Suggestion?

Come to a Board Meeting. The next one is December 1st at 7:30 at 1510 Scandia Circle. We love meeting the neighbors. ❖

Quotable Quotes

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth for the touch of a friendly hand and a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

~ Edith Sitwell

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER IS UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DEC 1ST @ 1510 SCANDIA CIR – 7:30PM

HANUKKAH BEGINS

DEC 6TH

PEARL HARBOR DAY

DEC 7TH

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING

DEC 15TH @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR - 7:30PM

WINTER SOLSTICE

DEC 22ND

CHRISTMAS DAY

DEC 25TH

JANUARY IS NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

NEW YEAR'S DAY

JAN 1ST

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

JAN 5TH @ TBD – 7:30PM

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

JAN 19TH

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING

JAN 19TH @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR - 7:30PM

NEW YEAR'S EVE

JAN 31ST

December Cluster Meeting

Board meetings are open to all members of BWW and usually held at 7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, Dec 1st @ 1510 Scandia Cir

Landscape Committee

Jane LeGros	703.787.8388
Peggy Manthe	703.707.2047
Martin Dapot	703.435.8521
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Our Cluster is a
Certified Wildlife
Habitat

