

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Washington, DC



Dear Neighbors

With the arrival of spring, we hope the better weather in coming months will bring many occasions for us to celebrate together – at CCA planned events and informal neighborhood activities alike.

In this edition of “The Crest,” find a number of ideas and resources perfect for Spring gardening and planting in our neighborhood. We also highlight the CCA Annual Meeting and impending elections of a new CCA Board in May and we welcome any and all CCA members to run for the CCA Board – you can find related information in the following pages.

Even if running for a CCA Board position is not a fit, please consider joining one of the CCA Action teams or even proposing new CCA teams or neighborhood activities to help further our shared goals of a vibrant and engaged community. CCA activities and services are mostly supported by the dues of CCA members – if you’re not yet a member or if your membership has lapsed, please consider joining the CCA by visiting our website at www.crestwooddc.org. Dues are \$25 / year.



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Upcoming Dates

- April 29 – Financial and Real Estate Planning Program
- May 6 – Hazardous Waste and E-cycling
- May 7 – Crestwood Plant Party and Giveaway
- May 16 – CCA Annual Meeting

Notice of Annual CCA Meeting

- The Crestwood Citizens Association (CCA) Annual Meeting will take place at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. During this meeting we will hear from candidates for the 2023–2024 CCA Board of Directors.
- This will be a hybrid meeting. Neighbors are invited to participate in-person at Grace Lutheran Church (4300 16th Street) or virtually via Zoom. Be on the lookout for more details!

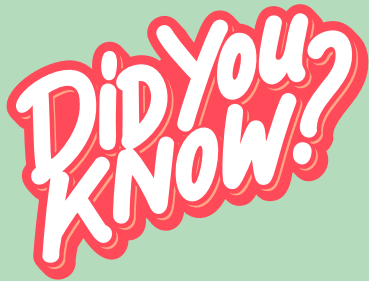
CCA Board Elections

CCA Board Elections will occur on May 16th, following the CCA Annual Meeting.

- About the CCA Board: The Board has six officer positions and up to five additional members.
- CCA Board responsibilities: The CCA maintains a description of specific responsibilities for each Board position as well as overall CCA activities and responsibilities. Find that information here:

<https://docs.google.com/.../1dBvpVL2HaKzmhwHZPdSDGQW.../edit>

Email info@crestwooddc.org with any questions. Candidacies will be announced on April 25 and candidate statements distributed. The election will be held on May 16.



The CCA is a 501(c)(3)

- The Crestwood Citizens Association is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization
- If interested in supporting the CCA, donate via:
<https://crestwooddc.org/Donate>
- Become a block captain – email info@crestwooddc.org

Spring Yard Waste Collection

DPW now offers yard waste collection year-round? Residents must call 311 or visit 311.dc.gov to make an appointment for yard waste collection.



DPW only collects yard waste in paper bags, which is unlike previous years when plastic bags were acceptable for collection. DPW will collect up to 20 paper bags of yard waste from residences that receive DPW's trash and recycling collection services.

Yard waste consists of the following: Leaves, Grass Clippings, Weeds, Bulbs, Twigs, Pinecones, Uprooted Plants, Bundled branches and limbs no more than 4 inches in diameter and that are tied in 4-foot lengths.

DC DPR Update on Triangle Park

- The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) provided a March construction update on the Crestwood Triangle Park Project. Visit <https://dgs.dc.gov/page/crestwood-triangle-park> for background about the project
- Visit <https://t.co/OIWwXVhwxh> to access the slide deck presented by DPR and DGS during the Tuesday Feb 7 community meeting on Triangle Park.

Updates from CCA Action Teams

Green Team

Doug Barker & Danielle Reyes

- To learn more about the Green team, speak with co-leads Doug Barker and Danielle Reyes or contact greenteam@crestwooddc.org and be on lookout for more on CCA social media accounts and emails

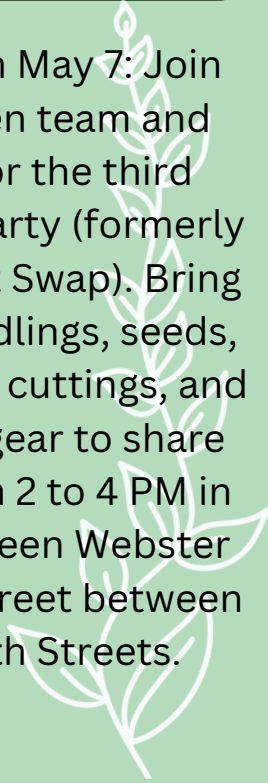
Great Seed Exchange

The annual seed exchange was held on March 7. Thanks to everyone who came out in the cold to swap seeds! Here is a picture from last year's seed exchange.



Plant Party!

Plant Party on May 7: Join the CCA Green team and neighbors for the third annual plant party (formerly known as Plant Swap). Bring your extra seedlings, seeds, plant divisions, cuttings, and extra garden gear to share on May 7, from 2 to 4 PM in the alley between Webster and Varnum Street between 16th and 17th Streets.



Crestwood Plants Native!

By generously planting beneficial native plants, removing invasives, and shrinking our lawns, Crestwood can help foster a healthy local ecosystem. Our goal is to plant 10,000 square feet of new native plants this year across 50 Crestwood households. Find out more at <https://www.crestwood-dc.org/Plant-Native!>

Join us at the CCA-sponsored native plant give-away at the Plant Party on May 7 and buy your tee-shirts and signs here: <https://crestwoodplantsnative.creator-spring.com/>.

E-Cycling Team



- The next Crestwood E-cycling event will be held on Saturday May 6th, 8:30–10 am
- Being collected -
 - Any large electronics including old computers, televisions, DVD players, stereos, monitors, speakers, A/V equipment, printers, fax machines, VCRs, microwaves
 - Paint, household chemicals, auto fluids, lawn chemicals/insecticides - sealed
 - Bin 1: chords and power supplies
 - Bin 2: LED and other light bulbs; fluorescent lights/tubes
 - Bin 3: batteries (including car batteries - if above 9V and lithium, please tape contacts)
 - Bin 4: old cassettes, CDs, hard drives, floppy drives, memory chips, video games, VCR tapes
 - Bin 5: small electronics like cell phones, tablets, pagers, smoke/CM detectors

Find information on other DC e-cycling events here: <https://doee.dc.gov/ecycle>

Updates from CCA Action Teams

Aging in Place Team

The Crestwood Aging In Place Committee (AIP) aims to support and communicate with senior residents of Crestwood. Among the topics and related next steps discussed at our March 14th meeting include:

- Financial and Real Estate Planning Program – Saturday April 29 at Noon: The Committee agreed to present its first post-COVID Financial and Real Estate Planning Program. Committee members John Mahshie and Jay Fazio are leading the event planning and have two lawyers signed up to make presentations. Others will be added to the program as well. More details to follow, closer to the tentative scheduled date.
- Expanded Block Captain Network to Facilitate Senior Communication and Involvement – Volunteers are needed throughout Crestwood to become block captains to help distribute paper versions of CCA products and overcome any technological gaps that may result in seniors in our neighborhood lacking information. Call Dallas Salisbury at 360-327-2283 to volunteer.
- Crestwood Seniors Directory – The Committee agreed that a senior directory is needed in order to communicate effectively with all in the community, and will develop one. All residents of Crestwood are asked to inform the Committee of seniors living in Crestwood so that they can be contacted. Contact Dallas by phone or text at 360-327-2283 or by email at olderadults@crestwooddc.org

Updates from CCA Action Teams

Aging in Place Team

- Crestwood History Recording and Presentations – The Committee discussed the rich history of Crestwood and the desirability of documenting it and then making it available to all residents through a table at CCA events and sub-programs at events and separately. Do you have a senior long time resident that you would be willing to interview while recording to build this history? Let the Committee know. Contact Dallas by phone or text at 360-327-2283 or by email at olderadults@crestwooddc.org
- Senior Walking and Talking Coordination – The Committee discussed the related issues of social isolation and the need for exercise. It was agreed that the directory and the block captain development could both be used to facilitate more social interaction with the community while also increasing generational interaction. With this in mind the Committee agreed that an effort should be made to engage those aged 12 to 18 in activities with seniors and the history of Crestwood. Let the Committee know if young residents in your home would be interested in meeting and assisting seniors and learning Crestwood history. Contact Dallas by phone or text at 360-327-2283 or by email at olderadults@crestwooddc.org or in writing to Aging in Place, 4210 Argyle Terrace NW, DC, 20011.
- If you would like to take part or learn more in the Aging in Place committee and related ideas and activities, join us at our next meeting and/or reach out to 360-327-2283 or by email at olderadults@crestwooddc.org

Updates from CCA Action Teams

Kids Team

The annual Crestwood Easter Egg Hunt took place Saturday, April 8th. As always, this neighborhood tradition was a hit among all ages – attendance topped 130 this year! See some pictures below!

Thanks to John Mahshie & Jay Fazio for sponsoring the event and providing delicious cookies and baked goodies. And thanks to Caitlin Clark and Kids Team volunteers for helping organize the activities. Contact Caitlin if you'd like to take part in future Kids Team events and volunteering: caitlinvaclark@gmail.com



Updates from CCA Treasurer

- The CCA added 49 new members in 2022, and 16 more since January 1, 2023. The membership is now at 284 out of the 887 households reported by the 2020 US Census (26% of Crestwood households are now members of CCA).
- CCA member revenue received in 2022 was \$6,720 and is budgeted at \$6,875 for 2023. CCA had 2022 revenue and expenses related to the Turkey Trot with net proceeds of \$4,000 being contributed to the Carter Barron Alliance to help fund restoration of the Amphitheater. And, funds from an ANC grant of \$1,000 for 2021 were received by CCA in 2022 (CCA uses cash accounting). Total revenue received in 2022 was \$13,880 and total expenses paid in 2022 were \$12,530 resulting in a surplus of \$1,350. Expenditures for the dog waste locations was just under \$2,000. Event expenses totaled just under \$4,500. Administrative expenses were \$2,000.
- The CCA has a reserve that is just over one year of member expenses with a current fund balance of \$8,091. Projected expenses for 2023 are just over \$7,200, which require use of \$300 of the current reserve if all budgeted revenue is received. Revenue and expenses related to special events, such as the Turkey Trot, have not been included in the budget, but those events are intended to be self financing and have been in the past.



GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWER BAN

The DC-wide ban on gas-powered leaf blowers has been in effect since January 1, 2022. However, many neighbors have reported that some landscapers servicing properties in Crestwood are still using these noisy, polluting devices. Visit <https://dcra.kustomer.help/contact/consumer-complaint-form-Sk6BW94Lu> to report violations.

CCA Membership Directory is now Online

Be sure your CCA Membership is intact and note that the CCA Membership Directory is now online!

All CCA members can now access the online membership directory. Members who would prefer a printed copy of the directory can request one by emailing us at info@crestwooddc.org. Anyone not online who would like to request a printed directory or who needs help adding their information to the directory can call Pat Kennedy at 202-549-5167. The Online Directory is in its infancy and so far only a few members have opted in. Please add your information to the directory by following the instructions below.

To access the CCA Directory, please visit www.crestwooddc.org. Hover over "Members" on the top black menu bar, then hover over "Members Only Content." You must be logged in to access the directory. Log in by clicking the person icon in the top right corner and providing your email and password.

- Members are not automatically added to the Directory – you must “opt-in.” To opt in:
 - Log in by clicking the person icon and selecting “View Profile”
 - Click “Edit Profile”
 - In the top left corner you will see these options:
 - Profile – edit your details here
 - Privacy – Check the “Show profile to others” box in the top left corner, then select “members” for the details you want to share with other members. Select “no access” for information you do not want to appear in the directory.
 - Click “Save” in the top left corner.

ANC Commissioner Update

- **DC PLUG:** The DC Power Line Undergrounding (DC PLUG) initiative is a partnership between DC and Pepco to improve the reliability and resiliency of the DC energy grid by placing select electrical feeders underground in Wards 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8. The civil engineering for the portion of the project that involves the feeder in Crestwood (located mainly on Colorado and Blagden Avenues and nearby streets) has been completed, and DDOT is in the process of advertising invitations for bids. Construction will likely begin in Q4 of calendar year 2023, and is anticipated to take 30 months to complete. Following the civil construction, Pepco will mobilize its electrical construction crew to install the equipment, pull the cables, energize the new underground network, and remove the old overhead primary cables and equipment. A video description of the construction process can be found [here](#). Learn more at dcpluginfo.com.
- **Valley Trail Crossing on Blagden Avenue:** From NPS, in response to a recent request for a crosswalk on Blagden Avenue where the Valley Trail crosses: We are working on improving safety at several of our crossings in Rock Creek Park. We are working with the US Department of Transportation, as well as our engineers and project managers at our regional National Park Service office, to construct these improvements. Our first priority for safety improvements is one of our highest volume crossings, where the paved multi-use trail crosses Shoreham Drive at Rock Creek Parkway. Please be assured, however, that we are looking at the Valley Trail crossing at Blagden Road, among many others in the park.

– Pavan Khoobchandani, ANC SMD 4E06 Commissioner

We Want To Hear From You

Solicitation for Neighbor News

In future newsletters, we would love to feature a section filled with news and life updates from neighbors. Think of it as a forum to celebrate any big life updates you'd like your neighbors to know – please let us know about graduations, new births, retirements, comings/goings, and any major life accomplishments. Email us at communications@crestwooddc.org with any requests for information to include.

Follow and Engage with CCA on Social Media

- For those of you who use or follow social media, please follow us on



@Crestwood_DC



CrestwoodDC

- Please feel free to tag us at these addresses to share some great photos from around the neighborhood. Animals and nature pics and backyard harvests and spring gardening photos are always popular and we'd love to help amplify your photographic skills!

About the CCA

The Crestwood Citizens Association covers over 800 households in Crestwood. We provide residents with fun-filled FREE community events like the Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Parade, Summer Picnic, Fall Clean-up Day, and Holiday Party to name a few. We also host fundraisers and/or contribute to local charities through CCA activities such as CASA Crestwood and the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot, which have in the past supported such organizations as the Carter Barron Alliance, to help fund restoration of the amphitheater, and DC area organizations focused on housing and homelessness. The CCA is now a 501c3 organization which means it can also be gifted deductible contributions and grants for special events or programs.

The Association is open to all Crestwood residents, and the cost is \$25 per family, annually. To join the CCA, please register by visiting crestwooddc.org/join or by emailing treasurer@crestwooddc.org