



HILLCREST HAPPENINGS

Tidbits of Information About Hillcrest Cluster

Fall 2020

UPCOMING ROADWORK: SEP 21-23, OCT 1-3

MAIN SAFFOLD WAY TO CLOSE. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

It is with great pride that the Board can report the scheduling of the final roadwork upgrade along Main Saffold Way. We have been incrementally repairing the pavement and sidewalks across the cluster over the last several years, and this year marks the final phase of this effort.

This work will take place over two phases covering Main Saffold Way from the 4-way Stop to Ring Road (including the last cul-de-sac on the exit side of Saffold Way):

- Monday September 21 - Wednesday September 23:** Concrete repair to sidewalks and curb and gutters.
- Thursday October 1 - Saturday October 3:** Roadway milling and asphalt paving

PARKING RESTRICTIONS:

Parking will be prohibited in the work area, as designated on the map on:

- **September 21-23 from 7am to 7pm, and**
- **October 1-3 for the entire three days**
- During these periods vehicles in the designated area should be parked on Ring Road
- Any vehicles parking in the designated areas during the time periods noted above **will be towed and placed in storage at the vehicle owner's expense.** Hillcrest Cluster and Henry's Towing are not responsible for any damages that may occur to vehicles.

ROAD CLOSURES:

Travel restrictions will be placed on Saffold Way as follows:

- **Partial Closure: Thursday October 1** - Asphalt milling will occur on both sides of Saffold Way and in the cul-de-sac. During this period, parking is prohibited and access in and out of the cluster will be limited to one side of the road as directed by the contractor. Heavy equipment will be in use. **Please drive slowly and cautiously.**
- **Full Closure: Friday October 2 from 7:00am to Saturday October 3 until 12 noon.** Saffold Way will be closed to **ALL** traffic, except emergency vehicles from the 4-way Stop to Ring Road and the last cul-

de-sac. **This closure will affect ALL residents of the cluster because vehicles from Fairfield, Hillcrest and the Bridges will not be able to travel into the work area, so plan ahead**

- If you need your vehicle from October 2-3, park your vehicle outside of the cluster on Ring Road or other areas
- **DO NOT schedule any deliveries during this period.**





HILLCREST HAPPENINGS

Tidbits of Information About Hillcrest Cluster

Fall 2020

RETURN TO PARKING ENFORCEMENT

As we have navigated the challenges associated with COVID-19, the Cluster Board has relaxed enforcement of some of the Cluster parking policies in recognition of executive orders provided by the Governor of Virginia. This has included not towing vehicles with expired registration and tags.

This policy is set to expire on November 1, 2020, after which the Board will return to enforcement of expired plates.

As a reminder this enforcement applies to out-of-state plates, which have resided within the Commonwealth of VA for more than 30 days. There are a number of vehicles around the Cluster to which this rule applies, and recognize that due to COVID many individuals have opted to have relatives live with them. The vehicles of any residents or guests which have resided within the cluster for more than 30 days with out-of-state plates will be subject to towing on November 1, 2020.

The full Cluster Parking policies are posted on the cluster website at www.hillcrest-cluster.com.



*Example Out-of-state Plate

PARKING COURTESY

The Hillcrest Cluster had a healthy long discussion last year regarding some parking challenges around the neighborhood. One outcome of this discussion and the corresponding resident survey was to reinforce through communications the importance of courtesy between neighbors when it comes to parking.

If your household has 2 or more cars or guests visiting resulting in additional cars, please be courteous to your neighbors and consider parking excess vehicles in less populated portions of the neighborhood or along Ring Road.

BY-LAWS UPDATES

At the September Board of Directors meetings, the Board approved an update to the Cluster By-Laws. This update corrects a few minor grammatical errors, and more importantly permits the Association to hold meetings remotely through web conferencing technologies such as Zoom.

This action has been taken in preparation for the 2020 Annual Meeting, which we are actively tracking to ensure the Cluster can hold this important meeting of the general membership of the community in a safe environment as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. This By-Laws update will have no impact on the meeting announcement procedures taken by the community to inform all residents and homeowners of upcoming meetings (annual or special).

The updated By-Laws were sent out previously to all residents and homeowners. Please keep these for your records. If you need them sent again, please reach out to the Board at info@hillcrest-cluster.com.

UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETING

The 2020 Hillcrest Cluster Association Annual Meeting will be held on **December 8th from 7:00-9:00pm**. This meeting will be hosted remotely through a web-conferencing platform to ensure a safe and comfortable meeting for all members of the Association. Call-in information will be sent to all residents and absentee homeowners in November, but be sure to mark your calendar now to save the date.

RUN FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the 2020 Annual Meeting there will be several open positions on our Board. If you are interested in serving our community and making sure the business of running the cluster remains well-administered, our dues remain cost effective and competitive with other Reston clusters, and our property values continue to be protected, please consider running for a position on the Board. If you have any questions about what is entailed or would like to



HILLCREST HAPPENINGS

Tidbits of Information About Hillcrest Cluster

Fall 2020

declare your intent to run, please send an email to info@hillcrest-cluster.com.

It is a great way to highlight and take action on concerns you have for the cluster, and gain experience in the nuances of home ownership within a homeowners association.

ANIMAL WASTE REMINDER

Here in Fairfax County, we love our dogs and clean water, too. We can have both if dog owners are responsible and clean up after their pets.

Pet waste contains fecal coliform bacteria and can transmit diseases and parasites such as salmonellosis, cryptosporidiosis, and hookworm - just to name a few. These can make both humans and pets sick. Decaying pet waste can also contribute to fish kills in local streams and the Potomac River.

Always clean up after your pet. **IT'S THE LAW.** Failure to properly dispose of dog waste is a Class 4 misdemeanor and **subject to a \$250 fine** (County code, Section 41.1-2-6).

Several friendly reminder signs have been added around the cluster to help reinforce this for petowners passing through.



SNAKE SIGHTING ALONG MAIN SAFFOLD WAY

In early September a snake was seen along Main Saffold Way. The type of snake was unknown. While the natural habitat of our cluster is an asset we are incredibly proud of, it also means that sightings like this of potentially dangerous animals is a possibility.

While there is no immediate action needed, we encourage residents, especially those with children or dogs, to stay alert of wildlife in the community when outside for walks or playing to stay safe, especially as we enter fall and the visibility of animals like this becomes more challenging with an increase in leaves on the ground.

CLUSTER STANDARDS REMINDER

The Board would like to thank everyone within the community who has been actively working on the maintenance and upgrades to their homes in response to the maintenance violation letters sent out earlier this year. The Cluster is looking fantastic because of all of your hard work!

As you are working on your home or are considering upgrades, we urge you to consult the cluster standards which can be found on the Cluster website at www.hillcrest-cluster.com. If there are any specific questions about a standard, please air on the side of caution and contact a board member first at info@hillcrest-cluster.com BEFORE conducting the work.

Remember that while your contractors may be professional and know what they are doing, they are NOT experts on the Cluster standards, and may recommend work be performed which, while well-intended, violate the Cluster Standards, and require a formal DRB application prior to being installed.

Our goal is to maintain the high design standards of the community, while avoiding any homeowner being reprimanded for work they had installed, resulting in the removal of that work at the homeowner expense.



RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE:

LEAVES & WINTER HOSE BIBS

As we enter fall and the temperature starts to drop, leaves can accumulate in gutters, capture moisture, and freeze. This has the potential to damage and clog gutters leading to water damage.

Remember to clear gutters throughout the fall and pick up leaves as much as possible around your home.

As the weather continues to decrease in temperature, remember to turn off the water supply to outdoor water bibs, and drain the pipes to prevent freezing which can lead to burst pipes.

Several residents have pointed out water runoff down by the creek, which may have come from burst pipes throughout the summer. The Board has reached out to Fairfax Water to investigate and resolve the issue. Taking the preventative maintenance steps identified above, can help the community avoid issues like this in the future, and keep your home safe from water damage and costly repairs.

