

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 5

CARDEROCK SPRINGS COMMUNITY NEWS

Annual Community Pot Luck to Welcome our 2014 Newcomers

Sunday, **February 8th** 5:00-7:00 PM, Carderock Clubhouse.

Meet the newest residents and **greet** your neighbors

Bring your favorite dinner entrée, salad or dessert. We'll supply the
beverages

If you would like to help with set up, clean up or monitor the food and
drinks tables, please email maryloushannon@verizon.net

Sponsored by Carderock Springs Citizens Association

Carderock Residents FLOOD: What went on at the November 9, 2014, Fall Meeting on Stormwater Runoff

There was an unusually large turnout for the annual meeting and an enthusiastic response to the talk by Amanda Rockler from University of Maryland about new efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay, state and county programs designed to help, and how storm water management and increasing torrential rain fit into the picture. Amanda spent two hours walking Carderock with Carderock master gardener Sandy Dembski prior to her talk in order to document some of our community problems. Amanda's photos were graphic reminders of how serious the damage has become. Her photo of damage behind our clubhouse at the stream was particularly alarming.

We learned from Amanda that flooding during recent torrential rains doesn't stop here in Carderock where we see damage first hand on many of our properties. The water races into our drains and from there on to the watershed. Amanda got our full attention when she asked us about our need for clean water. "How many of you like to brush your teeth?" That certainly got us thinking about what's in the water than runs down our properties into the storm drains and on into the Chesapeake!

Not only will we protect the watershed if we take steps to absorb more of our own rainwater through plantings, but we will protect our own properties and those of our downhill

neighbors. We currently have heard from some 30 homeowners in Carderock whose properties have serious erosion, ponds that may last for days, and flooding in garages and inside the lower levels of our homes coming from uphill neighbors who are at even a slight elevation above them.

The first 1.5 inches of rain that come down during the first hour of a torrential rainstorm overwhelm most of our gutters, our drain pipes and ground that may already be saturated. There are now fewer plants to absorb the water because of deer foraging and fewer trees because many have fallen or been cut down. And some 7 million dogs in the Chesapeake Bay watershed are also a major source of pollution, adding to the unacceptably high levels of nitrogen, phosphorous and silt that go into the storm drains. We need to find ways to absorb that first 1.5 inches that fall in the first hour of a rainstorm.

Amanda spoke to us about adding more plantings and maintaining them to absorb water as our best defense. Native plants such as ferns, Black-eyed Susans which spread quickly, and trees are among the best for absorbing water. A list of the best sun and shade plants for absorbing water is on the County's RainScapes website. A rain garden can be installed, and with county pre-approval of your plan, your rain garden can be eligible for a \$2500 rebate.

This type of garden will require careful calculations which a landscape professionals who has taken the RainScapes training can do and help you get approval from the county for a rebate. About 2 feet deep, the clay soil is replaced with a more absorbent material including sand and top soil, and 75% of the new plants installed must be native plants. A less expensive and potentially effective alternative is "conservation planting" using native plants good at absorbing water.



The RainScapes website has lists of landscape professionals and others who have completed the county's training sessions and projects they have completed. Their website also has very helpful lists of recommended plants. Their website is www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep/water/rainscapes.html.

Lisa Wilcox Deyo, a landscape architect whose work in Carderock includes low-impact

storm water management, helped answer residents' questions about water issues in the neighborhood. She briefly talked about her experience with the RainScapes programs in Carderock and how its techniques have helped solve grading and drainage problems. She can be reached at lisawilcoxdeyo@gmail.com

Nancy Everett, also a Carderock resident and the owner of Boxwood Design LLC, is a landscape designer (and attorney) who has worked with clients in Carderock and elsewhere in the Bethesda/DC area to improve drainage, plant water-loving species in damp areas, and formulate other effective solutions for sustainable landscapes. She has extensive experience with deer pressure and the use of native species, and experiments in her large neighborhood garden. She can be reached at Boxwooddesign@comcast.net or neeverett@comcast.net.

We hope that you will join your neighbors, uphill and downhill working together, to keep Carderock's rain water from harming neighbors and the Chesapeake Bay. If you are not on our email list to hear about future events, please send your contact information to jfratner@gmail.com.

Your neighbors on the new Carderock Conservation Coalition to deal with storm water issues are: Sandy Dembski, Sue Eastman, Jean Ratner and Xenia Woyevodsky.

Jean Ratner

CSCA Monthly Board Meetings

3rd Monday of the Month, 7:00 pm

The Citizens' Association Board meets the 3rd Monday of the month at the Clubhouse. The meetings are open to all community member to attend.

Architectural Review Committee Meetings

1st Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm

The Citizens' Association has an Architectural Review Committee (ARC) meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Clubhouse. If you are considering an addition or exterior modification of your home, submit your plans for review by the 20th of the month. Design and review procedures plus other documents are available at CarderockCitizens.org. The ARC was created by the covenants which govern your property in Carderock. ARC meetings are open for any & every community member to attend, whether you are renovating or not.

New to Our Neighborhood

Please welcome newcomers Melissa and Jonathan Rhoads of 8105 Lilly Stone Drive. Jonathan grew up nearby in Bethesda, Melissa is from North Carolina. You can reach them on mahouse10@gmail.com, rhoajo01@gmail.com or by phone 336-772-8685 or 301-639-4036.

Mary Lou Shannon, Welcome Chair

Classified

Cabin John Dog Walking: Midday walks to keep your pets happy and healthy. Many happy Cabin John and Carderock pet owners and their pets will happily give their recommendations. Call Carolyn at 240-204-2953.

Senior Program Meeting to Plan Spring 2015 Programs

January 20th 2:00-4:00 PM, Carderock Clubhouse
Join in this vibrant **senior community** and help decide what
programs to have in 2015

Refreshments needed! If you can help, please email
maryloushannon@verizon.net

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Carderock Springs Board Members

<i>Phil Rider</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Jack Orrick</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Donna Schwartz</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Rob Gorman</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Barbara Ames</i>	<i>Membership</i>
<i>Larry Ondrejko</i>	<i>Member-at-Large</i>
<i>Anne Carlson</i>	<i>Member-at-Large</i>
<i>Bill Moore</i>	<i>Member-at-Large</i>
<i>Noëlle F. Lewis</i>	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>
<i>Doug Soe-Lin, Scott Wilets, David Wahl</i>	
<i>Architectural Review Committee</i>	

The Carderock Springs Citizens Association publishes The Community News at least six times each year. Residents of Carderock Springs and surrounding areas may join the Citizens Association for an annual due of \$50 for a membership year ending December 31, 2015. Dues and family information for the Carderock Springs telephone directory may be mailed to the Carderock Springs Citizens' Association at P.O. Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818-0237. Our Association represents the Carderock Springs community and implements its land covenants.