

Carderock Springs Citizens' Association
09 November 2014 CSCA Minutes CSCA Fall Meeting

1) Opening and Comments –

Barbara Ames called the meeting to order (Phil Rider was ill).

There were approximately 60 people in attendance. A member of Montgomery County Concilman's Berliners staff was also in attendance.

Barbara introduced the soil erosion and drainage committee (Jean Ratner, Sandy Dembski, Lisa Wilcox Deyo, Xenia Woyevodsky, and Sue Eastman). [Note: the committee is now known as Carderock Unites Against Flooding].

Barbara noted that an addendum to the CSCA Directory was available with a full update planned for 2015.

2) Environmental Committee Update

Diane Karlik, chairperson, spoke briefly on the deer population in the neighborhood. She noted that 1 square mile can support 40 deer and that some areas have as many as 400 deer/square mile. The deer population density is not known in Carderock Springs. Diane mentioned that some area communities are using bow and arrow kills to reduce the deer population. Diane will provide further details in an upcoming article in the CSCA Newsletter.

3) Friends of Cabin John Creek

Burr Gray was in attendance and mentioned the preparation of grants from the Chesapeake Bay Trust. He would like to have neighborhood support for the grant initiative.

4) Guest Speaker – Amanda Rockler

Sandy Dembski, introduced the guest speaker Amanda Rockler, Regional Watershed Restoration Specialist, with the Maryland Sea Grant Extension Program. Ms. Rockler works with local governments, non-profits, residents, and other entities to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay.

Ms. Rockler gave a presentation on storm water runoff and specifically highlighted the Cabin John Watershed. She had toured the Carderock Springs neighborhood and incorporated pictures of the neighborhood in her presentation. Ms. Rockler suggested that the neighborhood can do smaller scale storm water solutions.

These include planting trees, fertilize wisely (or not at all), use of rain barrels, plant conservation landscaping (this is different from a rain garden), use permeable pavers for hard scape, green roofs, rain gardens. Many of these options work to slow down the flow of water and allow water to penetrate the ground.

Ms. Rockler emphasized the need for maintenance of existing drains (maintenance is conducted by Montgomery County).

She mentioned the Rainscapes Rewards program in Montgomery County (www.rainscapes.org) and provided literature.

[The presentation is available on the CSCA website.]

Lisa Deyo Wilcox and Ms. Rockler answered several questions regarding rain gardens in Carderock Springs. Scott Wilets the need to have adrainage plan included in plans submitted to Montgomery County if an addition is more than 450 sq feet and the lot is 15,000 sq ft in size.

Meeting adjourned.