

CARDEROCK SPRINGS Community News

We are a community recognized by the **National Register of Historic Places** as a prime example of Situated Modernism, where houses complement and blend in with the natural landscape.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY QUIET SKIES COALITION UPDATE:

Some Relief Is Already In The Air!

Good news! Although airplane activity out of Reagan National Airport (DCA) is down approximately 70% from pre-COVID levels, starting January 1st Carderock residents may have noticed a *further* decrease in airplane noise due to a shift of the North Flow Westerly DCA Departures from the Carderock Springs residential area further south to non-residential areas adjacent to the Potomac River. This is thanks to the work of the Montgomery County Quiet Skies Coalition that collaborated with Montgomery County and Arlington County to hire an aviation consultant to advise the FAA on noise reduction alternatives.

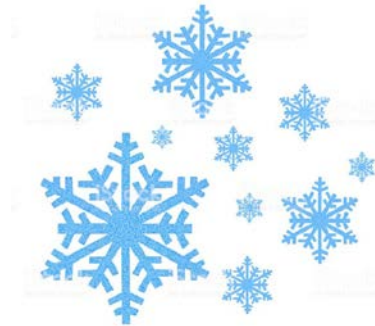
Also, this aviation consultant developed a proposal to manage arrivals to DCA from the north by better dispersing aircraft over Montgomery and Fairfax Counties and the Potomac River instead of having 100% of these flights channeled over residential areas of Montgomery County. If after 180 days of testing this new approach is successful, the incoming flight tracks would no longer be concentrated over the western section of Carderock Springs as arriving aircrafts would be more spread out. In that case, we could expect considerable noise relief from airplanes in the latter half of 2021 or early 2022.

KUDOS to the Coalition's first big successful outcome and to the tireless work with Montgomery and Arlington Counties, their aviation consultant and the important progress in negotiations with the Federal Aviation Administration.

Petra Jacobs



Community Calendar



Monday Feb 15, 7:30 pm

CSCA Board Meeting via Zoom
<http://carderocksprings.net/zoom>

Wednesday March 3, 7:30 pm

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) monthly meeting via Zoom, email
CSCAarc@gmail.com for zoom link

Congressional Country Club Forest Conservation Plan Amendment Approved

Several Carderock residents testified and/or submitted written testimony to the Montgomery County Planning Board for its public hearing on January 28, 2021 regarding an amendment to the Forest Conservation Plan for Congressional Country Club (CCC). The amendment was requested in order to allow CCC to clear more trees and forest conservation areas on site to allow it to build a performance golf practice center near the intersection of Bradley Boulevard and River Road.

The thrust of our testimonies was that under the existing Forest Conservation Plan as amended in summer 2019 which allowed for the removal of hundreds of trees and acres of forest conservation areas on the CCC property to allow for the mass grading of its golf course, the stream running under Fenway Road which flows into Cabin John Creek has become full of sediment following major rain



storms. Further, the velocity and intensity of the water flow in the stream has increased thereby contributing to the erosion of the stream bank. Despite our holding several meetings with staff of MNCPPC and DPS to alert them to these conditions, which resulted in notices of violation to CCC, these conditions have persisted over the past eighteen months.

The staff of the MNCPPC acknowledged during the hearing that only about 25% of the on-site plantings that are required by the Forest Conservation Plan had actually been planted on the CCC property. More plantings will be installed in spring/summer of 2021. The engineer for CCC also stated that CCC was going to be performing additional stream stabilization work in the streambed on its property. We are trying to learn more about exactly what that entails as he was not specific during the hearing.

The outcome of the Planning Board hearing was an approval of the requested amendment for CCC to allow it to cut further trees albeit most of these are located near the site of the performance golf center. The chair of the Planning Board did, however, acknowledge that the original plan had not worked as well as it should have, and that staff would be conducting regular inspections to insure that the continuing sediment run-off was stopped.

Everyone is encouraged to monitor the stream conditions, and to report any noticeable run-off to the Forest Conservation Plan inspector, Steven Peck, at stephen.peck@montgomeryplanning.org.

I have posted a copy of my testimony, with accompanying photographs of the stream over the past eighteen months, on the CSCA

Website: <https://www.carderocksprings.net/about/newsletters-and-documents>

← Photo: Looking from Fenway Road toward CCC

Jack Orrick, CSCA President

Governor Hogan Is Accelerating His Beltway Expansion Effort

On January 27, the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) formally recommended going forward with Alternative 9 for the Beltway expansion. Carderock Springs' part of the Beltway will be in the first phase of the expansion, which will widen I-495 by adding two new toll lanes in each direction between the American Legion Bridge and the I-270 spur. This plan would also create four toll lanes on I-270 by adding to each side one new lane for tolls and turning an existing HOV Lane into a second toll lane.

Although the FEIS (Final Environmental Impact Statement) isn't due until Fall 2021, the developer should be announced in early February. A programmatic agreement is planned to go to the Board of Public Works in Spring 2021. According to MDOT, this agreement should "advance the preliminary design to further avoid and minimize impact to environmental resources, communities, properties, utilities, and other features by working with the counties, municipalities, state and federal agencies, property owners and citizens". However, since selecting Alternative 9, MDOT demonstrated that communities' concerns haven't been heard and there is a concern that this trend will continue.

Carderock Springs had previously expressed its concern to MDOT about Alternative 9 because it would significantly shorten the distance between the Beltway and school/residences and increase harmful noise/air pollution. Carderock Springs in its many letters to MDOT and County representatives opposed any Alternatives (including Alternative 9) that wouldn't limit the road expansion to the current Right of Way (ROW).

In a public meeting on January 7, Maryland state legislators expressed significant concerns with MDOT's rush to advance the procurement process before comments to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement are addressed in the FEIS and the record of decision for the FEIS is made. Delegate Korman and Delegate Solomon are currently introducing bills to assure transparency, accountability and promises that the State made regarding the Beltway expansion. Council President Hucker will be scheduling a February meeting with Comptroller Franchot about the I-270/I-495 project. You are welcome to email aklase@marylandtaxes.gov to either join that meeting or to just send your comments directly to Comptroller Franchot, who is the swing vote on the Board of Public Works.

Petra Jacobs

Please Leash Your Dog



Dogs can be wonderful companions. When not properly restrained, however, they can be and have been dangerous to our neighbors.

Several years ago there was a bad incident in our community when two dogs escaped from a modest restraint and injured two people and another dog. The people had to go to the hospital and the attacked dog required extensive veterinary care.

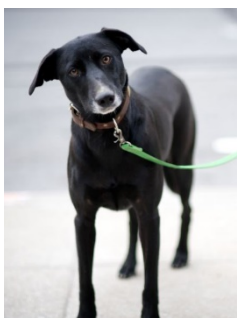
Just in January, a neighbor was walking her dog in her own backyard and her dog was attacked by a neighbor's dog. Both owner and dog were severely shaken. In recent months, dogs have been seen roaming on, or running through, properties not belonging to their owners and being walked without leashes.

Dogs which are unleashed or not otherwise properly restrained in their own yards can cause not only fear, but danger, to our children, adults and other dogs.

Montgomery County requires all dogs outside an owner's premises be leashed with exceptions for service dogs, designated dog exercise areas or other approved activities. Violators' first offense: \$100 fine; subsequent offenses, \$500 each. For violations, contact Montgomery County Animal Control: (301) 279-8000, Option 2.

Please restrain your dog. Your neighbors' safety and security depend on it. And it's the law! Thank you.

Gary Ratner, Board Member-at-Large



Planning a renovation?

ARC Approval and Architectural Salvage

If you're planning a renovation to your Carderock Springs home, there are two important things to know before you begin work: Architectural Review Committee (ARC) approval for exterior modifications and architectural salvage for interior renovations.

EXTERIOR: MODIFICATIONS CONSIDERED BY ARC



As required by the covenants recorded against each lot in Carderock Springs, any outside modification or additions to the structures on a lot must be reviewed and approved in advance by the Architectural Review Committee. This may include, but is not limited to the following: fencing, sheds, exterior color schemes, and live, sound hardwood tree removal.

The ARC is an appointed committee comprised of residents who are trained as architects/designers. The ARC meets on a monthly basis, generally the first Wednesday of each month, starting at 7:30 pm at the Club, to review applications and plans for exterior modifications to Carderock homes. Meetings are open to all residents, whether you are renovating, planning to renovate or interested in listening.

Due to the coronavirus, the ARC meets **via Zoom**. If you are PLANNING A RENOVATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE ARC by email cscaARC@gmail.com for the zoom link and further instructions regarding your plans for review and approval. Applications can also be dropped off at 8009 Hamilton Spring Rd.

Please submit an application and your plans for review to the ARC beforehand. Initially these can be early conceptual plans and then later on they can be construction drawings with specific elevations. The ARC can often assist homeowners with suggestions on design issues that have arisen with other homes in the past and possible workarounds. As the project becomes more defined, homeowners should return for another meeting to review construction drawings with specific elevations. Additionally the ARC may make recommendations and want to see amended drawings and details.

Specifics on the ARC submission process and the application form are on the CSCA website which also has a 20 page document of architectural guidelines that reflect the architectural standards the ARC looks for in exterior modifications, outdoor landscaping features and sheds. To contact the ARC, email cscaARC@gmail.com.

INTERIOR: ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE

If you are undertaking an **interior** renovation, consider offering **gently removed original elements** from your home **to the neighborhood** using the Carderock Springs CS-Chat@groups.io email group. Many neighbors wish to maintain the original interiors of their Carderock homes and would very much appreciate your doors, light fixtures, tile, countertops, cabinets, sinks, vanities, etc.

The Carder-Eco Column

News from the Environmental Committee

Composting Food Scraps

Please be aware that the county **requires** a rodent proof compost bin for food waste with a tight fitting lid. The free ones supplied by the County do not. Open containers where you have placed food attract rodents to our yards and homes. The county will soon be evaluating and testing receptacles that might be distributed in the future.

County Trash & Recycling Pick Ups

President's Day week our trash pick up will be on Wednesday Feb. 17 instead of the usual Tuesday Feb 16. Trash and recycling cans should not be left out until the afternoon of the day prior to pick up.

Recycling Bins & Bulk Pick Ups

Phone 311 any time to request a replacement bin from the Solid Waste department or to request a FREE special metal or large bulk pick-up.

Clothing Donations

It is preferable to donate to organizations which you have investigated via <https://www.charitynavigator.org/> or <https://www.charitywatch.org/> or to local organizations and charities such as The National Center for Children and Families on nearby Greentree Road, Salvation Army, Goodwill, or other charities that hand over the needed clothing to those underserved who actually receive it directly and immediately.

While other charities say that donations "support" those in need, some, like Planet Aid or Pick Up , for example, ship clothing to developing countries which can undermine the

developing fiber and clothing industries that these poorer countries are trying to encourage.

Recycling Plastics

There has been a spike in contamination of recyclables by COVID-related waste, and the effect of contaminated recycling is that it ends up being incinerated or in a landfill. Single use disposables such as masks and gloves should be put in the trash only.

In addition, since the price of oil is so low, it is currently cheaper for manufacturers to use virgin plastic instead of recycled material. The gap between the two has seen a significant increase throughout the pandemic because for companies it does not make financial sense to pay more for recycled material. However, there is an associated and additional environmental cost that will have to be "paid" at some point in the future. Refining the raw materials and the eventual cost of pollution and increased waste may very well increase environmental and health damage.



"Only 9% of all plastic ever produced has been recycled. About 12% has been incinerated. The other 79% has accumulated in landfill, dumps and the natural environment, where it often ends up washing into rivers via wastewater, rain and floods. Much of it eventually ends up in the ocean," according to The Guardian.

On January 1, 2021, an important new law tackling plastic pollution came into effect. It was an amendment to the Basel Convention, which controls the movement of hazardous waste between countries, and thanks to pressure from Norway, was expanded to include plastic. Nearly every country in the world (186 nations) signed

(Cardero-Eco, cont.)

on to the amendment, but unfortunately, the United States was not one of them.

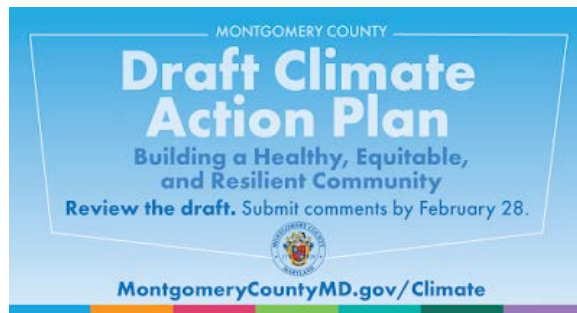
The amendment states that countries receiving shipments of plastic waste for recycling must be informed of its contents and give permission for those shipments to arrive. If permission is not granted, the shipment remains in its country of origin. It is a response to the flood of contaminated, mixed, and difficult-to-recycle plastics that has been dumped on many developing countries, including Vietnam and Malaysia, among others.

The logic behind the amendment is that countries that outsourced recycling in the past will now be forced to deal with their own waste. Although comprehensive recycling infrastructure is lacking in most countries and recycling rates are abysmally low – which is why they exported in the first place – the hope is that this amendment will force them to come up with better systems and solutions for dealing with waste. At the very least, developed countries will no longer be able to turn a blind eye to the sheer quantity of plastic waste they generate, nor how poorly designed for recycling much of it is. Results of the above will not be in evidence very soon...it may easily take more than 5 years to see fewer plastics polluting the planet. In the meantime and along with this new regulation, there must be a far greater emphasis on reusable, refillable, and returnable packaging, as well as materials that are truly biodegradable and home-compostable.

One solution is to minimize the use of plastics. Drinks in cans are preferable because that metal can be recycled and re-used more easily and results in less errant litter floating around in the environment and the seas.

Montgomery County Climate Action News

Montgomery County has launched a virtual information room to facilitate public review of the Draft Climate Action Plan. The County's strategic plan focuses on cutting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 80 percent by 2027 and by 100 percent by 2035. The 87 climate actions outlined in the plan lay the path to achieving the County's ambitious climate goals while building a healthy, equitable and resilient community.



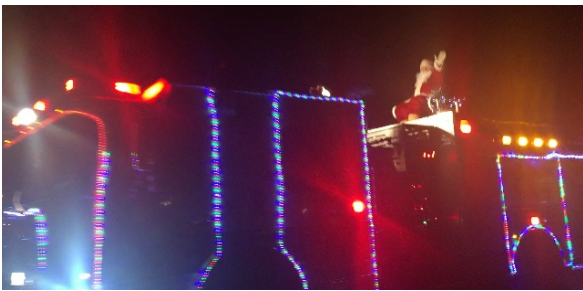
Residents can visually engage with the Draft Climate Action Plan using a computer or mobile device. Go to <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/climate> to review plan materials, including climate actions and vulnerability maps, and leave feedback by completing a brief survey. This innovative tool helps the county connect with the community at a time when it is not safe to host in-person gatherings due to Covid-19.

The plan is open for public review and comment through Feb. 28. It will be finalized in the spring of 2021.

*Diane Karlik
Environmental Chair*

Santa Visits Carderock

Once again on an evening in December, who should appear atop a firetruck slowly going up and down every street in Carderock with sirens on high volume and lights flashing? It was Santa! He brought smiles and good cheer as he waved to all of us from his holiday decorated ladder truck while masked residents in return put new toys and gifts in the support truck behind him. Many thanks to the Cabin John Volunteer Fire Department for continuing this beloved annual tradition.



The Pandemic

With a sigh of relief, the vaccines are arriving and we now have calm leadership with a national plan. Yes, the vaccine distribution is abysmal.



However, we do know some neighbors who have been vaccinated already! We continue to be vigilant with masks and social distancing.

*For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to **see** it.
If only we're brave enough to **be** it.
- Amanda Gorman*

Be resilient. We can do this.

Margie Orrick, Editor

New ARC Member

Starting in December 2020, Sandy Silverman has been appointed as our newest member of the Carderock Springs Architectural Review Committee (ARC). The ARC meets on a monthly basis to review plans for exterior modifications to homes, fences and sheds for the original Bennett constructed homes subject to the recorded covenants in Carderock.

Sandy is a registered architect with over 40 years of experience as a Principal in several area architecture firms. He specializes in residential, multi-family, senior living, mixed use and other commercial building types. Sandy recently retired as the DC Office Housing Practice Leader for Perkins Eastman, an international architectural firm. He is well-regarded as a thought leader, planner, and designer of mixed-use residential projects, and is widely recognized as the practitioner to raise the bar in this specialized area of practice. He has brought design excellence to over 50,000 units of housing in the region.

Sandy received his architectural degrees from Washington University in St. Louis and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Peru. A member of the American Institute of Architects, he was elevated to the College of Fellows in 2017.

The CSCA Board, along with existing ARC members Scott Wilets, Doug Soe-Lin and Katherine Stifel and ARC liaison Sue Eastman welcome Sandy to the ARC.

Classified

General Dentist Accepting New Patients!

Raised and
currently
residing in



Carderock Springs! Attended Gonzaga College High School and University of Maryland. Also received DDS degree from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry. Fluent in Spanish and wants to serve the community where he was raised. Matias Cima, DDS. 202.686.9100, drcima@cobbdentistry.net, 4400 Jennifer St NW #340, DC 20015.

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 240-204-2953.

Private Soccer Lessons!



For kids ages 6-13 by Whitman senior and Carderock resident Christian Hill. He comes to your home with all equipment needed. Experienced as a junior soccer camp counselor, knows the ins and outs of the game; will improve technical skill on the ball as well as soccer IQ for your son or daughter. \$20 for ½ hour, \$35 for 1 hour. Social distancing will be observed. Text 202-802-4319.

Car Wash

Need your car/s washed? I live in the neighborhood and can come to your house and do the job. All I would need is the use of a hose and a place to plug my vacuum cleaner. I charge \$10 for full washes (interior and exterior) for the first car and \$5 for any additional car.



If you are interested, please contact me, Manuel Schmukler (13 years old), at (202)981-8635.

Carderock Men's Tennis Team Seeks More Players

Do you know that there is a Carderock men's tennis team?



There is, and we are looking to add a little depth to our roster. We play in nominally a 4.0 league, so players range from a solid 3.5 and up. In general, the 4.5 and up players tend to play in the singles matches.

If you're in the range, think about joining the team. We have a non-mandatory practice on Sunday mornings, which is a good workout and a lot of fun. For the season, we play on Tuesday evenings and figure you'd play in about half of the matches (1 singles and 2 doubles).

Please reach out to me if you're interested. Thanks!

Darrell Tanno

darrell82666@yahoo.com

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ADVERTISE: \$10 for 1 issue or \$50 for 1 year in all CSCA newsletters. Submit payment to CSCA, PO Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818-0237.

2021 CSCA Annual Dues Notices are Coming

CSCA relies on the **\$50 per house annual dues** to fund activities that directly benefit the community, including providing this periodic newsletter, advocating for our neighborhood interests with government, hosting social events, producing the printed neighborhood directory, and more.

Dues notices will be arriving later in February. Please consider paying your 2021 dues now to save the Association the cost of generating and mailing a printed notice. Please submit your **\$50** payment (online preferred) through Paypal (www.paypal.me/carderock), Venmo (friend @CarderockSpringsCA and in the comment "What's it for" include your address; if Venmo requires the last 4 digits of the linked phone number then it is 4309), or snail mail a paper check to CSCA, Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818.



Note that the Citizen Association (CSCA) is a different entity from the Swim and Tennis Club (CSSC), which is also collecting annual dues this Spring. Membership in one does not include membership in the other, although the population overlaps since residents often join both.



CARDEROCK SPRINGS
National Register of Historic Places

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, 2021.

Dues and family information for the Carderock Springs directory may be mailed to the Carderock Springs Citizens' Association at Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818-0237. Our Association represents the Carderock Springs community and implements its land covenants.

Carderock Springs Citizens' Association Board Members

Jack Orrick, *President*

Tom Deyo, *Vice-President*

Jenny Spreitzer, *Secretary*

Ashish Goel, *Treasurer*

Bill Draper, *Membership Secretary*

Petra Jacobs, *Member-at-Large*

Sue Eastman, *Member-at-Large*

Gary Ratner, *Member-at-Large*

Firooz Gidfar, *Member-at-Large*

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

Douglas Soe-Lin, *ARC*

Sandy Silverman, *ARC*

Katherine Stifel, *ARC*

Scott Wilets, *ARC*

Sue Eastman, *ARC Liaison*

Margie Orrick, *Newsletter Editor*

Larry Ondrejko, *Club Liaison*