

# Across the Fence The Ashburn Farm Community Newsletter

May 2022 | Volume 34, Issue 5 | Distribution 4,400



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Across the Fence

The Ashburn Farm Community Newsletter

# **LOOKING AHEAD**

## **Coming in June**

Assessments Due on the 1st Board of Trustees Meeting on the 7th Architectural Review Board Meeting on the 9th Budget and Finance Meeting on the 17th Architectural Review Board Meeting and Hearing on the 30th Yard of the Month Submissions and Voting for nominees in June Community Nature Photo Contest Submissions and Voting in June

#### IN OBSERVATION OF THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS, THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

Monday, July 4th – Independence Day Monday, September 5th – Labor Day Thursday the 24th and Friday, November 25th – Thanksgiving Friday, 23rd, and Monday, December 26th – Christmas Friday, December 30th – New Years

Please contact the Association office to be added to our email blast for alerts about unscheduled closures and more! Email your request to **info@afhoa.net** to be added today!

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# ASHBURN FARM ASSOCIATION

21400 Windmill Drive, Ashburn, VA 20147 Main: 703-729-6680 Fax: 703-729-0247 **AshburnFarmAssociation.org • info@afhoa.net** Association Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Closed most major holidays

### ASSESSMENT INFORMATION OFFICE

Summit Management Services: Homeowners monthly assessment dues payments Main: 301-495-0146 Fax: 301-942-3442

summitmanage.com accountsreceivable@summitmanage.com *Mail Payments To:* Ashburn Farm Association C/O Summit Management Processing Center PO BOX 95366 Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-5366

## ASHBURN FARM ASSOCIATION STAFF

General Manager Jeremy Cushman • gm@afhoa.net Director of Operations William "Chip" Mathews • maintenance@afhoa.net Architectural & Covenants Director Karen Lowe • arb@afhoa.net Covenants Department Support Staff Chrissy Gier • covenants@afhoa.net Covenants Inspector Rachel Hess • disclosures@afhoa.net Financial Coordinator Cheri Jean • cjean@afhoa.net Editor & Administrative Assistant \*Notary Public Kristen Cornwell • kcornwell@afhoa.net Administrative Assistant Marie Walton • mwalton@afhoa.net Maintenance Assistant Ronald Moran • rmoran@afhoa.net \*Notary Public at Large for the Commonwealth of Virginia (call for information or appointment, \$5/document)

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

PRESIDENT David Tighe • bot@afhoa.net VICE PRESIDENT Scott Batchelder • sbatchelder@afhoa.net SECRETARY Cary Hancock • chancock@afhoa.net TREASURER Steve Lubore • slubore@afhoa.net

### TRUSTEES

Rich Oakley • roakley@afhoa.net Doug Brewer • dbrewer@afhoa.net Mark Fedak • mfedak@afhoa.net

## COMMITTEES

Architectural Review Board: arb@afhoa.net Budget & Finance: cjean@afhoa.net Events: events@afhoa.net

## **Across the Fence**

This is a monthly community publication for the residents of Ashburn Farm. Published by Ashburn Farm Association.

#### Editor – Kristen Cornwell

4400 Total Circulation mailed to residents and owners. Printed by GAM Printers, Sterling, VA.

#### **DEADLINES:**

Display Advertising – 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month Classified Advertising – 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month Committee Reports/Community News – 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month

For more information on Advertising Specifications and Guidelines, please see the back pages of the newsletter.

Neither the Ashburn Farm Association, its Members, or the Board of Trustees recommends or endorses any advertiser. The Ashburn Farm Association reserves the right to decline any advertisement for any reason deemed appropriate. Submitted materials are the author's opinion and do not reflect the views of Ashburn Farm Association, its Members, or the Board of Trustees. For the sake of clarity or length, the Editor or General Manager may edit articles.

## Ashburn Farm Association Staff

The Association Staff is responsible for enforcing the rules and regulations of the Association. The staff cannot make or change rules nor can they make arbitrary exceptions to existing rules. We are happy to assist you with any questions you may have or provide information. The Association Office is open 9a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Ashburn Farm Assessments & General Information

#### **Collection Policy**

Assessments are due the first day of each month. Any installment of the annual assessment not paid to the Association within thirty (30) days after the due date shall be considered delinquent and a late charge of \$25.00 shall be assessed to the Owner and posted to the Owner's account every thirty (30) days delinquent.

#### **Home Sales**

Effective July 1, 1989, the Virginia General Assembly enacted a new law entitles the "Virginia Property Owner's Association Act". This act required the seller of a home to make certain disclosures to the intended purchaser of their lot. All home sales in Ashburn Farm are subject to the Virginia Property Owner's Association Act. A written request of the Association Disclosure Package and a check in the amount of: \$225.00 for an electronic disclosure (via email) for townhome/single family; \$250.00 for a paper disclosure for townhome/single family; \$100.00 for electronic or paper disclosure for condo; are required to begin processing. A rush fee of \$50.00 may be paid to receive your disclosure within 3 days. Checks should be made payable to the Ashburn Farm Association. A form is available on the website or at the Association office. The completed package will be issued within 14 calendar days to the requesting party or agent. For further information, please contact the Association office.

# **2022 HOMEOWNER ASSESSMENTS**

#### Assessments

Public Street Homes (VDOT-maintained)\$93.41Private Street Homes (HOA-maintained)\$105.14Condos & Apartments (Privately-maintained)\$68.95

2022 Monthly Fee \$93.41 \$105.10

Please remember that HOA assessments are due on the 1st of each month.

Automatic Payment / Direct Debit (ACH) - Automatic payments are processed once the homeowner has submitted an ACH form to the Association or Summit Management. If you have not submitted a form, automatic payments are not set up. This payment option updates dues to the new amount every year; no further action is necessary.

**Recurring Payment** - Recurring payments are set up and processed through Summit Management via the account created on their website. If you have set up payments through the website, you must log in to the link below and update your payment amount yearly (https://onlinepay.allianceassociationbank.com/Login.aspx). You may also call Alliance Association Bank directly at (844) 739-2331 to update the new amount.

Automatic Bill Payment – The homeowner sets up automatic bill payments directly through their bank account. Homeowners must personally update the dues amount through their bank each year.

Be sure to contact Summit Management if you have any questions concerning your account or payment options: Summit Management Services, Inc. www.summitmanage.com • Phone: 301-495-0146 • accounting@summitmanage.com

# **BOARD BRIEFS**

A complete draft of the Board Meeting Minutes will be reviewed and approved at the next Board Meeting, which are held the first Tuesday of each month. A complete set of minutes is available on the Association's website, Board of Trustees page: https://ashburnfarmassociation.org/board-of-trustees/.

The following Meeting was held on April 5, 2022. President, Dave Tighe, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to **approve the March 1st, 2022, meeting minutes as submitted; passed (6/0/0/1)** (Dr. Lubore arrived late).

# **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Fedak – raised a concern about software/IT issues and the need for someone to handle these for the Association; he suggested adding an agenda item to the next meeting to discuss forming an IT Committee to strategize and plan for long and short term needs.

# PUBLIC FORUM - Nothing to report

MANAGER'S REPORT – reported by Mr. Cushman.
 Association Database Transition – Mr. Cushman updated the Board on the progress of building the Association side of Vantaca . He is working to adapt to and set things up in a similar way to what we had with AFIMS within the parameters of Vantaca. The goal is to keep the clarity in the communications output to homeowners, reducing the need for additional clarification. Functionality of Inspection, Architectural Review Board, and Concern Reporting should be ready for testing by April 8th.

- ii. Solar Panel Update Currently awaiting the inverters. Installation should take three days and the systems are set up to have smart meters. An actual installation date is pending. Mr. Fedak raised a security concern regarding industrial hub systems that can be remote controlled over the internet, this will be reviewed. Action Item Review and report on system internet security.
- iii. Underground Repairs to Association Infrastructure – Mr. Cushman stated that the intersection near the Ashburn Icehouse is the

busiest information intersection in the country per Mr. Frank Goode from VDOT; cost is \$3,000,000 per minute plus repairs. With that in mind, he recommends that repairs that require digging below thirty inches in depth be contracted out to unload associated liability. This should allow Maintenance to perform needed work and manage costs while shielding the Association from liability. Mr. Cushman commented that Mr. Goode was helpful in identifying and motivating contractors to repair damage they cause; his advice moving forward was to contact VDOT anytime we see someone digging so it can be tied to a permit.

- iv. Trash/Recycling & Parking Patrols Mr. Cushman stated his patrols on trash/recycling day show the streets look better; but that is not to say that violations are gone. Currently trash bags at the curb are the violation we are seeing. Enforcement and/or violation notification patrols must take place prior to contractor pick-up, usually before 10:00am
- v. Summer Kick Off Update Mr. Cushman reported that Lost Rhino Brewery has committed to provide and sell beer at no cost to AFHOA; we will provide the cordoned off "Beer Garden" and check IDs prior to entering the area. Action Item – Contact the Ashburn Wine Shop to sell wine, utilizing the same conrdoned off area, and at no cost to AFHOA (Same as Lost Rhino).
- vi. Electric Vehicle Charging Station/Cord Standard – Mr. Cushman stated that the Association has been receiving more and more requests for vehicle charging stations, and the Architectural Review Board has been discussing the matter. The Architectural Review Board requested him to pass the information along to the Townhome Committee for discussion at their next meeting.
- vii. **Dog Park Committee Update** Mr. Cushman reported on conversation he had with the Chief Park Planner with Loudoun County Parks and Recreation's long-term plans for Shale Ridge Park, which is beside St. Teresa's Church and abuts Association property via a wooded buffer behind Smokehouse Court. They are considering this area for an off-leash Dog Park that would be constructed this summer.

continued on page 6

Board of Trustees Meeting from April 5 continued from page 5

Mr. Cushman stated that he spoke with Mrs. Batchelder (Chair of the Dog Park Committee) and provided recommendations for the Dog Park Committee to come up with information to help ensure the development of a successful dog park as well as a list of additional features.

# Architectural Review Board Meeting

Minutes – There were no comments

## Budget & Finance Meeting Minutes, Bank Balances, & Financials

Dr. Lubore stated that a spending plan is needed. He will cover more in the Annual Financial Report during the Annual Meeting.

# **Townhome Neighborhood Committee**

Mr. Butler gave a presentation recap of the Townhome Committee activity. Top issues have been Trash and Parking. He is also pulling together instructions, guides, and information relevant to the Chair position. The Committee's emphasis regarding Trash/Recycling is centered upon the education/reeducation of homeowners about the standards and guidelines via email blasts, door mailers and signage. Discussion followed about the program and slides presented.

Parking survey results revealed hotspots within the townhome neighborhoods with the top issues being trouble finding parking, illegal parking, and swapping/monopolization of parking spots. These hotspots also noted hazard areas such as blind corners, narrow passage, and fire lane violations. Mr. Cushman stated that the survey results identified the two major problems that every townhome neighborhood experiences – swapping/ monopolization of parking spots and guests have trouble finding parking. Discussion followed.

Mr. Butler recapped that he is requesting approval for the education/re-education campaign and the Committee will follow up with a localized survey in three months to get a status update and brief the Board. Similarly, he is requesting approval for a decal parking survey/pilot program for the two main townhome areas. The Board approved the requests.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Unique Neighborhood Standard for New Colony I & II – Fences – there was a concern raised about the verbiage presented by the Architectural Review Board - Resolution passed with amendment "to maintain the same look, style, vinyl material and manner as it currently exists." Motion passed, (7/0/0/0).

# **NEW BUSINESS**

Association Street Asphalt Maintenance – Motion to approve the bid from Dominion Paving and Sealing for the paving and sealing work on Association owned streets at a cost not to exceed \$235,000; passed, (7/0/0/0).

Swim Lap Lane & Reel Replacement – Summerwood Pool –Motion to approve the purchase of swim lanes and reel equipment at a cost not to exceed \$7,000.00; passed, (7/0/0/0).

Association Technology Explanation – Mr. Cushman provided responses to the Board on questions posed by Mr. Batchelder regarding fees for AFIMS, data backups, data information transfers of Information from AFIMS to Vantaca, physical server storage versus a web-based application with cloud data storage and going live to Vantaca.

## **INFORMATIONAL**

**Association Delinquent Status Report** – There were no actions to be taken.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion to adjourn for the Annual Meeting of the Members, passed (7/0/0/0); Adjourned 8:51PM.
- Reconvened at 9:23PM to enter Executive Session.

*Minutes for the Ashburn Farm Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting are developed from meeting recordings and BOT member input by the Recording Secretary.* 

# **ASSOCIATION BOARD AND COMMITTEE DATES 2022:**

**Board of Trustees** meets *the first Tuesday of every month with the exception of July*. The Association sends a reminder via our community notification system of meeting date, a link to meeting agenda, and a link to join the Board meeting remotely.

#### Meeting dates are as follows:

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, June 7<sup>th</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, no meeting in August, September 6<sup>th</sup>, October 4<sup>th</sup>, November 1<sup>st</sup>, and December 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Architectural Review Board (ARB)** meets <u>the second and last Thursday of each month with the exception of</u> <u>November and December.</u> Additional information can be found on the Association website in the "For Homeowners" tab, under "Covenants and Restrictions" then "Architectural Review Board", located at the top of the homepage.

#### Meeting dates are as follows:

*May* 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, June 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, August 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, September 8<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, October 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, November 10<sup>th</sup>, and December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Budget and Finance meet the third Friday of every month.

Meeting dates are as follows:

May 20th, June 17th, July 15th, August 19th, September 16th, October 21st, November 18th, and December 16th.

**The Townhome Neighborhood Committee** meets the third Thursday of every month. If you have questions or concerns about your townhome neighborhood, please direct your emails to townhomecommittee@afhoa.net.

Please call the office with additional questions at 703-729-6680 or email info@afhoa.net.

# **ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS BRIEFS**

A complete draft of the Annual Meeting Minutes will be reviewed and approved at the next Annual Meeting. A complete set of minutes is available on the Association's website, Board of Trustees page: *https://ashburnfarmassociation.org/board-of-trustees/.* 

## **WELCOME**

The Annual Meeting of the Ashburn Farm Homeowners Association was held on April 5, 2022. President, Dave Tighe, called the meeting to order at 8:56 PM.

## **PROOF OF MEETING**

Resolution 02012022 was approved in February 2022 and published in the Association Newsletter.

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Tighe asked for a motion to **approve the minutes from the Annual Meeting of April 6, 2021; Motion passed, (7/0/0/0).** 

# ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Annual State of the Association - President, David

Tighe's report is printed in its entirety beginning on page 8.

Annual Financial Report – Treasurer, Dr. Steve Lubore reported that the Association has four major bank accounts and provided the following balances as of March 2022: Alliance Bank of Arizona, which holds the Associations' operating account, \$680,000; Apple Credit Union, which holds a small account of miscellaneous deposits of petty cash, \$36,000; Wells Fargo Bank holds two brokerage accounts for the Association: the designated reserve fund, which holds funds to pay for replacement of existing Association amenities, with a balance of \$3.4M, and the undesignated reserve fund, which is money that has been made over the past 34 years, with a balance of \$288,000 in members equity.

It was noted that the Aged Owner balances of unpaid Assessments increased last month by \$74,000. The Association is currently reviewing the increase. However; it appears that many accounts were paid off while different account were now unpaid.

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# PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

As I prepared my report this year, I noticed the Ashburn Farm Association went through a lot of ups and downs throughout the year but tonight as I deliver your Annual President's Report, I am happy to report a strong financial posture and the continuance of a vibrant spirit of community.

The last year saw the relaxation of COVID restrictions, and our HOA Staff took measures to reduce incidents of COVID to a minimum and continue to take necessary precautions while interacting with the community to keep everyone safe. Due to the hard work of Mr. Steve Lubore and our Finance Committee, our financial status remains strong and the Reserve Fund projections for the future ensure a bright future for our community. Unfortunately, with rising costs and inflation the law of diminishing returns predicts our effort to reduce expenses cannot be sustained.

Now I'd like to highlight AFHOA's Value Proposition for its homeowners last year. These are the OPPORTUNITIES your HOA is providing our Community.

1. Property Values – HOAs were created to protect and enhance owner property values. Your property value is enhanced when your neighbors maintain their property, which in turn raises the value of the whole community. Median sales prices of \$518K were up 11.8% for the area compared to last year.

2. Systems Upgrade – last year we unexpectedly lost our website and began tackling the challenge of getting it up and running while upgrading our obsolete system. The Board voted to use Vantaca for our new system. Vantaca is a leading HOA software provider, and we will continue working with Vantaca over the next year to give our community better service and support. When fully implemented, you will be able to choose how you communicate with AFHOA, (i.e., mail, email, text); view & print your own account records through an owner's portal; and electronically submit architectural change requests and assessment payments and more.

3. Solar Power – The Board elected to proceed with investing in Solar power generation to provide some measure of insulation against rising utility costs, as well encouraging the community to do the same.

4. Recreation – The AFHOA opened pools last year at a reduced capacity, refurbished most of its pool furniture, and is now working to upgrade its pool pass process to decrease costs and increase availability to our members.

5. Annual Inspection Process – Last year we revamped the annual inspection process to be less intrusive and later decided to conduct off-property inspections again due to COVID. This year we will again conduct off-property inspections. I'd like to thank Cary Hancock for all his efforts to improve this process and the notifications to our community, and Jeremy Cushman for developing the members property checklist and his continued support in making this area a success for our community. As always, each New Year brings Challenges – some new, some old. Tree maintenance is an example. Others are long term items, such as defining requirements, and selecting and installing a new software system. Let's explore our most pressing CHALLENGES for the coming year.

1. Modern HOA System – As mentioned a moment ago, last year we lost our website and in redeveloping the site we became aware of options to improve our software and give our community something much better. We elected to move forward with the prominent HOA software provider Vantaca and will work through the year to get everything up and running but remember, all system implementations encounter some "issues", so WE ASK THAT YOU WORK WITH US AND AFFORD US YOUR PATIENCE AS WE WORK TO MAKE YOUR ON-LINE ACCESS A BETTER EXPERIENCE.

2. Aging Community – The natural beauty of our trees, ponds, and overall community means we must be diligent in their maintenance and care if we are to continue to enjoy our common grounds. Each year we fight to keep up with tree maintenance and our annual budget allocates approximately \$150K to care for dead, dying, and encroaching trees. Tree maintenance is predominantly for the safety of those enjoying our common grounds but is an important aesthetic item as well. Erosion of areas around our ponds is another area of concern that will require attention in the coming year.

3. Wage Increases – The federal increase in minimum wage brought an unexpected increase in our pool contract and thus brought about higher expenses.

4. Inflation – the past years 7% rate of inflation (7.9% currently) is the highest in 40 years, gas prices are up ~47% from last year and general commodities and services reflect higher prices. All this is to point out that just as homeowners are facing financial uncertainties over the next year, so is your Association. AFHOA remains committed to providing value for your assessment dollars, reflected in maintaining or increasing home values and great amenities to enjoy.

5. Increase in Garbage Collection Costs – last year we received an unexpected increase in garbage collection costs due to increases in landfill fees. Rather than apply a special assessment to our community the Board was forced to approve a 5% assessment increase for 2022. However, with rising inflation and increased fuel costs I anticipate additional increases in this area that will force the Board to find some means of savings to offset this.

In closing, I am happy to report that the Ashburn Farm Homeowners Association is in a sound financial position. Your General Manager, staff, and Board have worked together selflessly to apply sound decision making, balanced in your interest. We are grateful for YOUR sense of community, which has made our jobs easier because of your participation and interest.

#### Annual Meeting from April 6 continued from page 7

*Annual Architectural Report* – Chairman, Jeff Colclough. Mr. Batchelder gave brief remarks on behalf of the Architectural Review Board. He stated that they have an approximate 99% approval rating; he provided an overview of the process for Exterior Alteration Applications and encouraged homeowners to attend the virtual meetings to provide input and clarification of their project. He stated that the Architectural Review Board exists to assist homeowners through the process and educate them on Ashburn Farm standards and guidelines.

Annual Townhome Committee Report – Chairman, Bobby Butler – Mr. Butler provided a brief report of the work that the Committee has done since forming in November. He stated the biggest and most prevalent issues are trash and parking. Once some of these pressing issues show progress and homeowner concerns are being addressed, the goal is to eventually move toward the more positive aspects of living within a townhome community.

## **SELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**President** – Dr. Lubore **nominated Mr. Dave Tighe for President**; Mr. Batchelder seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The **nomination passed**, (7/0/0/0).

**Vice-President** – Dr. Lubore **nominated Mr. Scott Batchelder for Vice President**; Mr. Hancock seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The **nomination passed**, (7/0/0/0).

**Secretary** – Mr. Batchelder **nominated Mr. Cary Hancock for Secretary**; Dr. Lubore seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The **nomination passed**, (7/0/0/0).

**Treasurer** – Mr. Tighe **nominated Dr. Steve Lubore for Treasurer**; Mr. Hancock seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The **nomination passed**, (7/0/0).

## **COMMITTEE LIAISONS:**

- Architectural Review Board Scott Batchelder & Mark Fedak
- Budget & Finance Committee Mr. Hancock & Dr. Lubore
- Townhome Committee Mr. Oakley

Questions were raised about various inactive Committees. Mr. Hancock raised a question about the Elections Committee; It was determined that the Elections committee should be restarted in the October 2022 time frame for the next (April 2023) election phase.

A question was raised by a homeowner about the assessments delinquency rate. Dr. Lubore (Treasurer) provided background and addressed the question. There was brief Board discussion and input.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and passed, (7/0/0/0). The Annual Meeting adjourned at 9:21PM

Minutes for the Annual Meeting of Ashburn Farm Homeowners Association are developed from meeting recordings and BOT member input by the Recording Secretary.

# Have you downloaded



# Safe2Talk?

Safe2Talk is a free app that allows students, parents, teachers, and residents the ability to anonymously report safety concerns in our schools, including suspicious or threatening social media activity. Search **Safe2Talk LCSO** in the App Store or Google Play to download.



# **NOTICE OF ANNUAL ARB MEETING**

In accordance with Article IX Architectural Review Bard, Section 4 of the Ashburn Farm Association ByLaws, the Architectural Review Board will hold it's Annual Meeting of Members. The ARB Annual Meeting will be held on:

Thursday, June 9, 2022 @ 7:00 PM (Virtual Meeting)

Windmill Community Center

21400 Windmill Drive

Ashburn, VA 20147

The purpose of the meeting is to elect from among themselves a Chair, a Vice Chair, and a Secretary who shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices.

# **LOOKING FOR ARB VOLUNTEERS**

Do you have an extra hour or two to spare a week? Need to just get out of the house? Like meeting new people? Consider taking an active part in your neighborhood and volunteer for the Architectural Review Board! We are looking for a couple of new members. You'll get the chance to meet other neighbors in the Community, play an active role in reviewing applications for modifications on properties, contribute to updating the Architectural Standards, and help keep Ashburn Farm one of the most sought after communities to live in in Loudoun County. Meetings are held on the second and last Thursday of every month at 7 PM & 6:30 PM. If those dates and times agree with your schedule, please send an email of interest to: <u>ARB@afhoa.net</u>.

# **SAVE THE DATE!**

- NEW this Year is the Community Nature Photography Contest! April through May for submissions; voting in early June. Additional details on page 15.
- Ashburn Farm Beautification is taking place May through October.
- Spring Community Yard Sale is Saturday, May 21st from 9:00a to 3:00p. Registration form on page 18.
- Summer Kick Off is Saturday, May 28th from 6:00p to about 9:00p, followed by fireworks. Full details on page 19.
- Yard of the Month is June through September. Watch for monthly submission deadlines and voting info in Newsletters and email blasts. Monthly winners will be eligible for Yard of the Year in October.
- Middle School Swim Night is Friday, August 19th from 6:00p to 9:00p.
- K9 Cool Off is Friday, September 9th from 5:30p to 7:15p.
- Fall Community Yard Sale is Saturday, September 17th from 9:00a to 3:00p.
- Yard of the Year voting closes October 14th.
- Christmas Card Contest for submissions by December 15th; voting closes December 22nd.
- Christmas Lighting Contest for submissions by December 15th; voting closes December 22nd.

Complete information and registration forms, when applicable, will be available in upcoming Newsletters, make sure to keep an eye out for those.

Do you have additional questions or need more information? Please contact Kristen or Marie via email events@ afhoa.net or 703-729-6680.





### May 2022 Newsletter

**Sat - May 7th - Run the Greenway 5K and Kids Fun Run/Virtual race:** Sign up for a team/run or walk with **AVFRD - start** time 7:30a.m. **Pre-Registration required: dullesgreenway.com/registration/ Come** out for the fun & support **AVFRD.** 

**Sat - May 7th - Firehouse Chicken Dinner - Noon-6:00pm -** Must preorder @ https:// ashburnfirerescue.org/go/chicken. Ordering closes April 30th. 1/2 Chicken, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Roll, Dessert & Drink (Birch Beer or Water).

Sun - May 15th - Pancake breakfast - 8:30-11:30am, closes at Noon. Purchase tickets at the door or online at: ashburnfirerescue.org/go/pancakes. Adult \$10, Seniors 62+\$8, Child Ages 3-11 \$5, Under 3 Free.

**Prospective Members Meeting - Tues, May 31st - 7:00-9:00pm.** Learn more about volunteering with AVFRD. Operations and Admin members needed. Many benefits. See our website for more information: **ashburnfirerescue.org/go/volunteer**/

**AVFRD is always looking for student volunteers!** We offer high school students (ages 14 and older) opportunities to earn college application community service credit by volunteering at our events. If interested please visit our website: **https://ashburnfirerescue.org/go/student-volunteers/** As new opportunities are available, you will be notified via email.

**Founders Hall - Station 6, Ashburn Road -** With modern amenities and simple rental terms, this is the right choice for your event - big or small. Accessible, friendly, and fun for you, family, friends and more! For more details go to: founders-hall.com or email: <u>info@founders-hall.com</u>

# **Library Corner**

For a complete listing of all Ashburn Library and all Loudoun County libraries please visit the website: library.loudoun.gov

#### **ASHBURN LIBRARY MAY 2022**

#### **Youth Services**

#### Storytimes continue

• Fridays 10 a.m.-noon Pre-K Skill Builders, ages 3-5

**ASHBURN VOLUNTEER** 

FIRE & RESCUE

• May 3 STEAM Club Jr. at 4 p.m., Kid Scientists with author Sue Fliess, grades K-2

• May 5, STEAM Club at 4 p.m., Conservation Jeopardy, grades 3-5

- May 10, Play & Learn: Animal Yoga at 4 p.m., grades K-5
- May 12, Art at the Library: Compass Painting at 4 p.m., grades K-5
- May 17, My First Book Club, 4 p.m., grades K-1
- May 17, Graphic Novel Book Club, 7 p.m., grades 4-6
- May 19, Spectacular Series Book Club, 4 p.m., grades 2-3

• May 24, Cultural Explorers: World Citizenship through the Arts, 4 p.m., grades K-5

#### Adults:

- May 14, 2 p.m., Live Music: Pianist Caleb Nei
- May 15, 12 p.m., How to Grow an Herb Garden



- May 19, 7 p.m., The Loudouners Who Challenged Thomas Jefferson
- May 26, 7 p.m., Portrait Sketching Class

#### **Book Clubs:**

- May 3, 7 p.m., Adult Book Club
- May 4, 7 p.m., Book to Art Club
- May 26, 10 a.m., ESOL Book Club

#### ESOL:

May 2, 23, 7 p.m., Loudoun Literacy Class (Beginner)
May 23, 9:30 a.m., ESOL One on One Tutoring

Registration • May 25, 7 p.m., Loudoun Literacy Class (High

• May 23, 7 p.m., Loudoun Literacy Class (righ Intermediate)

- Tuesdays, 7 p.m., ESOL Conversation Group
- Thursdays, 10 a.m., ESOL Conversation Group

#### Teens:

- May 1, 2, 12 p.m., Teen SRP Volunteer Signup
- May 12, 6 p.m., Teen DIY
- May 19, 7 p.m., Ashburn Anime Club
- May 26, 6:30 p.m., Teen D&D Club

#### May 1st – Kids Soap Dish Workshop!!

27 Fairfax Street Southeast, Leesburg, VA Location and Presented By: The Clay and Metal Loft Time: 3:00p to 5:00p Tickets: www.theclayandmetalloft.com/kidsworkshops/sheep-soapdish-5122 Kiddos will have a blast creating these adorable soap dishes! Kids will create 2 dishes and will help with painting!!

Soap dishes will be fired and glazed by TC&ML and will be available for pick up 2-3 weeks after class date!

#### May 1st – Mother's Day Boxed Lunches

35246 Harry Byrd Highway, Round Hill, VA Phone: 540-338-1144 Presented By: Bogati Winery Dates: May 1st to May 8th Time: 11:30p to 5:00p Price: \$28.00 Email: info@bogatiwinery.com

Your mom deserves a beautiful day by the pond this year for Mother's Day. In honor of Mother's Day this year, we are bringing back our boxed lunches for you and your mom to have a picnic with! Choose between our two boxed lunch options and then come by between 11:30-5 to pick up and enjoy a picnic in the sun out on our back patio! Tickets for each boxed lunch are \$28 and \$23.80 for our Black Label Club Members. Picnic blanket not included.

The choices of boxed lunches are:

Tandoori Chicken Salad: Made with apricots, toasted walnuts, and sun dried cranberries, served on a croissant roll.

Mediterranean Vegetable Wrap: Made with hummus, shredded carrot, marinated feta, cucumber, and red leaf lettuce, served in a wrap. Each boxed lunch will come with a side of a Wild Fields Greens Salad with strawberries, goat cheese, and an orange vinaigrette dressing, and a Tiramisu Cupcake with a mascarpone cream.

#### May 1st – Storied Friends: Marguerite Henry & Wesley **Dennis Exhibition**

102 The Plains Road, Middleburg, VA Phone: 540-687-6542

Location and Presented By: National Sporting Library & Museum Dates: May 1st to October 3rd

Recurrence: Daily

Website: http://nationalsporting.org/

Storied Friends: Marguerite Henry and Wesley Dennis explores the literary partnership that brought Misty, Sham, and many other equine friends into the hearts of youths everywhere. For over two decades the pair published fifteen books together, many of which have endured the test of time and remain popular classics today. Storied Friends features twelve classics by Henry in multiple languages paired with illustrations from Dennis's A Portfolio of Horses and a selection of reviews and paraphernalia from the Wesley Dennis Archives. Viewers are invited to spend time reading for nostalgia or pick up a classic for the first time in the exhibition's reading nook and be immersed in Henry's storytelling and Dennis's illustrated world.

#### THE ASHBURN CLASSICS

will hold their next meeting on May 7 at the Ashburn Senior Center at 10:15am. Our program will consist of playing BINGO with prizes. Refreshments will be served. All seniors 50 and over are welcome to attend our monthly meetings which are usually the second Saturday of the month at the senior center. We support Loudoun County Hunger Relief.

#### May 4th – Axes and Os Trivia!

21680 Ridgetop Circle, Suite 125, Sterling Phone: 703-404-2937 Location and Presented By: Axes and O's Dates: May 4th to May 25th Recurrence: Weekly on Wednesday Time: 7:00p to 9:00p Website: http://www.axesandos.com/ Email: info@axesandos.com Come join us every Wednesday evening from 7pm-9pm for trivia at Axes and O's! We have delicious food, beer from 11 local breweries and a fantastic selection of wine, cider, seltzer and canned cocktails. Weekly prizes are awarded. Come join in the fun!

#### May 8th – Planetarium Show: What's Up?

36441 Blueridge View Lane, Purcellville, VA Phone: 540-338-7973 Location and Presented By: Franklin Park Performing Arts Center Time: 1:00p to 4:00p Price: \$8.00 per person Email: richard.hamilton@loudoun.gov Website: https://www.franklinparkartscenter.org/ (Ages 4 & up) Step inside our Digitalis Delta 4 inflatable planetarium to experience the wonder of space and learn to identify constellations. Learn to use a star chart to identify and find constellations and find out what's up in the night sky. Program lasts 40 minutes, with an extra

activity in our lobby before or after the planetarium program. Show

#### May 14th - LoCo Food Truck Festival

times: 1 pm, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm

42095 Loudoun United Drive, Leesburg, VA Location: Segra Field Parking Lots Time: 11:00a to 4:00p Price: Starting at \$45.00 per ticket Website: https://www.loudoun.gov/PRCSEVENTS PRCS is hosting the first-ever LoCo Food Truck Festival with food vendors, live entertainment and games! Bring the entire family out for this event!

· This event is free and open to the public. All food truck vendors will be responsible for selling their own products.

· Attendees will not be allowed to bring their own food or drink, expect for capped, clear water bottles. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed.

In case of an emergency, you will be directed to an appropriate exit.

#### May 20th - Puppypalooza with DockDogs

12138 Harpers Ferry Road, Purcellville, VA Phone: 540-905-2921 Date: May 20th to May 22nd Location and Presented By: Maggie Malick Wine Caves Time: 11:00a to 5:00p Website: http://maggiemalickwinecaves.com/ Email: info@maggiemalickwinecaves.com Watch dogs fly! Join us for the 2022 Puppypalooza Dock Dog event at Maggie Malick Wine Caves. The competition will start at 8:30 am and continue throughout the day. Cheer on the competitors while enjoying a glass of wine. There will be music on the patio from 1 - 5pm.

#### May 29th - Art, Flowers, and Flavors Festival

26314 Ticonderoga Road, Chantilly, VA Phone: 703-327-8940 Location: Amazing Farm Fun at Ticonderoga Presented By: The National Botanic Garden Time: 10:00a to 6:00p Dates: May 29th and 30th Price: \$25.00 per person Website: https://artflavorsfest.com/ Email: info@nationalbotanicgarden.org Ticonderoga is presenting the new venue for the National Botanic Garden showcasing the Art, Flowers, and Flavors Festival! Enjoy three days of art exhibitors, outdoor sculptures, unique collections of plants, wine tastings from some of the best wineries in Virginia, beer, food, chocolate, and live music. Escape the city for a lovely day in nature. HIGHLIGHTS:

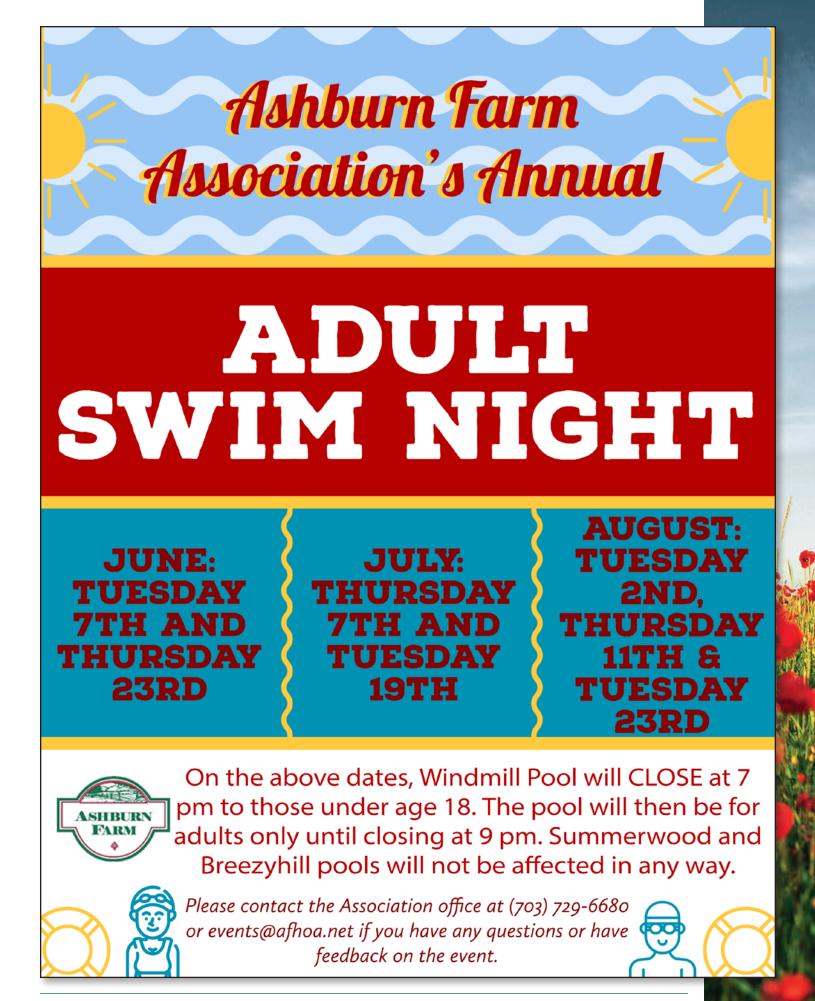
- Meet artists exhibiting their artwork from paintings to monumental sculpture throughout an outdoor setting

- Award winning wines, beers, and fine chocolates for tasting and purchase (Limited tastings included with your ticket)

- Delicious food on site available for purchase.

- Stroll through the Garden areas of the venue, admire the natural and unique landscapes, and gorgeous views.

- Live music with a wonderful outdoor atmosphere to relax in. A unique opportunity not only to stimulate your senses, but also to discover a hidden garden near South Riding, that's not typically open to the general public.



# **The Architectural Review Board**

is currently drafting a new Standard for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. Townhomes without garages cannot run charging cords across properties and sidewalks without creating a safety hazard and liability. The Board would like suggestions from townhome owners for Charging Stations with submerged cords that can reach the owner's car in their reserved parking space. Please submit any suggestions you may have for consideration to <u>arb@afhoa.net</u>.



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# Criteria and Details For submission

Of photo One entry per household

Photo must be taken within Ashburn Farm Community Photos may include: wildlife, birds, flowers, trees & other foliage, ponds, trails or nature in general Submission must include: Name, address, contact info and general location in the community where photo was taken Submission accepted

submissions due June 2

NATURE PHOTO Contest



SEND PHOTOS FOR SUBMISSION: Events@Afhoa.net Contact Marie or Krusten FOR MORE INFO: 703-729-6680

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# New 2022 Advertising Information and Specifications

The following information lists the specifications for dis play advertising in Across the Fence. All advertising is due (copy and payment) by the **10th of the preceding month** of the issue.

Size	Price/mo	Extended Contract*
1/8 Page	\$125	\$112.50/mo
1/4 Page	\$225	\$202.50/mo
1/2 Page	\$400	\$360/mo
Full Page		
Inside Cover	\$850	\$765/mo
1/4 Page	\$235	\$211.50/mo
1/2 Page	\$440	\$396/mo
Full Page	\$925	\$827.50/mo

\*Extended contracts refer to advertising commitments for a period of six months or more. Pre-payment of the term is required in order to take advantage of the extended contract discounts.

An Insertion Order Form must be submitted with ad. Forms are available at the Association Office or via fax and our website. Advertiser must provide in digital form (PDF or TIF files only, PC formatted). Ad are run in full color. Ads will run as-is; no alterations will be made by the Association. Ads exceeding the proper size reserved will not run.

#### Space Reservation and Payment Requirements

Ad space is limited and reserved on a first come-first served basis. Payment in full is due for ad space before the deadline (except for extended term contracts - these are due at reservation). We do not bill - pre-payment of ad space is mandatory. **Make checks payable to Ash burn Farm Association.** If payment is not received by the deadline, the space becomes forfeited. We will not refund payment due to missed deadlines for copy. Copy submit ted must meet the required specifications. We will not be held responsible if copy is not submitted by the deadline even though payment has been received.

Advertising copy and payment can be mailed to: Ashburn Farm Association Attn: Kristen Cornwell, Editor 21400 Windmill Drive Ashburn, VA 20147

Note: The Editor reserves the right to reject any advertisements for any reason. Ads that are deemed inappropriate or distasteful for this publica tion will not be run. No political advertising permitted. Advertising orders cannot be canceled after the deadline without prior arrangements. Ques tions can be forwarded to kcornwel/@afhoa.net or 703-729-6680.

# **MINDFULNESS OF YOUR NEIGHBORS**

The Association would like to take a moment to remind everyone that the things we do in our community affect our environment. Therefore, our actions matter; whether toward our physical environment, like the land, air, and water, or our social environment, including our friends and neighbors.

There are many ways to be considerate of our neighbors and our environment. Thoughtfulness when parking, such as storing extra vehicles on VDOT streets so as not to monopolize "Open, 72 Hour" parking spaces, allows fair use of the limited open parking spaces, ensuring vehicles are not parked too close to driveways or parking bays which inhibits safe use or leaving street-side parking directly in front of homes for those homeowners and their guests. These small gestures always have a positive influence in our community.

Bagging and disposing of loose debris in the neighborhood or curbing your recycling in a hard sided lidded container that prevents spilling or blowing will have a positive impact on your neighbors, your community, and the environment. Removing empty trash toters from the road the same day as trash pick-up and placing them back where they belong per the trash Standards is a great way to set a positive example in the neighborhood. The Association encourages yearround community cleanup activities and makes rubber gloves, trash bags, and trash grabbers available at the Community Center for resident volunteers to aid in these efforts. In addition, collected trash can be placed near more than seventy common area trash cans and dog waste collection sites.

The use of concrete-safe ice melt is another way to reduce the environmental impact as well as protect concrete sidewalks and driveways as winter gives way to spring. Similarly affected by runoff, using lawn fertilizer without phosphorus, as well as applying only a quarter pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet vs. the typical



one pound, will reduce harmful runoff. Nitrogen and phosphorus runoff eventually makes its way to our ponds and streams, creating a fertile medium for massive algae blooms that deplete the dissolved oxygen in the water, choking fish and other water-dwelling life in the ponds and streams in the community. Once you begin mowing your lawns, bag clippings, and please dispose of them in yard waste bags or compost them where they cannot leach nitrogen or phosphorus as they decompose.

Let's be thoughtful and considerate of our friends and neighbors. The best way to create a good neighborhood is to be a good neighbor ourselves. Attention to minor concerns can prevent the snowball effect of creating a more significant situation, being mindful of our actions and how they affect others.



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#### YARD SALE



#### WHO DOESN'T ENJOY A GOOD YARD SALE AFTER A ROUTINE SPRING CLEANING?

If you would like to participate in our yearly Spring yard sale, there are a few ways you can sign up. You may fill out the attached registration form and return it to the Association Office in the drop box, mail registration to the Association office, or register by sending an email to events@afhoa. net (please include your name, address, phone number, and types of items being sold.)

A list of participating homes will be available at the Association Office on Friday, May 20th after 5PM on the drop box post.

Residents will be responsible for setting up their own tables and merchandise and collecting money. On the day of the sale, set-up may begin at 7AM in your yard and all items should be removed by 4PM. We will advertise the yard sale using a variety of online and print media to increase turn-out.

Participating residents can and are encouraged to put up their own signs as long as they are removed after the sale is over. If you have questions, please email events@afhoa.net.

	0
Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email	

**Registration Form** 

I would like my house listed on the flyer as participating in the Community Yard Sale on 05/21/2022

#### Signature

## Circle types of items you are selling:

EL—ElectronicsAC—Adult clothingF—FurnitureL—Linens/curtainsCT—Baby/child toysV—Video games, CD'sK—Kitchen ItemsT—ToolsBC—Baby/kids clothingP—Pet itemsHD—Household DecorM—Miscellaneous

Windmill Drive will be closed from Ashburn Farm Parkway to Thistlewood Court staring at 5:00 pm and reopen after fireworks. Fireworks display will begin around 9:00 pm.

Ashburn Farm Association's 22nd Annual

Summer

Kickoff

# May 28th, 2022 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm

# **SPREAD THE WORD!**

SHBURN

The Association is excited to introduce to the community electronic pool passes; you read it right, electronic pool passes!

You ask yourself, how do I get it, or what do I need to obtain it? Great question; scan the QR code for the complete details and instructions.

# **Complimentary Guest Passes**

What about my free guest passes? To obtain the four complimentary guest passes per household, please stop by the Association office during business hours to retrieve these paper passes. Unfortunately, the guest passes are no longer available electronically.



#### CLASSIFIEDS

#### **PRIVATE MATH TUTORING**

I will tutor your math student in your home. Improve their abilities in middle school, SAT/ACT, high school, and college mathematics. Contact Steve Lubore, Ph. D. at 703-729-9248 or gr82learn@comcast.net.

#### Handyman Services

For repairs in your home. Small jobs and odds and ends. Plumbing, electrical, water heater replacements, bathrooms, and more... Free estimates. Call: 571-426-2126.

#### Lawn Care and Landscaping Services

Trust your lawn care or landscaping project to us. Current list of services can be found on ridge-infinity. com. Please email ryan.irvine@ridge-infinity.com or call/text 443.864.6061 for a free quote. We look forward to working with you!

#### ESTATE PLANNING: WILLS AND TRUST

Estate planning services, including a fee 30-minute consultation to discuss your needs. Everything from basic wills and power of attorney to more advanced living trust. Please visit www.hammelmanlaw.com or contact Melanie at melanie@hammelmanlaw.com or 571-403-1869. EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT FOR ASHBURN FARM RESIDENTS.

#### **Interior Design Services**

Ready to revitalize your home? Let us refine your space with your existing furnishings and give you a fresh look or update with new paint colors, artwork, accessories, window treatments, blinds, or furniture. We also stage homes for resale. Contact Ginger at GB Interiors 571-442-2773 or Kay at 703-850-3441.

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## HOW TO PLACE CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads (limited to 40 words maximum) must be received with payment by the 10th of each month for the following month's issue. To take advantage of the discounted rates for Ashburn Farm residents, you must provide an address and daytime telephone number to accompany your ad.

#### MONTHLY RATES:

- Resident Rates Monthly \$20.00
- Personal Ads FREE
- Non-Resident Rates Monthly \$35.00

#### ADS:

Please email ads to: info@afhoa.net

#### FORM OF PAYMENTS ACCEPTED

Cash and checks are accepted as payment. Make checks payable to "Ashburn Farm Association." No cancellations after the 15th of each preceding month.

#### MAIL TO OR DROP OFF PAYMENTS AT:

Ashburn Farms Association, 21400 Windmill Drive, Ashburn, VA 20147

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Editor: Kristen at 703-729-6680 or info@afhoa.net

Please Note: Neither the Ashburn Farm Association, its Members, or the Board of Trustees recommends or endorses any advertiser. The Ashburn Farm Association reserves the right to decline any advertisement for any reason deemed appropriate. Submit¬ted materials are the author's opinion and do not reflect the views of Ashburn Farm Association, its Members, or the Board of Trustees. For the sake of clarity or length, the Editor or General Manager may edit articles.

#### ESTATE PLANNING WILLS, TRUSTS, PROBATE ADMINISTRATION And

#### TRUST ADMINISTRATION



Milton Babirak, JD and LLM Attorney at Law BABIRAK CARR, PC 47539 Coldspring Place | Sterling, VA 703.406.4600 mbabirak@babirakcarr.com

www.babirakcarrestateplanning.com

**Ashburn Farm Odd Job Squad**-Please consider the following young people for your odd job needs! The Ashburn Farm Association makes no claim as to the qualifications of the below-mentioned persons.

Please be sure to update your contact information regularly. Thank you! Odd Job Squad Form is NOW here —





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#### **PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Animal Control/Shelter	
Building Permits & Dev	
County Landfill	
DMV (VA)	
DISH	
DirectTV	
Health Department	
Library (Ashburn)	
Loudoun Info	
Loudoun Hospital	
Miss Utility	
Metro	
Parks and Recreation	
Ridesharing	
Road Conditions	
School Board	
Statewide Highway Info	
Street Signs/Storm Drains	
VDOT	
Verizon Fios	
Xfinity/Comcast	
Wildlife Hotline (local)	
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#### SCHOOLS IN ASHBURN FARM

Stone Bridge High School	571-252-2200
Trailside Middle School	571-252-2280
Sanders Corner Elementary School	571-252-2250
Saint Theresa Catholic School	703-729-3577



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