

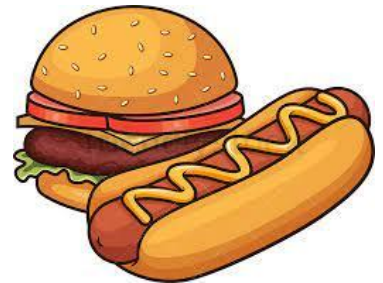


COUNTRYSIDE WOODS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2023 - Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood Picnic in the Park

Mark your calendars! Our annual Neighborhood Picnic is coming up on **September 9, 2023 from 12-2pm at Countryside Park**. Come meet your neighbors and enjoy hamburgers and hotdogs. We will provide plates and cutlery. Please bring a chair and any potluck food items you'd like to share. We will be electing the 2024 Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association Officers at the picnic. Interested in a leadership role on the CWNA in 2024? Reach out to CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com for more information. Can't wait to see you there!



Thanks for a successful Community Garage Sale

The Countryside Woods annual garage sale was a **huge success**. Thanks to all who signed up! The garage sale took place July 7-9 and over 30 houses participated. Special thanks to Amber Schroeder and Laurie Christensen for organizing the garage sale and to Herb Schroeder for help with the sale map. We're excited to have the garage sale again next year.

2023 Events Calendar

September 9, 2023 12:00pm - 2:00pm	CWNA Annual Picnic	Join our annual picnic at Countryside Park. This is a great time to meet new neighbors and volunteer as a CWNA member. We will also be voting on CWNA officer positions.
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What is the CWNA?

Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association (CWNA) is a Neighborhood Association recognized by the City of Vancouver in 2001, we are not a Homeowner Association. As a recognized neighborhood, the city supports us with certain services and privileges. Want to learn more? Visit the [Countryside Woods page](#) on City of Vancouver's website or email any questions, comments, or suggestions to CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com. Thank you!

Meet Your Neighbors

Amil Haddad and his family have lived in Vancouver for over 22 years. Originally from Syria, they moved to Camas in 2001 when Amil was 8 years old, and then to Vancouver. 2 years ago, Amil bought a house in Countryside Woods and fell in love with the neighborhood and close-knit community. Get to know him below:

What do you love about our neighborhood?

I love the sense of community in Countryside Woods, seeing families walking around and their children playing in the streets. As a real estate broker, I know that people long for that community feel in their neighborhood but it's rare nowadays. I also admire that neighbors take pride in their homes and take care of them.

What are some local activities that you enjoy?

It's awesome that our neighborhood hosts so many activities, like the annual garage sale. I enjoy hosting friends and I'm a huge foodie, so being close to restaurants with easy access to freeways is great. I'm like an encyclopedia for local food! One of my favorite places right now is Arawan Thai Cuisine, which is just down the street from my house.

Is there anything you wish Countryside Woods had that it currently doesn't?

I'd love to see neighbors get together more often to build our community network and keep our neighborhood safe. There are so many people who care about Countryside Woods and we're stronger together. Something like a Neighborhood Watch. I do my best to stay informed on local issues and connect with neighbors via the Nextdoor group, but getting to know folks in person is really helpful.

-Interview by Miranda Sulley



Countryside Park Cleanup



To honor Earth Day, a group of local volunteers joined the city-sponsored [Naturespaces](#) program and worked together to help maintain Countryside Park on Saturday, April 29, 2023. It was a beautiful afternoon removing invasive Himalayan blackberry, and included a loggery installation, mulching, and park beautification! A small but mighty crew managed to remove eight yards of invasive plants and woody debris and spread four yards of mulch. The city provided water, coffee, snacks, gloves, and garden tools.

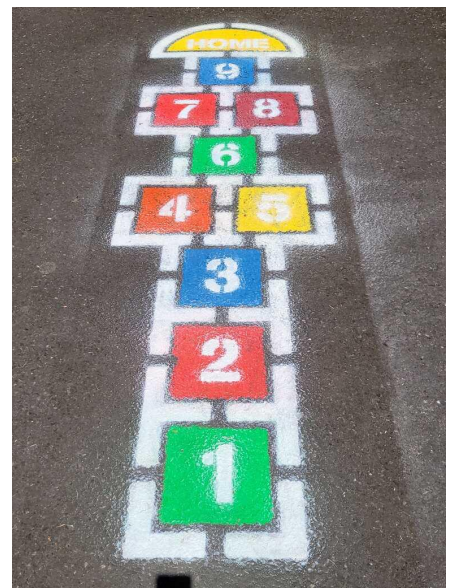
Local volunteers installed a loggery in Countryside Park

Part of the time was devoted to the installation of a loggery, an English habitat restoration feature defined as a native wood structure installed to provide a more diverse habitat for creatures large and small. We also installed a colorful hopscotch near the park entrance - huge thanks to Caprice Paschall for donating the hopscotch stencil.

The work represents a major contribution to the restoration of the park. The mulch we spread and invasives removed will help build soils and allow native vegetation to reestablish in the park to provide critical resources for wildlife like the native bee and bird species that call this beautiful park home. Having access to nature and green spaces has been shown to improve mental health, children's test scores, air quality, and long term health outcomes. Green spaces are some of our most valuable assets.

Thanks for all of your hard work and great conversations! The park is so much better from the volunteer effort. To learn more about the Naturespaces program and future volunteer activities, click the link above or search "Naturespaces" on the City of Vancouver's website.

-Written by Stephen Wille



A colorful hopscotch game was created

Vancouver's Curbside Organics Collection



Vancouver residents now have the option of a newly expanded Organics collection program, replacing the former yard debris service that many subscribed to in the past. Single-family residential customers within the City of Vancouver can include food scraps in their organics cart, the same Waste Connection teal/green cart previously used for yard debris service. If you have been a yard debris service customer, you may also have received a small kitchen pail from Waste Connections to help with organics collection.

Here's how the organics collection works: Use the kitchen pail or any other container to collect kitchen scraps during food preparation or cleanup. Then when ready, empty the pail/container into your teal/green organics cart. Roll your organics cart with scraps and yard debris out to the curb the night before or early morning – by 6 a.m. – of collection day. Remember: The optional organics service is an every-other-week collection.

For more information and organics collection tips, visit www.cityofvancouver.us/organics. To sign up for this service or learn about different size options for organics carts, visit Waste Connections webpage at www.wcnorthwest.com/organics. Want an organics collection day reminder? Use the RecycleRight app online or download for smart phones and tablets. Visit www.cityofvancouver.us/recycleright.

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Trauma Intervention Program (TIP)

Have you ever wondered who helps community members after tragic events you see on the news? Amber Schroeder and I volunteer for an incredible organization called Trauma Intervention Program (TIP). We are a group of specially trained and thoroughly screened citizen volunteers who provide emotional and practical support to survivors of traumatic events and their families in the first few hours following a tragedy. TIP volunteers are called through the emergency response system (by police, firefighters, hospital personnel, schools, organizations, and businesses). TIP NW was founded in 1992 and serves the Portland/Vancouver areas. 200 local volunteers are available to respond immediately to crisis situations on a 24-hour, 365 days-a-year basis. TIP volunteers work on 12 hour shifts (7AM-7 PM or 7PM-7AM). We are required to take 3 shifts per month. We respond to calls after the death of community members from natural causes, medical causes, suicide, even homicide. We work closely with families providing a resource guide with information and telephone numbers for agencies such as Social Security, funeral homes, etc. Emergency personnel appreciate the TIP program because they can leave the scene and go to their next call knowing that someone is with the family and helping them with questions they might have. There will be a new training academy in Vancouver this November. I would encourage anyone interested to visit <http://www.tipnw.org> to learn more about our organization.



-Written by Laurie Christensen

Neighborhood Cleanup at Eastpark Church



On the sunny Saturday of June 24, 2023, Eastpark Church parking lot was the place to be for the multi-neighborhood cleanup. Countryside Woods, First Place, Cimarron, and Burton/Evergreen NA's came together to fill two garbage trucks with yard debris and bulky material. The trucks carried away a total of 12.33 tons of bulky waste collected from area garages, backyards, side yards, back rooms, and living rooms.

The neighborhoods collected over \$400 in cash donations, nearly filled the dumpster with several tons of assorted metal, and provided a generous abundance of snacks for the Eastpark Church summer kids programs. Pastor Dave stopped by to witness a string of cars winding through the parking lot, and nodded his approval of the pre-packaged snack donations.

This year's "Trash to Treasure" pile was another success, with a number of items finding new homes as people sorted through the accumulation of reusable items. This year all the "trash pile" bicycles were re-homed as treasures by the end of the day.

The great group of volunteers kept the line moving. It stretched out of the parking lot this year as people realized this opportunity to accomplish some late spring cleaning. A long line developed as people kept pulling in but we did our best to keep it moving. For contributing to the effort, the volunteers successfully qualified all four neighborhoods for the Resource Conservation Challenge grant of \$100 toward each NA.

-Written by Stephen Wille

Join our "Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association" group on Nextdoor.

We've started a new group on Nextdoor (access via mobile app or on Nextdoor's website). Search Nextdoor for "**Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association**" and join today! Keep up with events, hear about local news, and meet your neighbors. [Click here to go to the group](#)





18th Street Corridor Design Coalition



The 18th Street Corridor Design Coalition is a volunteer group of neighbors from Countryside Woods, First Place, Cimarron, and Burton/Evergreen NA's who regularly meet about the street widening project. They are seeking community input regarding next steps and are working with a consultant to create a project proposal. The group holds informational meetings in-person and via Zoom, open to every interested neighbor.

If you would like to learn more, please reach out to teigenpace68@gmail.com.



Ideas for Articles

Do you have suggestions for topics you'd like to see featured in our quarterly newsletter? Want to share your story in our "Meet Your Neighbors" segment? We'd love to hear from you! Please reach out to CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com.



General Meeting Summary - April 20, 2023

Attending: Kara Harden Egan (Chair), Judy George (1st Chair), Susanne Heyman (2nd Chair), Tina Henry (Treasurer), Amber Schroeder (Secretary), Laurie Christensen (Member at Large), Steve Wille (Member at Large), Susan Paynter (Member at Large), Yuqing Leland (Member at Large), Neighborhood Police Officer Jeremy Free (City of Vancouver), Meg Johnson (Waste Connections), Hailey Heath (Naturespaces), Lon Traylor Klugman (HART, City of Vancouver), Officer Tyler Chavers (HART, City of Vancouver), and several CWNA neighbors.

Treasurer's Report:

\$3,800.14	Previous Balance
+ \$40.00	Referral bonus from storage company
- \$108.39	Purchase of a canopy
\$3,731.75	Ending Balance

Discussion Topics:

- Meg Johnson from Waste Connections shared tips for recycling and garbage disposal.
- Hailey Heath (Volunteer Coordinator with the City of Vancouver) shared details about the Naturespaces program, which aims to enhance and restore green spaces in Vancouver for

the benefits of humans and habitat. Fun fact: Countryside Park is the oldest of Vancouver's three green spaces. Projects in Countryside Park are currently coordinated by CWNA Member at Large, Steve Wille.

- Neighborhood Police Officer Jeremy Free shared that Countryside Woods is the safest neighborhood in Vancouver. There are currently 22 openings for Vancouver police officers, and the City is working to open a local police academy. He encouraged neighbors to spread the word to anyone interested in working in law enforcement. He also reminded neighbors to lock cars and remove all items from inside cars to deter break-ins.
- Lon Traylor Klugman shared his experience with homelessness and the resources the City provided him. Officer Tyler Chavers shared that there are ~500-600 individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Vancouver and reviewed available resources such as safe stay locations and tiny homes.
- A raffle was held and the CWNA gave away prizes to random neighbors in attendance.
- The next General Board Meeting is the Neighborhood Picnic on September 9th at Countryside Park.

If you would like a complete copy of the minutes, please email CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com.

Countryside Woods Neighborhood Association Questions or Comments? Email us at: CountrysideWoodsNA@gmail.com	
Chair	Kara Harden Egan
1st Chair	Judy George
2nd Chair	Susan Heyman
Secretary	Amber Schroeder
Treasurer	Tina Henry
Newsletter Editor	Miranda Sulley
Members at Large	Steve Wille, Yuqing Leland, Susan Paynter, Laurie Christensen

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