



SPRING 2022

# AROUND THE DOWNS

Newsletter of the Greenway Downs Citizens Association



Background photo: 2021 Pup Parade

## Greenway Downs Citizens Association

The Greenway Downs Citizens Association (GDCA) is a non-profit, non-partisan association of residents that represents approximately 480 households in one of oldest neighborhoods in Falls Church, Fairfax County. The GDCA is represented by a board of directors.

The Greenway Downs neighborhood was carved out of a 100 acre farm in 1927 but the neighborhood as we know it today was not created until 1942, when a group of neighbors decided to join together to get Fairfax County to hear their collective concerns.

Today, Greenway Downs is featured in Arlington Magazine as one of 10 great neighborhoods in Northern Virginia. The GDCA is proud to be both one of the oldest and most active civic associations in Northern Virginia. With support from its members, the GDCA board provides activities for the community throughout the year and represents the interests of Greenway Downs to local officials.

## Community Event Schedule

**Spring Events, Saturday, April 23 from 12-3pm**  
at John Mastenbrook Cul-de-sac on Custis, "Shady Park"

**Creek Cleanup, Noon, May 7, 9:00am - 12:00pm**  
Meet at Basketball court on Custis

**Greenway Downs Annual Meeting, May 10, 7:00pm**  
at Italian Cafe

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# Spring Fling

**Saturday, April 23, 12-3pm  
John Mastenbrook Park**

We can't wait for SPRING FLING! This year we'll have a caricature artist, moon bounce, balloon artist, plant swap, craft table, and **THE BEST** food trucks in the area! That's right, we'll have Pepe by Jose Andres, Kona Ice, and La Tingeria (our neighbor across the street). We hope all our neighbors can come out to this event, as there is something for everyone.



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# Community Events



## CREEK CLEANUP/ INVASIVE SPECIES

### CREEK CLEANUP MAY 7, 9AM - NOON, BASKETBALL COURT ON CUSTIS

Our creek along Custis Parkway needs our help! Join your fellow neighbors on **Sat., May 7** for creek clean up. Trash bags will be provided. We will have several litter grabbers and gloves available but bring tools, gloves, and waders if you have them. It should be fun for the whole family! Makes a great service project too.

All are welcome to help us keep this beautiful creek clean and free of invasive species. Questions? Email Kristen at [kristen\\_b\\_jones@yahoo.com](mailto:kristen_b_jones@yahoo.com). Thanks for doing your part to keep our creek clean and beautiful!

### GREENWAY DOWNS ANNUAL MEETING MAY 10, 7PM ITALIAN CAFE

Come on down to the Italian Cafe on May 10 to see other neighbors, get the latest updates affecting our neighborhood, ask questions, and enjoy some free appetizers! We will also be giving away one local restaurant gift basket to a lucky attendee. Not sure if you're up to date on dues? You can check and pay at the meeting! See you there. We hope you or someone from your household can attend! One of our speakers will be Paul Stoddard from Falls Church City, who will speak on nearby development efforts.

For any questions or concerns, please email [GreenwayDownsInfo@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwayDownsInfo@gmail.com)



## ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

For all residents of Greenway Downs

**TUESDAY, MAY 10 | 7PM  
ITALIAN CAFE**

# GDCA Board Members

**CO PRESIDENT:** Jeremy Black (W George Mason)      jeremysblack1@gmail.com  
**CO PRESIDENT:** Menoka Fuard (Cameron)      mikefuard1@gmail.com  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Jenny Girard (Lee)      jennyagirard@gmail.com  
**SECRETARY:** Ana Letona (Winchester)      aletona@diener.org  
**TREASURER:** Iris Trieb (Winchester)      Triebi@hotmail.com

## Members at Large

Tim Hudson (Monroe)      timhud@gmail.com  
Kristen Jones (W George Mason)      kristen\_b\_jones@yahoo.com  
Marjorie Wallach (Woodlawn)      marjoriwallach@gmail.com

**Are you or someone you know  
new to Greenway Downs?**

Email [GreenwayDownsInfo@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwayDownsInfo@gmail.com) to get a welcome packet! You'll receive a neighborhood directory, a newsletter, and a welcome card and brochure, along with other helpful pieces of information.

## CUSTOM STONESCAPING



**VISIT OUR 24 HOUR SHOWROOM!**  
2755 Greenway Blvd, Falls Church VA 22042

**703-407-8663**  
OFFICE@CUSTOMSTONESCAPING.COM

**WWW.CUSTOMSTONESCAPING.COM**

### SERVICES:

- Patios
- Stoops | Steps
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- Riverbeds
- Driveways
- Fire Pits | Fireplaces
- Lighting
- Walls
- Plantings
- Boulders
- Paths | Walkways
- Water Features
- Benches
- Permeable Pavers

### DRAINAGE ISSUES:

- Down Spouts
- Dry Wells
- Stairwell Drains
- Swales
- Dry Creek Beds
- Window Wells
- French Drains
- Wet Yards
- Failing Walls
- Culverts
- Rain Gardens
- Slope Stabilization
- Erosion Control
- Waterproofing



\*10% OFF NEW CONTRACTS WITH THIS AD, AT TIME OF ESTIMATE.

# SUPPORT GREENWAY DOWNS

Membership is voluntary! **100% of your donation supports Greenway Downs** and is used to support activities like the Spring Fling, Pup Parade, sign restoration, newsletters, email updates, food trucks, and much more. Membership gives you the right to vote on board matters at the annual meeting. You can also just make a donation!

## HOW TO SUPPORT GREENWAY DOWNS

We recommend an annual donation of **\$22 per household (\$10 for seniors)**, but we will accept any amount!

### Pay Online

[TinyUrl.com/support2022](https://TinyUrl.com/support2022)  
or scan this code:



### Check or Cash

Drop off payment at the  
Treasurer's house  
(check made out to GDCA):

Iris Trieb  
2814 Winchester Way

*thank you*

*to our 34 neighbors who have already donated in 2022!*

## FOOD TRUCKS



**JUNE -  
SEPTEMBER**

**2ND SATURDAYS**

**📍 BASKETBALL COURTS**

**🕒 12PM-3PM**



FOR MORE UPDATED INFORMATION,  
VISIT GDCA WEBSITE, FACEBOOK AND  
NEXTDOOR

## FOOD TRUCKS RETURN THIS SUMMER

Back by popular demand, we will have food trucks once a month on the second Saturday of each month, from June through September, 12-3pm. Like previous years, they will be down at the basketball courts. Stay tuned to this email update, our website and our Facebook page for the latest truck schedule and pre-order options.



**703-533-0667**

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Bonilla Tree Service is proud to support Greenway Downs

# Invasive Species Removal

BY KRISTEN JONES

Invasive species are non-native plants that have come to Virginia and started out-competing the native ones. They spread and take over, often completely displacing local plants and harming the animals that rely on them. Greenway Downs organizes an annual event each spring to try to keep the problem in check.

In previous years people have asked how to recognize which species are invasive. Fairfax County has some excellent resources on identifying and removing common invasive species:

[tinyurl.com/FairfaxInvasive](http://tinyurl.com/FairfaxInvasive)

Here are several of the most common offenders found in our neighborhood.

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE...

## MOST WANTED

### Bamboo "The Invader"

Not all bamboo is invasive but if you have the kind that is, look out! It spreads by sending out underground runners and can grow at an astonishing rate. There is not very much of it around the creek but anyone up for tackling the thicket of bamboo near the playground would be a neighborhood hero.



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**Porcelain berry**  
**“The Strangler”**



It may look like a grapevine and it even has pretty berries but it climbs trees and eventually smothers them (it might make a great Batman villain, but it will never make good wine).



**Garlic Mustard**  
**“The Sneak”**

Garlic mustard can be difficult to identify because it looks completely different in its first year than its second. In its first year it appears in small clumps with wrinkly round leaves while in its second year it grows ridged, heart-shaped leaves and has small, white, cross-shaped flowers. Also, its most distinctive feature is invisible - it smells like garlic when crushed. While it looks harmless, it can be toxic to some native butterflies and out-competes most native plants for light.

**Bonus: Poison Ivy**  
**“Mr. Itchy”**



Technically a native plant, poison ivy gets a dishonorable mention here for the pain and suffering it causes to so many. Recognizable by its “leaves of three,” it can be shiny or dull and can turn red in the spring or fall.



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# REBUILDING TOGETHER-AFF

In this newsletter, we feature Rebuilding Together-AFF, a nonprofit organization that serves homeowners with limited income. Their volunteers make repairs and accessibility modifications at no charge to the homeowner with a focus on making homes safe and healthy.

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church, a local nonprofit organization that makes repairs and modifications at no charge for homeowners with limited income. Their volunteers install grab bars, railings, and stairlifts, build ramps, make minor plumbing and electrical repairs, and take care of deferred maintenance with a focus on making homes safe and healthy. Please call or email them if you have questions about their program, to receive an application, or to volunteer. You can also find information and an application on their website: [rebuildingtogether-aff.org](http://rebuildingtogether-aff.org).



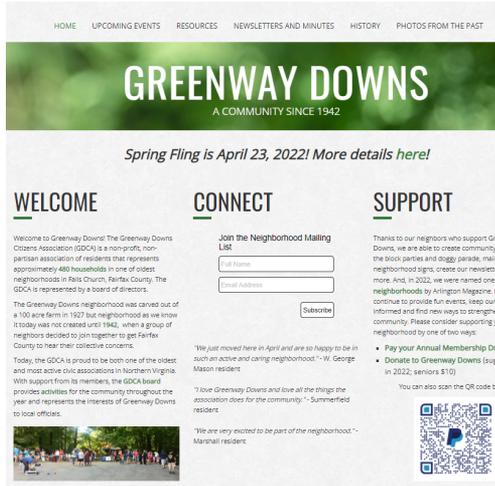
**PLEASE REACH OUT TO THEM IF YOU OR A NEIGHBOR YOU KNOW COULD USE THEIR HELP!**

TEL: 703-528-1999

Email: [info@rebuildingtogether-aff.org](mailto:info@rebuildingtogether-aff.org)

Website: [www.rebuildingtogether-aff.org](http://www.rebuildingtogether-aff.org)

# GDCCA Specials



## Greenway Downs

**March 2022: Latest News**

We are SO excited to see spring is just around board is working closely with the JV board to p stay tuned for details! Plus the Arlington Maga: great neighborhoods" is now available [online](#)-magazine in print layout [here](#). In other news, tl and we hope you'll consider a [donation](#) or [me](#) help us continue providing events and keeping updates below!

**PHOTO CONTEST**

## New Website

Our website has gotten a makeover! Check it out at [www.greenwaydowns.org](http://www.greenwaydowns.org) and let us know what you think!

## Email Update

Did you get our email update? If not, make sure to join the list! We send neighborhood updates about once a month. You can sign up for our private email list at [greenwaydowns.org](http://greenwaydowns.org).

## Photo Contest

Do you want to see your photo of Greenway Downs featured in an upcoming Greenway Downs email? Send your pics to [GreenwayDownsInfo@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwayDownsInfo@gmail.com) We will pick one photo each month to share.



**DUDE'S**  
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To all of our neighbors in Greenway Downs, we want to say thank you for your support and helping to make Dude's a success!

**In appreciation, we would like to offer you \$15 off any service with this ad!**

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