

MILL CREEK HOME



Newsletter of the Mill Creek Homeowners Association, Charlottesville, Virginia
also available online at www.millcreekhomeowners.org

Important Community Meeting October 16

We have a special opportunity in October to learn more about county plans for walking trails in our area. These are trails that connect downtown with outer areas like Mill Creek and eventually with Biscuit Run State Park. Because Mill Creek land contains one of the walking trails that might become part of this network, Mill Creek homeowners will want to understand the issues and be prepared to make important decisions in the next few years.

See page 3 for details about the meeting.

It's not too early to mark your calendar and begin thinking about the annual homeowners' meeting on January 14. See page 4.

As we begin to do our fall chores to put our gardens to bed and winterize our houses, let's remember our neighbors who may need a little extra help.

— Addeane Caelleigh, Editor

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Web management volunteers needed

The Board is finalizing plans to upgrade the Mill Creek website. The improvements include a fresh, new look, better navigation, and expanded services.

Volunteers will help with web management: posting documents, such as the newsletter and announcements of community events. Contact Brian Lewis at biglew57@comcast.net to learn more and join the effort.

Mill Creek e-mail list

An e-mail list is being built to allow for rapid, convenient information exchange between the Board of Directors and homeowners. Member-at-Large Brian Lewis is collecting the addresses. Your information will be used only for neighborhood news, not shared or used for commercial purposes.

Your participation is voluntary but encouraged.

Please contact Brian to give your email address or check that the accurate one is on file:

Brian Lewis, biglew57@comcast.net.

A “Little Free Library” for Mill Creek?

A group of Mill Creek homeowners is interested in having a “Little Free Library” in Mill Creek.

Communities across North America have erected small structures for sharing donated books with their neighbors. Go to the Little Free Libraries website to see what our neighbors across the country have done! <http://littlefreelibrary.org/>

The idea is simple: families or neighbors build a small “library” box and install it on a post along the street. It is filled with donated books available to everyone, and most have a mix of books for adults and children.

This grass-roots movement began with one box in Wisconsin in 2009, and there now 10,000+ around the world, with more being installed every week.

If you are interested in planning one for Mill Creek,

get in touch with Addeane Caelleigh (asc8f@virginia.edu) or Janet Eden (outsidewitheden@aol.com).



Charlottesville has at least three Little Free Libraries: one on Palatine Avenue in Belmont (pictured above), another in Key West/Cedar Hills, and the newest one in Greenbriar.

Make a difference: Share your ideas at Mill Creek Board meetings

—2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm—

~ All homeowners welcome ~
Discuss your ideas, ask questions,
learn about current issues.



Meetings are held in members’ homes—watch for an announcement through the community email list or contact any Board member to learn the location of the next meeting.

Get community news fast! Join the Mill Creek email list

Homeowner Barbara Mann maintains the community email list and sends notices about a wide range of neighbor and local news.

She sends notices from our community police officer or the county, alerts about problems, agendas and minutes for HOA Board meetings, and special community announcement as well as homeowners’ requests for information about local contractors or offers of services to fellow homeowners.

Contact Barb Mann at bjm2r@virginia.edu
to join.

Important Community Meeting: Biscuit Run Trails and County Planning —October 16, 2013—

A community-wide meeting will be held Wednesday, October 16, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. present information about county planning in relation to Biscuit Run Park.

Dan Mahone, the Outdoor Recreation Supervisor for Albemarle County, will speak about the County greenway system. The County hopes to link up trails such as the Rivanna Trail and the county and city trail networks with Biscuit Run State Park, once the park is developed.

He will discuss the location and ownership of trails near Biscuit Run and describe the actions necessary to make trails part of the greenway.

Mill Creek's trail. Mill Creek land includes one of the trails that could be part of the trail network. Therefore, county plans could have a direct effect on the community.

Questions and decisions ahead. The communities along Biscuit Run will face major decisions about the trail in the next couple of years. The existence of the trail

Tree Sales

The Charlottesville Area Tree Stewarts will hold tree sales at City Market on October 12, 19, and 26. This is an excellent opportunity to buy healthy trees for your yard, and tree stewards can answers your questions and give advice.



Presents problems and opportunities for the surrounding communities.

Several concerns have arisen over the years:

- Liability: for injuries, especially since Mill Creek does not maintain the trail through its property and cannot control access
- Damage done by ATVs and dirt bikes
- Use as access route for hunters in fall and winter.

Becoming part of the county trail network is one option for homeowners to consider in coming months.

See the article in the Spring newsletter for more information about the Mill Creek trail and related issues:

<http://millcreekhomeowners.org/newsletter/Spring2013.pdf>

**Community Meeting about Biscuit Run Trail
Wednesday, October 16, 2013
6:30–7:30 p.m.
Monticello High School Forum Room
~Light refreshments~**

Mill Creek in 1994

The December 1994 *Mill Creek Newsletter* reported that the Albemarle County proposal for an internal road linking Lake Reynovia and Mill Creek had been placed on indefinite hold because of opposition by homeowners in both communities. The county originally proposed the road as an aid to mail delivery and emergency vehicles. The homeowners were concerned, however, about increased traffic within the neighborhoods and wanted to main limited access to interior streets.

Remember our speed limit! **25 mph**



Mill Creek Board

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January Annual Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Mark your calendars: The annual homeowners meeting will be January 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Forum Room at Monticello High School.

It is urgent that as many homeowners as possible attend the meeting, which will cover legal issues, elections of officers, and updates on community issues.

Forestry Department needs acorns

The Virginia Department of Forestry needs your help to continue producing high-quality seedlings for Virginia landowners. Virginia-grown seed generally produces trees that will grow well in our state. Every year, homeowners from all over the state donate acorns to help produce the next season's crop.

When you rake your leaves this fall, consider collecting the acorns and donating them to the forestry department. See the DOF website for details on what is needed and how to drop off your donations in Charlottesville.

<http://www.dof.virginia.gov/trees/acorn-collect.htm>

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