



A MESSAGE FROM THE MHNA PRESIDENT

October 2023

Dear Neighbors,

I hope everyone had a nice summer and you got plenty of exercise pulling the remarkably resilient stilt grass. If we could just find a way to get the deer to eat stilt grass instead of the hostas, hydrangeas, roses....

We are planning for a Miller Heights Bash! Saturday October 21 from 4-6pm (see pg. 6 for more info). We will try to have police and fire department there, Mark & Molly to provide awesome musical entertainment, and free ice cream. Hope to see you all there!

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors officially approved the Miller Heights Traffic Calming Plan a few weeks ago. Next steps are for the Fairfax County Department of Transportation to work with Virginia Department of Transportation to develop a plan for construction. We will be working closely with them as they go into detailed planning.

One thing that we can all agree on is that we like to maintain the value of our real estate, and that means that homes in our neighborhood sell for the best price possible. Prices in our neighborhood are doing well lately but I've noticed that sometimes real estate agents don't know the neighborhood well enough to market properly. I keep meeting people who, like me, just got lucky and stumbled into this awesome neighborhood. I'd like to update our website and add a page that informs prospective buyers and real estate agents about why Miller Heights is a great place to live (e.g., safe, walkable, convenient to Metro, 66 and 495, nature, the park, a great sense of community) and send a link to everyone in the community and to local agents. Please let me know if you can help out or if you have any ideas for this project.

We will have an MHNA meeting soon, perhaps early December, where we can officially elect new board members. We are pleased to announce that Michelle Cline has agreed to take over

the Vice President position from Judith. And Samantha Shusster has agreed to take over the Secretary position from Nico Shuster. If anyone is interested in taking up any of the other board positions please let us know. If you are not interested in a board position but want to do something in the neighborhood that fits the MHNA mission, let us know. We can always create a committee and support you in your efforts. As always, I remind everyone to please reach out to us if you have any questions about what we are doing or have suggestions for what else we can do or how we can do things better.

We can't keep up the work we do without your support. Please do pay your membership dues and please let us know if you have new neighbors that we can reach out to. We have a new Hospitality Committee comprised of Marjorie Geraci and Patty Ogden who will give them a proper welcome from MHNA!

Happy Autumn!

Doug Shuster

MHNA President president@mhnanews.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Message from the MHNA President | 1 |
| Contacts , Officers and Social Media | 2 |
| Officer and Committee Updates and MHNA BASH | 3 |
| Neighborhood Connections | 11 |
| Miller Heights Real Estate Update | 14 |
| Comments and Input from our Residents | 15 |
| MHNA Kid's Newsletter | 19 |
| Fairfax County 2023-2024 School Calendar | 22 |

CONTACTS

MILLER HEIGHTS FACEBOOK GROUP

The **Miller Heights Neighborhoods Facebook group** is for residents of Miller Heights in Oakton, VA, to share news, information and upcoming events that might be of interest to our neighborhood. This closed group has grown to **604** members and it is still growing with lots of posts.

The MHNA Facebook group is a popular free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and videos, send messages and keep in touch with neighbors.

You can be invited to join by your neighbor or you can request to join yourself. Check [Here](#).

NEXTDOOR MILLER HEIGHTS

Nextdoor is the private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. And, it's free. Nextdoor's mission is to use the power of technology to build stronger and safer neighborhoods

The Miller Heights Nextdoor group has grown to 888 members as of now and it is growing every day,

You can be invited by your neighbor or sign up directly on the website. The link to the site is :

<https://millerheightsva.nextdoor.com>

OUR MHNA WEBSITE

As we mentioned in previous newsletters, the MHNA website is continually updated with new features and more information for you. The upgraded site is working very well and allows you to join MHNA and update your directory and sitter information yourselves. The **Member Portal** contains the MHNA Directory and the Sitter/Helper Directory. You can quickly pay your MHNA dues on the site and your information there can now be easily updated and accessed by you.

Check our website at www.mhnanews.com

To claim your household, register and update your profile and pay your dues, go to:

[MHNA Member Portal Login - MHNA Membership Portal \(mhnanews.com\)](http://www.mhnanews.com)

MHNA Board Officers

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| President | Doug Shuster |
| Vice President | Michelle Cline |
| Secretary | Sammy Shuster |
| Treasurer | Abheshek Narain |
| Communications | Barry Ingram |

MHNA Committee Chairs

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Membership | Abheshek Narain |
| Hospitality | Patti Ogden & Marjorie Geraci |
| Trails & Environment | Sara Holtz |
| Landscaping | Judith Schneider-Fletcher |

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

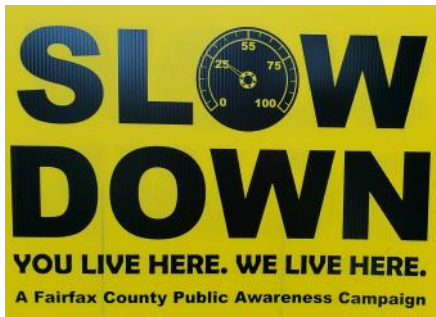
| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Emergency - Police, Fire, Medical) | 911 |
| Poison Control Poison Control (TTY) | 1-800-222-1222 711 |
| Police (non-emergency) | 703-691-2131 |
| Victim Assistance Network (Crisis Hotline) | 703-360-7273 |
| Animal Control | 703-746-4774 |
| Animal Shelter | 703-830-1100 |
| Fairfax County Fire Dept. Hdqtrs. | 703-246-2126 |
| Fairfax County Health Dept. (Code compliance) | 703-324-1300 |
| Fairfax County Health Dept. (sewer/septic) | 703-246-2201 |
| Fairfax Park Authority | 703-324-8700 |
| Fairfax Water Authority (after hrs. emergency) | 703-698-5613 |
| Hazardous Trees | 703-324-1770 |
| Household Hazardous Waste Infoline | 703-324-5033 |
| Miss Utility (underground utility marking) | 1-800-552-7001 |
| National Weather Service | 703-652-1210 |
| Storm Drainage Flooding (after hrs. emergency) | 703-323-1211 |
| VDOT (road hazards and conditions) | 1-800-367-7623 |
| Washington Gas emergency | 703-750-1400 |
| Power Outage (Dominion Power) | 1-800-366-4357 |
| Report Potholes (VDOT) | 1-800-367-7623 |

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

PLEASE SLOW DOWN!

By Barry Ingram

As much as we have discussed, pleaded and warned drivers throughout the neighborhood, we are still seeing far too many instances of drivers, especially on Miller Heights Road, exceeding posted speed limits. As many of you are aware, we have been meeting with FFX County representatives to find better ways to reduce risks to our residents. We have many neighbors walking and enjoying the fresh air along the roads, children playing throughout the neighborhood and contractors providing service to our residents. Over the years, we have had speed bumps and speed limit signs installed and have asked the FFX County police to place speed cameras in various locations now and then. Now, we have added more visible yard signs to remind drivers to slow down and are also working with the County to install additional speed humps/tables to help control speeds.



Need service hours?

Join our effort to remove invasive plants from parkland in Miller Heights and replace them with native plants, for the benefit of local wildlife such as birds and pollinators/butterflies.

Contact Sara Holtz at sh12sh34@gmail.com for upcoming dates

UPCOMING NEARBY EVENTS

Oakton Library Book Sale

October 18 - 21

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10 to 5:30 and
Saturday 10 - 4.

<https://www.friendsofoaktonlibrary.org>

Dulles Expo Center Events

Fall Capital Art & Craft Festival

October 13 - 15

Fri : 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sat : 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sun: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

The DC Big Flea & Antiques Market

October 13 - 15

Sat : 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sun: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We send out over 560 emails to our MHNA residents each time we have MHNA announcements, meeting notices, Newsletters, and other communications. Although we have 560+ homes in Miller Heights, we only have email addresses for about 380 unique homes, and many homes have multiple email addresses and others have not supplied their email addresses. If you know some of your neighbors are not receiving our mailings, please suggest they provide their email addresses to us. They can provide this information by contacting us at: info@mhnanews.com or going to our website www.mhnanews.com for more information. When residents provide their information, such as address, phone numbers and email addresses, they have the option of keeping the information private if they prefer.

We also see that many who are receiving the announcements and newsletters are not opening their emails or their emails may be going into their JUNK or SPAM folders.

You can help get the word out

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Saturday Trick or Treat Day in Miller Heights??

By Doug Shuster

Halloween is one of my favorite holidays. When else can you see little kids all dressed up, give the big kids a proper scare, and eat too much candy? Every year in my old neighborhood in Herndon there were less and less people welcoming trick or treaters. So one of the pleasant surprises of moving into Miller Heights was seeing how serious the neighborhood got about their Halloween decorations and festivities.



According to [history.com](https://www.history.com), Halloween originated with the ancient Celtic festival of [Samhain](https://www.history.com), held each year on October 31, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween.

The holiday has evolved in the U.S. to become a fun celebration for all, with haunted houses and trick or treating, and is especially exciting for kids, which is why I'm always so disappointed when Halloween falls on a weekday, as it will this year... a Tuesday. People are so busy these days and there's only so much time in a day, so whether it's getting back from work or getting to bed early for school or work the next day, it's a lot more difficult to plan and participate in the holiday on a weekday. There are other reasons why weekdays are bad for trick or treating - one [2018 study](https://www.2018study.com) found that the risk of being killed by a motor vehicle for child pedestrians aged 4 to 8 years is ten times higher on Halloween than on other days. With less traffic less on Saturdays, Halloween could be safer for everyone in addition to being more relaxing and enjoyable.

- Halloween 2020: Saturday, October 31, 2020
- Halloween 2021: Sunday, October 31, 2021
- Halloween 2022: Monday, October 31, 2022
- Halloween 2023: Tuesday, October 31, 2023
- Halloween 2024: Thursday, October 31, 2024
- Halloween 2025: Friday, October 31, 2025
- Halloween 2026: Saturday, October 31, 2026
- Halloween 2027: Sunday, October 31, 2027
- Halloween 2028: Tuesday, October 31, 2028
- Halloween 2029: Wednesday, October 31, 2029
- Halloween 2030: Thursday, October 31, 2030

That's why the [Halloween and Costume Association](https://www.halloweenandcostumeassociation.com) started a Change.org [petition](https://www.change.org) in asking President Trump to move Halloween to the last Saturday in October. Recognizing concerns about maintaining the sanctity of Halloween, they have since changed the petition to get support for a National Trick or Treat Day on the last Saturday of October.

It certainly isn't easy to change a holiday at a national level but it may be possible on a neighborhood level. Please let us know if there is support in the neighborhood for Miller Heights Trick or Treat Day to be held on Saturday, October 28 this year. If yes, we could do a marketing campaign and perhaps tweak this trick or treating tradition for the better.

NEWSLETTER NEWS

This is your newsletter. We want to get community event updates, block party news, general neighborhood news, questions and answers about issues, opinions (not political), and just neighborhood stories written by our residents. **If you have information, items of interest to our community, or human interest stories you would like included in the Newsletter, send it to us. Photos are always invited and welcome.**

If you do have input or ideas about content, contact Barry Ingram at: editor@mhnanews.com

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES (CONT.)

Update: Miller Heights & Oakton Road Entrance

By Judith Schneider-Fletcher

Well, the hot summer hurt a bit for our newly planted front entrance landscaping. We lost a few of the 3 gallon plants during the drought of May, June, and July (coinciding with our planting plans). But a lot of the plants have rebounded nicely thanks to the wet August and nice September we enjoyed. The small plugs we planted this spring were the most remarkable ones, they seemed to weather the drought better than the 3 gallon plants (not surprising) and are flourishing in the cooler temps. I especially love the “little blue stem” grasses – and it is hard to believe they started out as a 2 inch tall plant in a “plug” container. (Similar to a 4” pot, but only a ½ inch pot. It just goes to show that good things come in small packages!



We’ll give the Winterberry and Red Twig Dogwood that didn’t do so well some time to adapt, and hopefully they come back in the Spring. If not, we’ll swap them out next April.

Mark and I are now the happy(?) owners of over 350 ft of hose! Special thanks to Abheshk Narain for the use of his water spigot all summer. Without his water, we were going to be high and dry!

Special thanks to all who helped install this project. The big group in early March who helped take out the old landscaping (you know who you are), and to Sarah Frisby, Dylan Craig, and Michelle Cline for their continued help in planting. Special thanks to Doug Shuster – Rock Wall Guru! He took the fallacka boulders and created a great design using the existing small rocks from the previous wall with the boulders. I think it looks great and it might deter cars from driving into the sign....

There is a bit of work still to be done. Of course, regular maintenance - if you want to pull weeds, give me a call! Also, the area to the right (when facing the landscape) still needs work and plants. I ran out of plugs, and used flower seed to fill in that space. This seemed like a great idea, but was only mildly successful with the dry weather. Not to worry, we plan to replant that area with more of the small plugs. Cost efficient and drought resistant!

The next phase of the front landscape will happen after the traffic calming speed tables and medians are installed. We will take a thoughtful approach to the medians to ensure they

are safe and beautiful. Again, drought resistant, native plants, and low growing (for visibility) will be the theme in the center median. I have my daughter Rachel tasked to help with that design, so it will coordinate with the entrance.

First Wednesday MHNA Monthly Social Meetings Location—Settle Down Easy

The first Wednesday monthly social meeting for Miller Heights Neighborhood was a big success at Settle Down Easy on September 6th. The First Wednesday monthly meetings begin a new tradition!

We hope you were able to join us on October 4th at Settle Down Easy for friendship, meeting announcements, and a chance to get more involved in activities in the neighborhood. Don’t miss the next one— First Wednesday every month.

During the Sept 6th event, we introduced Michelle Cline, new Vice President of Miller Heights Neighborhoods Association. Michelle has been getting active in the MHNA over the past few months. She was instrumental in the installation of the new entrance landscape at Miller Heights and Oakton Road and will be an integral part of the board in no time. We also announced new Hospitality chairs - Marjorie Geraci and Patti Ogden - at the meeting. Marjorie and Patti will welcome new residents to the neighborhood with special goodies left on their doorstep.

Our hope is the First Wednesday monthly meeting will bring new faces to Settle Down Easy and make this a part of regular Miller Heights events. Big thanks to Frank and the crew at SDE! It was a great night!

Photo from our October 4 Social



OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES (CONT.)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

by **Abheshek Narain**

As of October 3rd, 2023, Miller Heights Neighborhoods Association has 152 paid members, while over 200 have registered themselves and confirmed their residence via our site. While we did notice an uptick in membership and support, we continue to encourage you to speak with your neighbors and urge them to visit our website (www.MHNAnews.com), re-register and submit the annual donation.

MHA has been diligently working on behalf of the neighborhood, most recently on gaining approval from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on the traffic calming measures, impacting our neighborhood. While the timing for construction of the calming measures is subject to VDOT, our County Supervisor, Dalia Palchik, has been a key champion on our behalf and recognized the tremendous effort undertaken by our fellow neighbors in going door to door to elicit approvals from fellow neighbors. Kudos to our neighborhood for recognizing the urgency of traffic calming !

We continue to ask that you share your ideas of how MHNA can help you further and encourage your neighbors to join MHNA and participate. We are here as your neighborhood voice to support your interests.

As always, if you have any updates to your contact information, please visit our new Membership portal (<https://www.mhnanews.com/portal/login.php>), or reach out to membership@mhnanews.com. If you prefer to remit your donation by check, please feel free to submit payment to "Miller Heights Neighborhoods Association" P.O. Box 538, Oakton, VA 22124

Thank you for your continued support of the Miller Heights Neighborhoods Association and its goals and activities. We look forward to your continued participation and in sharing information about MHNA and our activities with your neighbors.

-Abheshek Narain

Treasurer & Membership Chair

Miller Heights Neighborhoods Association (MHNA)

The Miller Heights Bash

October 21 4 - 6 PM

Location

Cranbrook Lane & Saddlestone Ct

ALL RESIDENTS INVITED

Live Music – Mark & Molly

Friendly Pets

Free Ice Cream

Drinks

Fire Trucks

Police Cars

Frisby Tossing & Cornhole

Neighborhood Food Truck

MHNA Table

Miller Heights Coop

MHNA Officers

Games

County Officials

Chalk Drawing on Streets

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES (CONT.)

A Few Photos from Our 2022 Bash



OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES (CONT.)

TRAILS & ENVIRONMENT

Submitted by Sara Holtz

City of Fairfax Recycling- Know Before You Throw



Recycling is an everyday activity that can fight climate change, preserve natural resources, conserve energy, and save money.

But did you know that recycling the wrong way can be harmful to the recycling economy and potentially dangerous to recycling workers? Recycling correctly is a critical part of conserving natural resources, creating healthier air to breathe, cleaner water to drink, and creating sustainable jobs. Know before you throw!

Credit: City of Fairfax Recycling

For more detail and explanations, check out:

<https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/public-works/operations-division/refuse-recycling/single-family-townhouse-services/recycling-guide>

KNOW BEFORE YOU THROW!

Can I Put This In My Recycling Bin?

Yes!

Cardboard Packaging



Cardboard boxes and packaging should always be placed in the recycling bin! Make sure to break down all cardboard boxes to save room in your recycling bin.

No!

Plastic Overwrap



Plastic overwrap should never be placed in the recycling bin. Separate overwrap from other materials (e.g. cardboard and plastic bottles) for recycling. Take plastic overwraps back to local retailers to be recycled, or place in the trash.

Visit www.nextrex.com to find retailers that have a take-back program and learn more about their film plastic recycling program.

KNOW BEFORE YOU THROW!

Can I Put This In My Recycling Bin?

Yes!

PLASTIC GALLON CONTAINERS



Plastic containers (of any size) are very recyclable and should always be placed in the recycling bin. Make sure to rinse out any excess liquids and let it dry before placing in the bin.

No!

CARTONS



Cartons are a mix of paper, cardboard, and wax, making it difficult to separate during the recycling process. Cartons should always be placed in the trash.

KNOW BEFORE YOU THROW!

Can I Put This In My Recycling Bin?

Yes!

JUICE BOTTLES



Plastic juice bottles (of any size) are very recyclable and should always be placed in the recycling bin. Make sure to rinse out any excess liquids and let it dry before placing in the bin.

No!

JUICE POUCH



Juice pouches are made of different layers of plastics, aluminum, polyester, and other materials that are difficult to separate during the recycling process. Juice pouches should always be placed in the trash.

A Special Note on Trash and Recycling

There is a lot of very good and helpful information on handling your trash, composting and recycling at the following Fairfax County link for the Fairfax Recycles Newsletter:

[Recycling and Trash | Public Works and Environmental Services \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/public-works/recycling-and-trash/public-works-and-environmental-services)

MHNA has been a big supporter of recycling and composting, an effort that Sara Holtz has championed for our neighborhood.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES (CONT.)

TRAILS & ENVIRONMENT (CONT.)

KNOW BEFORE YOU THROW!

Can I Put This In My Recycling Bin?

Yes!

PAPER



All forms of paper, including office papers, notebooks, envelopes, newspapers, etc., are very recyclable and should always be placed in the recycling bin.

No!

RECEIPTS



Receipts have a plastic thermal coating and therefore cannot be recycled. Always place receipts in the trash. Avoid excess waste by opting for email receipts or none at all.

KNOW BEFORE YOU THROW!

Can I Put This In My Recycling Bin?

Yes!

PIZZA BOXES



Pizza boxes that are clean should be placed in the recycling bin. If excessive grease and food residue are left on the box, compost at the City of Fairfax Composting Center, or place in the trash. To learn more about composting in the city, visit fairfaxva.gov/composting

No!

FAST FOOD BOXES



Fast food boxes and containers have a plastic coating that is impossible to separate during the recycling process and are usually coated in grease. Fast food boxes should always be placed in the trash.

Volunteer to Restore Habitat in Our Neighborhood Park!



INVASIVE MANAGEMENT AREA

VOLUNTEER

Invasive plants prevent us from enjoying our forests. They degrade our natural ecosystems. Some invasive plants such as multiflora rose & Japanese barberry can completely swarm over a section of woods and block out everything else.

The Fairfax County Park Authority has a volunteer program that battles invasive species, removing them and replacing them with native species.

Get involved in protecting our neighborhood park. Volunteer for the Invasive Management Area program. Even a few hours on a single day will help.

Students and scouts, do you need to earn some service learning hours or conservation/green hours? IMA is the program for you!

[Register for 10/9/23 at 10am-12pm](#)

[Register for 10/28/23 at 10am-12pm](#)



Gray Tree Frog Looking Through Window

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE UPDATES (CONT.)

THANKS TO 25 VOLUNTEERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR PARK CLEANUP DAY ON 9/16/23



Nick & Tucker Newberry educating volunteers about the importance of removing invasive plants and planting native plants to restore habitat for local wildlife



Group Photo

**INVASIVE PLANT
REMOVAL SESSION
ON
INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES DAY**

*10/9/23 at 10-12
3119 Miller Heights Rd, Oakton*

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/dsrp-ima-10-9-23>

NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS



Providence@fairfaxcounty.gov | SupvPalchik | www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence

Car tax payments are due Thursday, October 5th! Learn about the ways you can pay: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/car-tax-payments-are-due-oct-5-what-you-need-know>

The Jim Scott Community Center (formerly known as Providence Community Center), in partnership with Albertsons, will be providing vaccinations on Wednesday, **October 11th from 10 am to 2pm**. Vaccines offered: Flu, COVID-19, Pneumonia, Shingles, Tetanus, and Hepatitis B. Schedule your appointment: <https://www.safeway.com/vaccinations/group-clinic/ProvidenceSeniorCenter>

Early voting is underway in three locations in the County. An additional 13 locations will open on Thursday, October 26th including the Jim Scott Community Center. Find a list of all Fairfax County early voting sites and hours of operation: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/early-voting>

The **Adopt-a-Family Program** was developed to help children and families who are in need of clothing, food, and toys for the holidays. Every fall, the program begins taking donations to support families who are working with the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, Children, Youth and Families Division. The program matches generous donors with identified families to make their holidays more joyful. Learn more: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/children-youth/volunteer-partner-services/adopt-a-family>

Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) has developed a [proposed list of projects that will be narrowed down further with input from the community](#) to receive a portion of \$100 million funding allocated by the Board of Supervisors. FCDOT will hold two virtual community meetings on **October 3rd and 5th** to present how the current list of projects was developed, including the methodology and criteria staff used to select projects for consideration. The project list was narrowed down from a list of over 2,000 unfunded projects to 317. More information: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/transportation/bike-walk/100-million-funding/phase-3>

Sign up for the Palchik Post: [Signup Form \(constantcontactpages.com\)](#)

Fairfax County Visitors Guide

Are you looking for more events in Fairfax County or are you new to the area? The Fairfax County Visitors Guide may give you some help. Take a look—you might be surprised at all the places and events.

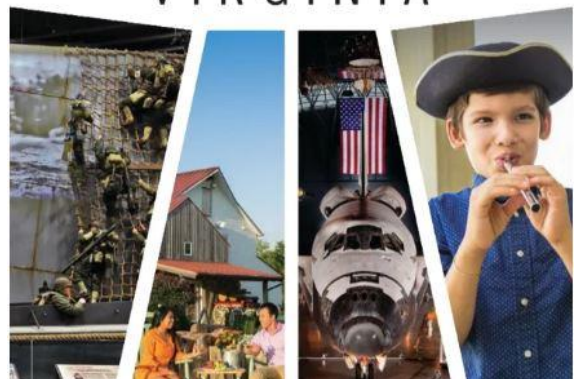
You can pick up one of these at your local library or read it online. You can also print it all or selected pages at home if you prefer that.

Click [Here](#) to get to the online site.



2023 Official Visitors Guide

FAIRFAX COUNTY VIRGINIA



NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS (CONT.)

FRIENDS OF THE OAKTON LIBRARY

Mark Your Calendars for the Friends of Oakton Library Fall Book Sale

BOOK SALE

OCTOBER 18 - 21, 2023



OAKTON LIBRARY

10304 LYNNHAVEN PLACE
OAKTON VA 22124

Wednesday, Thursday
& Friday 10 - 5:30
Saturday 10 - 4:00



friendsofoaktonlibrary.org
friendsofoaktonlibrary@gmail.com



Fairfax County Public Library
12000 Government Center Parkway
Suite 324
Fairfax, VA 22035



To request reasonable ADA accommodations
call 703-324-6380 or TTY 703-324-6385

BOOK DONATION INFORMATION

Your book donations help to finance Oakton Library's programs and FCPL's collections as a whole.

When donating used books please note:

- donations should be in good to excellent condition
- there is a limit of 3 grocery sized bags or small boxes per donation
- all donations should be left on the green cart just inside the Oakton Library lobby

We appreciate your support of literacy with your generous donations.
THANK YOU!

Oakton Community Library Hours

Monday & Tuesday - 10 am to 9 pm
Wednesday through Saturday - 10 am to 6 P M

Visit The Friends of the Oakton Library
[Home - The Friends of Oakton Library](http://www.friendsofoaktonlibrary.org)

THE MILLER HEIGHTS SOCIAL CLUB

Submitted by Chrissy Moggio, Stephanie Loritz, Irene Pao, and Sarah Soto

The Miller Heights Neighborhood has another neighborhood group called the Miller Heights Social Club (MHSC). Originally called the Miller Heights Co-op, the organization was formed for families with young children. Over the years the group has changed focus to social events for families and adults of all ages. Our annual events are intended for neighbors to come together, get to know one another, and build relationships. Our events have included: Wine & Beer Tasting, Halloween Family Party & Chili Cook-off, Ladies Bunco Night, Men's Poker Night, Thanksgiving Turkey Trot, Holiday Cookie Exchange, Progressive Dinner, Spring Family Party, Summer Fiesta, and Family Pizza Party. To join visit: <https://forms.gle/RmvgQgkq7YvE3Nvh9> or with questions email: millerheightsocialclub@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at a future event!

Don't miss our semi-annual book sale.

We have something for everyone: Adult and children's fiction and non-fiction, DVDs, CDs, Great Courses, Puzzles, Games, and more. Our "Premium Room" features unique and giftable books as well as bestsellers in "like new" condition **all at unbeatable prices.**

Shop early, shop later. Everything is a bargain! Your purchases not only give used books and media a second life, they support our local Oakton branch and the greater Fairfax County Library. Thank you for your patronage.

There are plenty of other events going on at the Oakton Library to fill your summer days with fun!

[Events - The Friends of Oakton Library](http://www.friendsofoaktonlibrary.org)

For more information and to read our newsletter that highlights all the activities at the Oakton Library, please visit our website. There are programs for toddlers, kids, teens and adults!

<https://www.friendsofoaktonlibrary.org>

Mary Colombi - VP Friends of the Oakton Library

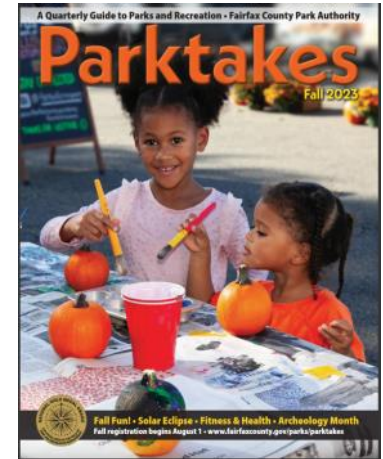
NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS (CONT.)

Fairfax County Parks

Looking for things for you or your family to do? Classes to take? Recreation or exercise? Well, take a tour through the Parktakes Fall Guide from the Fairfax County Park Authority. Of course, the Oak Marr Recreation Center is the closest one to Miller Heights. You can also view the guide at the Park Authority website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

Outdoor, indoor and virtual class options are available in a wide range of interest areas including:

- Outdoor and indoor fitness classes
- Learn to swim group lessons and private lessons
- Children's and Adult classes
- Nature & History programs
- Sports
- Scouting
- Golf lessons
- Gardening
- Virtual Classes and Camps – Fitness, nature, music, drama, coding
- Astronomy



The fitness centers offer a wide variety of cardiovascular machines, including treadmills, ellipticals and bikes, most with personal television viewing screens. For strength training, we have several lines of Cybex and Free Motion strength training machines as well as free weights.



Prepared by The League of Women Voters® of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) Education Fund
- a 501(c)(3) organization

WHAT'S ON YOUR BALLOT Tues NOV 7, 2023

CHECK/UPDATE YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION NOW!
vote.elections.virginia.gov



- ✓ **VIRGINIA:** VA Senators and House of Delegates
- ✓ **FAIRFAX COUNTY:** Chairman and Board of Supervisors, School Board, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Soil and Water District Directors, Bond Referendum
- ✓ **TOWN OF CLIFTON:** Mayor, Town Council Members
- ✓ **TOWN OF VIENNA:** Mayor, Town Council Members
- ✓ **CITY OF FAIRFAX:** Commonwealth's Attny, Sheriff, Clerk of Circuit Court
Nothing on ballot for federal or Town of Herndon offices

Visit [Flyer2 \(squarespace.com\)](http://Flyer2.squarespace.com) to get more information on registering and voting

MILLER HEIGHTS REAL ESTATE UPDATE OCTOBER 2023

Hi All -

Fall is officially here bringing its vibrant colors and crisp, cool air. While cozy sweaters and hot cocoa may be top of mind, it's also the perfect time to shift your focus toward your home - and get it ready for the colder months ahead.



Here are a few tips to keep you comfortable and protect your home from harsh winter weather. It's a good idea to keep a record of your home maintenance routine to pass on to the new owner of your home when you sell it.

Shut off outside water faucets. Close valves inside the house, then turn on the outside spigot to drain any remaining water from the line. Some newer homes have a pin at the shut-off valve that must be opened to let air in the line, which helps keep pipes from freezing.

Clear gutters and downspouts of leaves, branches, and other debris. Clogged gutters can cause water and ice to collect under your shingles, potentially damaging your roof. Clean outside drains of leaves to prevent water back-ups into your basement.

Change your furnace filter at least every two months. A clean filter limits dust, improves furnace efficiency and keeps utility costs low.

Have your furnace checked by a professional before winter sets in.

Reverse ceiling fan blades. In winter, switch blades to clockwise rotation on the lowest setting to push warm air down. In warm months, reverse blades counterclockwise to push cool air down.

Trim low-hanging branches. Snow can cause limbs to snap or bring the entire tree down, damaging your home or causing injury. Hire a professional to remove dead limbs and large tree branches.

Please feel free to contact me if you need help with any home maintenance projects this season. I can connect you with home service providers and share tips to keep your home running in good condition.

If you're planning to sell your home, I can also advise you on the best ways to prepare it to maximize your investment.

All the best to you for a great October.

Liz Potemra

703-581-7759

lizp@longandfoster.com

Long and Foster Vienna/Oakton

Recent Real Estate Activity in Miller Heights:

| Status | Address | Last/Next Update | Close Price | List Price | DOM |
|--------|------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|-----|
| Closed | 11112 Lochinver Ln | 6/12/2023 | \$899,990 | \$925,000 | 52 |
| Closed | 3302 Mill Cross Ct | 5/17/2023 | \$1,400,000 | \$1,250,000 | 4 |
| Closed | 11010 Blue Roan Rd | 5/12/2023 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000.00 | 1 |
| Closed | 3205 Miller Heights Rd | 6/27/2023 | \$1,210,000 | \$1,115,000.00 | 1 |
| Closed | 3303 Mill Cross Ct | 8/30/2023 | \$1,336,000 * | \$1,340,000.00 | 4 |
| Closed | 11008 Devenish Dr | 8/7/2023 | \$1,200,000 | \$1,179,900.00 | 5 |
| Closed | 11117 Lakenheath Way | 6/2/2023 | \$996,000 | \$985,400.00 | 9 |

*Includes seller concession of \$4,000

COMMENTS AND ARTICLES FROM OUR RESIDENTS

Update on Development of AT&T Property

By Jackie Davey

AT&T Site Development Update

GOCA just posted an update at the October 2 meeting on the AT&T site development.

EYA, the developer of the AT&T site, presented modifications to its proposal for development of the site in response to community input to an audience of more than 150 local residents at an in-person meeting on October 2nd. The proposal now contains different road and building configurations, somewhat fewer residences, and new ideas for preserving green spaces. Questions from those attending expressed continuing concerns about the density of the development, the current version of which is projected to include 900-1,000 units and 30-40 retail shops, and its impact on traffic, pedestrian safety, schools, and natural habitat. Slides from presentations by EYA and County planning staff (about the process for reviewing the proposal going forward) can be found at this link: <https://www.3033chainbridge.com/documents>

Options for Oakton recently did a survey of community residents to gather input about issues of density, the concept of an "Oakton Core", and public resources and commercial amenities that could enhance Oakton. The results of the survey will be posted on O4O's [web site](#), along with the results of their earlier survey, which assessed Oakton residents' concerns about the EYA proposal and the level of communication about the development plans.

Participate in the survey to determine whether the extension of Hunter Mill sidewalk should be funded – Now until October 16th!

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) just launched a survey about the projects it is considering for funding. The original project list was narrowed down from over 2,000 projects to just 317, and the GOCA-supported proposed extension of the sidewalk from south of Marbury Road to Samaga Drive is included among the semi-finalists. This is great news, but to make it past the finish line we need you to answer YES [on the survey for Question #34 \(Providence District/Map ID 470\)](#). For this survey, you only need to answer

Question #34, unless you have interest in other projects in the Providence District. Comments at the bottom of the form would also be helpful. The survey runs until October 16th. In the meantime, if you'd like to learn more about the process, consider attending one of two virtual community meetings on October 3rd and 5th at which FCDOT will present its methodology and the criteria used to select projects for consideration. [More information on the meetings can be found here.](#)

TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL THOUGHTS

Submitted by Anonymous

Love our Trees - Dead or Alive

Most of us moved to Miller Heights because we saw the beauty of the area and valued the mature woods, parkland, and stream corridor that enhance our neighborhood. As you care for your property and landscaping, please keep in mind that even dead trees play a vital role in our environment. They create essential habitat for creatures large and small - from owls and raccoons to bugs. Also remember that trimming or cutting down any trees on parkland is not allowed unless cleared with the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Oakton Nature Instagram Page (@oakton_nature)

Check out this new Instagram account featuring beautiful photos & fun facts about nature in our amazing Oakton community.

- Follow us!
- Comment on our posts!
- Share your best photos of nature in Oakton (with or without captions) & we'll post them!
- Share Oakton_nature with nature enthusiasts!

(@oakton_nature) • Instagram photos and videos

instagram.com



To those of you on Instagram, check out our new account @oakton_nature & follow, like, comment, share our stories & posts. Message us through IG to share nature photos you take in Oakton

COMMENTS AND INPUT FROM OUR RESIDENTS

Turn signals and Safety & Etiquette

Submitted by Barry Ingram

Are you using your automobile turn signals correctly? How often do you find yourself driving behind someone who just decided to change into your lane or turn a corner right in front of you, without using their turn signals or, even worse, waited until they had already made their move before using them? I see that all the time.

According to [recent studies](#), drivers across the US don't use their turn signals a whopping 750 billion times a year in situations that they should. While you may be tempted to brush off this statistic – so what if someone forgets to push down on a lever once in a while? – dismissing these numbers can have fatal results. These studies also show that signal neglect is directly responsible for 2 million car crashes a year... more than twice as many as distracted driving causes. Obviously, this problem is also increased by drivers following too closely to the car in front of them, or tailgating.

It's crucial that drivers use their turn signals appropriately while out on the road. But, you may be wondering, what is the appropriate etiquette? How can following this etiquette specifically increase the road safety of both yourself and those around you?

Let's take a look at the importance of using turn signals as well as some of the most recent advancements in technology.

Correct Turn Signal Etiquette.

There are different driving laws in [every state](#), but turn signal etiquette is pretty straightforward and uniform across the board.

The most common occasion is, of course, is when you're actually making a left or right turn onto a new road. You should begin to signal about 30 yards (or 100 feet) before the corner where you plan on turning. This 100 feet is about 5 car lengths.

While the 30 yards (or 100 feet) rule is generally a good distance, there are also some occasions where you might want to signal earlier. If there's a truck (or large car) behind you or to the side of your car, signaling can help these vehicles prepare to let you turn. You may also want to signal early if you're driving in a place with heavy traffic since this will alert everyone to move out of the way.

Another proper use of signals is when merging into a different lane, onto a different road (especially highways), or changing lanes. You need to signal long before you need to be in the other lane. It's unsafe to frantically turn on your signal as you approach the time you need to be in the other lane to turn or worse yet, after you have already started changing. Too late!

Make sure that you indicate your intention and wait for someone behind you to let you in – don't be impatient to get over. This causes accidents because cars won't or can't always stop or slow down when you want them to.

What else could affect this recommended distance? Slick roads, caused by rain, snow or ice can dramatically increase your stopping distance.

Turn Signals and Safety

Not following the appropriate etiquette is referred to as turn signal neglect, which is a fancy term for you failing to use turn signals. As I touched on earlier, this can have disastrous consequences.

If a driver is merging or changing lanes and doesn't signal, it's more likely that the car behind them will rear-end or side-swipe them. Especially since it is fairly common practice for many drivers to follow too closely to the car in front of them. This is a natural result of not knowing that they should make space to let the car in. or provide adequate room for unexpected quick stops. These are more minor accidents usually, but you can also get t-boned by another car if you don't signal when turning in front of another car. Signaling when turning in front of another car is essential to preventing these crashes since it lets the other driver know to slow down or stop.

You also won't [alert pedestrians](#) to the fact that you'll be turning, which can be disastrous if they're about to cross the road.

Technology and Turn Signals

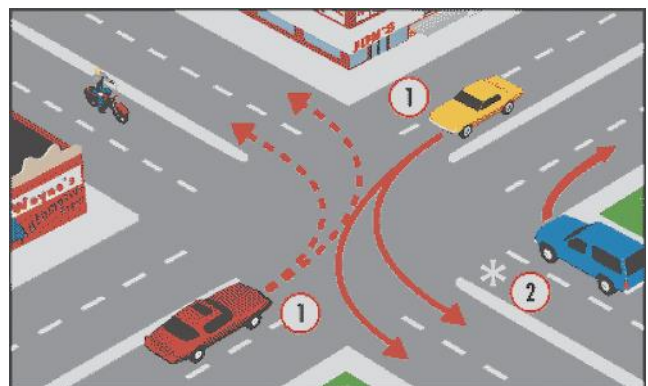
Luckily, you may not be going into turns blind. There are many innovative technologies on the market today.

Many car manufacturers have recently added features that detect autos in your blind spots or coming beside you in your side mirrors. From inside the car, the driver will see a flashing warning light in their side mirror when they turn on their signal or when another vehicle is approaching from that side.

Right-hand turn cameras also exist. These stop you from turning out when an object is in your blind spot because they show you what's behind you. They go beneath the exterior mirrors on your car and show you when something is in the places that you can't see. Some of them even have beepers that make a sound and alert you when not to turn.

However, don't depend solely on new technology to protect. Stay alert and focus on your driving and what other drivers are doing. While there are many things that you need to pay attention to while driving, ensuring that you use your turn signals correctly needs to be a top priority if you want to keep yourself and others safe.

Stay safe on the roads!



One PawPaw, Two Potatoes, Fall

By Farmer Brown (Gordon)



The big news this season is that I have finally grown a Pawpaw! Just one. I found it completely by surprise when showing a friend around when they came over for a veggie garden planning session. It's not ripe yet, but I have grand plans for this late summer, early fall delight! If anyone is interested in pawpaw trees, my son is selling saplings so please feel free to get in touch. He sells seeds as well.

Now for the serious stuff. We're all twitching to clean up our gardens now that it's the end of the season. Slow down, take a deep breath. Those cone flowers (echinacea, rudbeckia etc) are great food sources for the birds. Those Joe-Pye Weed, elderberry and other hollow stemmed plants are wonderful nesting spots for bees and the like so leave those until late spring to clean out. And the leaves... remember, are free fertilizer, and of course a wonder material – and necessity, for hibernating creatures. I am sure your neighbors would appreciate a little less noise this fall as you leave that leaf-blower in your shed. I certainly don't miss their incessant drone.

So, what's worked for me this year and what's next?

Well... I've tried both bush and indeterminate tomatoes with varying results. Both were prolific, but the deer continued to chomp on the leaves (why? I don't know) and I'm learning that you shouldn't water tomatoes when they are ripening on the vine because they split. My blackberry patch was prolific this year. And my new canes of raspberries – well worth getting some – started strong. I'll keep those going. I've also added Thimbleberries to the berry patch. In the next few weeks, I'll be pulling some self-starting blackberries and transplanting those in place of some wineberries (*invasive* but delicious). Those self-starting blackberries have taken over some areas of the garden and make our front door look like a scene from a fairy tale – not in a good way either, as Amazon, UPS and FedEx can't get close to the front door. I've delayed ripping them out but now that they're going into the dormancy state, it's a good time to transplant. If you want any... again my son is selling canes.

Okra, sorrel, beans, spinach – all perennial performers did well for me again this year. And my first check on my potatoes showed a strong yield. Tip: if you want sweet potatoes, know that deer love them so will chomp those down to the soil, but that you can start them in winter by placing any sweet-potato in water and leaving it to grow roots. BUT, there's a trick – when the leaves grow you need to take those off and plant the leaves. If you try and plant the tuber it will NOT produce tubers because it's living off chunk of food and doesn't have to grow food stores of its own. I tried both ways this year and only the ones that were leaves produced so I know this as a fact.

One cool thing I came across was a “3 sisters” type planting technique for carrots, onions and beets. I've dedicated two beds to this this year. Basically, all you do is mix all the seeds together, then add some cactus potting mix, vermiculite. Mix well and then simply scoop handfuls into a furrow an inch deep. Before you know it these are sprouting and ready to roll. These beds will be under a cold frame so I hope to be pulling root veggies up in time for Christmas dinner. Also, I'm trying my hand at soft-neck and hard-neck garlic over winter. The soft neck garlic comes straight from Giant/Safeway and all I did was break the bulb down to cloves and plant them with the tip facing up about 1-2 inches deep. The hard neck comes from my trusty source - Baker Creek seeds, and these are already in the ground. Hard-neck garlic produces “garlic scapes” which I'm very excited to try if I can grow them. The garlic will be under a cold-frame, well mulched and well-watered as my regime of care. Come spring, I'll be pulling the mulch off and letting those bulbs fill out.



Those fruit trees you have in your yard starting to look unruly? Don't prune. Now is NOT the time to hack these things back because the tree is growing slowly and will not be focusing energy on protecting the cut to heal which means that disease and rot will set in. Better to keep an eye on the fruit spurs and wait until spring to prune. Maybe even summer. Fertilize when you do.

(Continued on page 18)

COMMENTS AND INPUT FROM OUR RESIDENTS

(Continued from page 17)

Often a heavily pruned tree will not produce the next season as it's rebuilding itself. My plum tree has been trying to find its way in the world as I continue to cut it into shape and is now rewarding me with no fruit as punishment. Next year will be more of the same but shape is important particularly as an open tree is a healthy tree. I'm also considering



adding another tree next year – another Jujube (Chinese Date) tree. Maybe Santa can find me some more yard space because this won't be my only addition in 2024. Oh, and if anyone wants a Gojiberry bush/shrub – mine is looking for a new home.

Flowers. I'd highly recommend buying some wildflower seeds. 3 bucks for a seed packet and just throw them in some empty corner of your yard, between your other plants and wait to be surprised when those little pops of color arrive in early summer. And they'll self-seed for next year! Such a treat. I'm also enjoying the American Pokeweed (right - *Phytolacca decandra*) that's found room in my garden. It looks prehistoric. The birds love it, but it's very poisonous and hard to get rid of once established. And then there's Goldenrod (left - *Solidago nemoralis*) – much maligned as the hay-fever king, this is false! It's Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*) (that's the major culprit! Here's another tip: when you buy those chrysanthemums (Mums) don't toss them at the end of their life in mid-December... plant them! Quick! They come back and are an excellent fall plant for next year. And those pumpkins... don't trash 'em – compost them or put them in a spot the hungry critters can gnaw on them in the depths of winter because they're a very good food source for the local wildlife, who need all the help they can get over winter.



And, if you've missed my bee update, I won't be talking "bee's" this year, or next... loooooong story.

As usual, if you have a gardening related question – get in touch on the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/504388523527992/> . Farmer Brown would be happy to answer any questions.



MHNA Newsletter

Kids Edition



By: Julia, and Samantha

And other participants from around the neighborhood!

Welcome to the MHNA Kids Edition!! We hope you enjoy the activities and fun stories that we put in here for all of you to enjoy! If you have any ideas or want to include something of yours in the next edition, please email sammypecci@gmail.com. Enjoy!

Table of Contents

1. Neighborhood Arts and Crafts
2. Color Changing Leaves
3. Halloween Costume Ideas for the Year of '23
4. Fall Word Search

Neighborhood Arts and Crafts

- By Elliot Sellers



Color Changing Leaves

By Ryan Shin

Everyone knows that fall is known for its gorgeous colors. Red, orange, and yellow leaves surround us and create the beautiful world we see on cool, crisp days. So have you ever wondered why the leaves suddenly start to go from green to all of these colors? Well then let me explain it to you. Usually, plants go through photosynthesis, a process that helps them live, and this creates chlorophyll. Chlorophyll is a pigment (this means it makes things turn into another color) that turns the leaves of a plant green. During fall, the temperatures get colder and the days get shorter, so plants do not go through photosynthesis. This lets them prepare for winter, when they will not be producing any energy. Since they are not doing photosynthesis during fall, they can't create chlorophyll. This means that the leaves won't turn green anymore, so you can see the normal color of the leaves, making them orange, yellow, or many other colors!



Trendy Halloween Costumes For The Year Of 23!

Duo Costumes

1. Barbie and Raquelle
2. Mike Wazowski and Sully
3. Mario and Luigi
4. Apple and Banana
5. Salt and Pepper
6. Angel and Devil
7. Peanut Butter and Jelly
8. Wednesday Addams and Enid
9. Velma and Daphne

Group Costumes

1. Minions
2. Barbies/ Kens
3. Among Us Characters
4. Super Mario Bros
5. Wizard of Oz
6. Harry Potter characters
7. Three Little Pigs
8. Alvin and The Chipmunks
9. Alvin and The Chipmunks
10. Candy Bars

Solo Costumes

1. Descendants characters
2. Disney Princess
3. Ender Dragon
4. Witch
5. Pumpkin
6. Clown
7. Ghostbuster
8. Superhero
9. Queen of Hearts
10. Men in Black
11. Captain Jack Sparrow
12. Lilo or Stitch

Fall Word Search

HQPCCXXSYOSGSGZCVOJZ
PZCKYEBLSFWCCLMHTHCH
PZTOAUTUMNPOIEBRJAAH
SUIVHQLKWCESNAGMYYNP
XEMTSASGVKJTNFCAFBDO
YSFPKEYCUNEUAktiHAYP
KFSJKEPRAxzMMFNZRLCS
DUSIVIHTIRNEOWYEUEOC
GMWWCTNAEDESNDVSI RZ
TVEGCVHSLMECS CARFGND
COACHXRAPLBTRPBP GPH
BPTLIDPLNIOEYOCZQWXF
OXEXLEEXRKCWRYWNWJHY
NTRL LXZCYDSEEXS ZSLPG
FNOEHZWZIGKGJEBPCEKL
IOCTOBERVDHJIMNRAWFH
RUKMHOXOMUUKUVPURTWW
EVS BREEZYTWOURIMYQFD
GMZZZNCIDERMUWTNUSQV
LZY NFWPXCGRVJSXEGFLC

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|-------|
| Pumpkin Spice | Thanksgiving | September | Chill |
| Candy Corn | Scarecrow | Deciduous | Leaf |
| Halloween | Cinnamon | October | |
| Hay Bale | Costumes | Hayride | |
| Sweater | Bonfire | Autumn | |
| Breezy | Scarf | Cider | |
| Maize | Scary | | |

FAIRFAX COUNTY 2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Fairfax County Public Schools 2023-2024 Standard School Year Calendar

Approved

| July 2023 | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | | H | H | | | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

3-4 Independence Day Break

| August 2023 | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | NT | NT | NT | NT | |
| 13 | 14 | SP | TW | SD | TW | SP |
| 20 | 21 | F | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

| September 2023 | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | | | | | H | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

1-4 Labor Day Break
18 Rosh Hashanah (begins sundown 9/15 - sundown 9/17)
25 Yom Kippur (begins sundown 9/24 - sundown 9/25)

| October 2023 | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | SD | | | | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

9 Indigenous Peoples' Day

| November 2023 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

1-2 All Saints Day / Dia de los Muertos
7 Election Day
11 Veterans Day
12 Diwali
22-24 Thanksgiving Break

| December 2023 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

7 Chanukah (begins sundown 12/7-sundown 12/15)
8 Birth Day
18-31 Winter Break
25 Christmas

| January 2024 | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

1 New Year's Day
6 Three Kings Day/Epiphany
7 Orthodox Christmas
15 Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
19 Orthodox Epiphany
26 Option to work at an alternate location

| February 2024 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

10 Lunar New Year
14 Ash Wednesday
19 Washington's Birthday and Presidents' Day

| March 2024 | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

5 Presidential Primary (tentative)
11 First Full Day of Ramadan (begins sundown 3/10 and continues with daily fast and nightly prayer until 4/9)
25-29 Spring Break
29 Good Friday
31 Easter

| April 2024 | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

1 Option to work at an alternate location
10 Eid al-Fitr (begins sundown 4/9 - sundown 4/10)
22 First evening of Passover (begins sundown 4/22 - sundown 4/30)
23 Second evening of Passover
24 Tharavada New Year

| May 2024 | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

3 Orthodox Good Friday
3 Option to work at an alternate location
5 Orthodox Easter
27 Memorial Day

| June 2024 | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

14 Option to work at an alternate location
17 Eid-al-Adha (begins sundown 6/16 - sundown 6/17)
18 Option to work at an alternate location
19 Juneteenth



Some holidays and observances, such as Eid al Fitr, may shift due to anticipated lunar sightings.

| Legend | |
|--------|---|
| F | First Day of School |
| ER | 2 Hour Student Early Release |
| QE | End of the Quarter |
| YE | Last Day for Regular Classes / Early Release |
| O | Religious and Cultural Observance(s) |
| O | Religious and Cultural Observance(s) - Evening Only |
| SD | Staff Development Day / Student Holiday |
| SP | School Planning Day / Student Holiday |
| TW | Teacher Work Day / Student Holiday |
| H | Student Holiday |
| NT | New Teacher Training |

| Quarter Duration | | |
|------------------|------------|----------|
| Quarter | End Date | Duration |
| 1 | November 3 | 51 |
| 2 | January 25 | 42 |
| 3 | March 22 | 39 |
| 4 | June 12 | 48 |

180 Instructional Days

Number of 5-Day Instructional Weeks
1st Quarter - 7
2nd Quarter - 5
3rd Quarter - 7
4th Quarter - 6

Updated 7/18/23

