

FEBRUARY 2021

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Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 9th - 6:00p.m.
Virtual via Zoom

Board Meetings Information

Monthly meetings are held in the conference room of the Clubhouse on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm. Residents are welcome to observe the public portion of meetings and to address the Board during the 'Homeowner Forum' section of the meeting. If virtual, the link will be posted to the HOA website.

Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The following items were reviewed by the Board of Directors at *their virtual meeting held on January 12th:*

- Approved the minutes of December 8th, 2020 meeting
- Referred an appeal for a modification application for a tree house back to the Modification Subcommittee
- Approved an appeal for a modification application for a sunshade
- Approved a request from Community Outreach for the circulation of a survey regarding potential community composting efforts
- Referred the development of guidelines for pest control deterrent devices to the Modifications Subcommittee
- Directed management to contact the US Department of Agriculture to analyze the vulture situation in the community
- Discussed the necessity of a tot lot committee, directed management to publish proposed tot lot plans the next time one is up for replacement (projected in 2022)
- Approved Broadlands girl scout troop request to hold a drive through cookie sale at the Community Center parking lots
- Approved changes in insurance coverage and deductible as recommended by agent
- Approved a proposal from PSE to replace a path light damaged in a storm
- Approved the filing of an insurance claim for the replacement of a path light due to storm damage
- Approved the section 202 annexation agreement with Van Metre
- Held one violation hearing and assessed charges

These highlights are a summary only. To obtain copies of approved minutes, log into your account on FirstService Residential Connect. Owner access to the site is by registration at <http://dcmetro.fsrconnect.com/residentwelcome>. Owners will need to enter their account number, which can be found on their monthly coupon stubs.

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 First Day of Black History Month	2 Groundhog Day 	3	4 Rosa Parks Day 	5	6
7 Super Bowl 	8	9 HOA Board Meeting 6:00pm - Virtual	10 Modification Subcommittee Submissions Due 12:00pm - NC <i>Newsletter Submissions Due by Noon</i>	11 International Day of Women and Girls in Science	12 Chinese New Year  HAPPY NEW YEAR YEAR OF THE OX	13
14 Valentine's Day 	15 HOA Offices Closed for President's Day	16 Mardi Gras 	17 Events Committee Meeting 6:30pm - Virtual Modification Subcommittee Meeting 7:00pm - Virtual	18	19	20 National Love Your Pet Day 
21	22 SW Board Meeting 7:00pm - Virtual	23	24 Modification Subcommittee Submissions Due 12:00pm - NC	25	26	27
28						

Key: CH=Clubhouse; CC=Community Center; HP=Hillside Park; NC=Nature Center

Responsible Pet Owners Month

On occasion I check out the list of “holidays” that occur during a month and I’m often surprised and intrigued by the wide range of days observed. For February, the well-known holidays are of course Groundhog Day (which seems to be about all we knew in 2020) and Valentine’s Day (roses, candy hearts, and chocolates, oh my!) Some of my personal favorites include Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, Tater Tot Day, Fettucine Alfredo Day, and Tortilla Chip Day, though none of those comply with my current keto dietary plan.

Aside from observing American Heart Month and Black History Month (both of which are incredibly worthy and undeniably important), February is also Responsible Pet Owners Month. This is particularly relevant to community associations such as ours because your pets can have a big impact on your neighbors. Standard practices for responsible pet ownership include taking your pet to the vet to be sure they are up to date on vaccines and obtaining routine wellness exams to be sure your pet is receiving the appropriate diet, exercise, and living environment, as well as dealing with any illnesses that arise with aging pets. Supplying pets with appropriate food and fresh water as well as activities to keep their minds and bodies fit and healthy is a necessity, as is limiting potentially negative environmental factors your pet could be contributing to. To avoid unnecessary disputes and potential rule violations, here are some recommendations to ensure your furry friends continue to be a welcome addition to the neighborhood.

Stop That Barking!

The HOA receives complaints throughout the year about pet owners allowing their beloved canines to bark incessantly. Pets will be noisy from time to time. However, when loud barking becomes an annoyance, it’s time to help your pet become less talkative. First, try to find out what causes your pets to get vocal: Do they get noisy when they’ve been alone and bored and need some playtime? Have they gone through a stressful change in environment? Are they suffering from health issues? Are they being left outside for too long and want to come back in to join the party? Do they simply like saying “hello” to every squirrel, person, or car that passes by? Once you’ve identified the cause, take actions such as confining them to an area where they feel calm while you’re away, removing or blocking as many stimuli as possible, exercising them more, and spending more time with them.

Here are some additional ways to help abate the barking nuisance:

Training - always the first recommendation for any behavioral problem! Help is as close as the internet. Training not only helps your dog, you’ll be surprised how much it helps you, too. You may get some insight into why your dog barks so much or what it is trying to communicate.

Citronella collars - a humane alternative to the electric-shock, anti-barking collar and costs about the same. Available online and in pet stores.

Confinement - sometimes simply bringing an outspoken dog indoors or confining it to a crate can cut down on the disturbance to neighbors.

Reduce stimulus - close drapes to help muffle street noise or leave a radio on to mask it. Disconnect telephones and doorbells before leaving your home if they upset your dog or make it bark.

Companionship - dogs are pack animals; they need companionship—a cat, bird, or another dog. Consider a mid-day visit from a pet-sitting service or drop your pooch off at a friend’s place or a day-care facility once or twice a week.

Scoop the Poop!

American pet owners collectively spend tens of millions of dollars every year on veterinary care and over-the-counter medicines for their furry loved ones. But what many don’t realize is that many pet illnesses can be avoided by simply keeping the back yard clear of pet waste.

Dog waste is more than just a smelly and unsightly mess. It’s also a breeding ground for infection—especially in areas where dogs frequently gather. Bacteria, worms, and other parasites thrive in the waste until it’s cleaned up or washed into the water supply. Giardia, ringworm, roundworm, and E. coli are examples of such inhabitants, all of which are commonly found in dog feces and are easily transferable upon contact. Broadlands is entrenched in wetlands and streams that run to creeks which feed into rivers that flow to the Bay. Do you part to keep the watershed clean by picking up after your pet.

When pets become sick, contagions are often passed through their deposits into their own yard. The longer the infected dog waste stays on the ground, the greater a contamination it becomes. When this waste is not picked up, pets have a high risk of catching the infection over and over again. Roundworm, for example, is one of the most common parasites found in dog waste and it can remain infectious in contaminated soil and water for years.

The best thing pet owners can do to help keep their four-legged friends healthy and safe is to pick up after them and to do so in a timely manner. Those who don’t have enough time to deal with the mess themselves—or simply don’t want to—should consider hiring a local pet waste removal service.

Some neighbors don’t want your dogs on their property even if you are a diligent pooper scooper. Be mindful of your neighbors’ property and try to keep your dog off it when possible. Urine can be difficult to clean up and can create yellow spots on turf. If you have a pet sitting service or a child taking the dog for walks, be sure they are aware of the requirement to clean up after pets.

Responsible Pet Owners cont. on page 9

Modifications Subcommittee

The Subcommittee meets at 7:00pm in the Nature Center conference room on the first and third Wednesdays, March through October, and only the third Wednesday, November through February.

Applications in February may be viewed electronically and meetings held virtually.

Applications must be submitted by noon on the Wednesday before the meeting to the Secretary to the Modifications Subcommittee, Robin Crews. Submissions may be emailed to rcrews@broadlandshoa.com or delivered to the Nature Center, 21907 Claiborne Parkway. For your convenience, there is a drop box available for submissions.

Please review these guidelines and the updated changes on our website. Visit broadlandshoa.org and click on the menu item, Design Guidelines, for complete guidelines and information required to be submitted with your application, as failure to include all information will delay review of your application. A response to your application is generally sent within one week of the meeting.

How Am I Notified of My Results?

Once the Subcommittee has reached a decision, the results letter will be delivered via email. If an email is not provided, then the results letter will be mailed. Please check your inbox and junk/spam folders for your results letter or contact the HOA office at 703-729-9704.

Emails will be sent from no-reply@smartwebs365.com should you wish to add this email address to your contact list to ensure prompt delivery.

Modifications Subcommittee Submission and Meeting Dates

Submission Deadline By Noon	Meeting Date
Feb 10th	Feb 17th
Feb 24th	March 3rd
March 10th.....	March 17th
March 31st.....	April 7th
April 14th	April 21st

Only applications with complete documentation received by the deadline will be reviewed at the next subcommittee meeting.

Modifications Changes, Additions and Improvements

Before making any modification change, addition or improvement to the exterior of your home, an application is required for the Modifications Subcommittee to review. If in doubt an application is needed please contact Robin Crews, Modifications/Resale Manager at rcrews@broadlandshoa.com for any questions.

The Declarations for Broadlands Association Article 7, Section 7.5 (a) - Additions, Alterations, or Improvements by the Owners Subsection - Approval requires that "No person shall make any addition, alteration, or improvement in or to any Lot or any portion of the Property (other than for normal upkeep or natural landscaping and not because of the transparency of glass doors, walls, or windows) which is visible from the exterior of the Lot or such portion of the Property, without the prior written consent of the Covenants Committee."

Mind your Modification... Political Signs and Political Flags Update

An application is not required for political signs or political flags, however, please refer to the specific guidelines for guidance of size, display requirements and removal time frame.

- **Political Signs/Political Flags:** No more than three political campaign election signs and one political flag are allowed per lot. Each political sign shall not exceed (4) square feet and political flag shall not exceed (15) square feet. Political signs or political flags shall not be displayed on Common Area. Lighted political signs or political flags shall not be displayed on any lot. Political signs or political flags that contain profane language or graphics shall not be displayed on any lot. These signs and flags may be placed no sooner than 60 days prior to an election date and must be removed 7 days following the election. No application is required for these signs or flags.

Please refer to the Signs design guidelines for additional details: broadlandshoa.org/design-guidelines.

STAY SAFE, Don't Skate on the Community Ponds!

Please remember skating is prohibited on all community ponds. Even walking on any ice covered pond can be very dangerous. The surface of the pond may appear to be frozen, but our winters are normally not cold enough to guarantee that the ice is thick enough to support anyone's weight, even a child's. Parents, please tell your children that it is extremely dangerous, even deadly, to walk or skate on the ponds in the community. Let's keep our neighborhood safe!



Please Keep Your Walkways Clear

Both Virginia and Loudoun County Codes require that the occupant – whether an owner or a tenant – remove all snow and ice from any walkway adjoining any part of their property within 6 hours after the snowfall has ceased. If the snow or ice fell during the night, it must be removed by noon the following day. Should the storm occur on Sunday, the accumulation must be removed by noon on Monday.

Failure to comply with the code can result in a fine of: \$250.00 imposed by the county. Complaints should be reported to the County Department of Building and Development, (703) 777-0635.

Please be a good neighbor and a good citizen. Clear your walkways and keep Broadlands a safe environment for all our residents. If you know someone physically unable to keep their walkway clear, please consider giving them a helping hand!



Are You Complying with Parking Regulations?

The Loudoun County Fire Marshal's Office has requested that we remind our residents that it is illegal to park in fire lanes or within 15 feet of a fire hydrant, regardless of whether there is signage or a yellow curb painted at the hydrant. The Fire Marshal's Office and Sheriff's Department are patrolling the community and issuing tickets for violators. Vehicles parked in violation of any of the following regulations may be ticketed and towed at the owner's sole risk and expense:

- Parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
- Parking in a fire lane, along a yellow curb or no parking sign area.
- Parking in the wrong direction on any street.
- Parking within 10 feet on either side of a mailbox.
- Blocking any sidewalks. This includes parking your vehicle in a driveway and extending across the sidewalk.
- Parking within 20 feet of the intersection of curb lines or, if none, within 15 feet of the intersection of property lines.
- Obstructing access to and from a private driveway.

All residents and visitors shall observe and abide by the Broadlands Association, Inc. Parking Regulations and those of the Commonwealth and Loudoun County authorities. The violations mentioned above are just a portion of the guidelines. For details on Broadlands Association, Inc. parking regulations, please read the Parking Regulations and Enforcement on the website, broadlandshoa.org. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Covenants Department at covenants@broadlandshoa.com or (703) 520-9903.

Connect with Broadlands

BROADLANDS

Don't miss out on important HOA news and amazing community events in between newsletters. Staying connected is easy...

Broadlandshoa.org

The Broadlands website gives you access anytime to find answers to most of your questions. Updates and reminders are posted to the main page as well.

Broadlands Blast

This weekly email is a great way to receive important reminders on HOA news and upcoming events in between receiving the newsletters. To sign up, just visit our website and enter your email address(s).

Broadlands App

Download this app to your mobile device from your app store to receive HOA and event notifications and have the ability to store your pool passes.

Landscaped Homes

Courtyard Homes and Park Glen Villas residents please submit email(s) along and address to landscape@broadlandshoa.com to receive email notices for seasonal landscape services.

Facebook & Instagram

Join these groups to check out scenes from our past events and see what's coming up: [BroadlandsHoaEvents](#) & [BroadlandsNatureCenter](#)

Broadlandslive.com

Visit this website for details on this popular summer concerts series including bands, vendors and sponsors.

Broadlandsnaturally.org

Visit the Conservation Landscape Committee's website for information on community landscaping, gardening and learning about native plants.

February Covenants Corner

As the new year begins, it is important to share that while Covenants may appear to be a nuisance at times, we are here to solely help maintain the standards of your community. By doing so, the HOA aids in maintaining property values. Please understand that while an issue may seem to be trivial or insignificant to

you, your neighbor may feel that it is very important to them. *Please be respectful of your neighbors, community and those that take pride in their homes.*

Violations: Covenants treats all residents equally and does not discriminate or single out a particular property. Chances are, if you received a notice about a violation, your surrounding neighbors did too.

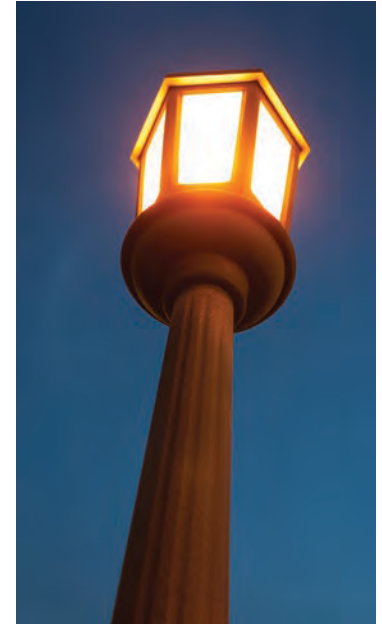
Going forward, try to look at your home the way that a new buyer would. If you see a reparation that needs to be made, make it. If you see something that needs to be stored out of open view, please store it appropriately. Please follow the guidelines and have consideration for your neighbors.

If you have extenuating circumstances concerning an issue, please call the Covenants department at 703-520-9903 to discuss the issue. Otherwise, please try to correct the issue as soon as possible.

Covenants hopes you are off to a safe and happy new year. Also remember, we are here to help if you need us.

Suzan Rodano

Covenants Manager



Please Trim Your Trees

Per the Weeding & Pruning Maintenance Resolution 6.11.13 found on broadlandshoa.org/rules-and-regulations, lot owners and residents shall keep their properties free of excessive weeds, overgrown or unsightly shrubbery or other plant growth. Lot Owners and residents shall undertake any weeding and mulching of planted beds and pruning of shrubbery and trees which is necessary so as to keep a proper, neat and clean appearance of the Lot.

This is your friendly reminder as we think about spring maintenance that any lot which borders a sidewalk shall ensure that any trees which overhang the sidewalk are trimmed to provide a minimum height of eight (8) feet, measured above the sidewalk level, free of obstruction. No trees with a diameter of more than four inches and measuring two feet above ground level shall be removed without the express written authorization of the Covenants Committee or Board of Directors. Lot Owners and residents shall remove any and all dead plants and shrubs from their Lots.

If you have questions regarding Pruning Maintenance, please contact the covenants inspector at covenants@broadlandshoa.com.

Upcoming Community Events

- March 19th - the beginner's knitting class has been canceled. Please look for information about upcoming craft events in future newsletters.
- April 10th - gear up for an egg basket drive-thru adventure! Pack the kids in the car and head over to the Community Center parking lot for a socially distanced egg basket drive-thru! Complete with DJ, balloon twisters and the bunny! The event will start at 10:00am and continue until 12:00pm(noon).

Drive into the Community Center parking lot and all the way around toward the exit while picking up a twisted Easter balloon, take a picture with the bunny...be sure to bring your camera then, collect a basket of eggs all while socially distancing. Keep an eye out for a event flyer in the March edition of "Our Neck of the Woods."

Time to Take Down Your Holiday Decorations

What a wonderful holiday season it was! Sparkling lights, prancing reindeer, smiling snowmen and lovely green wreaths; we all enjoyed the show! But now it is time to pack up the decorations and enjoy your holiday memories.

The Broadlands Design Guidelines require that holiday lighting and decorations be removed in a timely manner. **Please plan to pack yours away by February 1st.**

Responsible Pet Owners cont. from page 5

Love 'Em and Leash 'Em!

According to the U.S. Humane Society, an unleashed dog has an average life span of less than four years. Allowing your dog to run free is not only against the law, but it also threatens your dog's health and welfare and the happiness it brings to you. Your neighbors likely don't want to call animal control, but they won't have a choice if your dog is running free. Dogs can unexpectedly dart into oncoming traffic and be struck by a moving vehicle. I've witnessed the very unfortunate premature demise of a dog being hit by a car here in Broadlands and it's a sound I'll not soon forget.

Additionally, loose dogs can be a danger to other dogs. Perhaps your dog is always friendly and approaches another (leashed dog) to say hello. If the other dog is not comfortable having their space invaded, they may become aggressive when your loose dog gets too close to them, causing a dangerous situation for the dogs and their handlers. Or maybe your dog is out enjoying a stroll on the path with you without a leash (or with one that is unattached to a human) and a person approaches from the other direction. You and your dog have no idea, but this person is terrified of canines. Your dog goes up for a friendly greeting and the person is crippled with fear. Please don't place your neighbors in an uncomfortable situation like this.

We hope you and Fido have a safe and enjoyable year and that your neighbors can enjoy the community as well without interference or irritation from your fur baby.

Cheers,

Sarah

Sarah Gerstein, CMCA, AMS, LSM, PCAM
General Manager

Snow Removal FAQs

In order to help assist residents with snow removal questions, the Board and Management have prepared the following Frequently Asked Questions. Please contact the HOA office if you have further questions. A list of streets and ownership can be found online at broadlandshoa.org.

1. Why are some roads plowed by VDOT and some by the HOA?

The HOA owns and maintains some roads (75 to be exact) within Broadlands, but many roads are public. The public roads belong to the county and are plowed by VDOT. Taxes pay for VDOT to plow, so residents living on public roads need to contact VDOT directly if they feel they are not receiving adequate service. Residents living on private HOA owned streets pay an additional assessment to the HOA to fund private road maintenance, which includes snow and ice services. Residents on VDOT streets do not pay the HOA the additional assessments for private road maintenance.

2. Can VDOT plow the HOA owned road?

The HOA would gladly turn all of the private roads over to them. Unfortunately, the county has very specific requirements for roads – such as minimum widths – and VDOT will not accept roads that do not meet their requirements. The HOA does not choose which roads it owns. This is determined when the developer submits the plan to the county - long before construction ever began.

3. Why are some streets plowed sooner than others?

The crews are assigned maps by their leader. They work on their assigned streets until they are done. With 75 private streets, some roads will be treated first and some will be done last because the plows cannot be on every street at the same time. The crews normally address the main roads first and then work into the secondary roads. You might see a plow drive past your street without stopping. They may be assigned somewhere else, there may be a vehicle blocking access, too many vehicles parked in the way to get the equipment in safely in, or there may be too much snow for their equipment to handle. In blizzard-type storms, snow drifts presents additional challenges - previously cleared roads can become snow-covered again, pulling crews back for additional passes. Whatever the reason,

Please park your vehicles off the roads and off to the sides of parking lots or in your driveways whenever possible. Abandoned vehicles can also add to the issue.



crews will be work to clear your road as quickly and safely as possible.

4. Why don't the plows clear the road down to bare pavement?

Vehicles driving on snow compact it down, making it more difficult for the plow blade to clear the surface to the pavement – one reason the government, media, and HOA encourage residents to stay home and off the streets during inclement weather. The HOA

does not generally use chemicals in subdivisions. Residents should expect streets to have some compacted snow and ice for a few days, until temperatures allow for melting. Crews will treat certain areas with ice-melt e.g. certain hills and intersections, curved roadways, etc. where additional traction is needed to allow safe passage. But thaw/freeze cycles may cause these areas to become covered again. Keep in mind that high winds may cause drifting in some areas - a street may have been plowed only to later be covered again by blowing snow. It can also be difficult for plow blades to scrape down to black pavement, depending on the current conditions (how dry/wet the snow is, how fast it is coming down, how hard the wind is blowing, etc.)

5. Why don't the plows clear the entire width of the street, from curb to curb?

Plows are often a misunderstood piece of equipment. If you've ever driven a full sized pickup on a crowded street like many of the ones in our community, which



can be a challenge on its own, consider what it's like to add a plow blade sticking 4 feet out in front of your vehicle. Even a "small" plow truck can be in excess of 22' long. Operating a large vehicle, manipulating a plow blade from side to side and up and down, and frequently shifting gears is pretty challenging.

Plow blades can push snow off to the side, but they cannot pick it up. When significant accumulation occurs, the drivers will do everything possible to clear the widest lanes, but they may not be curb to curb. Bear in mind that these trucks can slide on ice and snow covered roads too, so plow drivers exercise extreme caution near parked vehicles, causing owners to have to shovel more to get vehicles out to the road. The contractor widens the roads as much as reasonably possible, but in some of the densely populated areas, there is nowhere to push the snow during extremely high snow fall events. **Please park your vehicles off the roads and off to the sides of parking lots or in your driveways whenever possible. Abandoned vehicles can also add to the issue.**

6. Why can't we use reserves to pay the snow removal bills?

Reserve funds are required to be held for future repairs and replacements of community property and cannot be used for snow removal. Those funds are on hold in reserve to pay for major expenses such as resurfacing HOA roads, re-roofing the community center or replacing pool machinery, not for operating expenses.

7. Why are the fees for HOA owned streets higher than for residents on VDOT streets? How much

of the monthly assessment goes to snow plowing?

For 2021, the budget for snow removal for townhomes is \$40,174. That's \$33.17 per townhome per year (or \$2.76 per month for each of the 1,211 townhomes in the Association). The budget for snow removal for Single Family homes on private streets (SFPS) is \$27,525. That's \$74.19 per SFPS home per year (or \$6.18 per month for each of the 371 SFPS in the Association). The balance of the monthly assessment is for private road maintenance for the repair and repaving of those roads, aprons, curb and gutter, and sidewalks.

8. Why don't we budget more for snow removal and increase service?

It's impossible to predict the weather months (or even days) in advance, and snow is a huge variable from year to year. When formulating the budget, the Board uses an average cost of snow removal for past years. Inflated amounts can lead to unnecessary increases in assessments, or a surplus of income in the budget. The Association is required to maintain a balanced budget. The Board makes every effort to keep assessments stable while keeping services as high as possible.

9. How does our snow contract work?

The Association's contract is "time and materials" and is at a fair and reasonable cost for these services in our area. Each snow event is different and unpredictable, but we are billed only for the time the contractor worked. The Association is fortunate to have a contractor that is solely *Snow FAQ's continued on page 12*

Snow FAQ's continued from page 11

dedicated to Broadlands and willing to work around the clock. Many associations have crews that are assigned to multiple properties, and their community may not be a priority for that contractor. If you've ever driven down Demott Drive, you've probably seen some of the equipment stored in the Summerbrooke pool parking lot. All of this equipment is stored on site all winter and is dedicated to Broadlands. Additional equipment that is utilized by the contractor for other jobs year round is brought for snow events in order to fully support our needs.

10. How do we know we are receiving the best and most qualified plowing service?

Signature Snow and Ice Control (SSIC) has been providing snow plowing services in Broadlands for nearly 20 years. Their rates are extremely competitive and they are familiar with the most efficient and productive ways to plow our streets. They routinely provide Broadlands with several plow trucks, a tractor, and crews dedicated to clearing our roads and sidewalks as quickly as possible. Additional equipment is brought in as conditions warrant.

11. Do crews take breaks? How long do they work between breaks?

Many of the drivers work long hours during winter weather events - often 24 to 36 hours at a time without the opportunity to go home and sleep in a real bed. The goal during heavy storms is for each driver to have a 6 hour break every 24 hours. Sometimes they need breaks more often in order to nap, eat, use the restroom, or touch base with loved ones. It's understandable and recommended that they would take a break once in a while in order to reenergize and safely continue their work. They work day and night, driving slippery roads, dodging parked cars and avoiding hazards to clear the roads. All so that emergency responders can reach residents in the event of a life threatening emergency.

12. Can the plows push the snow in such a way as to avoid blocking my driveway?

A plow blade is designed to push snow to the side; it will not pick it up and deposit it elsewhere. As the plow moves along the road, snow is piled up along the side whether that side has a curb, a driveway, or a guardrail. In order to clear a lane quickly, the plows will push snow off to the sides. It can be very frustrating to dig out the driveway only to have the plow leave a new pile. VDOT recommends digging out an area 10 to 15 feet to the right of your driveway (viewed from the street), giving the excess snow a place to go, which may help to minimize the plow pile at the end of your driveway. Obviously this is difficult to do in some of the densely

populated areas where driveways are side by side.

13. Who is responsible for clearing around the fire hydrants?

On HOA owned streets, our contractor marks all of the hydrants using wooden stakes with blue tape on them. This way they can return after the snow subsided and the roads are clear to dig them out to make them accessible for fire trucks. On VDOT streets, it is the residents' responsibility to mark and dig out the hydrants.

14. Where should I put the snow from my driveway/sidewalk/parking space if not in the street?

The HOA and VDOT ask that you do everything possible to avoid shoveling snow into the street as it creates road blocks for your neighbors and adds to the snow volume that the plows have to move out of the way. Try to pile the snow in your yard or find some common area open space (turf, not roadway) to place the snow.

15. Why does the HOA mark the main roads with the orange snow stakes? Why doesn't it mark the private roads?

A few years ago, the HOA invested in the snow markers in order to identify the edges of the roads on the main roads (Claiborne/Waxpool/Truro Parish/Broadlands Blvd). Although these are VDOT roads, the association has an easement to maintain the turf on the medians and right of ways on these roads. Therefore, the HOA has to pay for turf repairs when damage occurs. These stakes assist the plows for two reasons. For one thing, the equipment that keeps these main roads clear are larger commercial grade trucks that sit several feet higher off the ground than a regular pickup truck. That makes it that much harder to see the edges of the road. Additionally, when VDOT installed the curb on these roads, they rounded the edges in order to save concrete. This does not define the edge of the road in the same way that a square concrete curb does, and it's much easier for the plows to jump the curb and shave off large sections of turf in doing so. On the HOA roads, the plow equipment is generally smaller so the drivers can see a bit easier. Also, most, if not all of the HOA roads have square curbs, making it slightly harder for the plow to jump the curb and damage the turf. While the HOA has observed turf damage on main roads following storms, the damage is significantly lower than it would be had the stakes been absent. The stakes typically get installed in November before the ground freezes, so they can be driven deep enough to be stable. They do occasionally get broken, stolen, or vandalized, and are reinstalled or replaced as necessary.



INTERESTED IN COMPOSTING?

Your input is important

Broadlands Community Outreach is researching a potential opportunity to start a community wide composting program in Broadlands. We have developed a survey to gauge interest in participating in a communal composting effort. The program, if implemented, may have several variables including (but not limited to) a cost to participate, the inclusion or exclusion of non-animal or animal by-products, and individual collection at home versus a central communal disposal site for composting.

TAKE THE SURVEY!

To gauge interest from our residents about potential participation in a Broadlands composting program, please answer a short on-line survey at broadlandshoa.org/outreach. The survey is 6 simple questions and will remain open until March 15th.

Responses are anonymous and will be used to determine the course of action should a composting program prove viable.

This survey is for INFORMATION ONLY and participation in answering questions DOES NOT guarantee implementation.

Questions? Contact
julie@broadlandshoa.com



INOVA Blood Drive - January 11

COMMUNITY OUTREACH





Safe Winter Driving Tips

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office reminds motorists to stay safe in the winter by following these driving safety tips:

- During a snowstorm, do not travel unless absolutely necessary. Residents should stay home and off the roads so that the snow removal crews can do their job plowing the roadways. If you do have to make a trip, ensure someone is aware of your route of travel.
- Use extreme caution when driving. You may not be able to stop as quickly as normal on the snow-covered or wet pavement.
- Always keep the gas tank topped off. When it gets to half, fill it up.
- Carry a cellular phone. Your cell phone can be used during emergencies and for notifying those expecting your arrival in case there are weather delays.
- Always buckle-up. Your seat belt can be the best protection against drivers who are tense and in a hurry because of weather conditions.
- Clear snow and ice from all windows and lights - even the hood and roof - before driving.
- Pay attention. Don't try to out-drive the conditions. Remember the posted speed limits are for dry pavement.
- Leave room for maintenance vehicles and plows - stay back a safe stopping distance and don't pass on the right.
- As the roadways are cleared, large banks of snow line the streets and intersections and may block your vision.
- Avoid driving and other travel until conditions have improved.
- Be especially cautious around intersections because visibility may be obscured due to the large snow.
- Falling temperatures as evening approaches contribute to icy conditions or black ice.
- Watch for pedestrians. If there is a large volume of snow, sidewalks may be impassable which increases pedestrian traffic along roadways.



So, You Organized. Now what?

Submitted by Jennifer Snodgrass, Home Organizer & Owner of The Styled Sort LLC. jenn@thestyledsort.com

January has flown by and hopefully you started working on your New Year's goals! *You may have decluttered and gotten your space organized but now what? How does it stay that way?* Unfortunately, it's not something you do once. Think of it like weight management. If you exercise and eat well and get to your goal weight, you can't go back to doing what you did before. You have to maintain healthy eating and exercise in order to keep that weight off. Staying organized is very similar. Here are three tips to help you maintain a clutter free, organized space:

1. Be mindful of what you bring into your space

After the decluttering process, I hope you were able to donate and remove a lot of items from your home. So don't refill that space with more stuff! Be aware of how that "new" space feels with some breathing room in it. Remind yourself of that feeling when you are shopping in stores and online. One of the great things about decluttering is that you now know exactly what you have. So, when you shop, consider what you already currently own.

2. Regularly declutter

New items are constantly coming into our homes - mail, gifts, impulse buys, etc. Once you have done your first major declutter session, it should be much easier to regularly declutter. You will not have the same amount of

stuff to sort through so it will be a much quicker process. There is no magic number for how often you should declutter. For your mudroom or kitchen counters, it may be weekly. For other spaces, it could be once per month or every quarter. I aim to declutter my bathroom cabinets every six months in order to get rid of items that have expired or that I am no longer using.

3. Everyone needs to be onboard

If you are excited about your new organized space, talk to the other people you live with (spouse, kids, roommate, etc.) about working together to keep it that way. If they continue to buy and bring more into the space, it will be difficult to keep it decluttered. Explain some of the benefits, especially how being organized can save time and money.

And consider getting your kids involved in regular decluttering. The earlier they start, the better!

The more you practice these "maintenance" tips, the easier it gets and a great new habit has formed. As you continue organizing other spaces in your home, you will realize just how great it makes you feel!



Are You Ready for Some **FOOTBALL** Grub?

Recipes that will Score Big on Game Day!

Slow Cooker Cheesy Bacon Ale Dip

Total time: 3 hours 15 minutes, yields: 4.5 cups

- 18 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1-1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 cup amber beer or nonalcoholic beer
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1/2 Cup shredded parmesan cheese
- 1 pound bacon, cooked & crumbled, divided
- 1/4 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 green onion, thinly sliced

In a greased 3-qt. slow cooker, combine cream cheese, sour cream, mustard and garlic powder until smooth. Stir in beer, cheese, and all but 2 tablespoons bacon. Cook, covered, on low, stirring occasionally, until heated through, 3-4 hours. In the last 30 minutes, stir in heavy cream. Top with onion and remaining bacon. Serve with soft pretzel bites, pretzel focaccia or your favorite bread. Adapted from *Tasteofhome*

Buffalo Chicken Cheese Balls

Total time: 30 minutes, yields: 15-20 balls

- 1 store-bought rotisserie chicken
- 1/4 cup hot sauce (i.e. Frank's Red Hot)
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 3/4 cups sharp Cheddar
- 1/4 cup freshly sliced scallions
- 1 cups all-purpose flour
- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 cups panko bread crumbs
- Vegetable oil, for frying

Blue Cheese Dip:

- 1 1/2 cups mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup blue cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon hot sauce
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 lemon, juiced
- 1 teaspoon chopped garlic

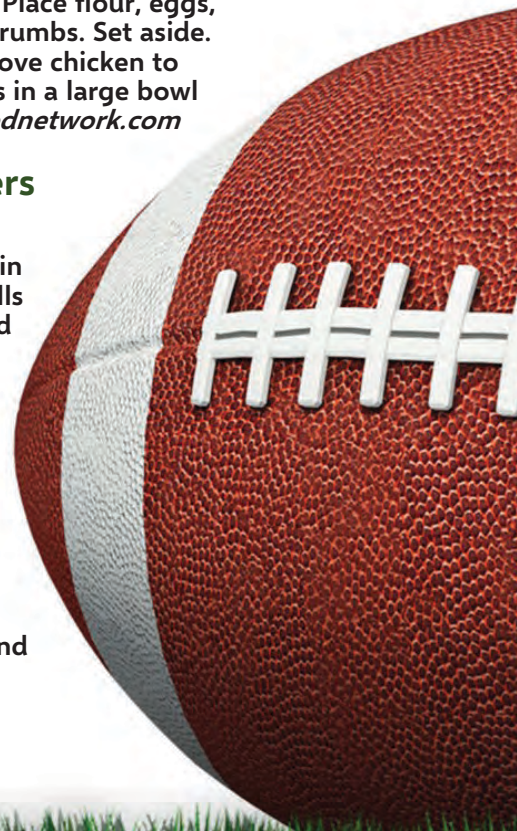
Heat oil to 350 degrees. Pick meat from chicken. Place chicken in a large bowl and add hot sauce, pepper, cheese, and scallions, and toss to combine. Roll chicken into 2-ounce balls (golf ball size). Place flour, eggs, and breadcrumbs in 3 separate bowls. Roll each ball in flour, then egg and breadcrumbs. Set aside. When oil is hot fry chicken balls in batches. Cook about 2 minutes per batch. Remove chicken to paper towel lined plate to drain excess oil. To make sauce, combine all ingredients in a large bowl and adjust seasoning if necessary. Serve chicken alongside the dipping sauce. *Foodnetwork.com*

Sunny's Meaty Cheesy Casserole Sliders

Total time: 45 minutes, yields: 12 sliders

- 1 package dinner rolls (12)
- 1 tablespoon steak seasoning
- 1 pound thinly sliced deli roast beef
- 8 ounces shredded Cheddar cheese
- 4 ounces shredded provolone cheese
- 1/4 cup chipotle mayonnaise
- 2 scallions, white and green parts, chopped
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons onion pulp (grated on a rasp)
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon red chili flakes
- 12 pickled sweet or hot pepper slices

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Slice rolls in half and place the bottom half of the rolls in a 13x9-inch baking dish. Season bread with steak seasoning and arrange roast beef on top in mounds. Top with the Cheddar. In a bowl, combine provolone, mayonnaise and scallions. Spread mixture on the cut sides of top portion of the rolls. Place tops spread-side down in dish on top of the Cheddar. Mix butter, onion, Parmesan, Worcestershire and red chili flakes in a bowl. Pour over top of rolls. Cover with foil and bake 25 minutes. Remove foil and place a pepper slice on top of each sandwich. Bake 5 minutes more to toast roll tops. Rest a few minutes before serving. *Foodnetwork.com*



Cross Country Skiing, Your New Favorite Winter Activity

Sourced from: Deeper Trails and REI

Snow is falling, days are shorter, and the weather has officially turned to a wintry mess. While this is a nightmare for driving, it is perfect for cross country skiing. If the snow and cold are deterring you from getting outside, this article intends to provide some words of encouragement to leave the comfort of your home and strap on some skis. Below are nine of the top benefits to cross country skiing.

1. Experience the Beauty of Winter

All too often we confine ourselves to the indoors during the coldest months of the year. And why wouldn't we? After all, it's cold out there! Regardless of temperature there is no arguing with the fact that winter can be beautiful too. One of the best attributes to winter recreational activities is being able to experience the beauty of the snow covered landscape. With cross country skiing there is the added benefit of being on the snow when there aren't a ton of people out there; for this reason, cross country skiing is a perfect way to enjoy nature.

2. Less People on Trails to Contend With

Cross country skiing is a less popular activity so there will naturally be less people in your way on the trails. This is good because the space you will need to move on those skis is a bit more than if you were just pumping your arms on a hike.

3. The Quiet of Winter Mornings

Winter is a time of calm, reflection, and above all else quiet. This has been true of winter as far back as humanity goes. People stay indoors, our sleep increases to match the change in day length, and less of the loud construction work can happen in the cold months. Waking up a bit early on a cold Saturday morning and hitting some trails with cross country skis, puts you directly into the perfect environment for reveling in the quiet stillness of winter. Just imagine: the trails are empty, the sun is coming up, and you are 20 minutes into the best possible way to start your day. If you think meditation is cathartic just try skiing up a slight incline.

4. Burn TONS of Calories

Not everyone is trying to lose weight, but with winter often comes more sugary treats and holiday cooking. Cross country skiing may actually be the best activity to pick-up if you are wanting to combat the potential of winter weight gain.

5. Keeps You Warm in Cold Weather

If the winter cold is the main deterrent keeping you from strapping skis on your feet, you can throw



that fear right out the window. Since cross country skiing requires significant energy, you will not be cold while cross country skiing. In fact, it might be more of a challenge to keep from overheating while cross country skiing.

6. Improves Cardiovascular Health

When cross country skiing your body requires a ton of oxygen to complete the task. This increases heart rate and as a result cross country skiing can improve your cardiovascular health. The results of continual aerobic activity are a great benefit to your health.

7. Combats the 'Winter Blues'

In winter the day length decreases, we are inside more, and we may not see those we love as often as we like which can trigger seasonal depression. Cross country skiing is a fantastic way to get outdoors, release endorphins and keep happy.

8. A Perfect Excuse to See Friends

Tired of meeting your friends at bars and for brunch? Well, even if you aren't tired of brunches, cross country skiing provides a creative activity for you and your friends to gather around during the winter. Most places that get snow every season have places that will rent cross country skis, or if you and your friends are looking to commit to a new hobby there are tons of ski options out there.

9. Get More Defined Muscles

Because cross country skiing involves the legs and the arms becoming a more toned athlete is nearly certain. Because the legs and the arms are being worked simultaneously during cross country skiing, balance becomes important. You will find that the need for balance will require a lot from your core muscles. For this reason, cross country skiing ends up being a wonderful full-body workout.

Beginner's Guide to Cross-Country Skiing

The sport of cross-country skiing is enjoying a renaissance for all sorts of reasons, one of which is how accessible it is to beginners. Your gear needs are modest, as are trail fees, and you can be up and scooting across a pristine winter landscape in no time. The following will cover the basics for those who try cross-country skiing for the first time.

Types of Cross-Country Skiing

A common source of confusion is, "What's the difference between cross-country, XC and Nordic skiing?" These are different ways of describing the same sport. "XC" is shorthand for "cross-country." "Nordic skiing," which derives from the region where it originated, is simply another word for cross-country skiing.

There are two styles of cross-country skiing:

Classic skiing: The original version of the sport, this involves a straight-line stride. The stride itself is called either a "diagonal stride" or "kick and glide." Someone who talks about "going cross-country skiing" usually means they are going classic cross-country skiing.

Skate skiing: A few decades old now, this technique's ski movements look like a speed skater on ice. Not surprisingly, skate skiers move faster than classic cross-country skiers.

Where to Learn Cross-Country Skiing

While it is possible to go on your own and get the hang of the basic, you'll learn faster and progress more quickly if someone teaches you.

Sign up for lessons: You can find professionally trained instructors at cross-country ski resorts. You can also sign up for lessons through Nordic ski clubs, parks departments and gear outfitters.

Learn from a friend: An experienced friend can teach you at any snow-covered open space (city parks and golf courses can work), but a recreation area that has groomed trails (with smoothed-out snow and ski tracks) is best. You also want flat terrain—and areas that don't present an avalanche risk.

Gear for Cross-Country Skiing

For a thorough look at equipment needs, visit a local ski shop and have a sales associate help you find the right size. If you take a lesson, gear should be provided. Otherwise, renting skis, boots and poles is wise for

your first few times. You can also borrow gear from a friend, though the likelihood that it will fit you is small.

Skis: The correct ski length depends on your weight, info that should be listed in ski size charts.

Boots and bindings: your main concerns as a new cross-country skier are that you have a compatible boot/binding system (NNN is a common one) and that you're familiar with how your system works. Boots, regardless of system, should be comfortable and flexible.

Poles: with tips in the snow, the top of correctly sized poles is about even with your armpits. You can use trekking poles with snow baskets in a pinch, though cross-country ski poles work better.

What to Wear Cross-Country Skiing

Layer up: As with any outdoor activity, you should dress in layers, keeping in mind that you will generate warmth as you move. You need apparel that moves freely and can handle sweat (synthetics and wool, not cotton). Make sure you also have layers that work well for cold, snowy and windy conditions.

Repurpose other clothing: No need to buy special Nordic apparel when you're first getting started, because your layers for other outdoor activities, like hiking, can do the job.

Bring a hat and gloves: Having numbness in your ears or fingers is no fun.

Precautions for Cross-Country Skiers

Be proactive about staying warm: Don't wait to adjust layers if you're getting cold, especially in your extremities. Also adjust layers if you're sweating a lot because excess moisture can chill you. It's wise to bring hand warmers, foot warmers and a vacuum bottle filled with a warm beverage.

Avoid high-risk avalanche areas: Going to a resort minimizes this concern, as will skiing in flat, lowland ski areas with no history of avalanches.

Know how to navigate: If you go where there is no developed cross-country trail system, bring a topographic map, a compass and possibly a GPS, and make sure you have basic navigation skills before you go.

Fall softly: Even expert skiers take the occasional tumble. If possible, though, avoid sticking out your poles or wrists when you fall because that increases the chances of injury or damage to gear. Rolling sideways is generally a good tactic, though that assumes you have enough control to do so, and that you don't roll into a tree or other hazard.



Spruce up Your Foundation Plantings

Source: Plant NOVA Natives

When developers build a neighborhood, they almost always add some shrubs against the foundations of the houses to soften the lines of the buildings. Just as they paint all the interior walls white, they use just a few conventional plant species for a uniform look until all the houses are sold. The new owners get used to the look and never bother to change it. But the foundation planting area offers a big opportunity to beautify the landscaping, eliminate the need for pruning and help support our local birds and butterflies at the same time.

Native shrubs constitute an essential middle layer of the ecosystem, providing food and shelter for songbirds. Providing this layer in our yards is even more important in areas where the deer have eradicated native shrubs in the woods. Unfortunately, at the time when most of our houses were built, the importance of using native plants was not known to the builders, and so most of the commonly used plants are species that were introduced from other continents. Not only do they not provide food for wildlife, many of them have escaped into nearby natural areas, where they proceed to destroy the ecosystem there. Examples of that include Nandina (also problematic because its red berries are poisonous to Cedar Waxwings), Japanese Barberry (also problematic because it harbors ticks), Privet, Burning Bush, Leatherleaf Mahonia, Double-file and Linden Viburnum, and several species of Bush Honeysuckle.

Luckily, there are many non-invasive alternatives. Best of all, many of these are native plants and therefore

support the birds and butterflies with which they evolved. These plants have become increasingly available at our local garden centers. For the area under a window, it makes sense to choose one whose ultimate height when full grown will not block the view, thus making pruning unnecessary and allowing the plant to assume its own graceful shape. Many have beautiful spring flowers; others have striking red berries that provide interest well into winter.

Of course, most people don't know the names of the shrubs in their yards. This can be figured out by using a plant ID app such as Seek or iNaturalist. Residents can also get a free visit from an Audubon-at-Home volunteer to help identify invasive plants and strategize about alternatives.

Shrubs are not the only plants that are suitable for foundations. Small trees where there is room, native ornamental grasses in the sun and native ferns in the shade are all-natural choices. For those who like the conventional look that came with the house, there are plenty of native shrubs that can achieve the same aesthetic. Other people might want to add character to their yard by choosing something a little different. And rather than planting annuals every spring, why not plant a few native perennials just once to get that pop of color year after year? For more details, visit plantnovanatives.org/native-shrubs and the foundation planting page, plantnovanatives.org/foundation-plantings, on the Plant NOVA Natives website.

LOUDOUN SOCCER
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SPRING 2021 REC REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



A PROGRAM FOR ANY AGE AND SKILL

AGES 3-18

INTRODUCTORY SOCCER
TO ADVANCED PLAY



DEVELOPING CHAMPIONS FOR LIFE!



The Ashburn Library Programs and Information

It's All Write - Short Story Writing Contest for Teens

Loudoun County Public Library's annual contest for Grades 6-12 is back! Enter your story between now and March 1st at [Library.loudoun.gov/IAW](https://library.loudoun.gov/IAW).

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program

A self-paced early literacy program. Engage readers early to continue a lifetime love of reading! For full details visit: [Library.loudoun.gov/1000books](https://library.loudoun.gov/1000books)

Online Books

There's more than one way to read a book! Check out Hoopla, RB Digital, Gale eBooks or Overdrive, at [Library.loudoun.gov](https://library.loudoun.gov) and <https://lcpl.overdrive.com>.

BookFLIX

Visit [Library.loudoun.gov](https://library.loudoun.gov) to learn more!

Online Story Time

Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 11:00am
Join the LCPL librarians as they read stories for all ages. [Library.loudoun.gov](https://library.loudoun.gov)

Online Learning Hub

The FREE library resources that students, educators and parents need to succeed. For more info, visit <https://library.loudoun.gov/Online-Learning-Hub>

Want to Request a Title?

Visit the LCPL website and click on the "Suggest a title" section. Fill out the form and submit. An email will be sent to you if the library will or will not purchase the title and why. Books, ebooks, audiobooks, and DVFs are available for suggestion. [Library.loudoun.gov](https://library.loudoun.gov).

On-Line Resources Open 24/7

So many streaming services and databases available at your fingertips! Visit [Loudoun.library.gov/online](https://loudoun.library.gov/online) or search for age specific resources:

[Library.loudoun.gov/Children](https://library.loudoun.gov/Children)

[Library.loudoun.gov/Teens](https://library.loudoun.gov/Teens)

[Library.loudoun.gov/Adults](https://library.loudoun.gov/Adults)

Enjoy resources such as Hoopla, Overdrive, Mango Languages, Freegal, RB Digital, Consumer Reports Online & many more!

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy February Programs

Submitted By: Doreen Varblow of Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy

Bluebird Nestbox Monitoring Program Kickoff

Sunday, February 7, 2:00-3:30pm, Virtual

Lisa McKew, coordinator of Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy's bluebird monitoring program, will provide an orientation on nestbox monitoring and the protocol used in Loudoun for collecting and reporting data. She will give an overview of the program, discuss the current trails being monitored around Loudoun and take us through a slide show about bluebirds, their nesting habits, habitat needs and preferred foods. Tips on gardening for bluebirds will be discussed as well as the use of natural cavities and nestboxes. A typical nestbox system with predator guards will be set up for demonstration. Those interested in joining a monitoring team for the 2021 season can sign up during the meeting. Those interested in monitoring a home nestbox or trail and providing data to Loudoun Wildlife can register their trails/boxes during the meeting as well. Registration required: Sign up at <https://loudounwildlife.org/events/>. Questions: contact info@loudounwildlife.org.

Exploring Nature in Winter

Sunday, February 7, 1:00 - 4:00pm at Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship

Limit: 18 participants. Join naturalists Phil Daley and Paul Miller on this Winter walk to discover and discuss how animals and plants adapt to the coldest months of the year. This will be a relatively easy, but wet, walk during which we will examine the trees, plants, animal sign and insects we find along the trails and hopefully discover some skunk cabbage poking its flower heads up through the mud and snow (a sure sign that Spring is on its way). We will enjoy a beautiful time out of doors in this magnificent setting but participants should have sturdy, water resistant footwear and dress for the weather. COVID-19 protocols will be followed. Directions can be found at brces.org. Registration required: Sign up at <https://loudounwildlife.org/events/>. Questions: contact phildaley40@gmail.com or 540-338-6528.

Birding Banshee

Saturday, February 13, 8:00am

Whether you're a beginning birder or an expert, you'll be dazzled by the many bird species you'll find at the Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve south of Leesburg. Join Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy and the Friends of Banshee Reeks for the monthly bird walk at this birding hot spot. Bring binoculars if you have them. Questions: contact Joe Coleman at 540-554-2542 or jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org.

Loudoun Wildlife Winter Adaptations for Survival

Tuesday, February 16 from 7-8 pm, Virtual Event

Join Jacob van Schilfgaarde, Wildlife Conservationist and Facility Supervisor at Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve for a presentation on wildlife in Loudoun County. He will show us three strategies that wildlife use to survive and discuss their typical habitat, feeding behaviors, and how to identify tracks. Registration Required. Questions: contact info@loudounwildlife.org.

Birdhouses of Loudoun County - Online Auction

February Saturday, 20 - Saturday, 27

Online auction begins at noon on February 20th and closes at 10:00pm on Saturday February 27th. Up for auction are

the birdhouse art pieces, other artworks and experiences including an exclusive picnic tour of JK's Black Oak Wildlife Sanctuary. Watch Social media for a preview of the 2021 birdhouses. This auction will not disappoint! Don't miss out! Questions: contact info@loudounwildlife.org.

Birding Bles Park

Sunday February 21, 8:00am

Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy is pleased to offer a regular bird walk at Bles Park located along the Potomac River in eastern Loudoun. More than 175 different species of birds have been observed at Bles Park in a great mix of habitat. Everyone is welcome, whether you are an experienced or beginning birder. Bring binoculars if you have them. Questions: contact Bryan Henson at bhenson@loudounwildlife.org.

Backyard Bats

Wednesday, February 24, 7:00, Virtual Event

Join Loudoun County Libraries and the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy for a great program to learn about our local bats! Leslie Sturges of the Save Lucy Campaign will describe the fascinating and enchanting world of bats, our only flying mammal, and how important they are. She will also introduce the seven species of bats, some of which are common and some rare, that call Loudoun County home. Registration required. Questions: contact info@loudounwildlife.org.

Birding the Blue Ridge Center

Saturday, February 27, 8:00am

The Blue Ridge Center for Environmental Stewardship (BRCES) is a beautiful 900-acre preserve in northwestern Loudoun County. With its diverse wildlife habitats, including meadows, streams and heavily forested slopes, BRCES draws a wide variety of birds and other creatures. Join the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy on our monthly walk, and see what's there! Meet at the Education Center; bring binoculars if you have them. BRCES is located just north of Neersville at 11661 Harpers Ferry Road (Rte 671); detailed directions at brces.org. Questions: contact Joe Coleman at jcoleman@loudounwildlife.org.

Waterfowl of Loudoun County: Field Trip

February 15 and February 28, Time and Location TBD

Winter brings a good variety of attractive waterfowl to Loudoun County, and Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy is offering a class and field trip so you can get to know these beautiful creatures. The class will be an indoor presentation covering the basics of waterfowl biology, identification, molt, migration and breeding (location TBA). The field trip will visit several local hotspots where we should find many of the species that regularly visit the county. We will have spotting scopes so that everyone can get close-up looks at these beautiful winter visitors. Limit 15. Fee: \$10 members and \$15 non-members. Registration required: sign up at <https://loudounwildlife.org/events/>. Questions: contact info@loudounwildlife.org.

Please note - due to the pandemic and current COVID-19 restrictions, programs are subject to change.



Frozen Pipes

Sourced From: Loudoun Water, loudounwater.org/residential-customers/frozen-pipes

When the weather turns colder, water expands as it freezes and this can put tremendous stress on whatever is containing it, including metal or plastic pipes. Usually, pipes that freeze are exposed to severe cold weather, like outdoor hose bibs, water supply pipes in unheated interior areas like basements, garages, or kitchen cabinets. To keep meters from freezing during extreme cold snaps, it is important to have a constant flow of water going through the meter.

During significant cold snaps, follow these tips:

- To prevent your pipes from freezing, allow a faucet to trickle cold water. The faucet you choose should be the one that is the greatest distance from your main water shut off valve and at the highest point in your home. This is especially important if your property has experienced frozen meters in the past.
- Open the cabinets beneath any place with a water supply, such as the kitchen and bathroom sinks. This will allow warm air to circulate. (Remove any toxic substances first if there are small children or pets in the home.)
- If your pipes freeze, never thaw a pipe with an open flame. Use warm water to soak towels, then wrap the towels around the frozen pipes.

If you recently had your meter thawed by a Loudoun Water staff member, please take care to prevent your meter from refreezing by following the above tips.

Here are a few preventive measures that can help you when temperatures dip below freezing:

- Whether you're at home or away traveling, keep your thermostat set no lower than 55F. Travelers will often make the mistake of turning their thermostats off thinking it will save on their heating bill when in reality, they'll come home to frozen pipes.
- Shut off and drain the pipes leading to your outside faucets

and/or hose bibs so no water is left to freeze, expand and cause a leak in these lines.

- Keep doors and windows to the outside tightly closed.
- Insulate pipes in any unheated or drafty areas. Hardware and plumbing supply stores carry insulation to keep pipes from freezing.
- Seal all leaks in crawl spaces and basements.
- Know where your main shut off valve is and label it. Minimize the potential for water damage by ensuring that everyone in the household knows how to shut off the water in case of an emergency.

Freezing pipes are one of the most expensive risks homeowners face. Know the location of your main water shut-off valve. Minimize the potential of water damage by ensuring that everyone in the house knows how to shut off the water in an emergency. To help with this, Loudoun Water has a printable label, loudounwater.org/sites/default/files/Main%20Shut-Off%20Tag.pdf, that you can attach for easy identification.

As the weather remains colder, remember the importance of preventing frozen pipes and meters. If you suspect a frozen pipe or meter, you can contact Loudoun Water one of several ways:

- Call 571-291-7880 during regular business hours.
- Call our afterhours emergency number at 571-291-7878.
- If you are unable to get through, fill out a Contact Us online form, loudounwater.org/content/contact-us, on our website.

We ask that you do not attempt to open your own meter crock as this can damage your meter and result in fines. Also, if a Loudoun Water staff member has been dispatched to your property to work on your meter, please do not approach them for their safety. If you have any questions, please call our Customer Relations team at 571-291-7880 and they can answer your questions.

Broadlands Area Clubs and Groups

Includes **Broadlands** and surrounding **Ashburn** area clubs and groups. To be included on this list or if your club has an announcement or an event you would like published, please email nihanainen@broadlandshoa.com.

ASHBURN/BROADLANDS WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We are studying various Women's Bible Studies by Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer and others. This is an interdenominational group that meets Tuesday mornings from 9:00am to 11:15am in a local home. Please contact Grace at 703-724-0995 for more information.

ASHBURN CLASSICS

The Ashburn Classics will not meet in February.

ASHBURN TOASTMASTERS

Holding Online Meetings. Please contact our VP of Membership, vpm-703053@toastmastersclubs.org, for the URL to join our meetings. Check our website, ashburn.toastmastersclubs.org/ for meetings calendar.

BRAMBLETON LADIES GOLF LEAGUE

Brambleton Ladies Golf League welcomes new members. We are a fun, friendly group playing at Brambleton Golf Course on Monday mornings from April through October. Check us out at www.brambletonladiesgolf.org or call Sara Carlin at 703-723-3000.

CONSERVATION LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

Organizes wildlife habitats, eco-friendly living and native plants related programs and events. The Committee works with the NWF, Broadlands HOA and residents to achieve our annual goals. To learn more about how the committee works, visit BroadlandsNaturally.org.

DBT TEEN SKILLS GROUP

Run by Dr. Maggie Avedisian. If you have a teenager who is struggling to manage their behaviors, mood and social life, "Dr. Maggie's" group may be a great fit and help. For more info, we invite you to call the practice at 703-723-2999.

GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouts provides leadership training through STEM, outdoor experiences, skills badges, community service and entrepreneurship. For information on joining a Girl Scout troop please call the Loudoun County Girl Scout office at 703-777-5644 or go to girlscouts.org.

GRIEFSHARE SEMINAR/SUPPORT GROUP

GriefShare recovery seminar and support group meets at

Our Savior's Way Luthern Church in Broadlands on Monday nights. For more info, please call Beth Anton at 703-470-8821 or visit griefshare.org.

MOMS CLUB OF ASHBURN

MOMS Club stands for Moms Offering Moms Support. Ashburn resident moms that organize events for us and our young kids. For more info, please contact Kirsten Barger at miller.kir@gmail.com or ashburnmomsclub@yahoo.com.

MOMS IN PRAYER – BRIAR WOODS

Briar Woods moms are invited to join us to pray for our children and staff at Briar Woods. We meet on Tuesdays during the school year. Please contact Rebecca for more information at 703-858-7379.

MOMS IN PRAYER – EAGLE RIDGE

Eagle Ridge moms are invited to join us to pray for our children and staff at this school. We meet on Tuesdays during the school year. Please contact Catherine for more information at 703-598-4708.

MUSIC ON THE HEIGHTS

We host monthly concerts in our home, usually second Saturdays of the month. Mostly acoustic, some electric, this series features both local and traveling musicians of various genres. For more info email musicontheheights@gmail.com.

PRE-TEEN AND TEEN ASPERGER'S SOCIAL SKILLS GROUP

Run by Dr. Michael Oberschneider and Dr. Douglas Lipp. Group members work on coping and social skills development with Dr. Oberschneider. Dr. Lipp runs a parent group simultaneously that addresses various topics on parenting children and teens with Asperger's disorder. For more info, we invite you to call the practice at 703-723-2999.

ROTARY CLUB OF ASHBURN

The members of the Rotary Club of Ashburn are heavily involved in serving our Ashburn community. Currently we are meeting remotely via Zoom on the first and third Thursdays of the month. We love visitors and welcome them. Please email us at ashburnrotary@gmail.com if you would like the link for the meetings.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

We meet the third Wednesday of every other month at 7:30pm in the Nature Center (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov). For more info, visit broadlandshoa.org and click on Committees. Meetings are open to all residents. Currently we are meeting virtually.



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AVFRD February News

Pancake Breakfast: due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, the monthly AVFRD Pancake Breakfast events have been canceled until further notice. Please check back updates. Stay safe, Ashburn! Stay tuned for more details on all our events at: <https://ashburnfirerescue.org/news-events/pancake-breakfast/>

Virtual prospective members meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 7:00-9:00pm: learn more about volunteering with AVFRD. Many benefits. See our website for more information and how to apply, <https://ashburnfirerescue.org/volunteer/process>

Spring (Virtual) Bingo on Sunday, February 28, 4:00-6:00pm: time for another round of fun for you and your family. Great free prizes but we are always appreciative of donations. See our website for more details and how to register: <https://ashburnfirerescue.org/events>

Save the date for a Picnic to Go Drive-thru featuring BBQ on Saturday, March 13th: our first event was so popular that we're doing it again! Look for more details on our website, <https://ashburnfirerescue.org>. This is a great opportunity for good eatin', no cooking and a safe solution to the pandemic.

Founders Hall at Station 6: the perfect event & meeting space. With space for 225 people, modern amenities and simple rental terms. This is the right choice for your event, large or small. Accessible, friendly, and fun for you, family, friends and more! For more information go to: <https://ashburnfirerescue.org/facilities-apparatus/founders-hall/>

Daisy Girl Scout Troop 70210, with the help of some teen Girl Scouts, completed a service project to paint activities on the Mill Run Elementary blacktop. This project will provide the school with additional outdoor fun activities for students and the community.



In Case You Need a Hand . . .

NON-EMERGENCY

Ashburn Fire	703-729-0006
Dominion Virginia Power	888-667-3000
Fire Marshall	703-777-0333
Loudoun County Sheriff	703-777-1021
Loudoun Water (customer service)	571-291-7880
Loudoun Water (after hours)	571-291-7878
Poison Control	800-222-1222
State Police	703-771-2533
Washington Gas	703-750-1000

BROADLANDS COMMUNITY

Mailbox (Main Street Mailboxes)	1-571-379-8454
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Snow Removal:

• VDOT Streets	703-383-8368
• HOA Streets	703-729-9704
Towing (Battlefield Towing)	703-378-0059
Trash Pickup (Patriot Disposal)	1-703-257-7100

Southern Walk HOA – Verizon FiOs Gigabit Internet Contract:

• Billing – Laura Marshall, FirstService Residential	
• laura.marshall@fsresidential.com	571-234-5475
• Verizon Activation (SWHOA Only)	1-800-501-1172
• Verizon FiOS Bulk Technical Support 24x7	1-888-553-1555
SWHOA FiOS Contract General Information	SWHOAB.COM

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Animal Control/Shelter	703-777-0406
Building Permits & Dev.....	703-777-0220
County Landfill	703-771-5500
DMV (VA).....	800-435-5137
DISH	800-333-3474
DirectTV	800-531-5000
Health Department.....	703-777-0236
Library (Ashburn).....	703-737-8100
Loudoun Ride On	703-771-5665
Loudoun Hospital	703-858-6000
Miss Utility.....	800-552-7001
Metro.....	202-637-7000
Parks and Recreation	703-777-0343
Ridesharing	703-771-5665
Road Conditions	800-367-7623
School Board.....	571-252-1000
Street Signs/Storm Drains.....	703-771-5666
VDOT	703-383-8368
Van Metre Homes	703-348-5800
Verizon Fios	888-553-1555
Xfinity/Comcast	800-934-6489
Wildlife Hotline (local)	703-440-0800

SCHOOLS -BROADLANDS

Briar Woods High School	703-957-4400
Eagle Ridge Middle School.....	571-252-2140
Hillside Elementary School	571-252-2170
Mill Run Elementary School	571-252-2160

ARTS/MUSIC**PIANO TUNING:**

Ashburn Piano Service, Jeff Bishop, RPT. Contact at 703-786-6248, Jeff@ashburnpianoservice.com, ashburnpianoservice.com.

VIRTUAL PIANO LESSONS:

Loudoun County Piano Teacher providing virtual (zoom) piano lessons. 20+ years teaching experience with all ages and abilities. Please call or text 410-971-0955. Annual Recital, Local Piano Festivals, and National Guild participation optional. \$25 for 30 minutes. No contract required.

TUTORING & EARLY EDUCATION**ON-LINE TUTORING:**

Writing, Reading, Math, Test Prep: Broadlands resident with Ph.D. and extensive experience teaching and tutoring writing, reading, and mathematics (Grades 3-8, Algebra 1 and 2, Geometry), SAT and ACT Prep. Information: myincisivelearning.com or call Bill Bajusz at 703-505-1505.

ON-LINE ENGLISH CLASSES:

Writing, Reading, and Vocabulary Building: On-line classes taught by Ph.D. with extensive experience teaching and tutoring English. Classes for middle school students to add to public schools' online learning. Call Bill Bajusz at 703-505-1505 or see: myincisivelearning.com.

FORMER LOUDOUN COUNTY MATH TEACHER:

Grades K to 12. Pre-algebra, Algebra (I & II), Geometry, Trigonometry, Statistics, Pre-Calculus and Calculus. SAT prep and test taking strategies for strategic placement tests such as the ASVAB, and nursing. Tutor at your home or Ashburn Library. Reasonable rates. Call Vincent Chu at 571-379-3074 or email vchu_911@yahoo.com. Please visit: A1mathtutor.weebly.com.

FITNESS/WELLNESS**TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS****TRAINING:**

Change yourself and change your world by learning authentic kung fu, not the local strip mall variety. Whether developing your fighting skills or increasing your health and wellness, come learn a proven skillset. Contact Sifu Brock at novahunggar@gmail.com. Follow Nova Hung Gar on Facebook and Instagram.

BROADLANDS

HOW TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

1. Submit a completed Classified Insertion Order Form which can be found on our website at broadlandshoa.org/newsletter.
2. Classified ads are limited to 40 words maximum and the text should be emailed to ads@broadlandshoa.com.
3. Payments can be made on our website at broadlandshoa.org/newsletter by selecting Classifieds and using the Buy Now button, OR a check made payable to Broadlands Association, Inc. can be submitted to 21907 Claiborne Parkway, Broadlands, VA 20148.
4. DEADLINE: Form, ad and payment must be received by the 5th of the preceding month (i.e. Jan 5th for inclusion in Feb's issue).

MONTHLY RATES:

- **Resident Rates** - \$15.00 per ad (*For Sale ads are free for Residents only*)
- **Non-Resident Rates** - \$25.00 per ad

No cancellations are permitted after the deadline. For more information, contact the Advertising Manager, Stassa Collins at ads@broadlandshoa.com or 703-729-9714.

Please Note: Advertisers in the Broadlands Newsletter are not endorsed, supported or vetted by the Homeowner's Association, the Board of Directors or HOA Management. All advertisements are subject to approval of Broadlands Association, Inc. which reserves the right to reject or cancel any ad at any time.

HOME SERVICES

ASHBURN ELECTRIC:

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Contact: Craig Fladager at 703-858-7332 (Broadlands Resident).

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Mike.Rosario@verizon.net.

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Broadlands Community Info . . .

BROADLANDS ASSOCIATION, INC.

21907 Claiborne Parkway Broadlands, Virginia 20148

Main: 703-729-9704

broadlandshoa.org

HOA & Nature Center Office Hours:

Closed to walk-ins due to COVID-19

General Mailbox: info@broadlandshoa.com

Nature Center Hours: Suspended due to COVID-19/Coronavirus.

Normally open first & third Saturdays, 10:00am to 2:00pm

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION OFFICE

FirstService Residential: Payments and Resale Docs

Assessments: 703-667-5987 Fax: 703-591-5785

fsresidential.com ♦ ar.dcmetro@fsresidential.com

Mail Payments To:

FirstService Residential P.O. Box 11983 Newark, NJ 07101-4983

BROADLANDS ASSOCIATION STAFF

General Manager: Sarah Gerstein ♦ sarah@broadlandshoa.com

Covenants Manager:

Suzan Rodano ♦ covenants@broadlandshoa.com

Newsletter Editor & Events Committee Liaison:

Natalie Ihanainen ♦ events@broadlandshoa.com

Newsletter Advertising Manager & Resident Services Director:

Stassa Collins ♦ StassaCollins@broadlandshoa.com

Modifications and Resale Manager:

Robin Crews ♦ rcrews@broadlandshoa.com

Community Outreach Coordinator, Pool Liaison:

Julie Holstein ♦ julie@broadlandshoa.com

Reception: Joanne Hang ♦ joannehang@broadlandshoa.com

Naturalist: Rachel Merino ♦ naturalist@broadlandshoa.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: David Baroody ♦ dm.cmb@outlook.com, 703-729-6785

Vice President:

Heidi Eaton ♦ eaton.h@icloud.com, 571-232-1830

Secretary/Treasurer:

Dawne Holz ♦ holz.d@icloud.com, 703-362-6727

Directors:

Eric Bazzerghi ♦ 571-207-6505

David Eiseman ♦ 703-928-6986

Cliff Keirce ♦ 703-729-7320

William Kolster ♦ 703-858-2459

Tania Marceau ♦ 571-331-4381

Joseph T. Wagner ♦ 571-333-0821

COMMITTEES

Broadlands Live Concerts:

Jason Pualoa ♦ broadlandslive@broadlandshoa.com

Conservation Landscape: Oya Simpson ♦ osimpson@broadlandsnaturally.org 703-725-8040*see Clubs & Groups

Events: Natalie Ihanainen ♦ events@broadlandshoa.com

Swim Team: broadlandsswimteam.org

Technology: Dawne Holz ♦ deholz@icloud.com*see Clubs & Groups

Tennis: Brad Marcus ♦ bradmarcus@gmail.com

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INSIDE PLACEMENTS:			
• Eighth Page (3.75" wide x 2.41" tall).....	\$125	\$100	\$75
• Quarter Page (3.75" wide x 5.00" tall)	\$225	\$215	\$200
• Half Page.....	\$430	\$400	\$375
Horizontal: 7.66" wide x 5.00" tall			
Vertical: 3.75" wide x 10.16" tall			
• Full Page.....	\$1000	\$900	\$850
7.66" wide x 10.16" tall			

INSIDE COVER PLACEMENTS (Contact for Availability):

• Quarter Page (3.75" wide x 5.00" tall)	\$250	\$225	\$210
• Half Page.....	\$450	\$425	\$400
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Vertical: 3.75" wide x 10.16" tall			
• Full Page.....	\$1050	\$950	\$900
7.66" wide x 10.16" tall			

OUTSIDE COVER PLACEMENTS (Contact for Availability):

• Quarter Page Horizontal Banner.....	\$275	\$250	\$240
7.66" wide x 2.75" tall			
• Quarter Page (3.75" wide x 5.00" tall)	\$275	\$250	\$240
• Half Page.....	\$475	\$455	\$435
Horizontal: 7.66" wide x 5.00" tall			
• Full Page.....	\$1050	\$950	\$900
7.66" wide x 7.50" tall or 8.50" wide x 8.25" tall			

SUBMISSION INFORMATION FOR DISPLAY ADVERTISERS

- Visit our website at broadlandshoa.org/newsletter to obtain an Insertion Order Form and email to ads@broadlandshoa.com or mail to Broadlands Association, Inc.
- Email camera ready ad in PDF format to ads@broadlandshoa.com. Ad must be in our specs shown above.
- Make payment on our website by clicking on the Buy Now button to use a credit card or your Paypal account. Checks should be made payable and mailed to Broadlands Association, Inc.
- Ad, Payment and Insertion Order Form are DUE by the 1st of the month prior to the month of publication to guarantee insertion. Example: Total submission requirements due January 1st for placement in February's issue.
- **Newsletter is printed in full color.** Rates shown are monthly. No cancellations after the initial deadline are permitted.



Broadlands Homeowners Association

21907 Claiborne Parkway • Broadlands, Virginia 20148

703-729-9704 • broadlandshoa.org • ads@broadlandshoa.com

SWHOA Meeting Update

The February Southern Walk HOA Board meeting will be held virtually on the 22nd starting at 7:00pm.

For additional details or general information about Southern Walk HOA, please visit swhoab.com.

Winter Driving Kit

Winter driving can be hazardous! The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office advises motorists to make sure their vehicles are equipped with a well-stocked winter driving kit. A winter driving kit should include the following items:

- Bag of sand or salt (or kitty litter)
- Blanket
- Booster cables
- Call Police or other help signs or brightly colored banners
- Extra clothing, including hat and wind-proof pants, and warm footwear
- Extra windshield wiper fluid appropriate for sub-freezing temperatures
- First aid kit
- Flashlight and a portable flashing light (and extra batteries)
- Fuel line de-icer (methanol, also called methyl alcohol or methyl hydrate)
- Ice scraper
- Matches and emergency candles. Only use these with a window opened to prevent build-up of carbon monoxide
- Road maps
- Roll of paper towels
- Snack bars or other "emergency" food and water
- Snow brush
- Snow shovel
- Tow Straps
- Traction mats
- Warning devices such as flares or emergency lights



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Sunday (boarder pick up only): 5 PM - 7 PM

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BROADLANDS: 21367 Shale Ridge Court | 703.724.4200 | PrimroseBroadlands.com

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