

# The Scroll

March 2025

Village website: [www.dorseyssearch.org](http://www.dorseyssearch.org)



## Still accepting volunteers for Village Elections

Please consider volunteering for our Election Committee. As a volunteer Committee member, you will ensure that our By-Laws are followed during our Election process.

Our Village Election Day is Saturday, April 26 from 8am—1pm.

Eligibility for membership on the Election Committee—By-Laws Article VIII Section 8.02. *“Any member of the Association eligible to vote in the next forthcoming election of Directors and Council Representative shall be eligible for membership to the Election Committee, but in no event shall a member be a candidate for any Association office. No member of the Election Committee may actively campaign for or against any candidate.”*

Whether you have a lot of time or a little time, consider volunteering. Duties for committee members are described on page 4.

Please email Nancy Meredith at [nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org) and Ingrid Hatz at [ihatz@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:ihatz@dorseyssearch.org)



## Village Election—Saturday, April 26

3 Board Seats & the Columbia Council Representative (CCR) representing Dorsey’s Search on the Columbia Association Board of Directors will be open for 2025.

If you are interested in running for a Board or CCR seat, you will need to pick up a Candidate packet. The packet contains information about the Dorsey’s Search Community Association (Village) as well as information about being a Candidate. You must be a member of the Association (Dorsey’s Search Community Association) to be eligible to run for a seat. A member is defined as an owner or renter on CA lien holding property located in Dorsey’s Search. In addition, the Directors and the CCR shall not be in violation of the Dorsey’s Search Restrictions (Dorsey’s Search Covenants) or in violation of any dues or assessments established by the Columbia Association (By-Laws Section 2.03-Qualifications of Directors). Responsibilities for Directors and CCR are on page 9.

Candidate packets are available at the Village Office.  
Nomination petitions are due on Friday, March 21 at noon.

The Village office is open:

Monday and Friday from 8am—3pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8am—7pm

*Note: The business hours listed above are normal operational hours. Please check the website for possible closings or delays due to inclement weather or staffing issues.*

[www.dorseyssearch.org](http://www.dorseyssearch.org)

### Reminders

Please view the election calendar and information regarding the Village Election on page 8 & 9

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**Dorsey's Search  
Community Association  
Information**

**Village Board Meeting Schedule**

All village board meetings are held at Linden Hall unless otherwise noted on our website. Each regular meeting has a scheduled resident speak-out for residents to voice their opinion on issues of concern. Meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. A link is posted on our website under the Village Board-Meeting, Minutes and Agenda and our facebook page. Please email Ingrid Hatz if you have any questions, see email below.

- Tuesday, March 11, 2025 \*\*
- Wednesday, April 9, 2025
- Wednesday, May 14, 2025

*\*\* Date change; not the 2nd Wednesday of the month*

*Agendas and approved minutes are posted on the village website.*

**Village Office Staff**

**Phone: 410-730-4005**

Ingrid Hatz, Village Manager—[ihatz@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:ihatz@dorseyssearch.org)

Anne McKissick, Covenant Advisor—[amckissick@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:amckissick@dorseyssearch.org)

Nancy Meredith, Administrative Assistant to the Village Manager—[nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org)

Patricia Jones	Head Facility Assistant
Bitsy Furr	Facility Assistant
Mary Hesse	Facility Assistant
Carole Ball	Facility Assistant
Bill Salciccioli	Set-up Tech
James Petit	Set-up Tech

**Village Board Members**

Ellen Mackey	410-730-4005
Derek Carey	410-730-4005
Crissy Simpson	410-730-4005
Luke Menefee	410-730-4005
Russell Stephenson	410-730-4005

**Columbia Council Representative**

Chris Fuchs 410-730-4005

**Office Hours**

Monday, Friday	8am— 3pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	8am—7pm
Saturday	Open for rental; no Village Office hours
Sunday	Open for rental; no Village Office hours

*Note: Please check our website for updated closings or delays. Inclement weather or staffing issues may affect these hours.*

Please call in advance for rental availability.

Website: [www.dorseyssearch.org](http://www.dorseyssearch.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dorseyssearch/>

Twitter: Dorsey's Search C.A. @dorseyssearch

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Dorsey's Search Community Association mission shall promote the health, safety, common good and social welfare of Dorsey's Search residents. The Board's mission is not for pecuniary gain or profit. The Village will sponsor, engage in, conduct and encourage cultural, educational, social, civic and other beneficial activities.

**Village Board Notes**

**February 2025**

- ⇒ FY'25 revised 1st Quarter Report accepted
- ⇒ Donation given to the Wilde Lake After Prom and the Wilde Lake Fine Arts Spring musical.



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To view our **Columbia Council Representative's report** to the Dorsey's Search Board of Directors, please visit our website at:

<https://dorseyssearch.org/village-board/council-rep-report/>

Want to join our Constant Contact group? Use your phone to scan this QR code. Type in your email address and name, press Sign up. It is that simple. We send out Crime Bulletins and other pertinent information regarding the happenings of our Village. Be in the know!



# Covenant

## Order

The Resident Architectural Committee (RAC) is a village board appointed volunteer committee that meets twice a month to review exterior alteration applications. Property owners must apply for **ALL** exterior changes to their property/home. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please feel free to contact the Covenant Advisor at 410-730-4005, ext. 11. The Exterior Alteration Application can be found at our web site. [www.dorseyssearch.org](http://www.dorseyssearch.org) in the Covenant section.

**Approved/Denied Applications: Jan17-Feb20**  
 (descriptions are abbreviated)  
**Application Approvals:**  
 4244 Lilac—windows, front door, composite deck with vinyl railing, awning, window grid removal, garage door  
 4069 Fragile Sail—front door  
 5291 Columbia—windows  
 4205 Bright Bay—deck  
 4688 Smokey Wreath—garage door, roof, patio  
 4745 Rams Horn—windows with capping in front  
 4609 Manorhill—deck, windows  
 5339 Chase Lions—Deck stain, landscape edging, rocks under deck  
 4249 Lilac—move from 2 to 1 garage door  
 4737 Columbia—deck  
 5324 Butler—windows  
**Approved as an exception as amended**  
 4013 Willow Bend—fence

### Application Deadlines and Meeting Dates

7p.m. Deadline	Review Date
Mar 4	Mar 19
Mar 18	Apr 2
Apr 1	Apr 16
Apr 15	May 7
May 6	May 21
May 20	Jun 4



### Looking for a RAC Member

The Resident Architectural Committee (RAC) is looking for a resident volunteer to fill an open seat on this Board appointed Committee. The Committee members review applications and make suggestions to update the Village Guidelines in keeping with the Dorsey's Search Covenants. The Committee members meet twice a month. Committee members are required to visit properties in which owners submitted applications for RAC review. If you are interested in volunteering, please email the Covenant Advisor, Anne McKissick at [amckissick@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:amckissick@dorseyssearch.org)

Anne will review the process of being a Volunteer on the Committee. You will have a chance to experience a couple of RAC meetings and do some property visits with current RAC members and/or the Covenant Advisor. Your property should be in compliance with the Dorsey's Search Covenants and Guidelines. If you have experience in architecture, home repair, landscape design, construction, we highly covet those skills. Please consider joining the RAC.

If your dog starts to stoop, grab a bag and...

**SCOOP the POOP**

every stinkin' time!

24% of the bacteria that pollutes our urban and suburban waterways is from dog waste.

3 billion fecal bacteria are carried by the average dog dropping, according to the Center for Disease Control.

14% of Americans tested positive for waste-borne roundworms, a recent CDC study found.

**BUT, aren't plastic doggie bags even worse for the environment?™**

**NAPE**  
 Runoff carrying untreated dog waste infects our waterways with bacteria that can sicken people and pets, harm aquatic organisms, and contaminate water sources. A landfill is contained and lined. No special plastic bags needed; use what you have.

# Upcoming Events



## Looking for Election Committee Volunteers

### Qualifications for Committee members are:

- You are eligible to vote at the forthcoming Election
- You are not a candidate for any Association office
- You will not actively campaign for or against any candidate

### Duties (Entire list of duties can be found in the Dorsey's Search By-Laws):

- Establish administrative rules and regulations
- Prepare and make available blank nominations petitions
  - Prepare all absentee and regular ballots upon receipt of all nomination petitions
  - Issue, receive, and count ballot cast and post results upon closing of the polls
- Certify, in writing, the name of those persons elected and offices to which they were elected, respectively, to the incumbent Board of Directors of the Association

Staff will be here to consult and help with any questions regarding election procedures.

## Village Election on Saturday, April 26 for in-person voting

Absentee Balloting will take place from Tuesday, April 1—Thursday, April 24, 2024. You may come to the Village Office to cast your Absentee Ballot or you may call the Village office to have one mailed to you. The resident must mail the ballot back or return it to Linden Hall by Thursday, April 24 before close of business which is 7pm. Your sealed ballot may be placed in the black exterior mailbox located at the parking lot entrance door. The sealed ballot will be collected by staff and transferred to the ballot box. Only Election Committee members may open the ballot to verify voting qualifications and vote counting.

If the election is uncontested, no election will take place. Candidates who submitted a nomination petition will be automatically elected.

## Shredding at Dorsey's Search

**Saturday, March 29 from 9am—noon**

**Dorsey's Search Community Association/Linden Hall**

4765 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21042

The Village is sponsoring a paper document shredding event for our residents. You must be a resident of Dorsey's Search and you must show ID before you shred. Paper document shredding is for documents that have personal information. Junk mail which does not contain your name and address can be put in your recycling can. This is for residential use, not for commercial business.

Special events are sponsored by the Dorsey's Search Community Association and some events may be co-sponsored with the Villages of Columbia and/or Dorsey's Search Village Merchants and Columbia Association. For those events requiring a ticket, tickets can be picked up at Linden Hall during regular business hours. For most events, there are a limited number of tickets available, so tickets are distributed on a first-come, first served basis. **No telephone reservations can be taken unless otherwise noted.** Tickets must be picked up in advance—there are no tickets available at the door, since caterers need an exact headcount before hand. **If you picked up free tickets and cannot attend an event, please return to the village office as soon as possible so you can be taken off the headcount and allow a wait-listed family to attend.** Staff may require ID in order to verify residency; please do not send children to pick up tickets, since they are not included on the resident list. Family or Children's events must have an adult accompanying a child. Tickets may still be available when the newsletter is being printed, but may be sold out before you receive your issue. Please feel free to call us to see if there are still tickets available. Thank you.

## Sharpshooting on County Open Space

Signs for Sharpshooting are posted at the entrances of the County pathways in Dorsey Hall. Sharpshooting areas will be closed to the public from 3pm—midnight weather permitting. If you have any questions about sharpshooting events, please visit the County website at and scroll down to Deer Management at:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/natural-resources>

On the Village website, sharpshooting dates for Howard County Dorsey Hall Open Space are listed under the “Calendar of Events”. The last two dates for Sharpshooting are: March 13 & 19.

Be aware of the dates and keep your pets secure.

[www.dorseyssearch.org/events/calendar](http://www.dorseyssearch.org/events/calendar)

### Columbia Cleans

Every year the Columbia Villages and Columbia Association select a date for a Columbia Wide Clean Up. This year, the date is **Saturday, April 5 from 9am—noon**. We ask that volunteers sign up and help keep the public use areas of our village clean. We have two routes which takes our volunteers onto County and CA pathways. Each route has one tot lot area which is apart of the cleanup.

I am proud to say that our Village does a good job with keeping litter/trash off of our public use spaces, but trash can still be found in the wooded areas just off of the pathways. To help with litter/trash, have secure, tight fitting lids on your cans. If you leave a trash bag with food scraps in it and it is NOT placed in a can, the birds or other type of animals can rip open the bag and make a mess by the curb. Stormwater will take that garbage down the storm drain which leads into our beautiful wooded areas in our neighborhood. Please clean up the mess as soon as you can.

Consider volunteering to help keep our area litter and trash free. You may email Nancy Meredith at [nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org) to sign up.

We meet at the Dorsey Hall pool parking lot at 9am. Donuts, Coffee, and water will be available., as well as, a map of the routes, instructions, garbage bags, gloves, trash bags, and trash grabbers.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR PET WASTE!**

## Community Meeting regarding Deer Management Wednesday, April 23 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at Linden Hall

(4765 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City)

As a result of the village-wide survey on deer management, the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks would like to present its plan to initiate managed archery hunting in Dorsey Hall.

A community meeting will be held at Linden Hall on April 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. The survey results will be presented and Tim Maynard, Wildlife Program Manager II, will discuss the deer management plan for 2025.



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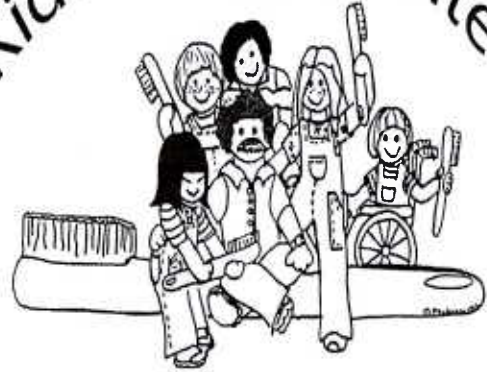
  
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The **Village Election** will be held on Saturday, April 26, at the Village Office/Linden Hall (located in the Dorsey's Search Village Center; 4765 Dorsey Hall Drive, Ellicott City) with polling from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

*There will be no election if after the date for which nominations for the Board of Directors are closed, the number of nominees meeting the requirements is less than or equal to the number of vacant director positions, the qualified nominees shall be deemed to have been elected by the members and the Board of Directors shall appoint nominees to available director positions for the term provided for in Article 8 of the Association's Articles of Incorporation.*

**Offices to be filled:** There are three (3) open seats for the Village Board of Directors and one (1) Columbia Council Representative who will represent Dorsey's Search on the Columbia Association Board of Directors. Candidates must be in compliance with the covenants. Each term will be two years; a term running from May 1, 2025 until April 30, 2027.

**Who is eligible to vote:** There is **one vote per property** and the property must be in compliance with the covenants. To cast a ballot, the individual must be a property owner or tenant (*tenants must have proof of residency, e.g. drivers license, utility bill, lease*) as of March 1, 2025. Please call the office to have an absentee ballot mailed to you. Your name will be matched to "The List of Members" as is stated in By-Law Section 1.08 List of Members. The ballot may be placed in our exterior mailbox, mailed, or brought to the office no later than Thursday, April 24 at noon.

## Becoming a Candidate

Dorsey's Search property owners or renters may run for the a Village Board of Directors and CCR positions. Candidates must be in compliance with the covenants. To ensure compliance, an Exterior inspection of your property will be made by the Covenant Advisor. All candidates must pick up a Candidate Packet and complete the nomination petition which is contained in the packet. Please see election calendar for deadlines. The nomination petition must be signed by at least ten (10) residents and if the resident is a renter, proof of residency must be provided, such as a copy of drivers license, utility bill, or lease showing the address. These documents will be used by the Election Chairman to validate residency. It is a good idea to get more than ten signatures. Petitions must be returned to Linden Hall staff by the deadline that appears in the election calendar. Candidates are responsible for writing and submitting a candidate statement by the deadline.

## Election Calendar 2025

**Mon., Feb. 24, 2025**

Candidate packets may be picked up at Village Office/Linden Hall during operating hours (see page 2 for hours)

**Mon., Mar 3, 2025**

Begin accepting Nomination petitions.

**Fri., Mar 21, 2025**

Nomination petitions must be returned to the Village Office/Linden Hall by noon. (By-Law; Section 8.03—Nominations)

**Tue., Mar. 25, 2025**

Candidate Statements are due by noon. Statements must not exceed 150 words (By-Law; Section 8.04-Candidate's Statements)

**Tue., Apr. 1, 2025—  
Thu., April 24, 2025**

Absentee ballots are available at Village Office/Linden Hall for Dorsey's Search residents. Absentee ballots may also be mailed to you. Please call the Village Office at 410-730-4005 to have one mailed to you. (Bu-Law; 8.07-Absentee ballots)

**Thu., April 10, 2025**

Candidate's Night 7:00pm, if the election is contested. Candidate's Night will be held at the Village Office located at Linden Hall.

**Sat., April 26, 2025**

Village Election polling (in-person) at Village Office/Linden Hall from 8am—1pm.

*Absentee Ballots may be mailed to members upon request. No Absentee Ballots may leave the office unless the member requests it to be mailed to them. If you are a tenant, supporting documents must be viewed to ensure membership as stated in Article 6 in the Dorsey's Search Articles of Incorporation. As stated in Article 7—Section B, "such members will collectively be entitled to one vote relative to the lot, unit, share, membership or other interest, and if such members cannot jointly agree as to how that vote should be cast, no vote shall be allowed with respect to such lot, unit, ...."*



### **Responsibilities of a Dorsey's Search Board member:**

The primary responsibility of a **Board member** is that of an advocate. The following is a list of responsibilities:

- ⇒ Oversees the Village Budget
- ⇒ Hires and evaluates the Village Manager
- ⇒ Appoints standing and ad hoc committees and oversees their effectiveness
- ⇒ Attends one Board meeting per month on the second Wednesday at 7:00 pm
- ⇒ Develops and presents testimony to government agencies, e.g. HC Council, Columbia Council, Columbia Association, and state legislators (when needed).
- ⇒ Negotiates and complies with the management contract between the village and Columbia Association
- ⇒ Offers programs and services which help unite the community

### **Responsibilities of the Columbia Council Representative Member:**

- ⇒ Be informed regarding the missions, policies, and programs of the Columbia Association (CA).
- ⇒ Formulate CA policies and follow CA Board/Council conflict of interest and confidentiality policies.
- ⇒ Carry out fiduciary responsibilities of CA Board, including oversight and approval of CA budget and review of CA financial statements.
- ⇒ Regularly attend Board and Council meetings.
- ⇒ Serve on CA Board/Council/Advisory Committees and regularly attend committee meetings.
- ⇒ Take responsibility for and follow through on assignments arising from meetings.
- ⇒ Review Agenda, supporting materials, and prior meeting minutes before CA Board, Council and committee meetings.
- ⇒ Attend special events and functions of CA Board, Council and Villages as well as community-wide CA events.
- ⇒ Present reports of CA Board/Council actions at respective village Board meeting.
- ⇒ Work with CA's President to establish performance objectives. Evaluate performance of CA's President, while providing the necessary support for the President to further CA's goals
- ⇒ Communicate with residents: articulate CA's goals, accomplishments, programs, and policies and obtain input from residents.

*These are volunteer positions in which you commit yourself for a two-year term. You must be a property owner or tenant with appropriate paperwork. Please email Ingrid Hatz at [ihatz@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:ihatz@dorseyssearch.org) and Nancy Meredith at [nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:nmeredith@dorseyssearch.org).*

# Important Numbers

The Howard County Bureau of Highways is responsible for pavement, sidewalks, storm drains, trees, and over 970 miles of county roads for the convenience and safety of the public. If you see a problem within the village please call the appropriate number below or use the TellHoCo App that can be downloaded onto your cell phone. Tell-HoCo may also be accessed by visiting the County website at [www.howardcountymd.gov](http://www.howardcountymd.gov)

**Traffic Engineering Division**...This division is responsible for traffic signals, streetlight installation, street signs, and traffic calming and safety. 410-313-2430.

**Street Signs** ...The Sign and Marking Division is responsible for all existing street signs and pavement markings. To report damaged or down sign, contact 410-313-7450. To inquire about the installation of a new sign, contact 410-313-2430.

**To Report a Highway Maintenance** concern such as road condition, **sidewalks**, storm drainage or street trees, contact the Highways Operations Division at 410-313-7450 or by email: [highways@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:highways@howardcountymd.gov).

**To Report a Traffic Control** concerns such as intersection safety, traffic calming, street lights and miss-timed traffic signal or school flasher, contact the Traffic Engineering Division at 410-313-2430 or by email: [traffic@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:traffic@howardcountymd.gov).

**Street Lights**...BGE is responsible for all street light outages and maintenance, ("knocked down", "bulb out" or "on in daylight") - their Customer Service number is 800-685-0123 or online at [www.BGE.com](http://www.BGE.com)

**Mailbox Problems:** Mailboxes are the property of the US Postal Department please call 410-750-1340 for Ellicott City and 410-381-4373 for Columbia.

**County Council Representative** for Dorsey's Search (District 1): Liz Walsh can be reached at (410) 313-2001

*Street trees need pruning call 410-313-7450.*

Animal Control.....	410-313-2780
CA.....	410-715-3000
Trash/Recycling Collection.....	410-313-6444
HC Information.....	410-313-3000
Voter Information.....	410-313-5820
Bus Schedules.....	800-270-9553
Senior Info. & Assist.....	410-313-1234
Police Non-emergency.....	410-313-2200
HC Police General Information.....	410-313-3200
HC Board of ED.....	410-313-6682
Cable Complaints.....	410-313-3318
Columbia Association.....	410-715-3000
HC Citizens Services.....	410-313-6400
HC Licensing & Permits.....	410-313-2455

**Bulk Trash Items:** Residents receiving County-provided curbside trash collection are eligible for curbside bulk trash and metal collection. Residents in private areas that do not receive County collection are not eligible for bulk pickup. Remember: Bulk trash items collected by the County will be sent to a landfill. Residents may call 410-313-6444. Large trash items (individual items which do not fit in trash cans) such as mattresses, box springs, chairs, sofas, dressers and tables will be collected. Place these items at the curb on your regular trash day. Maximum of 4 large trash items will be collected per pick-up. Items must be able to be lifted by two collection crew members (larger items will be tagged and left for the resident's disposal). Bulk metal items include metal swing sets, file cabinets, appliances, lawn mowers, exercise equipment, etc. must be scheduled. Please remove doors from refrigerators, and drain oil and gas from lawn mowers. Please go to:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/curbsidecollections> for detailed information.

**Trash and Recycling Pick-up:** there are holidays that the County has moved pick up to a slide schedule. If you have further questions, please Call 410-313-6444 or visit their website at: [www.howardcountymd.gov/holidayschedule](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/holidayschedule)

**All trash and recycling cans should be removed from the street on the pick-up day and stored out of sight.**

**Yard Trim Collection:** Howard County offers yard trim collection on the same day as recycling collection. Do not use plastic bags for your yard trim—it will not be collected. Use paper bags or reusable containers without lids only. Howard County offers the “**Feed the Green Bin**” program in our Village. Please visit the Howard County website if you are interested in participating. Information and tips can be located on the website.

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/public-works/feed-green-bin>

## Newsletter Carriers Needed starting August 2025

These positions are geared for Dorsey's Search Village Middle or High School students. The carrier receives a designated route. They will:

- Pick up newsletter from the Village Office
- Prepare them for distribution
- Deliver newsletters according to a list that has Deliver and DO Not Deliver addresses.

Return the poly-fabric bag to the office. We can place your next month's newsletters in them. Please contact: Nancy Meredith by email at

[nmeredith@dorseysearch.org](mailto:nmeredith@dorseysearch.org)

## Cul—de-Sac Beautification

The Dorsey's Search Community Association has decided to grant money towards the beautification of 2 cul-de-sacs in the Village. Each grant will be \$250. Once the Village reviews and approves the plan, the application will be sent to the County for their consideration. The applicant will be notified once the County approves the plan. Only then can items be purchased for the project. To receive the \$250 reimbursement, submit all original receipts to the Village Office by July 15, 2025. **No exceptions.** An application is on the next page, but will also be available at the Village Office or online at : <https://www.dorseyssearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/CulDeSacApp.pdf>. The Village will start accepting applications on March 3, 2025.

The following items are required by the County:

- Picture of the cul-de-sac
- Petition signed by 80% of residents in the cul-de-sac
- Proposed planting plan, drawing
- List of specific plants to be used

The Village and County will not be responsible for what is planted in the cul-de-sac. Residents must agree to the upkeep of the cul-de-sac which may include mulching every year. As a reminder, you may NOT have plants that will grow and block the visibility through the island and you may NOT have plants that will grow into the roadway.

If you have further questions about this program, please contact the Covenant Advisor, Anne McKissick at 410-730-4005 or by email at [amckissick@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:amckissick@dorseyssearch.org)

Anne's office hours are: Tuesday—Thursday from 8am—3pm and Wednesday evening if there is a RAC meeting.

### Dates to remember:

March 3, 2025 - The Village will begin accepting applications for processing

July 15, 2025 - All original receipts must be turned in.

You may submit the application in-person during business hours, using the exterior mailbox located at our parking lot entrance or by email. If you place an application in the exterior mailbox, please email Anne McKissick to let her know you placed one there. You may email an application and all the supporting documentation for the application to Anne McKissick at [amckissick@dorseyssearch.org](mailto:amckissick@dorseyssearch.org). Grant money will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis. Only complete applications will be counted as being received. Receipts must be submitted by the deadline. Please contact Anne if you have any questions.

Dorsey's Search Community Association  
Cul-de-Sac Beautification Grant  
Application Form

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

The following information must be submitted with the application:

- Picture of cul-de-sac island
- Petition signed by 80% of residents on the cul-de-sac
- Proposed planting plan, drawing
- List of specific plants to be used

The County will not be responsible for what is planted in the cul-de-sac. Residents agree to the upkeep of the cul-de-sac and mulching each year. When designing your plan, keep in mind that snow plow discharge may be placed onto the island. Nothing can be planted that will block visibility through the island, or grow into the roadway.

Village approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mid-Atlantic forested parks are facing "imminent" or "probable" failure.

- submitted by Ria Malloy

A 2023 study by the U.S. National Park Service "found that the greatest commonality among parks struggling with forest health was an overabundance of deer, which eat saplings and undermine a forest's ability to regenerate, causing noticeable gaps in the understory."

Forest failure occurs when a wooded landscape's composition and diversity have declined so much that its trees and shrubs no longer regenerate quickly enough to replace themselves. "Forest failure has a lot of causes. But in our area, deer tend to be the worst problem. That's the first one to deal with."

Deer and invasive plant species can reduce a forest's health enough to make its trees more susceptible to pests and diseases, like emerald ash borer and beech leaf disease.

Solutions start with deer management. Parks that are actively managing the deer population are seeing forest improvements. The parks without deer management are the same or getting worse. Since trees take a long time to grow, success will be measured in decades, not years.

The above information is excerpted from Whitney Pipkin's article in the January 24, 2025 Bay Journal. Read the full article: <https://tinyurl.com/ForestFailure> Read the full USNPS report <https://tinyurl.com/USNPS>

Unfortunately, invasive plants have taken over the areas left bare by deer browsing. Plants such as garlic mustard, Japanese stilt grass, wavy leaf basketgrass, Japanese barberry, bittersweet, honeysuckle, and English ivy are a few of the invasives on the forest floor and climbing the trees.

Management of invasive plants is also an important part of forest restoration. The area must be replanted with natives, including protection from deer browsing. This will protect the plants from deer and the soil from erosion.

People don't realize that the nonnatives they plant in their yards often find their way to open space. It is tempting to buy plants advertised as "deer resistant" that turn out to be invasives that can spread quickly into adjacent woodlands. For natives to plant in your yard, see University of Maryland Extension Home & Garden Information Center's **Recommended Native Plants for Maryland** <https://tinyurl.com/MDNativePlants> Be sure to protect new plantings from deer browsing.



As the winter landscape thaws and we go outside and walk along our garden beds, we just might see peeking out from the dead leaves and spent mulch, the green shoots of the ephemeral. Ready to stake their claim to spring, they will push through garden debris, growing higher to reach the sun's ray. Known as a *geophyte* in the botanical world, we know them more commonly as spring bulbs but they are all Ephemerals. These plants have evolved a range of specialized below ground structures to store water and nutrients. Some are familiar like the Crocus or Daffodil and others are lesser known like the Trout or Fawn lilies (*Erythronium*) named for their mottled spring foliage. From the Bluebells that spray their magnificent blue color in our spring gardens to the May Apple that can be found in woodland areas bashfully hiding their white blooms under hooded leaves, they all share a common characteristic...unannounced, they come in spring and just as quickly they are gone by summer.

The Rue Anemone (*Thalictrum*) is a delicate-looking early spring plant that blooms March to June. It is a member of the buttercup family (*Ranunculus*). Their delicate stems emerging in early spring. They have pure white to pale pink flowers and grow in shaded areas. Like many Ephemerals, they should be planted in rich, moist soil where they will be free of competition from aggressive spreaders. By mid-summer the plant goes dormant and its leaves die off into the soil. Another Ephemeral found in our area is the Toothwort (*Cardamine concatenata*). These are showy plants with drooping, four petaled flowers, in shell pink or pure white. Their succulent rhizomes are actually edible, although I couldn't find a recipe to verify the claim!

Other Ephemerals common to our area are the Bloodroot, (*Sanguinaria*) Wood Poppy, (*Stylophorum*) Wild Hyacinth (*Camassia scilloides*) and native Trilliums. Trilliums, grow a foot and half high and have spectacular foliage and blooms.

If you're interested in adding Ephemerals to your garden, you can do so in the fall or in early spring, before the plants begin to come alive. Just be sure to mark their location because in a short month or two they will disappear. Ephemerals, will add a bit of magic to your garden just in time for spring.

Brookside Gardens offers a tour to see and learn more about Ephemerals. The tour, titled, 'A Woodland Garden: Spring Ephemerals and Understory Plantings' (#PBG0142 100001) will be held on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. You can find out more by visiting the Brookside Garden website.

On another note: Recently, *Weed Warriors*, an environmental group concerned with invasive species in our area, is planning to have a 'Garlic Mustard pull' in areas adjacent to our woodland paths. CA will furnish bags. Look for more details in the next addition of the Scroll. This is a good opportunity to come out and join in a community environmental project. All are welcomed.

The Dorsey Hall Garden Club meets monthly. Our Club is dedicated to encouraging the love of gardening and promoting positive horticultural practices and conservation through education of its members and the broader community. New members are welcomed. If interested in joining the garden club, please email Karen Griffith at [tgriff@hotmail.com](mailto:tgriff@hotmail.com)

Spring- an experience in immortality.

Henry D. Thoreau (1817-62)



It's April, and with the rising temperatures and longer days, we'll soon start to see the first signs of spring, including all the crocuses, tulips and daffodils beginning to sprout.

**Here are some tips to get your home in good shape for the warmer months ahead:**

**Schedule air-conditioning service.** Make sure your HVAC unit is working before the warm weather arrives. Don't forget to regularly change filters.

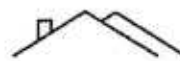
**Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.** Change batteries at least once a year and replace each unit every 7 to 10 years.

**Clear gutters and downspouts.** Prevent damage from spring rains by clearing out debris. Make sure water is diverted away from your home to protect its foundation.

**Check door and window screens.** Avoid having insects enter your home by examining and repairing any holes or tears in your screens.

**Reseal exterior woodwork.** Prolong the life of the woodwork on your home, as well as any wood decks, fences and other outdoor structures, by painting or resealing them every few years. Inspect caulking and replace, if needed.

If you're planning to sell your home this spring, I'll be happy to provide recommendations on repairs, improvements, renovations, or other suggestions to help make your home picture perfect both inside and outside. Happy Spring!



CATHY HERNANDEZ

Realtor®

m. 410.978.7200 | o. 410.715.7375  
Cathy.Hernandez@LNF.com

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Long and Foster Real Estate, Inc.  
10805 Hickory Ridge Road  
Columbia, Maryland 21044

