

The LogMarch 7, 2024

What's happening in and around the Village of Hickory Ridge!

ELECTIONS

Run for the Hickory Ridge Village Board or the Columbia Association Council!

The <u>Hickory Ridge Village Board</u> has five members and they are elected every year. Attend a Board meeting and see what the Board does! Consider running for the Village Board. Being a candidate does not cost anything and the Village provides election materials for candidates. <u>Information about running for the Board is here.</u>

Hickory Ridge elects a member of the Columbia Association Council. For more information about the <u>Columbia Association Council</u>, <u>go here</u>. If you would like to run for the CA Council, fill out the Hickory Ridge candidate packet.

All candidate packets must be turned in to the Village Office or arrive in the Village Manager's email no later than **5:00pm on Monday, March 11, 2024**.



Dog Waste Bag Station Removed

Sadly. the dog waste bag station at the Six Pence Tot Lot was removed recently. This was one of a few waste stations that relied on residents to place empty plastic bags in the slot so dog owners could access one quickly should their dog leave a "present" along the path. Unfortunately some dog owners placed dog waste into the station, rendering it unsightly and unsafe.

Please remember it is a state law that you need to clean up after your pets. Dog waste, once bagged, can be placed in the trash bins along the pathways.



What Do These Organizations Do?

Through **Columbia Association**, residents have access to a variety of amenities and programming services, including athletic facilities, indoor and outdoor pools, art classes and recreational Open Space areas.

Hickory Ridge Village is a hub for community engagement, information and covenant enforcement.

Howard County provides essential services to residents including schools, road maintenance, police and fire, and trash and recycling.



Election Committee 2024

Hickory Ridge needs volunteers on **Saturday, April 20, 2024**, for the Annual Meeting/Election Day to check in voters, tally votes and other tasks. Shifts are about 90 minutes long and we provide breakfast, lunch and other refreshments to volunteers!

If you are interested in volunteering for the Annual Meeting/Election Day events, go to the **Volunteer Sign-up sheet**.



The Hickory Ridge Community Association Annual Meeting/Election

The Hickory Ridge Community Association Annual Meeting/Election begins on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 9:00 am with the collecting of votes. Vote collection ends at 12:00pm, at which time the Village Board will meet.

If the number of votes cast in this election are insufficient to constitute a quorum or if there is a tie in the race for a Village Board seat or the Columbia Council seat, a second election will be called in accordance with Section 11B-111(6)(i) of the Maryland Homeowners Association Act and Section 1.05 of the Association's By-Laws. If required, a second election will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Interested in running for the Village Board or Columbia Council? Check out the information on the <u>Hickory Ridge Village Board page</u> or <u>Columbia Association's information page</u>.

Not sure which Village you are in? Check out Columbia Association's **Columbia Votes page** for more information!



Skye Anderson, CA Rep Office Hours

Skye Anderson, the Columbia Association Representative, has instituted SOHO (Skye's Office Hours Outside). SOHO is the time for Hickory Ridge residents to discuss Columbia Association concerns and praise with Skye, one on one. Skye is at Mad City Coffee at the corner of Hickory Ridge Road and Cedar Lane on Fridays, 5:00 - 6:00pm.



Bottle Caps & Plastic Lids: Needed

Emily, our Events Coordinator is partnering with staff from Freetown Farm on an upcoming upcycled art workshop for the community (more information to come) but she needs help.

She is looking for plastic bottle tops/lids and lids from tubs like butter, yogurt and cream cheese, etc. Please email events@hickoryridgevillage.org or you can drop them off at The Hawthorn Center.



Your photo could become the official village postcard!

Take a photo of your favorite spot in the village and submit it using this form. The best shots will be made into postcards that will be made available at each village center. Submissions are due March 15. Don't miss this great opportunity to show off your skills and village pride!

Not sure what village you live in? Visit <u>ColumbiaAssociation.org/vote</u> and use the village look-up tool.



SNAP A PHOTO OF YOUR VILLAGE

and share it with us for a chance to be featured on a **community postcard!**

Contest runs through March 15



Or email Communications@columbiaassociation.org with your name, village and photo





2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration is Open!

Do you have a child who will be five on or before September 1, 2024? For more information on enrollment in Howard County public schools, please see the attached and visit the <u>HCPSS Enrollment page</u>. For information about helping your child get ready for kindergarten, please visit the <u>HCPSS Getting Ready for Kindergarten page</u>.

Please note, current HCPSS prekindergarten students do not need to be re-registered for kindergarten because they are already enrolled as an HCPSS student.









GRAND OPENING EAST COLUMBIA 50+ CENTER

March 7, 2024 11:00AM

6610 Cradlerock Way, Columbia 21045

Join us for the highly-anticipated grand opening celebration of our newest age-friendly gathering place!







www.howardcountymd.gov/aging-independence

If you need this information in an alternate format, contact Maryland Access Point (MAP) of Howard County at 410-313-1234 (VOICE/RELAY). If you need accommodations to participate, contact MAP at least one week in advance.



Landscape Design: Creating Outdoor Garden Rooms

Thursday, March 14th at 12pm
The Hawthorn Center
FREE to Attend and light refreshments will be provided

Please join Pat Greenwald retired educator & Master Gardener and members of the Longfellow Garden Club to learn design techniques to



extend your outdoor living spaces by creating individual rooms for relaxing, entertaining, dining and many other functions. Please RSVP to events@hickoryridgevillage.org



Natural Tie-Dyeing Workshop

Saturday, March 16th from 1:30-3:30pm CEI's Freetown Farm

Ages: 5-adult

Cost: \$15 or \$25 for two people

DYING to learn about natural dyes? In this workshop we will spend time learning about natural dyes and the dyeing process, and dye fabric that can be turned into napkins, bandanas, wall hangings and more! This will intentionally be a welcoming, messy, fun, and judgement-free space for experimentation, and we invite you to join us. Please register at <u>Tie Dyeing Workshop</u>



Hickory Ridge Happy Hour

Monday, March 18th from 6-7:30pm Asian Palace, 10801 Hickory Ridge Road

Join members of the Hickory Ridge Community Engagement Committee for a fun-filled in-person gathering with great drinks and good conversation and have a *FREE* beverage on us! Let's unwind together after a long day and enjoy the company of friends and neighbors. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to relax and have a good time. Please RSVP to <u>Hickory Ridge Happy Hour</u>



Regenerative Landscapes

Tuesday, March 19th at 7pm Zoom Discussion FREE to Attend

Please join Dr. Sara Via, Professor & Climate Extension Specialist from The University of Maryland and members of the Watershed Advisory Committee to learn about climate sensitive alternatives to lawns! Please RSVP to events@hickoryridgevillage.org.



Solar Information Session

Wednesday, March 20th at 7pm Zoom Discussion Free to Attend

Please join Civic Works and Columbia Association for our upcoming online Solar Information Session via Zoom on Wednesday, March 20.

Learn about the many energy saving and environmental benefits of going solar - as well as how you can save on the cost of your solar panel system.

To RSVP, visit: <u>howardcountysolarinfosession</u>









- Brynn & Brooke Howes: 410-952-6861
- Jos Dumont: jos.pierre.dumont@gmail.com
- Sofia Blose 410-707-0332
- Christine Chen: NH8ChristineS@gmail.com
- Carolina Stiefel: 443-467-5811
- Sydney Daniel: danielsydney75@gmail.com



Free dog walking services to seniors available in Hickory Ridge

Offering free dog walking services to seniors with limited mobility. If you are having a difficult time giving your dog the exercise he/she deserves, please email Freedogwalkingservice@gmail.com. Teens from local high schools will walk your dog for free after school and on the weekends. For now, we are only accepting dogs under 35 pounds who live in the Hickory Ridge and Clemens Crossing communities.



Cub Scout Pack 720

Fun with a purpose. Camping, fishing, hiking, and life skills. Adventure awaits your son and/or daughter at Cub Scout Pack 720! K-5th grade. Serves Swansfield and Running Brook students. Contact Cubmaster Josh White at jmwhite0610@gmail.com to find out more!



Housing Repair Program

Who is eligible?

- You must be a Howard County homeowner
- Own and occupy the home as your principal residence
- Can be single family, townhouse or condo
- All mortgage, property taxes, HOA/condo fees, and hazard insurance payments must be current

Loan Terms

- Maximum loan amount is \$40,000
- Interest rate shall not exceed 2%
- Maximum term is 30 years



Department of Housing & Community Development — To apply visit https://bit.ly/3gqNF58 and complete the Pre-Application. Full program guidelines and income eligibility requirements can also be found on our website.









Funding availability based on annual budget allocation.

Contact Taylor Shelton for details at tshelton@howardcountymd.gov or (410) 313-6333

988 Is Here to Help

Need immediate emotional support? Call 988 to connect to a counselor who can help. Their specialists provide confidential care 24/7. Because we all need help sometimes.

Call whenever you need emergency emotional support or are worried about someone else. The 988 helpline is free and confidential.



Call 988 for emergency emotional support.

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Community Action Council of Howard County

The mission of the Community Action Council is to diminish poverty and enable self-sufficiency for all Howard County Individuals, families and children in need. To better serve the local community and improve ease of accessibility, the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) will have community service workers stationed at the following locations during the following extended times:

Howard County Food Bank Tuesdays, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Wednesdays, 11:00 am - 7:00 pm Thursdays, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

<u>Laurel MultiService Center*</u>
Wednesdays, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Thursdays, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

*The Laurel MultiService Center is included along the Purple Bus route. To learn more about CAC's programs or to apply for assistance, visit https://cac-hc.org/get-help/



Report Non-Emergency Issues Online

Report water main breaks, broken street signs, and more on Howard County's mobile app and website Tell HoCo. Residents can report non-emergency issues which the county will assign to the responsible department. Download the TellHoCoApp on your mobile phone or visit <a href="https://doc.no.ndm.ndm.no.ndm.ndm.no.ndm.ndm.no.ndm.ndm.no.ndm.



Letter of Compliance

If you are putting your house on the market, request a Letter of Compliance from the Village Office well in advance of a pending settlement date. This letter is not required, but it is a valuable tool for sellers because it verifies that your property is in compliance with the Hickory Ridge Covenants. Any covenant violations on your property become the responsibility of the new owner, so home buyers often request a Letter of Compliance from the Seller. Request forms are

available in the Covenants section of our website and at the Village Office. Questions? Email applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.



Exterior Alterations

Thinking about making some changes to the exterior of your home or landscaping? Don't forget to check to see if you need to submit an Exterior Alteration application. The Hickory Ridge Architectural Guidelines and applications are available **on our website** in the Covenants section. Questions? Call 410-730-7327 or email **applications@hickoryridgevillage.org**.

For a complete schedule of RAC meetings and submission deadlines, click <u>here</u>

SAVE THE DATE!

March 11: Board meeting at 7:30pm* March 20: RAC meeting at 7:30pm*

*Zoom meeting, check website for details.



Resident Architectural Committee Meeting Agenda

Resident Architectural Committee (RAC) meeting agendas are available on the Hickory Ridge website. <u>Click here to view</u> upcoming agendas and meeting results. Questions about submitting an application or the approval process? Email <u>applications@hickoryridgevillage.org</u>.



Rent The Hawthorn Center for your Event

Host your seminar, anniversary celebration, baby shower, or birthday party at The Hawthorn Center! Our richly appointed, contemporary atmosphere is the perfect backdrop for any occasion. We offer affordable rental space in a tasteful and convenient Columbia setting. We hope you will consider The Hawthorn Center for your next event. Contact us **here**.



Open Space Questions or Concerns?

If you have questions or concerns about Columbia Association Open Space areas, contact CA Open Space directly by calling 410-312-6330 or by emailing Open.Space@ColumbiaAssociation.org.



Crime Statistics Map of Howard County

Howard County has interactive maps with information about properties and neighborhoods. One is the Crime Statistics map. It used to be that the Howard County Police would have to put these statistics together for us, but now they are available at our fingertips. Check out the Crime Statistics map.



Howard County Government Updates

Subscribe to Howard County Executive Calvin Ball's newsletter *The Ball Bulletin* **here** Stay informed about the latest updates and essential information form your Howard County government.



District 4 County Council Newsletter

Deb Jung is the County Council Representative for Hickory Ridge residents. For more information about your district, check out the website.

District 4 Website

Never miss an edition of The Log

If you have yet to sign-up to receive the newsletter electronically and would like to do so, please click below. This will ensure that you never miss a copy of The Log.

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Crisis Stabilization Program

HOTLINE 410-531-6677



Hickory Ridge Community Association

410-730-7327
The Hawthorn Center
6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia MD 21044
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am - 5pm

Hickory Ridge Village Board

Kristine Amari, Chair

Jared Ball

Jeremy Dommu, Vice Chair

Steve Hannan

Bill Inglis

Mariah Robertson

Chris Smith

CA Representative

Skye Anderson

Village Staff

Laura Mayton, Village Manager
Tania Tavares, Covenant Advisor
Devora Wilkinson, Covenant Advisor
Emily Rieger, Events Coordinator
Charlotte Nisos, Bookkeeper
Heather Harvanek, Facility Coordinator
John Pongracz, Facility Assistant
Ellen Gallagher Roberts, Facility Assistant
Daniel Nairn, Facility Assistant
Erica Carpio, Facility Assistant
Tiwana & Ed Nicholson, Custodians

Village Services Information & referral

B/W and color Copies
Notary Public - Please call for an appointment.
Free classified newsletter ad
Fax sending and receiving
Rentals of The Hawthorn Center
Please note: fees may apply

Contact Us - The Hawthorn Center - Resident Resources

STAY CONNECTED WITH US!







Visit our Website

Hickory Ridge Community Association | 6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia, MD 21044

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