



The Log

January 16, 2025

What's happening in and around the Village of Hickory Ridge!
[Follow us!](#)



Snow Reminders

When snow falls, residents are responsible for clearing all sidewalks that abut their property...even if the sidewalk is behind the back yard. The following is a list of local people who may be able to shovel for you.

Please note that Hickory Ridge Community Association does not endorse any person listed. You must contact the individual for availability and pricing.

David Garza: 347-574-2881
Jack Dolan: 248-792-1310

If you would like your name added to our list, please send an email to events@hickoryridgevillage.org and provide your name, neighborhood, and contact information (phone number and/or email).



Join the Election Committee!

Would you like to get to know your neighbors and learn more about the Hickory Ridge Community Association? Join the Election Committee!

We are looking for residents to help with the 2025 Annual Meeting/Election Day process for the Village of Hickory Ridge. Each April, the Village elects Village Board members and a Representative to the Columbia Council.

Volunteers on the Election Committee will make recommendations to the Board, help plan and moderate Candidate Nights, check in voters and help with the vote count at the Annual Meeting/Election Day on April 26, 2025. They also ensure that the Election Rules and Procedures are followed.

To join the Election Committee, you must:

- Be a member of the Hickory Ridge Community Association, which means you must own or rent a Columbia Association assessed property in Hickory Ridge.
- Be able to contribute about 15 hours of your time for several meetings, Candidates Night and Election Day.
- Fill out the Volunteer Application form and return it to

[The Volunteer Application form is on the website.](#)



Join Us

Mondays Community Walk



www.hickoryridgevillage.com



 **Every Monday,**
 **10:00 AM**
 **Meet at**
The Hawthorn Center,
6175 Sunny Spring

FREE!

Questions? Call
410-730-7327

Connect with neighbors, make new friends, and discover more about Hickory Ridge! This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone—of all ages and abilities—to meet members of the **Community Engagement Committee** while enjoying fresh air and great conversation.

After the walk, **we'll be serving coffee**, so stick around and enjoy a warm drink with your neighbors!



Let's build community, one step at a time!



Pets welcome!

LEADERSHIP HOWARD COUNTY

LEADERSHIP U



Leadership U 2025
Info Session
Tuesday, January 28
5:30 p.m.

Leadership U Is Back for High School Students in Howard County!

Are you a current high school sophomore that is looking for an exciting opportunity to further your leadership skills and make a tangible impact on your community? Check out Leadership U!

Leadership U is a transformative leadership program for high school juniors in Howard County, MD, cultivating a generation of socially conscious leaders and equipping them with the tools to effect meaningful change within their communities. A common reflection among the recent 2024 graduates was how LU opened the door for participants to meet new people, develop their leadership skills, and make a difference in their community.

As we continue to drive this mission forward, I am thrilled to announce that applications for the 2025 program are officially open! Current sophomores can apply on the LHC website at leadershiphc.org. The application process will be open for students until April 7, 2025, with interviews taking place in late April/early May and the program commencing in Summer 2025 as students begin their junior year.

Want to learn more about the program and hear directly from recent graduates about the LU experience? Leadership Howard County will be hosting an LU Info Session for students and parents on Tuesday, January 28 at the East Columbia Branch Library beginning at 5:30pm in the Marvin Thomas room. Bring a friend and bring any questions! Additional info sessions to follow in February and March 2025 with updates located on the LHC website.

Please contact Alli Eastham, Leadership U Program Coordinator, at aeastham@leadershiphc.org with any questions.



Flood Preparedness Seminar

**Thursday, February 6th
7-9pm
Hawthorn Center**

As the climate changes, rainstorms have become more intense, leading to flash flooding. Everyone is invited to attend a seminar about what you can do to protect your property in the event of serious flooding.

Conducted by Howard County's Office of Emergency Management, the seminar will be held from **7 to 9pm at The Hawthorn Center at 6175 Sunny Spring on Thursday, February 6, 2025.**

We expect that this seminar may be able to answer questions you have about flooding and how you can be prepared. If you would like to attend, please **RSVP** at 410-730-7327 or send an email to events@hickoryridgevillage.org.

The Hickory Ridge Community Association's

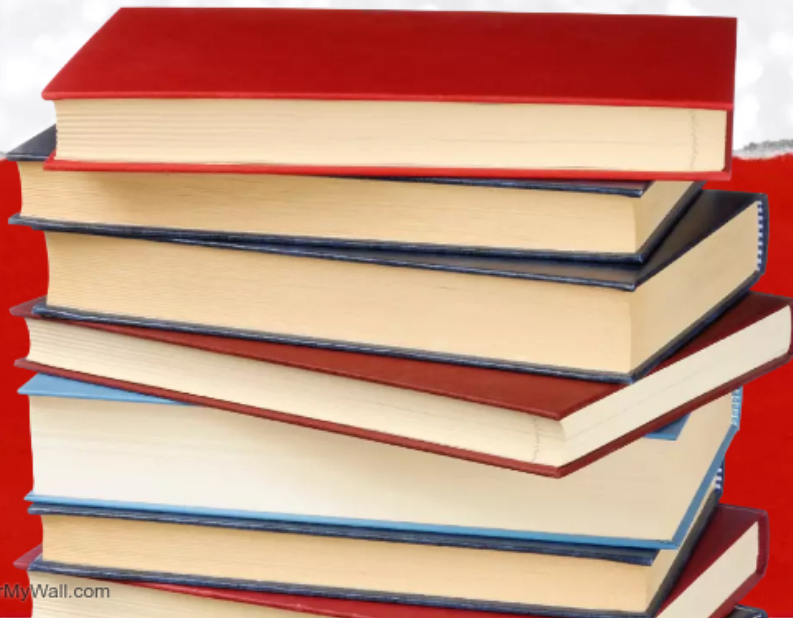
Books & Bagels

Do you want an excuse to do some low-pressure mingling and make some new book friends?

Bring up to 3 books with you to swap with others.

Saturday, February 22nd at 9:30am
The Hawthorn Center

FREE to attend--18+
Please RSVP to
events@hickoryridgevillage.org



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SPREAD A LITTLE LOVE STORY TIME

with

THE HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

February 25th & 26th

9:30am at The Hawthorn Center

Free to attend
guests will enjoy stories,
crafts & snacks!

RSVP to:

events@hickoryridgevillage.org



KINGS CONTRIVANCE COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU TO A FREE
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WE ARE PLEASED TO OFFER A WORKSHOP ON WILLS,
TRUSTS AND ESTATE PLANNING BASICS.
INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED ON THESE THREE
TOPICS:

- WILLS AS A BASELINE TO DISTRIBUTE ASSETS AND ESTABLISH GUARDIANSHIP OF CHILDREN.
- TRUSTS AS A VEHICLE TO SIMPLIFY DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS AFTER YOUR DEATH AS WELL AS TO PROTECT THEM DURING YOUR LIFE.
- POWERS OF ATTORNEY AS DOCUMENTS THAT EMPOWER YOUR TRUSTED FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO MAKE DECISIONS WHEN YOU CANNOT AND HOW TO INCORPORATE THEM INTO YOUR LARGER ESTATE PLAN.

A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WILL FOLLOW THE PRESENTATION.

PRESENTER: MR. ANDREW SWANEKAMP, OWNER OF SWANEKAMP LEGAL, LLC

NEW DATE:

**Tuesday, March 4,
10:30-11:30 am,
at Amherst House.**

**Coffee and
pastries
will be
served.**

**Please call to register: (410) 381-9600 or e-mail:
events@villageof kc.org**

For additional information Call: (410) 381-9600



Keep Storm Drains Clear

Storm drains need to be clear to function and we can all help out!

1. Use a leaf rake to remove leaves from on top and sides of the storm drain entry points. Add them to your green bin for collection and composting.
2. If you see flooding in your streets due to clogged storm drains – try to pull the leaves onto the curb out of the way of the water.
3. If flooding is too great and you can not safely clear the drain, place a ticket in [TellHoCo](#) so the county can come out and clear the storm drain.



Lifeguards Needed

Lifeguards Needed

Columbia Association (CA) is looking for new lifeguards and pool managers in your community. CA team members enjoy flexible hours, a fun work environment, competitive pay (starting at \$16 an hour), and a free CA Fit&Play membership — including pools, gyms, and much more! The first step in the process is to apply [HERE](#).

Parents of Black Students Association Fundraiser

The Parents of Black Students Association at Atholton High School is raffling a chance to win BIG while supporting their mission! Each raffle ticket you purchase directly contributes to their efforts in making a meaningful impact on students. For more information about the Parents of Black Students Association at Atholton High School, go to their website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/ahspbsa?usp=sharing>

Participate in the \$5 digital raffle for a chance to WIN a pair of Disney's The Lion King musical playing next month in Baltimore at the Hippodrome. Go to <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/disney-presents-the-lion-king-raffle> or scan the QR code below.

PBSA at Atholton High School Fundraiser



WIN a pair of tickets to Disney Presents: The Lion King

- That's a \$200 value!
- Tickets: \$5 each or 3 for \$10
- Winner chosen on 1 Feb, 2025

Scan the QR code to WIN



Tell HoCo is a way for anyone in Howard County to report non-Emergency issues while on-the-go, such as potholes, damaged street signs, graffiti, street light issues, damaged trees, and more.



Download the app, and let us know what needs attention today!

www.howardcountymd.gov/tell-hoco

A Community of Families in Nature (CFIN) provides opportunities for families to come together in community in order to explore, learn, and play in nature.

Our Event Leaders plan engaging activities and collaborate with local partners; families just need to show up ready for a few hours outdoors.

We offer a Family Nature Club (best suited for families with kids ages 5-10, but all ages welcome) and a Nature Play-group called Seedlings, intended for ages 2-5 with a caregiver (younger siblings welcome). Our Family Nature Club holds two Sunday afternoon adventures a month. Our Seedlings programming takes place bi-weekly on Friday or Sunday mornings (can be combined for weekly programming). Most of our events take place within 15-20 minutes of downtown Columbia, including at our two properties: Freetown Farm and the Green Farmacy Garden.

Use this link to explore our work and current programs: **<https://www.communityecologyinstitute.org/cfin.html>**

PARENTS OF KIDS AGES 2-10!

Want to build healthy habits in 2025 and connect with your kids?



Research shows that spending time in nature:

- *strengthens family bonds.
- *encourages healthy habits.
- *increases focus and attention.
- *promotes overall well-being.
- *enhances communication and problem-solving skills.
- *fosters a deep connection to the environment



We Are: a Community of Families in Nature (CFIN)!

A Program of the Community Ecology Institute, a local environmentally based non-profit

For ten years we have been offering fun, facilitated nature-based events for families. Come join us--there's something for everyone in nature!

We offer the following programs:

Seedlings-Nature-based playgroup; 2-5 year olds, with a caregiver.

Family Nature Club - All ages welcome! Sunday afternoons.

Seasonal Community Events - Themed events for families with kids.

Late Winter/Spring Session: January - June

Summer Sampler: July - August

Late Summer/Autumn Session: September - November

Yearlong, Seasonal, and Individual Event Options Available

Prices start at \$10 per event/family!



Use Promo Code:
CA2025
for a
2% registration discount

Bernice Kish Gallery at Slayton house

Open Call

FOR ARTISTS

2025 EXHIBITIONS

visit www.wildelake.org/art-gallery



Merry Mulch

Recycle Your Holiday Tree

December 26, 2024 - January 18, 2025

Help keep thousands of trees out of the landfill.

Live trees are taken to our composting facility at Alpha Ridge Landfill to be recycled into compost and mulch. Artificial trees with metal components can be recycled in the scrap metal area at Alpha Ridge Landfill.

Tree Collection Tips

For County Residents with Yard Trim Collection.

If you are not sure if you receive yard trim service, call 410-313-6444

- ❖ Set your tree out the night before. (Trees are picked up by the yard trim truck, as early as 6 a.m. or as late as 5 p.m.)
- ❖ Remove all tinsel, garland, ornaments, lights, tree stands, plastic bags, etc.
- ❖ Trees must be cut into less than 4 foot lengths and tied. Bundles must weigh less than 40 pounds.

Missed the Merry Mulch Drop-Off?

You can still recycle your tree at the Alpha Ridge Wood Waste Area Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(No plastic bags)

Tree Drop-off Sites

Look for Merry Mulch signs at the following drop-off sites.

Remove all tinsel, garland, ornaments, lights, tree stands, plastic bags, etc.

Clarksville

Kendall Hardware (12260 Rt. 108)

Columbia

Cedar Lane Park (5081 Cedar Lane)

Elkridge

Rockburn Park (5400 Landing Road)

Ellicott City

Old Circuit Court upper parking
Court House Drive (just past Ellicott Mills Drive, on the right)

Highland

Schooley Mill Park (12975 Hall Shop Road)

Marriottsville

Alpha Ridge Landfill Wood Waste Area
(2350 Marriottsville Road)

Savage

Savage Park (8400 Fair Street)

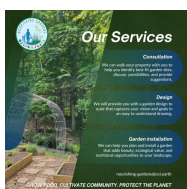
Woodbine

Western Regional Park (14800 Carrs Mill Road)



Who Do I Call?

Check out the [Useful Information page on the Hickory Ridge website](#). There are phone number and/or links to various resources.



Community Ecology Institute's Nourishing Gardens Program

CEI's Nourishing Gardens program offers a limited number of private services each year. Choose from consultation, design, installation, garden sitting, and more. Reach out to Nourishing-Gardens@cei.earth or complete our [services request form](#) to let them know how they can help you accomplish your dream garden.



Babysitters in Hickory Ridge

If you live in Hickory Ridge, you babysit and would like to be included in the babysitter list in the next edition of The Log, please email events@hickoryridgevillage.org.

Please note that the list below are individuals with experience and interest in babysitting but are not vetted by this office.

Babysitter List

- Gloribeth "Glory" Gancedo: 305-224-2095
- Kailyn Shaw: kailynshaw@yahoo.com
- Zandi Jera: sunsetjera@yahoo.com
- Shamiso Dzvairo: sunsetjera@yahoo.com
- Jos Dumont: jos.pierre.dumont@gmail.com
- Sofia Blöse 410-707-0332
- Christine Chen: NH8ChristineS@gmail.com
- Carolina Stiefel: 443-467-5811
- Sydney Daniel: danielsydney75@gmail.com
- Kasey LaWall: kelawall21@gmail.com
- Le'Mia Tyree: lemia.tyree@gmail.com
- Mia Fatuzzo: miaholdenfatuzzo@gmail.com
- Aisha Bamidele: aisha_bamidele@yahoo.com
- Yocheved Englander: 443-574-5332

Rebuilding Together Howard County

If you or someone you know is a low- or moderate-income homeowner needing essential repairs, Rebuilding Together Howard County is here for you!

With projects covering everything from roof replacements and plumbing repairs to electrical upgrades and accessibility features, Rebuilding Together is dedicated to ensuring safe, healthy homes for all.

Howard County Government is a proud partner and funder of Rebuilding Together, helping dozens of Howard County households every year. Learn more at <https://rebuildingtogetherhowardcounty.org>.



Reinvest * Renovate * Restore

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.
Safe, supportive, confidential. Available 24/7.



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

Laurel MultiService Center*

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/>



Cub Scout Pack 720 is Recruiting

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!



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



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 **[here](#)**

Upcoming Meetings

January 13: Board Meeting at 7:30pm*

January 15: 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. **[Click here to view](#)** upcoming agendas and meeting results. Questions about submitting an application or the approval process? Email **applications@hickoryridgevillage.org**.



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 from 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*.

[Click to sign up!](#)

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We offer very affordable advertising rates! For information on placing an advertisement in *The Log*, please email manager@hickoryridgevillage.org.

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Crisis Stabilization Program

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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](#)

[Jared Ball](#)

[Michael Campbell](#)

[Steve Hannan](#)

[Samantha Link](#)

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](#)

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