

The LOG Newsletter March 5, 2026

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

[Follow us!](#)

The Village Needs You!

Hey, Hickory Ridge neighbors! We're on the lookout for passionate volunteers to join the Village Board and Columbia Council. Our community shines brightest when YOU get involved!

Curious? Head over to the [Village Board page on our website](#) for all the deets. Dive into the Candidate's Handbook and take the leap to volunteer today!



Remember, completed candidate packets are due by **5:00pm on Monday, March 16, 2026**. 🕒

Keep an eye on your mailbox for absentee ballots arriving in early April. Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting/Election on Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 9:00am to 12:00pm at The Hawthorn Center. Let's make a difference together!

Save these dates!

Join candidates for the Candidate Forums:

- Monday, April 6: First Candidate Forum, 7:00 – 9:00pm, scripted, *virtual*
- Thursday, April 16: Second Candidate Forum, 7:00pm, unscripted, *in-person at The Hawthorn Center*
- Join us for the Hickory Ridge Community Celebration on Friday, April 24, 5:30 - 7:30pm!

Do you have questions for Village Board or Columbia Council candidates? [Submit your questions today!](#)



**Join the Election
Committee!**



**CARES Corner:
Move to Limit Gas-Powered Leaf
Blowers**

We're looking for dedicated residents to volunteer on the Election Committee for the 2026 Annual Meeting & Election Day in the Village of Hickory Ridge.

Each April, our community elects Village Board Members and a Columbia Council Representative — and we need your help to ensure a fair and smooth election process!

As a Committee Member, You'll:

- Help plan and moderate Candidate Nights
- Assist with voter check-in and vote counting on Election Day – April 25, 2026
- Ensure Election Rules & Procedures are followed

Requirements to Join:

- Be a member of The Hickory Ridge Community Association (must own or rent a Columbia Association–assessed property in Hickory Ridge)
- Be available to contribute ~15 hours of your time for meetings, Candidate Night, and Election Day
- Complete and submit the **Volunteer Application form**

Your participation is a great way to get involved, meet neighbors, and support local democracy!

Spring is coming and soon we'll again be hearing the sound gas-powered leaf blowers in the neighborhood as residents and landscapers begin yard clean-up activity. While this equipment may make the job easier and quicker, gas-powered lawn care equipment puts out more smog-forming air pollution than in the 5 million cars registered here in Maryland.

State and County governments are working on initiatives to reduce the use of gas-powered landscaping equipment in our area. The Maryland legislature is considering a bill that will phase out gas leaf blower use in our state parks. To comment, [FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR](#).

Howard County established its first green zone certified park. This means the county will be using battery-powered hedgers and leaf blowers for landscaping.

Columbia Association is also moving in this direction by replacing old gas-powered equipment with new battery-powered equipment. CA has started using small battery-powered landscaping equipment in some areas of Columbia and plans to increase their usage over the next two years. A charging infrastructure has to be installed at village community centers to support this rollout and while it will be some time before the infrastructure can support electric mowers, your HRV CARES team is encouraging CA to work with our Village early in the roll-out of hand-held battery-operated landscaping equipment so we can enjoy quieter parks and clearer air.

Hickory Ridge Community Association Upcoming Meetings

- March 9:** Board meeting *
 - March 10:** Election Committee meeting *
 - March 18:** RAC meeting *
 - March 19:** CARES meeting *
- *virtual meeting*

Meeting Information

Let's Have a Party!

The Hawthorn Center is a lovely location to celebrate life's moments. Whether it's a birthday, shower, wedding or retirement party,

Questions for CARES Committee?

The Community Action and Resources for Environmental Stewardship (CARES) Committee will answer your environmental sustainability questions! Email questions to cares@hickoryridgevillage.org and CARES will answer. Some questions may be featured in future issues of The Log!



Community Mailboxes

The community mailboxes are property of the United States Postal service. If the mailbox your mail is delivered to is in need of

we would love to help you host your event. Call or submit a rental inquiry for more information.



[Submit Inquiry](#)

attention, find [more information here under "Community News."](#)



Who Handles What?

Want to know who handles what—CA, the Howard County Government, or the Columbia Village Community Associations? Click [HERE](#) to see a simple breakdown.

Upcoming Events! Please RSVP to events@hickoryridgevillage.org

Join The Hickory Ridge Community Association
for
Manatee Pajama Story Time
March 17th & 18th @9:30am

FREE to Attend & all are welcome but RSVP is Required!
Stories, Crafts & Snacks!

The Hawthorn Center, 6175 Sunny Spring

RSVP to events@hickoryridgevillage.org

Manatee PJ Story Time
March 17th & 18th at 9:30
The Hawthorn Center
Designed for 0-5 year olds and their adult friend(s)

Snuggle up in your coziest pajamas (adults too!) and join us for a special story time all about manatees! We'll read delightful stories, learn fun manatee facts, and enjoy a cozy morning together—with a little St. Patrick's Day celebration sprinkled in. Pajamas encouraged, festive fun guaranteed! Everyone is welcome but please RSVP!

COLUMBIA CLEANS
Hickory Ridge

For more information and to register, please email events@hickoryridgevillage.org

Neighborhood Cleanup --Everyone is Welcome
Supplies & Continental Breakfast Provided
Service Hours Available

Saturday, April 11th from 9-10:30am
Meet in Hawthorn Center Parking Lot
6175 Sunny Spring

Columbia Cleans
April 11th from 9:30-11am
The Hawthorn Center

Join us for a community clean-up of the CA Open Space in the Hawthorn neighborhood. Individuals, families, and groups are welcome! Registration is required. Service hours are available. RSVP to events@hickoryridgevillage.org.



www.hickoryridgevillage.com

Join Us

Mondays Community Walk



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!

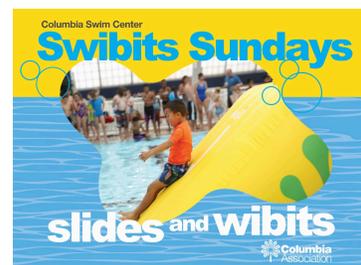


Pets welcome!

SwiBits Sundays--Columbia Swim Center

Swibits Sundays are back at the Columbia Swim Center every Sunday from 11am - 4pm. Come ready to bounce, slide, climb, and splash your way through the inflatable obstacle course - it's high-energy fun for kids, teens, and adults.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.



Cul-de-sac Cooperation

Maintenance of the cul-de-sac islands throughout Columbia is the responsibility of the owners whose homes or driveways face the cul-de-sac island. An important point to know - this is to be a shared responsibility, for all of the homeowners that surround the cul-de-sac. Please note: No basketball or other sports equipment, permanent or temporary, may be placed on, in or around the cul-de-sac, as per County code. We encourage residents to develop a schedule and take turns mowing or have each family contribute and



hire a service to take care of the mowing, leaf removal, weeding, etc.

DETAILED CURBSIDE RECYCLING LIST		
CLEAN DRY EMPTY	NO BATTERIES	
YES	NO	
PAPER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • books (paperback, hardback, phone books) • boxes (food, snack, shoe, toys) • catalogs/magazines • gift wrap (non-shiny/non-foil only) • junk mail, envelopes • kraft paper • molded fiber (inserts & packaging) • newspapers & inserts • paper egg cartons • paper insulation (Climacell) • tubes from paper towels & toilet paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aseptic cartons (drink, milk, soups, food) • foil-type gift wrap (can't easily be torn) • ice cream containers • laminated paper • paper plates, bowls, cups • paper that can't be torn easily (typically means there are plastic layers added) • paper towels, napkins, tissues • shredded paper • thermal paper receipts • wax paper
PLASTIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bottles (soap, dressings, drinks, sauces) • buckets (no metal components) • cups (#5 only) • flower pots (CLEAN, no soil or plant material) • jars (peanut butter, spreads, sauces) • jugs (detergents, milk, juices) • large items, such as playhouses, laundry baskets, lawn furniture • milk/soda crates • pet carriers • pump bottles (lotions & soaps) • spray bottles (hair & cleaning products) • storage bins • takeout & reusable containers (#5 only) • tubs (butter, cheese, yogurt) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #1 plastic clamshell packaging (egg cartons, produce, toys, electronics, batteries) • #5 orange pill bottles* • acrylic plastic (Plexiglass) • bubble mailers* • CDs/DVDs & jewel cases • coffee pods* • crinkly wrappers for chips & snacks* • drink & food pouches* • electronics* • garden hoses • gel packs • hangers • insulation • liners from cereal/cracker boxes • motor oil or pesticide bottles • plastic bags, film, wrap, & plastic-bagged materials* • plates, straws & utensils • PVC plastics • Styrofoam* & packing peanuts • toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes • trays
METAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aluminum, steel & tin cans (even pet food!) • aluminum foil/bakeware • EMPTY aerosol cans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • batteries & electronics* • compressed gas tanks (propane, helium, oxygen)* • hangers* • motor oil or other automotive fluid cans • pots, pans or other scrap metal*
GLASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any color glass bottles & jars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ceramics • CorningWare or Pyrex • lightbulbs* • mirrors • non-food/drink glass (window panes, drinking glasses, furniture inserts)
CARDBOARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clean, dry cardboard (no plastic bags, film or Styrofoam packaging) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • food contaminated boxes such as greasy pizza boxes* (visit FeedTheGreenBin.org for composting information) • furnace filters • Styrofoam pieces* • waxed cardboard (bulk/supplier produce boxes)

*Items may be recycled beyond the curb! Visit our website for more details.

10/2025

KnowBeforeYouThrow.org • 410-313-6444





WILDE LAKE
Children's Nursery
 COLUMBIA'S OLDEST COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL

10518 Marble Faun Lane
 Columbia, Maryland 21044
 410-997-4856
 info@wlcn.net

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2026-2027

▶ No Toilet Training Required ▶ Play-based Learning ▶ Easy Online Registration

TWO-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM

Tu / Th
 9:15 - 11:15 AM
 Class size: 10
 \$225 / month
 Must be 2 by Sep. 01

THREE-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM

Mon / Weds / Fri
 9:15 - 11:45 AM
 Class size: 16
 \$286 / month
 Must be 3 by Oct. 15

FOUR-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM

Monday - Friday
 12:30 - 3:00 PM
 Class size: 16
 \$385 / month
 Must be 4 by Oct. 15



Why Choose Our Cooperative Preschool?

Families are an active part of our school! Parents and grandparents are encouraged to participate in the classroom, stay closely connected with teachers, and help build a strong, supportive community.

Our curriculum focuses on:

- Social-emotional growth
- Early math and literacy skills
- Learning through play in a fun, positive environment

Interested?

Contact us to learn more or schedule a tour—we'd love to meet your family!

- 🌐 WLCN.net
- 📷 @wlcncolumbia
- 📘 @wildelakechildrensnursery



Recognized as a high-quality program by: **MARYLAND EXCELS**

ENROLL NOW!

WILDE LAKE CHILDREN'S NURSERY IS A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION MD License #48321 (REV. 01/16/26)



Petsitters in Hickory Ridge



Babysitters in Hickory Ridge

If you live in Hickory Ridge, you pet sit and would like to be included in the pet sitter 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 pet sitting but are not vetted by this office.

Pet sitter List

*Za'ir Scarborough:443-362-0128

*Vanessa Castro
Twopugz.dogcare@gmail.com

*Jae Johnson: jjohns4728@gmail.com

*Salomeh Khodami: 6674792858,
Dog walking only, Availability:
Afternoons

*Gita Ehssan: 6674792855,
Availability: Afternoons

*Amanda Kirkpatrick: "Loving Care
When You're Not There":
amandakirkpatrick1990@gmail.com

*Beth Roberts:
bcaitlyn1.8@gmail.com

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 pet sitting but are not vetted by this office.

Baby sitter 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 Blose 410-707-0332

*Christine Chen:
NH8ChristineS@gmail.com

*Carolina Stiefel: 443-467-5811

*Sydney Daniel: danielsydney75@gmail.com

*Kasey LaWall: 301-275-4623

*Le'Mia Tyree: lemia.tyree@gmail.com

*Mia Fatuzzo: miaholdenfatuzzo@gmail.com

*Aisha Bamidele: aisha_bamidele@yahoo.com

*Yocheved Englander: 443-574-5332

*Daynisha Holloway: daynishah@yahoo.com

*Hermione Bransford: chelsinoelle@gmail.com

*Daphne Richardson: 443-750-1151

*Grace (Stevie) Brown:
g.lombard2583@gmail.com

*Za'ir Scarborough:443-362-0128

*Jae Johnson: jjohns4728@gmail.com

*Gita Ehssan: 6674792855, Availability:
Afternoons



HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE YEAR

OPEN YOUR HEART & HOME: WELCOME A NEW CULTURE!

EF High School Exchange Year is looking for a loving and welcoming host family who is willing to **welcome a new culture** into their home.

HOST FAMILY PROVIDES:

 **A BEDROOM**

 **STUDY AREA**

 **3 MEALS PER DAY**

 **TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM YOUR ZONED HIGH SCHOOL**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED or know someone who would love to host an international exchange student and make memories for life?

THEN CHECK OUT THE LINK BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION.

I AM DEBBY HARM-JOHNSON, your local exchange coordinator and will guide you through the entire process step by step.

LEARN MORE & APPLY HERE

<https://efexchangeyear.org/iec/deborah-harm-johnson/>



MEET OUR STUDENTS
GET TO KNOW THE REMARKABLE YOUNG INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE THE EXCHANGE YEAR POSSIBLE



EXPLORE GLOBAL CUISINE

DISCOVER THE FLAVORS AND TRADITIONS OF A NEW CULTURE THROUGH FOOD



CREATE LASTING MEMORIES

EMBARK ON A LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURE AND BUILD CONNECTIONS THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME



MAKE A LIFELONG IMPACT
GIVE A STUDENT THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME AND BECOME PART OF THEIR GLOBAL FAMILY

Letter of Compliance

If you are putting your house on the market, request a Letter of Compliance well in advance of a settlement date. It's best to make the request when the house is put on the market. 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 on the [Sellers and Buyers page](#) of our website and at the Village Office. Questions? Email applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.



Call 988 for emergency emotional support.
Safe, supportive, confidential. Available 24/7.



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.

Columbia Association and Howard County



See Click Fix

See Click Fix is an interactive website for Howard County residents to report issues to the County. Issues include, but are not limited to, roadway issues, missing street signs or fallen street signs, street tree issues, potholes, cracked sidewalks, etc. **THIS IS NOT a site for 911 emergencies or police or fire issues.**

[See Click Fix](#)



CA 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.

Columbia Association (CA) Open Space project information is now available online via CA's Project & Access Dashboard. Visit columbiaassociation.org/open-space/development/real-estate-services/ and click on the Dashboard. You can view various projects, access, and requests currently taking place on CA Open Space.



HoCo Crime Statistics Map

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.](#)

[Crime Statistics Map](#)

CA Community Programs

You've made Columbia your home. You're part of a unique and diverse community, and that certainly has its benefits. At Columbia Association, it's their mission to foster a unique sense of place and enhance the quality of life. Take a moment to explore some of their many options.

[Community Programs](#)

Paid Advertisements

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

COLUMBIA TREE & LAWN SERVICE
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FREE ESTIMATES

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- Tree & Stump Removal
- Snow Plowing
- Vegetation Clearing
- Mulching
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DNR #068 MHIC #47824

410-740-5444 410-365-6367 Cell
www.columbiatreeandlawn.net

THE HAWTHORN CENTER



Event Space For Your Next Celebration!

Conveniently located in the Village of Hickory Ridge, The Hawthorn Center offers attractively appointed and reasonably priced rental space for both social and business events.

- ◆ Free WiFi and Sound System
- ◆ Lobby and Kitchen
- ◆ Ample parking, and more

 Contact us for more information
410-730-7327
info@hickoryridgevillage.org
thehawthorncenter.org
6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia MD 21044

HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Hickory Ridge Community Association
410-730-7327
The Hawthorn Center
6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia MD 21044
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:30am - 5pm, Fri 9:30am - 3:30pm

[Hickory Ridge Community Association](#)

Hickory Ridge Village Board

Kristine Amari

Mark Covington

Vice Chair

Steve Hannan

Chair

Micajah McGarity

Mariah Robertson

CA Representative

Skye Anderson

Village Staff

Laura Mayton, Village Manager

Tania Tavares, Covenant Advisor

Devora Wilkinson, Covenant Advisor

Emily Rieger, Events Coordinator

Heather Harvaneck, Facility Coordinator

John Pongracz, Facility Assistant

Ellen Gallagher Roberts, Facility Assistant

Daniel Naim, Facility Assistant

Erica Carpio, Facility Assistant

Tiwana & Ed Nicholson, Custodians

Village Services

- Rentals of The Hawthorn Center
- Covenant Enquiries
- Information & referral
- B/W and color Copies
- Notary Public - *Please call for an appointment.*
- Free classified newsletter ad
- Fax
- Special Events
- Story Times

Please note: fees may apply.



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

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