



Strawberry Farms Civic Chatter

The Strawberry Farms Civic Association

Winter 2017-18

Why I'm involved in our Neighborhood association

A Message from the Civic Association President

As a mom of two middle school students, a business owner and a triathlete, I have plenty to keep me busy. Still, I choose to spend some time working on our neighborhood: civic meetings, activities, events, community building and more. Why? I once read that the most impact any parent can have on their children is shaping their environment and peer group. That

means the quality of the neighborhood where my kids grow up will determine their success. For \$15 a year, you can be part of that shaping and improving, too.

More inside!

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We're glad you joined
us for Fall Fest!



Landscaping & Beautification

The traffic islands you find along Strawberry Farms Blvd., Wintergreen Blvd., Forest Edge and Magnolia Blossom were installed by the City of Columbus, although the city did not designate any funds or labor to maintain them. These traffic islands can either be eyesores, or beautiful landmarks. Some neighbors have generously adopted a traffic island near their home, weeding and planting the area.

In other cases, such as near the neighborhood entrance at 161, there are no nearby homes and volunteers from our Civic Association work to maintain them. We are increasing our partnerships with the apartment management companies to assist us.

If you like gardening, or your teens need community services hours, please contact our Landscaping Chair, Patty Fitzgerald at pjfitz3@twc.com.

The landscaping volunteers meet on 3rd Saturdays at 10 a.m., March to October, to target specific public areas for beautification.



Already Adopted an Island?

Have you already been maintaining a traffic island near your home, or mowing or weeding a public area?

We are so grateful!

We want to acknowledge our volunteers.

One of our members, who owns a sign company, has volunteered to create small, attractive signs acknowledging those who are maintaining these areas.

Please contact us to let us know who you are at president@strawberryfarms.org or 614-440-6475. We'd like to create a map of our volunteers.



Drive carefully on school days

Community Safety

We are in need of a small group of residents who would like to head up a community safety program. These residents would organize our neighborhood into smaller areas with a neighborhood representative for each area, and would be invited to participate in North Columbus Block Watch presentations and meetings. Please contact a board member if you are interested in this topic.

Additionally, the Columbus Police encourage residents to call 911 to report adults and youth who are acting suspiciously, even if there is not a crime. It helps to have a record in case something does happen.

cont.

President's Message (continued)

Not everyone wants to be in a leadership position, of course, but the civic association offers a chance to grow, apply your skills, learn new skills, and make a difference.

If you aren't interested in meetings and organization management, how about simply paying the yearly membership fee, and encouraging one or two neighbors to do the same! We have more than 900 homes in Strawberry Farms, but only a few dozen who are members of the association. Imagine what we could do if even half of our residents joined! We could have block parties, movie night at the park, block watch, winter carriage rides ... the sky is the limit!

If you care about the way our state and our nation are moving into the future, start at your own front sidewalk. Join the Civic Association!

- Voluntary
- \$15/year per household (\$20 after 1/1/18)
- Join online or
Mail the application in the enclosed envelope.



Important Numbers

Strawberry Farms is a neighborhood within the City of Columbus. We rely on Columbus for water, sewer, trash & recycling pickup, police, fire, 911, code

Police, Fire and Medics

1.

EMERGENCY: 911

Non-Emergency: 614-645-4545

Call right away if you see something suspicious!

Nuisance and public items such as water line breaks, people parking cars on lawns, high grass, etc.

2.

Call 311 or visit 311.columbus.gov

Bulk Pickup: If you need to throw away items that don't fit in your trash can, you must call 311 or go to 311.columbus.gov

3.

Are you on NextDoor?

NextDoor.com is a social networking site arranged by neighborhood. Post messages about neighborhood issues, make new friends, and stay up to date on events and problems.

Bike Path

Did you know the Alum Creek Trail bike path that runs through Strawberry Farms Park goes all the way north through Westerville to Sunbury, and south to Easton, to Innis Park and on toward Nelson Road and the near east side, then southeast to Three Creeks Metro Park and Pickerington Ponds!

Our park features a playground with two sections, a basketball court, picnic tables and a shelter, a large field, and access to the path for walking, biking, running, skating, etc.



Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling Schedule

Visit the City of Columbus website section about refuse collection and enter your address. You'll see the schedule, plus you can sign up for email and/or phone alerts to remind you!

Columbus.gov/publicservice/Refuse-Collection

Our Board

Please attend one of our monthly meetings if you would like to speak to the board or become more involved.

OFFICERS

President: Alice Foeller alice@SiteInSight.com
Vice President: VACANT
Secretary: VACANT
Treasurer: Monica Stigler monicastigler@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Director of Neighborhood Safety: VACANT
NCC Representative: Alice Foeller (temporary)
Director of Membership: Monica Stigler
Director of Landscaping: Patty Fitzgerald
Director of Social Activities: Melinda Weiss
Directory of Newsletter Distribution: Ryan Waltz

Upcoming Events

Winter Holiday Light Contest

Look for information on NextDoor, Facebook and our website! StrawberryFarms.org

Jan. Neighborhood Wine & Cheese

Discuss neighborhood issues, meet the board
Tuesday January 22, 7-8 PM

Feb. Neighborhood Wine & Cheese

Discuss neighborhood issues, meet the board
Tuesday February 26, 7-8 PM

