

COUNTRY CREEK NEWS

Tree Trimming | Yard Sale | Picnic | Drainage | Signs | Spring Cleaning

Yard Sale

Start cleaning your closets and sheds! The annual Country Creek Yard Sale is coming up on Saturday, May 30, 8am-?. Sellers set up along Sutton Road for free and the community advertises it.

Spring Picnic

Country Creek's Social Committee is planning a spring picnic on Sunday, June 7 at the Masterworks Drive grass triangle. Save the date and get ready to bring something to share. Stay tuned to the website, Facebook, or the email list for details! Subscribe to the email list for updates on this and other important news by emailing cmurray@sequoiamgmt.com.



Trimming our trees

While the Grounds Committee continues to address the priorities identified in last fall's arborist survey (linked at <https://countrycreekhoa.com/news/>), progress has been gradual due to winter weather. As spring growth begins, here is a quick guide to your rights and responsibilities regarding trees in Country Creek.

In Virginia homeowners may trim encroaching roots and branches back to their property line. However, three rules apply:

1. **Stay on your side:** You cannot enter a neighbor's yard to trim without their explicit permission.
2. **Protect tree health:** You may be liable for the replacement value if your trimming kills or destabilizes the tree.
3. **Debris is natural:** Under the "Hawaii Rule" adopted in Virginia in 2007, falling leaves, twigs, flowers, and nuts are considered a natural burden of property ownership, and do not pose a legal nuisance or danger.

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More info: countrycreekhoa.com

Sequoia Management: 703-803-9641

Facebook: Country Creek Association



Drainage

The Drainage Committee, part of the Grounds Committee, has been revived and is taking inventory of areas that need attention. Our next step is to build on the drainage plan from a few years ago, sequencing new work and upkeep as funds permit. They will also engage the county to repair the creek bed between Village Spring and Sutton Oaks. Email the Grounds Committee if you have questions.

Signs

Although many of Country Creek's signs are ready for a refresh, VDOT's bus stop and crosswalk work along Country Creek Road forces us to wait a little longer. We don't know yet how our signs could be designed to make the most of the redesigned street corners. And we'd like to do all the signs in one coordinated sweep. Stay tuned as this plan develops.

Coming up

Board Meeting: May 19, 7pm. Virtual. Residents are welcome to submit items for discussion and attend.

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Community Trees

Before taking any action on a community-owned tree, check for a round brass tag (screwed into the trunk approximately 6' up). If tagged, the tree is already in our arborist's database and there's a plan for that tree. Get in touch with the Grounds Committee or check out the survey report to learn more.

The Grounds Committee's goal is to preserve Country Creek's signature mature canopy. If a healthy tree poses no imminent danger, the Committee generally opts for preservation over removal. If you have concerns about an untagged tree or one you believe is a "legal nuisance" (causing actual structural damage), please contact the Grounds Committee for a consultation.

What's happening as part of the tree care plan?

April 28-29: 9 dead or dying trees (orange banded or X'ed) will be removed by Quality Tree Care. Please move your cars if needed!

May 11-15: Urgent tree pruning of marked trees by Bartlett Tree Experts. Again, please move your cars if needed!

May 31: Deadline to request tree work. Any requests will be discussed with the master arborist. Summer and fall pruning and planting will be planned.

Fall: Volunteers wanted to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials. Email cmurray@sequoiamgmt.com to participate.

Let's spring clean together!



The Board had the mailboxes pressure washed and maintains the dog waste stations across the community. Do your part:

- Pick up pet waste all the time, even along public roads.
- Store garbage cans inside your back fences, never on community greenways or in your front gardens.
- Join a group effort being organized on May 2, 1-4 pm to gather brush for disposal. Email cmurray@sequoiamgmt.com to be connected. Volunteer credit for students will be given!

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