

# The Hillandale Bulletin

May 2013

See us at: <http://www.hillandale-md.org/> Contact the Editor at: [newsletter@hillandale-md.org](mailto:newsletter@hillandale-md.org)

Published by the Hillandale Citizens Association, Inc. Ross Sutton: Editor

## Hillandale General Meeting

Weds., May 22, 7:30-9:00 PM

CHI, 10501 New Hampshire Ave.

### Redesigning Landscapes

Need some inspiration, or just want to get a few hints on what to do to rejuvenate your home's landscaping? Come to our May meeting to hear from University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener, Susan Bell presenting "Redesigning Landscapes."

Susan has been a speaker with the Master Gardener program for the past five years. She is an expert in providing guidance to professionals and homeowners on garden design for neighborhoods such as Hillandale. As a licensed landscape contractor, Susan has focused on "one-day garden makeovers." Included in her talk will be topics such as landscape redesign, pruning of old plantings, strategies to lessen water usage, methods to reduce maintenance requirements, practical lessening of lawn areas and how to add that WOW factor to your home's visual appeal. There will be the opportunity to ask questions.

Following our guest, HCA will hold a short business meeting covering topics of concern to the community. This May meeting is also the election of HCA's officers and at-large representatives. Please attend!

### More on the UMD Extension Service:

A full range of agricultural, health and environmental-related services is available through this public agency. Of particular interest is the Home and Garden web site

<http://extension.umd.edu/hgic> that has data sheets and videos on a WIDE number of topics — from grass, to tomatoes, to bugs, to urban farming.

Also, phone advice on pests and plants is available from Master Gardeners from 8 am to 1 pm, Mon-Fri, by calling toll free 800-342-2507.

## A Master Plan Work Session

For Hillandale Residents

Thursday, May 9, 7:30 PM, at CHI

Over the past few years there has been a lot of talk about the future of the area, and we have heard from planners, developers and transportation experts. **Now is the time for residents to officially weigh in on two specific Master Plans (Bus Rapid Transit and White Oak Science Gateway) that will guide future development.** A brief overview of both plans will be provided focusing on Hillandale, followed by open discussion. The goal of this work session is to reach consensus recommendations for HCA to take forward to the Montgomery County Planning Board.

If you have attended previous meetings on these plans, or if you have not, please attend this work session and provide your input. Now is the time to voice your support, concerns or ideas on these plans. Your input is valuable and very much desired through the approval process for both plans.

### HILLANDALE CRIME WATCH

Our community has been very quiet of late and the police believe this to be attributed to Hillandale's vigilance in looking out for each other and knowing our neighborhood. Please take the time to report all suspicious activity that you may see regardless of how trivial. Here are the numbers—and put them on speed dial in all the phones in your household:

**MoCo Non Emergency: 301-279-8000**

**PG County Non Emergency: 301-352-1200**

**M-NCPPC Park Police: 301-949-3010**

The one crime, which often increases at this time of year, is theft from vehicles. Please take precautions and do not keep valuables in your vehicles and always lock your vehicles. If this crime happens to you, please report it! If reports are not made, the police will not know it is happening. Call the non-emergency number; tell your neighbors and let HCA know too.

## MULCH VOLCANOS

Is it a good idea to pile mulch around the base of a tree?

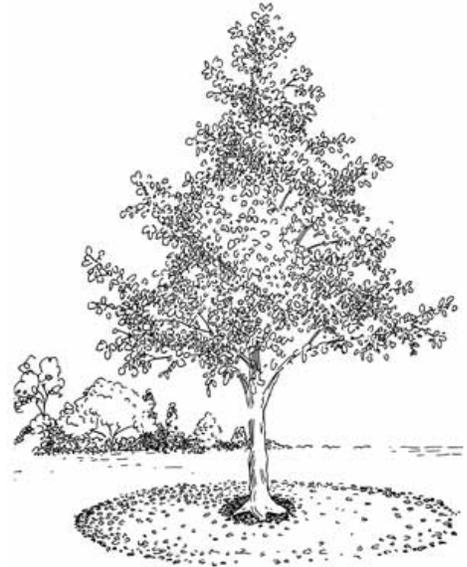
Mulch “rings” around trees, 2-4 inches deep, can protect the tree from lawn mowers and trimmers and help retain soil moisture, But, this is a case of “some is good; more is NOT better.”

Piling mulch up a like a “volcano” can slowly kill the tree. A tree naturally grows with its root flare at ground level. The base of the trunk and the root crown should be exposed.

Mulching above the root flare can:

- harbor bacteria or fungi that decompose the bark;
- harbor insects or rodents that feed on bark;
- encourage the growth of hair-like roots above the root crown – these are not feeder roots – they are vulnerable to drying out in dry weather, or if allowed to grow, can girdle the tree.

In many cases, just moving the mulch away from the trunk at the root flare will help.



**Mulch Wide Not Deep**

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## Neighborhood News and Tidbits

~~Eileen Finnegan

**Hillandale Local Park:** Park Department planners have notified HCA that the facility planning for the Park’s renovation will not begin until sometime in the fall. This is a one-year delay in the planning effort that was to begin last fall! Once started, the planning phase will take a year. It is anticipated that the funding for the renovation project will be proposed in the County’s biennial FY17-22 CIP Budget. Plans for the closing and demolition of the existing Park Activity Building have not been delayed.

**Addressing Panhandling in MoCo:** Later this summer, the County Executive will be introducing legislation to require permits for panhandling on Montgomery County streets. Neither the cost/duration of the permits, or the costs of the administration/enforcement are known at this time. Prior to any implementation, the County will roll out an information campaign to educate the public that donating to reputable charities is a far better option for helping the homeless and needy in our community.

**HCA Testified on County Operating Budget:** During the April public hearing for the Montgomery County FY14 Operating Budget, HCA requested additional County resources be spent on residential road resurfacing and roadside tree replanting. Council is on track to make these increases in the budget. HCA also proposed two additional programs for the Department of Housing and Community Development. The first was to have the County begin to inspect single-family rental homes as part of the licensing procedure. The second was to have the County begin to address the issue of vacant/abandoned homes with the goal of returning these homes to the market. The Council’s oversight committee did not embrace these requests. Final action on the budget will happen in mid-May.

**Get your 2013 HILLANDALE DIRECTORY:** The much-loved biennial Hillandale Directory will be published and delivered over the summer months. This handy phone book of all Hillandale residents is provided as a membership benefit to HCA members that are current with dues — paid for 2013. If you have not paid your dues, please send your \$20 check (made out to HCA) to Hall Crannell at 1000 Branch View Court, SS MD 20903. Or, you can pay on-line at [www.hillandale-md.org](http://www.hillandale-md.org) If you have a question regarding your membership, please e-mail Hall at [membership@hillandale-md.org](mailto:membership@hillandale-md.org) Thank you for supporting HCA.

**Old Hillandale’s WSSC WATER MAIN WORK:** Alternate Saturdays from 9 am to 3 pm have been added to the work schedule. If you have question about the project, contact the WSSC inspector, Lee Stewart, 240-508-6398 (cell), or his supervisor, Alfred Joyner at 301-206-7339 (office).

*Just what is the*  
**Hillandale Swim and Tennis Association?**

hillside shade  
TENNIS  
poolside movies  
COMMUNITY cool camp  
baby pool splash Crab Feast  
Champion Hellcats  
**SUMMER FUN**  
SWIM TEAM high dive JOIN US  
ping pong  
volleyball neighbors  
grilling out snack bar FRIENDS  
basketball  
swim lessons

**We open Memorial Day weekend ... New members welcome!**

Email [HSTAMembership@gmail.com](mailto:HSTAMembership@gmail.com)

or visit us at 10116 Green Forest Dr.

<http://hillandalepool.com/>

The Hillandale Swim and Tennis Club is located off of Green Forest Drive. They not only have a pool with a high dive but also offer tennis courts and an outdoor volleyball court. You can visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Hillandalepool>

### **Hillandale Garden Awards for Spring**

It is time again for our spring Garden Awards. Our hard working judges have been diligent in searching all corners of Hillandale for the best looking yards.

The winners for this spring are (in no particular order) as follows:

**10202 McGovern Dr.** Colorful spring gardens

**1122 West Nolcrest Dr.** Neat and well cared for w/lovely balance.

**10420 Kinloch Rd.** They loved the native Fothergill.

Once again we would like to thank our judges for their time and effort. The next awards will be in late summer to be announced in September. If you would like to nominate a yard, including your own, contact Ross or Elizabeth at 301-439-6217 or send an email to [ross@rossutton.com](mailto:ross@rossutton.com)



Hillandale Citizens Association  
10000 Branch View Ct.  
Silver Spring, MD 20903

Pre-sorted STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Suburban MD  
Permit No. 2116



## West Hillandale Swim Club

Is Accepting New Members Starting March 2013.

***No Waiting List + No Crowds + No Initiation Fee***

***If You Join by June 30 (A \$260 Savings!!)***

**Quiet, Secluded, Tree Shaded**

**Best Pool in Area for Young Kids**

**Exceptionally Large Shallow End & Wading Pool**

**Swim Team and Swim Lessons for the Kids**

**Ping Pong, Sand Volleyball, Basketball**

### A Great Pool Community!

Easy Access from New Hampshire Ave. or Colesville Road.

<http://www.westhillandaleswimclub.org>

Contact Our Membership Coordinator at 301-439-9722 or [puddygarner@gmail.com](mailto:puddygarner@gmail.com)



The West Hillandale Swim Club is located at 915 Schindler Drive, across from Key Middle School. The pool sits on a five-acre site and has been in operation since 1963. The pool's swim team, The Dolphins, is a charter member of The Montgomery County Swim League. The pool is managed and run by its members.