

The Greenbrier Gazette

The newsletter of the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association

Spring 2020



We are all in this together...for however long it takes!

On March 30, Governor Northam issued a Temporary Stay at Home Order Due to COVID-19, effective until June 10, 2020. It includes a number of exceptions. Please go to the source at <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/executive-actions/>

SARS-CoV-2 is the novel coronavirus that causes the disease **COVID-19**. It is very contagious. In order to stop its spread, **EVERYONE** needs to take it seriously.

If you are **over 60**, have an **underlying medical condition** (such as heart or lung disease or diabetes), or are a **caretaker** for anyone in these groups, you especially need to do everything you can to **physically avoid people not in your family**.

But this does not mean you need to feel isolated! It's important to **connect with people in other ways**, such as by phone, email, text, or FaceTime or Zoom.

Please take precautions very seriously!

We know many people feel the desire to help in this chaotic time. That is a good thing, but **the best way to help your community is to follow the most up-to-date guidelines from the health experts**. The key reason for these recommendations – as well as for all the closings, cancellations, and orders to stay home – is to slow (hopefully stop) new transmissions (“leveling the curve”). Doing so aims to (1) keep us individuals virus-free, which is particularly important to those most at risk, (2) keep medical facilities from being overwhelmed and medical supplies from running out, and (3) give researchers time to learn more, create effective treatments, and ultimately create a vaccine.



Nevertheless, **PLEASE DO** contact your neighbors in a safe manner – particularly those in at-risk groups – to see if they need assistance you can provide or guide them to, within the rules for social distancing and staying at home. Just the act of contacting neighbors will help them and you!

HOW TO DO SOCIAL DISTANCING...



The GNA has collected the names of a number of neighbors who have indicated a willingness to help in ways that are allowed. Please contact Ned Michie (keeper of the list) if you need any such neighborly assistance (NedMichie@aol.com or 296-6169).

Because the situation is constantly changing, it is imperative to keep up with the changing situation and recommendations. Please sign up for our Greenbrier Group email list to help you stay current on this and other neighborhood issues.

Some of the best COVID-19 sources are:

- **Coronavirus.gov (and CDC)**
<https://www.coronavirus.gov/>
- **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)**
<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>
- **www.supportville.com** where there are links for ways you can **get** support and **provide** support.
- **Our GNA COVID-19 web page:**
<https://cvillegreenbrier.weebly.com/covid-19-info.html>
- **Community Resources Hotline (434) 234-4490** Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm assistance for access to city-vetted resources for housing, financial assistance, food, & supplies.
- **TJ Health Dept COVID-19 Hotline (434) 972-6261** Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm
- **Charlottesville City's web page**
<https://www.charlottesville.org/> You can also sign up for the City press releases and/or other City notices:
www.charlottesville.org/citynotes
- **Shelter for Help in Emergency (434) 293-8509** if you feel unsafe.
- **Region Ten Emergency Services Hotline (434) 972-1800 or text 741741.** They are now also offering telehealth counseling and health screenings.
- **Charlottesville Area Community Foundation** now has a fund (The Community Emergency Response Fund) dedicated to COVID-19 assistance. This is a joint effort with the local United Way, Cville Community Cares, and both the City and County governments. **Those in need of financial assistance can call 434-234-4490 to inquire.**
<https://www.cacfonline.org/initiatives>



Currently there are no vaccines for COVID-19, so the best way to prevent it is to avoid being exposed to the virus. Here are some things **EVERYONE must do to best protect themselves and others:**

1. **STAY AT HOME** unless you need to go out for essentials as described in Governor Northam's March 30 Temporary Stay at Home Order. Under the order, you can still leave your home to walk, jog or bike at a safe distance from others (see below).
2. **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
3. **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or use the inside of your elbow. Throw the tissue in the trash. Rewash or sanitize your hands if appropriate.
4. Avoid exposure by keeping **physical separation** from anyone with whom you do not live. Keep **at least 6 feet** from other people – **inside OR outside**. This **Social Distancing** should also be done with anyone who is sick inside your house. Avoid groups of 10 or more people.
5. **Inside your house or workplace, at least daily**, clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces. These surfaces include tables, countertops, doorknobs, light switches, phones, keyboards, remote controls, faucets, toilet handles, and sinks.
6. **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth unless your hands are freshly washed, because the virus gets absorbed there if it is on your hands.
7. Wipe down any **items brought into the house** with appropriate disinfecting cleaner. Leave bags and boxes outside and throw away/recycle.
8. **If you feel sick**, STAY AT HOME except to get medical care. Call your health care provider first before going anywhere. Do not go to the emergency room unless directed by your doctor or it is a true emergency. Don't seek a COVID-19 test unless you meet the current criteria. (The tests are a limited resource, as is the protective gear test givers must use.)



Stay Connected

by Joining the Greenbrier Neighborhood Association E-mail Distribution List.

The Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) group email distribution list is a **non-public "Yahoo Group"** that is free. It is maintained by your GNA Executive Committee. This means that: (1) you will be included in this email distribution list only if you ask to be added and (2) people who have not been accepted to join the email list cannot access it. We currently have about 360 members on the email list. Membership is a great way to stay informed about issues that affect our neighborhood. It can be used to let your neighbors know about a lost or found pet, borrow a tool, report a troublesome activity or find out if others are having utility problems. Some people find that it is a useful source for recommendations about tradespeople and services. ***During this time of "SOCIAL DISTANCING," staying connected to you neighbors is even more important.*** Moreover, being able to get information out quickly is critical, particularly in this unprecedented time period. On the right are two examples of recently sent emails that you missed if you are not a member of the GNA email distribution list:

1) From NedMichie@aol.com [GNA_Mail] GNA_Mail-noreply@yahoo.com:

"Below is the latest press release from the City. To get these directly and/or other City notices (without intermediary transmission delay), follow the link www.charlottesville.org/citynotes. If that one doesn't work, try <https://www.charlottesville.org/departments-and-services/departments-a-g/city-manager-s-office/communications/city-notes-sign-up>

Also, I'm continuing to update and compile potentially useful resources on our Greenbrier web page. <https://cvillegreenbrier.weebly.com/covid-19-info.html>."

2) To gna_mail@yahoo.com:

"I hope all in the neighborhood are doing well. As we move through this process of being at home we are looking for more outdoor activities to do with the kids. I know most tennis courts are closed, but we are looking to hit some balls against the wall with the kids to teach them some tennis fundamentals. Does anyone have 1-2 rackets they would like to give away or sell? We could use some balls too."



The family received replies & got rackets within minutes!

If you wish to be included, please email Ned Michie at nedmichie@aol.com. He will email you back with an invitation and instructions. A full set of the rules about appropriate use of the GNA email distribution list can be found on the Homepage of our GNA website: <http://cvillegreenbrier.weebly.com>. Please review the rules before sending anything to the email distribution list. The GNA website also has lots of other useful information and history about the Greenbrier neighborhood. Please take the time to check it out!

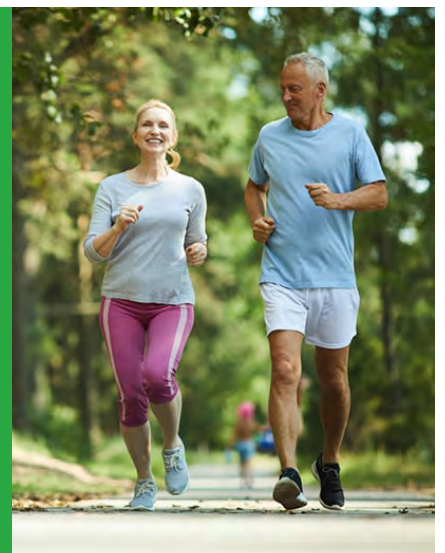


Greenbrier construction is underway. Ting should be finished with production by mid- to late summer. At that time, they will call their prepaid customers and installation will begin. All of the Greenbrier neighborhood will be covered, the spokesperson said, from Grove Road all the way north to Northfield Road.

Ting update as of 3/25/2020

Gripes and Gratitudes

Please walk and jog on the side of the road facing traffic when there is no sidewalk. Don't walk and jog with your back to traffic. This is for safety reasons, and it is a state law. During this time when there are more of us and our children outside, we should be especially alert to the presence of pedestrians.



Support Your Neighborhood Association!

If you would like to support your Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA) and its activities, please consider a contribution of **at least \$10.00 per calendar year**. Your contributions are used to fund **neighborhood-wide meetings** and print the **newsletters**. In addition, they support activities such as the **“Lets Party!”** neighborhood gatherings and the **Greenbrier School Frog Jog**. Your Executive Committee is always open to other ideas and projects that enhance and support your neighborhood.

You may contribute to your **Greenbrier Neighborhood Association (GNA)** by check (paper or electronic) or digitally through Zelle or Venmo:

(1) If you pay by check, please make it payable to “Greenbrier Neighborhood Association” and mail it to Jane Tirrell at 1715 Meadowbrook Heights Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901. You may also set up a bill pay to GNA and have your online banking generate and mail a check to GNA C/O Jane Tirrell

(2) If you would like to pay through Zelle, please establish a contact for GNA-Jane Tirrell and use the email address GNADUES@gmail.com. The money will go straight to an account with SunTrust Bank that is linked to the Association’s business account.

3) To transfer money to GNA through Venmo, use [@Jane-Tirrell-GNA](https://venmo.com/Jane-Tirrell-GNA). All transactions on the Venmo account are private.



2019 Treasury Activities

Balance 1/1/2019	\$4,310.28
Total Contributions in 2019	\$ 705.00
Total Distributions	(\$1,564.01)
Balance 12/31/2019	\$3,451.27
Explanation of Distributions	
Donation to Greenbrier PTO Frog Jog	\$ 250.00
Refreshments for spring Neighborhood Meet & Greet	\$ 190.59
Printing of spring neighborhood newsletter	\$ 340.91
Printing of fall neighborhood newsletter	\$ 377.76
“Let’s Party” Gatherings	\$ 384.75
Deposit Stamp	\$ 20.00
Total	\$1,564.01

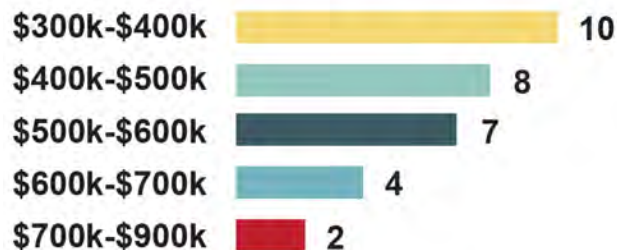
PLEASE NOTE: A contribution to the GNA is not required in order to join the GNA email list or to receive the newsletter. Many thanks to the 57 households who paid dues in calendar year 2019 and the 2 households so far that have paid dues in 2020!

Your New Neighbors



31 HOMES SOLD

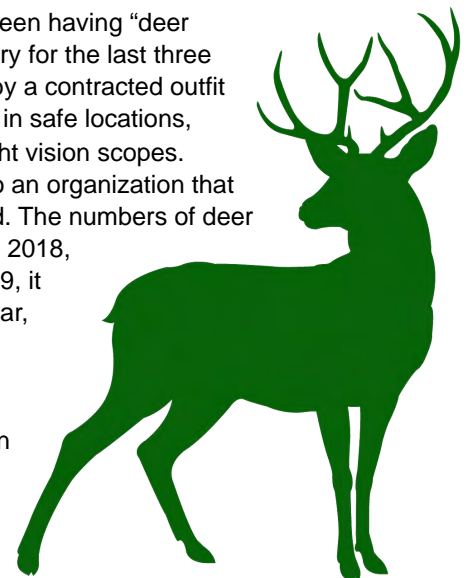
IN THE GREENBRIER NEIGHBORHOOD IN 2019



Deerly Departed

As you know, the City has been having “deer culls” once a year in February for the last three years. The hunts are done by a contracted outfit that hunts the deer at night, in safe locations, with rifles equipped with night vision scopes. The deer meat is donated to an organization that provides it to people in need. The numbers of deer taken has been dropping: in 2018, the number was 125; in 2019, it was down to 83; and this year, the total taken was 68.

Most of the deer are taken in Pen Park; only a few in the last years have been taken in Greenbrier park.

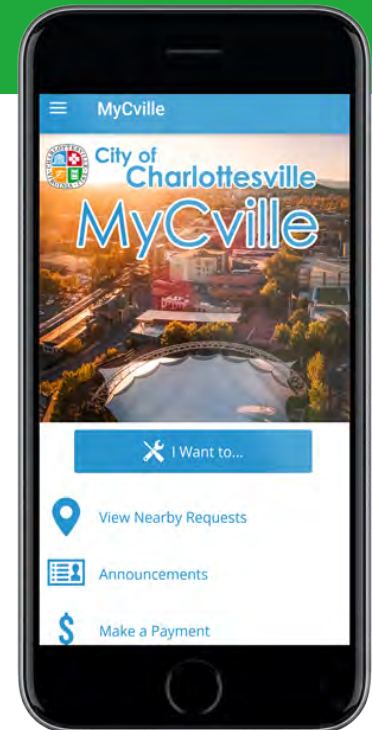


COVID-19: SOCIAL DISTANCING IN PUBLIC PARKS AND TRAILS



There's an App for That!

Have you ever walked or driven by an obstructed street sign, dangerous pothole, broken sidewalk or blocked storm drain that bothered you or seemed unsafe? Sure, we all have. So, what do you do? Maybe you make a mental note to call Neighborhood Development Services, or Public Works, or maybe Parks and Recreation...come to think of it, you have no idea who to call. It is likely that life gets in the way and you forget to report the issue. However, these days it is pretty common that you will have a smart phone in your pocket when you observe the issue. So, instead of poring over the City website to find the right phone number, go to your AppStore (for iPhone) or Google Play store (for Android) and download the **"MyCville"** APP. It's free, it only takes seconds to download, and it works! When you call the city and report an issue, guess what the city employees do? They log your call into the APP! Neighbors have found using the APP to be very effective in getting a quick response. Overflowing trash cans by the Jamestown cul-de-sac have been reported and emptied the very next day. In addition, the city installed the reporter's suggestion of a second trash can. Potholes and obstructed signs are handled within two or three days. It is incredible. Give it a try!



Other Useful Local Apps

"Parks & Rec Charlottesville" is another local phone and computer App set up by the City. It has good information about park facilities and program offerings.

"Code Red" is a free national App that has partnered with localities. You may sign up for Charlottesville-specific warnings and notices about weather, police and other emergency type issues.

"Rivanna Trails" is a free App created by the Rivanna Trails Foundation (RTF). It puts a map of the whole trail system on your phone, and you can track where you are in real time. It also shows parking and other useful facilities along the route.

There are of course other useful local Apps, including those for local media outlets as well as for UVA sports.

I'm Bored.

What is there to Do?

1. Visit the wonderful **new Charlottesville High School track**. Walk or run together with a lane or two between you to keep the required "social distancing." Hold an outdoor exercise class on the pole jump area. The track is a great resource for our neighborhood, so please obey the rules to the right:
2. Explore our local trail system while practicing social distancing. See maps and information at the Rivanna Trails Foundation page at <http://www.rivannatrails.org/> and at our own trails plan web page - <https://cvillegreenbrier.weebly.com/trail-plan.html>.



3. How about playing the game of "We're Going on A Bear Hunt"? People have put teddy bears or other stuffed animals in windows for kids to find on walks to give them something to do now that some parks are closed. If you have a stuffed animal, put it in a window! Walking around the neighborhood looking for bears helps keep kids and adults occupied for hours.

4. Enjoy the extra time with family.
5. Check on your neighbors (in a safe manner).
6. Connect more with friends and non-resident family members via phone and online options.
7. Play those old board games you always used to enjoy.
8. Listen to your favorite music, including local music being streamed live by The Front Porch: <https://frontporchville.org>.
9. Binge watch shows and movies on your list.
10. Finally organize your old photos.
11. Do those yard and home repair projects that have been staring at you all these years.
12. Clean out your basement, garage, closets...
13. Maybe with extra time at home we should all consider taking one of the many free college courses online, including Yale's wildly popular happiness class: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/23/health/yale-happiness-course-wellness/index.html> <https://www.coursera.org/learn/the-science-of-well-being>.
14. Pick up trash in our neighborhood, like our neighbor John Philbrick – see his write-up on the following page.

TRACK & FIELD RULES

1. **WALKERS AND JOGGERS USE LANES 6-7-8**
2. **FACILITY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DURING SCHOOL USE**
3. **NO VEHICLES PERMITTED INSIDE FENCE**
4. **PROPER FOOTWEAR REQUIRED - NO SPIKES LONGER THAN 1/4 INCH NO CHRISTMAS TREE SPIKES**
5. **GRASS AREA USE REQUIRES PRINCIPAL ATHLETIC DIRECTOR APPROVAL**
6. **NO BICYCLES, ROLLER BLADES, OR SKATEBOARDS ON TRACK SURFACE**
7. **NO DOGS ALLOWED INSIDE FENCE**
8. **USE GATE ENTRANCE ONLY-DO NOT CLIMB THE FENCE**
9. **PLEASE TAKE AWAY OR PROPERTY DISPOSE OF YOUR TRASH**

Fill our city with artwork! Adults, kids, home, & biz! Anyone can participate. There is an art project happening through the Bridge PAI. It's called Art Apart...

<https://thebridgepai.org/art-apart/>

The idea is simple.

- Make or find a piece of artwork.
- Display it in a window or on a porch so that it's easily visible from a distance.
- Fill out a **simple form** to add your artwork to the digital ART APART map.
- You fill out the form and it will put you on the map. Then you follow the map.
- Use the digital ART APART Map to find artwork on your next bike trip or walk (while following current CDC social distancing guidelines).



15. Share other ideas with your neighbors through the GNA email distribution list.

LET'S MAKE THE BEST OF THE SITUATION!



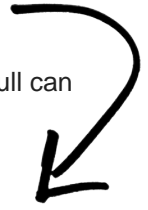
Dirty Secrets of a Greenbrier Walker

When I retired several years ago, I began taking a walk on our neighborhood trails two or three times a week. I walk down Meadowbrook Heights to the bypass, then take the trail east between the fire station and CHS, on to the path along John Warner, across the railroad tracks at Meadow Creek, west on the Rivanna Trail to Hydraulic, then back home east along the bypass. After a few months, this became a bit routine, so I bought one of those picker-upper things and began collecting trash along my route. I usually get two kitchen trash can size bags of trash each walk. Most comes from the parts along or near roads, less along trails. Some observations regarding trash along trails:

1. Finding 5 beer cans is worse than finding 6. I conclude that I must have missed one.
2. The most common places to find beer cans are in briar bushes, down steep slopes, and in streams. Go figure.
3. I commonly find those little dog poop bags, filled. The good news is that they are always on or beside the trail. (I realize that most dog walkers plan to pick up their bags on the way home.)
4. It is nice that people who use the trails drink healthy water rather than sugary drinks. However, it is not so nice that they leave the plastic behind.
5. I can tell when it is winter - drippy nose season - there are lots of tissues left behind.
6. There are people other than me who pick up trash, especially in Greenbrier Park. Sometimes they leave a nice little pile by the trail for me to carry away.

Some good things that have happened to me:

1. Sometimes the people who drink beer leave me a full can ("Five beers for me, one for the trail?").
2. I have found a total of \$21. This has helped cover the cost of the city garbage stickers.



During this difficult period of social distancing, closing of schools, etc., one could consider a few trash collecting expeditions in the neighborhood. Places with lots of trash are along the 250 bypass, Hydraulic, Warner Parkway, and Meadow Creek. If you do this, be careful about cars and deep spots in the creek. There are trash cans at the bridge in Greenbrier Park, at CHS, and at the corner of Hydraulic/250 bypass.

– John Philbrick



Don't Step In It

We see the signs - please remove your dog's waste according to Section 4-41 of the city code. However, does everyone comply? What if my dog is off leash? Does it count? Yes, it sure does. Many of you may notice dog waste in the middle of sidewalks, along trails and even bagged on sidewalks and pathways. So WHY is it so important to collect and properly remove your dog's waste?

1. Stormwater carries pet waste and other pollutants directly into waterways.
2. Animal waste adds extra nitrogen to the water which depletes oxygen in water necessary for underwater grasses, wildlife and fish.
3. Animal waste may contain harmful organisms such as giardia, salmonella and E. coli that can be transmitted to humans and other animals by ingesting contaminated water.
4. Roundworms and hookworms deposited by infected animals can live in the soil for long periods of time and be transmitted to other animals and humans.
5. **It's the law!**
6. Cleaning up after your pet is always the right thing to do.

No one likes to step in pet waste and spread it into homes, cars and businesses. Your neighbors will appreciate your good manners. Use the two trash cans at the Jamestown cul-de-sac to dispose of your bags, and the city handles the rest. Hopefully, the city will install pet waste bag dispensers to help encourage good behavior. Thank you for helping to keep our neighborhood and park safe and clean for everyone who uses it!



GNA to Support the Greenbrier Elementary Frog Jog for the Third Year!

When I moved into the neighborhood almost 16 years ago, elementary school was a distant memory and having children was a dream. That was 2004...Now, as the mother of two elementary students, I am so grateful to have stumbled into a beautiful, safe, and peaceful neighborhood that also is home to an amazing elementary school. Once I became a parent, being involved in my children's schools has been very important to me. As the Greenbrier PTO Co-President for three years, I have been able to get to know the staff and students at Greenbrier School. We have a wealth of culture and diversity at Greenbrier that makes for a uniquely rich environment for children to grow and learn. The PTO became an outlet to support our diverse population and offer many opportunities and support for our school and staff. The **Frog Jog** was born in 2018 and is the PTO's main fundraiser for the school year. We use the funds raised, about \$15,000 after expenses, to give grants to our teachers for classroom supplies, books, field trips, alternative seating, and other things that the school system cannot necessarily provide. We subsidize many afterschool clubs, including Art, Yoga, Coding, BACON STEM (in coordination with CHS), Cooking, Front Porch Music, and more. In addition, we support and fund community events and picnics for our families that include transportation and free meals. The PTO became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in 2019 to encourage more giving and support of this very meaningful work. The PTO is humbled by the continued support that GNA gives to the Greenbrier PTO. It is greatly appreciated; we cannot succeed without the help of our community. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

If you would like to participate as a volunteer or a donor, please email greenbrierpto@gmail.com and visit our website: greenbrierpto.weebly.com.

Upcoming events and volunteer opportunities will also be shared by emails through the GNA group distribution list.

Note: Unfortunately, the 2020 spring Frog Jog was canceled due to COVID-19.

– Aven Kinley,
Greenbrier PTO Co-President



Members of Greenbrier Neighborhood Association Executive Committee

We usually have elections for the executive committee at the spring GNA general meeting. Unfortunately, there will be no spring meeting this year because of the COVID-19 crisis.

Ned Michie (President; Webmaster)
nedmichie@aol.com

Kyle Lewis (Vice President)
klewis@virginia.edu

Karen Michie (Secretary)
kemmicie@aol.com

Jane Tirrell (Treasurer)
teekjc@gmail.com

Michael Barnes (Past President)
michaelbarnes456@yahoo.com

Heather Griffith (Newsletter Editor)
heather@nestrealty.com

Lise Dobrin (At-Large)
id4n@virginia.edu

Donna Arehart (At-Large)
arehartdonna@gmail.com

Sheila Haughey (At-Large)
sheila.haughey@comcast.net

Deborah Johnson (At-Large)
dj7p@virginia.edu

Aven Hormel Kinley (At-Large)
avenhormel@gmail.com

Mary Ropka (At-Large)
mropka@virginia.edu

Eve Solomon (At-Large; Newsletter Distribution)
solomoneve@hotmail.com

Currently there is one open seat on the Executive Committee. Anyone potentially interested in serving as an At-Large member should contact Ned Michie or one of the other current Committee members. We'd love to hear from you!