

The Pine Spring

# PARADE

### **Summer 2023**

Vol. 71 No. 1 August 20, 2023 Pine Spring Civic Association – www.pinespring.org Jennifer Stofferahn, President; Jennifer Catton, Vice President; Bradlee Simoneaux, Treasurer; Michael Fogarty, Secretary

Pine Spring Est. 1952

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Between vacations, cookouts, & afternoon storms, it's easy to miss that summer is almost over! So it's high time for our annual fabulous summer block party! We hope to see everyone there on Saturday, August 26th, see the flipside of this newsletter for details. Read on this side for some important neighborhood updates. Thank you all for your Pine Spring spirit, see you soon.

Jenn Stofferahn, PSCA President

#### **COUNTY MAY END LEAF PICKUP IN 2024**

The Fairfax County Department of Public Works & Environmental Services (DPWES) is proposing to end vacuum leaf pickup service for its 25,000 current customers. The service will remain for the upcoming season - Winter of 2023/24 - but cease thereafter. Pine Spring is among the impacted communities. The County is soliciting public input through a survey until August 18th <u>here</u>. DPWES cites a number of issues, namely staffing shortages which prevent timely pickup and therefore piles of untended leaves which block storm drains, reduce street parking, & create fire & slip hazards.

Your Civic Association is brainstorming alternative ideas for the neighborhood, including potentially more eco-friendly options for neighbors managing autumn leaves. Stay tuned.

#### YANK UP YOUR JAPANESE STILTGRASS!

Invasive Japanese stiltgrass has a leafy, delicate foliage with a faint silvery vein that unevenly divides each blade. As with many invasive plants, Japanese stiltgrass creates a thick blanket of vegetation that crowds out native plants, destroys natural habitat, & prevents regeneration of forests and fields. And it is about to set seed!

Now is the time to take action to rid your yard of Japanese stiltgrass. Its root system is shallow so it's very easy to hand-pull. Read more about how to get rid of it <u>HERE</u>.





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#### **HELPING PINE SPRING WILDLIFE**

You may have noticed that some of the neighborhood fox population this year is suffering from mange. Mange is a skin condition that is contagious among the foxes & is on the rise this year for many reasons, including habitat loss from increasing development.

If left untreated, Mange is ultimately lethal to the foxes, since it leads to severe dehydration, starvation, & secondary infections.

If you notice foxes around the neighborhood with bad looking fur, please DO NOT call animal control. Instead, please notify PSCA President, Jenn Stofferahn, at 703-402-1144 via call or text. Thank you!

Pine Spring neighbors have been working with a licensed wildlife rehabber to help some of the local afflicted foxes get treatment in a safe way.

This is Serenity, a sweet Pine Spring fox with Mange that neighbors helped save! The local rehabber just released a healthy & robust Serenity back into the wild last week!

Before Treatment:









#### **GIRL SCOUTS – FUNDRAISER UPDATE!**

Earlier this Summer, our local Girl Scout Troop #6455 raised nearly \$800 for local dog rescue group MuttLove! They then secured a match donation to double their dollars! Big cheers to the girls for their efforts as young entrepreneurs & animal protectors!

#### SOLICITATION FOR NEW BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS

Do you love your neighborhood and value its future awesomeness? The Pine Spring Civic Association WANTS YOU! The PSCA is seeking nominations for new board leadership. The current board has all served for 3+ years & hopes to add some fresh voices. If you can join our efforts, please contact us at: <u>pinespringcivicassociation@gmail.com</u>

Questions? Email pinespringcivicassociation@gmail.com