

Hi

SUMMER 2005

Neighbor!



NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS OF THE ROCK CREEK WOODS COMMUNITY

NewsBriefs

LABOR DAY POTLUCK

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Our annual **Labor Day Potluck** is just around the corner, and we need help organizing it. The picnic is September 5th at the corner of Ingersol and Spruell Street. We are asking for people who would like to volunteer with the set-up and take down of tables, to bring the ice and charcoal (with reimbursement from our community treasurer), to provide grills, to help clean up.

Please call **Hati** at **301-942-2326** if you would like to volunteer. Don't miss the fun!

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A local preservation group, *Montgomery Preservation*, awarded Rock Creek Woods their **President's Certificate of Recognition** for their work in nominating the neighborhood to the National Historic Register. A ceremony was held at the historic Thomas cannery in Gaithersburg. Rock Creek Woods' nominating committee shared the award along with architectural historian, Joey Lampl and the nominators of two other Goodman communities: Hammond Wood and the Takoma Avenue Historic District.



Committee members Mariann Seriff, Julie Marcis and Pat Kassebaum were on hand to accept the award along with Association President Roseanne Clausen (second from right).

An Award and Rewards!

Back to back Success!

Thanks to everyone who participated, the **2005 Spring House Tour** on May 1 was a huge success. Ten homes were open for viewing during the afternoon, and proceeds of \$400 were donated to the RCW Civic Association.

A map and description of what made each property on tour unique was given to each participant to use as a guide and then they were let loose to explore the homes in any order they liked.

We are grateful to each of the homeowners who made their houses available for the enjoyment of others. Special thanks are given to the planning committee for all their hard work and coordination that helped make this event special: Valerie Campbell, Heather Miller Cox, Barbara Everett, Julie Marcis, Mariann Seriff, and Pati Young.



(top) John and Barbara Everett sign people up for the tour. (bottom) Matthew Kennedy shows off his new fireplace to Rudy Petke and Jan DeRoche.

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Book It!

An Invitation: The **Rock Creek Woods Book Club** invites all interested community residents to join us once a month in a discussion of a classic or current fiction or non-fiction book selected by the group. We try to select books readily available at the library as well as books that meet the literary tastes of our members.

We meet once a month on the second Wednesday of each month at the home of **Ruth Gruenberg**, 4018 Ingersol Drive. We welcome new residents of the community as well as others who would like to share their ideas. (You too can be a literary critic!)

Our next meeting is on **August 10 at 8:00 p.m.** The book selected this month is: *Felicias Journey* by William Trevor. Please call Ruth at **301.942.8707** if you plan to come.



Noise Abatement Discussion

Tom Klein, 4008 Ingersol Drive, would like to hear from neighbors on ideas to propose neighborhood guidelines on noise abatement. Please contact Tom at **301.949.0036**.

Hi Neighbor! will have the goal of being published quarterly by the Rock Creek Woods Civic Association as a service to the community.

This issue's contributors are Julie Marcis, Ruth Gruenberg, Tom Klein, Mariann Seriff and Hati DeJesus. Design by Mariann Seriff. Please send questions, comments or items of interest to: Mariann Seriff, 3917 Rickover Road. Or e-mail: seriff@comcast.net.

June 25, 2005 Meeting on Easement

*Submitted by Julie Marcis
June 27, 2005*

The neighborhood Saturday meeting on the easement requirements for creek restoration was held at the home of Tim & Jessica Rockwood, 4019 Byrd Road in Kensington, 1:00pm outside on their pool deck.

The meeting was well-attended by approximately 20 people. **Pamela Parker**, from the county's *Department of Environmental Protection* and the system's engineer, John, came well-prepared with maps, documents and lots of knowledge.

The Plan is financed by a grant from the County and is to start in September, 2005. The point of entry will be at the top of the Black Path on Byrd Road. All equipment will of the small-scale variety that is used in small construction spaces. Pamela presented a notebook of other completed projects in the county with before and after pictures which was most impressive.

The Plan is to work on the creek erosion with a combination of large rocks, grading and better plantings. John informed the group that each passing year brings better information and solutions to deal with creek problems. Conversely, each passing year that no work is done allows for further erosion and damage. The work will be over a 3-6 month period, with 3 months as the goal for completion. The contract allows work to be done M-F from 7-5 pm, but most likely not past 3 or 4 pm. Any necessary weekend work would be from 9-9 pm but is not likely to occur.

Two concerns seemed to be on foremost on the minds of those who attended. 1) An easement in perpetuity is a long time. 2) Who has the liability if anything goes wrong?

1) John informed the group that a WSSC easement already exists that allows access to everyone's property for WSSC work. The easement that we sign will only cover the creek restoration project and its maintenance. Once the project is completed, the Environmental Group will be coming back to maintain the work, which is why the easement is on-going.

It should be noted that the creek work was first discussed 20 years ago and it has taken this long to get the project funded and progressing. The final push actually began 3 years ago when the County came out to survey.

2) The contractor for the work is liable for all work and any problems that arise. The Environmental Group will be on site when the work progresses and will work with every person to insure that all concerns are taken into account. The liability issues reside with the IFB Group (Montgomery County) and each person affected by the creek work will get a copy.

Only the trees that are marked for cutting on each individual plan will be taken down. There have been amendments to the plan that may eliminate some of these. John also said that specific requests will be honored as much as possible. Replacement trees will be planted as part of the overall plan.

Pamela Parker can be reached at 240 777-7712 or by e-mail at Pamela.Parker@montgomery.co.md.gov.