



Green Acres NEWS

Green Acres Civic Association • PO Box 295 • Claymont, DE 19703

www.greenacrescivic.org

Mark Your Calendars



Full membership meeting	January 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM via Zoom
Spring community yard sale	Sat. 5/17 & Sun. 5/18, 2025

Current Green Acres Civic Association Officers

Dave White, President	302-479-9221
Anita Nicholson, Vice President	302-354-0947
Ted Carl, Treasurer	570-350-2728
Lois Helmerson Corresponding Secretary	302-478-1095
Saundra Hayward, Recording Secretary	302-463-9982
Mike Curry, Newsletter Editor	302-477-1150

Important Numbers To Have Handy

<i>New Castle County Rep.:</i> John Cartier	302-395-8348
<i>New Castle County Executive:</i> Matt Meyer	302-395-5101
<i>State Representative:</i> Debra Heffernan	302-577-8476
<i>State Senator:</i> Sarah McBride	302-744-4147
<i>Governor:</i> John Carney	302-577-3210

Delaware SD1 special election

A special election will be held in early 2025 to fill the DE Senate District 1 seat that was vacated by DE Senator Sarah McBride's election to the U.S. House of Representatives. As of this newsletter's publication, the Delaware Department of Elections has not released information on the exact date the election will take place. You are encouraged to monitor <https://elections.delaware.gov/> for future announcements.

Paper shredding opportunities through DSWA

We are occasionally asked by members about the availability of bulk shredding for household and office documents. The Delaware Solid Waste Authority provides this service several times a month for free at various central facilities. The nearest is the Delaware Recycling Center at 1101 Lambson Lane in New Castle. Bulk document shredding is offered on the first Saturday of each month, from 8:30 AM until 2:00 PM. Shredding is also available at the Newark Recycling Center at 470 Corporate Blvd in Newark on the first Wednesday of each month from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Events are offered on other weekdays at facilities downstate. For further information, visit <https://dswa.com/programs/paper-shredding>



GACA office changes

There has been some shuffling of seats among existing board members over the past few months. **Ted Carl**, formerly recording secretary, moves to treasurer, relieving **Patti Powers**, who served for five years in that role. Patti will still remain on the Council, taking over as representative for district 12 (the part of Emory Rd. south of Quincy Dr.). This relieves former DR12 rep and current corresponding secretary, **Lois Helmerson**, of double duties.

The Council has unanimously approved **Saundra Hayward** to assume the role of recording secretary. Saundra and her husband, Charles, have lived on Grinnell Road since 1985, and they have two adult children, Onya and Chucky.

Saundra has lived in Dover, Washington, D.C., Florence, S.C., Maryland, Texas, New York, Virginia (where she received a B.S. degree at Hampton University), and Ohio (where she received a M.A. degree from The Ohio State University). She also holds an M.S. degree from the University of Delaware.

She is now retired after having worked as a Speech/Language Therapist, a Project Manager with Teacher Training in several states, and Assessment Technician for the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. Her hobbies are reading, walking, and traveling.

Saundra says she is looking forward to supporting our Green Acres community.

The Civic Association exists to service the Green Acres community and improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. Thanks to all who volunteer their time and energy for this organization, and thanks to all dues-paying members!

Snow removal

The winter season is almost here. Here are a few things to keep in mind that will help our snow plowing contractor and benefit our neighborhood.

Prior to and during snow events, please do not park any vehicle or trailer in the street. Items in the street make it difficult for our plowing contractor to clear the streets curb-to-curb. When or if the vehicles are removed after the snow event, the residual unplowed snow remains in the street for drivers to navigate around and it narrows the drivable roadway. Additionally, when these piles melt and refreeze, they create dangerous ice patches on our streets. Please be considerate to your neighbors, the other drivers and school bus drivers in our neighborhood.

Blue barrels of sand, provided by DelDOT, will be appearing soon at the Grinnell and Quincy entrances. Please be a good neighbor and toss out a few shovels of sand if you see slippery entrance road conditions.



Fall large trash pickup event

The community large trash pickup event took place on Saturday, October 12th. Stephen King of Athens Road marshaled the effort this year, taking over responsibilities from long-time event leader Lou Fortunato. The collection circuit started at 7:00 AM sharp and finished at 9:30. Large items of note included eleven mattresses, four La-Z-Boy chairs, three backyard playground sets, two rather large CRT televisions, a couch, a hot water heater, an exercise bike, a piano, and a pool table.

The cost of the event was high this year, since Waste Management sent four workers instead of the usual three. Part of the solid waste disposal fee will be refunded by DE State Representative Debra Heffernan's office, for which we thank her. This very popular annual event is funded by GACA membership dues -- another of many reasons to remember to pay!



Property reassessment

The ongoing property reassessment process continues to be a hot topic on social media, with lots of emotion and misinformation on display.

Most New Castle County homeowners have by now received a "notice of tentative assessed value" from the county's data collection vendor, Tyler Technologies. This notice instructs owners to make corrections and return the mailer to Tyler if there are any errors, for example in the room count or square footage of living area recorded. The county advises owners unable to reach Tyler Technologies about reassessments to contact the Executive Office at 302-395-5103 or 302-395-5117 or by emailing Constituent Services at ConstituentSvc@newcastlede.gov.

Because the new property values are in most cases higher than values in 1983 when the last assessments

were done, many fear that means their property taxes will automatically increase. This is not necessarily true. The county has committed to raising no additional revenue from the assessment process. This means, while some tax rates will rise, some will decrease and others will remain the same, for an overall neutral outcome. So, even if the assessed value of your home increases, your tax rate will not increase if the change in value is the similar to the average change for your home's property class. If the change in value is lower than average change for your property class, you tax rate could actually decrease.

For more information:

- New Castle County website: <https://www.newcastlede.gov/181/Assessment>
- Tyler Technologies website: <https://empower.tylertech.com/New-Castle-County-Delaware.html>

Countywide Reassessment | Revenue Neutral



YOUR PROPERTY VALUE CHANGE

Lower than average change for property class

PROPERTY TAX IMPACT

Taxes likely **decrease**



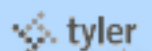
Similar to the average change for property class

Taxes likely **do not change**



Higher than average change for property class

Taxes likely **increase**



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