



Green Acres

NEWS

WINTER
DECEMBER 2025

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

www.greenacrescivic.org

Mark Your Calendars

Full Membership Meeting	Zoom (Link Via Email)	Wednesday, January 21, 7:00 P.M.
Community Yard Sale	Green Acres	May 16, 17
Large Trash Pickup	Green Acres	May 23, 7:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.

Current Green Acres Civic Association Officers

Dave White, President	302-479-9221
Anita Nicholson, Vice President	302-354-0947
Lowen Wilmer, Treasurer	484-557-9446
Lois Helmersen Corresponding Sec.	302-478-1095
Saundra Hayward, Recording Secretary	302-463-9982
Mike Curry, Newsletter Editor	302-332-6436

Important Numbers To Have Handy

County Rep.: John Cartier	302-395-8348
County Executive: Marcus Henry	302-395z-5101
State Rep. (RD6): Debra Heffernan	302-577-8476
State Senator (SD1): Dan Cruce	302-744-4147
Governor: Matt Meyer	302-744-4101

A neighborhood success story

I wanted to share a recent example of what makes Green Acres a great place to live. On Friday, December 19, the National Weather Service issued strong wind advisory and by the middle of the afternoon gusts of nearly 50 MPH were blasting through our region. Just after I got home from work, I received a text message from a neighbor saying a tree had fallen across Quincy Drive and was blocking both lanes of traffic.

Before heading over to check it out, I scanned the neighborhood Facebook page to see if the problem had been mentioned yet. Indeed, there was already a photo of the blockage with a message that authorities had been called. Another neighbor said she was going to put some white bags on the tree to make it easier for drivers to see in the low light. By the time I made it to the scene a few minutes later, neighbors had already cut up half the tree and cleared a lane for traffic.

This was folks looking out for each other and doing the right thing without needing payment or glory. I've seen this sort of thing many times in Green Acres and it makes me feel proud of our community. Thanks, folks!

Annual full membership meeting

The annual Green Acres Civic Association full membership meeting will be held Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 PM via Zoom, and all paid members are invited to attend. An email with the Zoom link will be sent out in a few weeks in advance and again on the day of the meeting.

In addition to updating our members with information about activities and opportunities with GACA, a guest speaker from Delmarva Power is planned to discuss property rights near the easement, tree maintenance, power line safety issues, and other topics.

We will also be electing two Board of Directors officer positions: President and Corresponding Secretary. (Each member household in attendance may cast one vote for each office.) If you care about our community and are ready to share some of your time and energy, please consider volunteering for one of these offices!

Here are the duties of these offices as described in the association bylaws (<https://greenacrescivic.org/bylaws/>):

PRESIDENT - The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Association and meetings of the Council. The president shall see that all resolutions of the Association are put into effect. The president shall also appoint committees and approve the person who will review finances annually.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - The Corresponding Secretary shall handle all official correspondence directed by the Association President, including notices of meetings.

Interested parties can contact the GACA board at greenacrescivic@gmail.com or our Nominating Committee chair, Lou Fortunato, at laafort@comcast.net.

Home sales in 2025

Our home sales market cooled a bit this year, resulting in only six new move-ins to Green Acres in 2024 after sales of 14 properties in 2024. (There are two GA homes on the market as of publication date.) If any of these are your neighbors, please make them feel welcome!

Address	Sale Date
1103 Grinnell	1/8/25
1303 Newcomb	1/31/25
1312 Newcomb	2/27/25
1422 Athens	2/28/25
1305 Oberlin	3/28/25
1411 Emory	6/27/25

Snow removal

We've already had a rare, early season snowfall, and there were plenty of lessons to learn. Multiple factors contributed to unsatisfactory road clearing in some parts of the neighborhood after the December 14 weather event, but a big one was vehicles that were left parked on the street. Every year we instruct folks not to park vehicles or trailers in the street when snow is expected, and every year there are many who ignore this advice. We'll say it again, in hopes the fresh experience will help a light bulb go off for some people.

Items in the street make it difficult for our plowing contractor to clear the streets curb-to-curb. Additionally when or if the vehicles are removed after the snow event, the residual snow remains in the street for drivers to navigate around and it narrows the drivable roadway. One last point about residual snow in the roadway, it also contributes to ice patches when it melts. Please be considerate to the other drivers in the neighborhood.

Our snow plowing contractor starts moving snow when we have or are about to receive 4 inches of snow or more. Occasionally we receive "nuisance" snowfalls where the accumulation is less than 4" and the average daily temperature is below 32 degrees and will remain below 32 degrees for more than 1 day. When this "nuisance" type of snowfall presents, we typically will plow the neighborhood.

Applying sand mixed with ice melt is done when needed, and is always applied at both entrances and all intersections. Some streets don't melt as quickly and

will need special treatment as well. Please note those same streets have a higher percent of cars left on the street during snow removal, thus contributing to the icing condition.

The contents in the sand barrels at both entrances and two other locations in the neighborhood are to be applied to the road directly around the barrels; not for your private use at home. We thank you for sanding icy patches in the neighborhood. The barrels are self-service and you can help out by throwing a few shovels of sand onto the road way if you find it slippery. Again, they are sand barrels, not trash cans.

"Timing" the removal of snow and "timing" the snow event is never an easy task. The timing involves the following:

- Multiple calls to the contractor and the Mount Holly, NJ weather station.
- Listening to the local weather broadcast.
- Actually driving around the neighborhood.
- Checking the driving condition on Silverside Road, and checking what other neighborhoods are doing.
- 2:00 AM meetings with the snow removal contractor.
- And of course, luck.

All of these factors play into making a good decision when to start clearing the neighborhood.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Lou Fortunato at 478-8664.



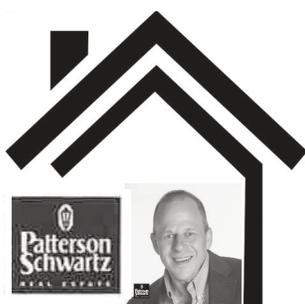
Winter holiday fire safety

Did you know that nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source? It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

- Inspect holiday lights each year before you put them up. Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires.

- Water your Christmas tree every day. A dry tree is dangerous because it can catch fire easily.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell, and feel like real candles.
- If you do use lit candles, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be knocked down easily.

Steve Shanus
2211 Silverside Rd.
Wilmington, DE 19810
Cell 302-893-2219
Office 302-475-0800
Email Steve.Shanus@psre.com



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