It's been a couple months since our last newsletter and I want to catch you up on the latest news from the Westgrove PACK.

1). Water!!   We finally have it. Thanks to your generous donations and a Mastenbrook grant from the Fairfax County Park Authority, the $15k water installation project has been completed. The spigot is located at the north end of the park and the water line was installed deep enough underground to enable us to have access to fresh water all year round. The PACK will be responsible for paying the portion of the water bills corresponding to any uses beyond providing drinking water for the dogs. This means we will pay for water to irrigate the turf and trees, fill wading pools, etc.  For guidelines and more information on the water, go to <http://www.westgrovepack.org/water-access.html>.

2). Wading pools. We have moved three
donated pools to the north (smaller) end of the park so the water that spills from them  does not create puddles in the most used (south) end or damage the turf. We realize many of the dogs appreciate having a place to cool off on hot summer days but are somewhat concerned about the potential for these ponds to become mosquito breeding grounds or - worse - contaminated by pathogens that could sicken our dogs. Since so many dogs seem to enjoy the ponds, we will not take them out of the park. However, we do want to make sure you are aware of the possible risks of having your dog submerged in less than pristine water.

3). Elections. Six positions on the board are up for re-election at our October general meeting. They are:
Chair
Vice Chair
Membership and Fund-raising
 Treasurer
Secretary
One at-large position

To all PACK caretakers: please consider running for a position in the board. We need new blood and fresh ideas. Serving on the board takes only a few hours a week and is wonderfully rewarding.
At present, the following people have stepped forward to stand for election for open positions:

Barry Spangler - President
Liz Yap - Membership and Fundraising
 Jeff Pandin - Treasurer
Kathy Seikel - Secretary

We need at least one person to run for each position. Note that  one has come forward to run for either the Vice President or at-large position. If you are interested, all you need to do is let one of the current board members know and we'll add your name to the slate. For more information on the election process go to[www.westgrovepack.org/election-page.html](http://www.westgrovepack.org/election-page.html)

Many thanks to those who served in these positions for the last year (Nancy Urban as Vice President, Melissa Pandin as Membership Chair, Jeff Pandin as Treasurer, Megan Cavanaugh as Secretary, and Jan Speakman as an at-large representative). Their dedication and hard work have helped make our park the fabulous gathering place it is for dogs and humans alike!

4). Other park improvements. We had hoped  to install a 12x20' sunshade in the southwest corner of the park and a shed outside the fence on the south end this year. Unfortunately, we are $3400 short of the funds needed to go forward with these installations this summer. If additional funding becomes available, we will move forward with both projects this summer.  Go to [www.westgrovepack.org/shade-structure.html](http://www.westgrovepack.org/shade-structure.html)

5). Hot dog Fridays. Please don't forget to join us for hot dog Fridays. Our grill master will fire up the grill again this Friday, June 24, and food will be available from 5:00 to 7:00  (no charge but donations gratefully accepted). We look forward to seeing you there.  If interested in helping out, please contactMelissapandin@yahoo.com

All the best,
Kathy Seikel