



AUGUST NEWSLETTER

.Greetings dog park friends,

I hope you and your dogs are staying as cool as possible and enjoying the summer. It's been a long time since the last PACK update so I am writing give you the latest news from Westgrove Dog Park.

1). Stone dust is coming. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) informed us yesterday that they will resurface the north section of the park with stone dust this week. We don't have a date yet but will post signs when we get one. This work will not interfere with your use of the south end (the larger section of the park).

2) Dog training classes. We are pleased to announce that Michael Tomai, a local trainer whom some of you know from Petco, will offer two training sessions – for puppies and adult dogs – beginning on September 18. Space is limited so, if you're interested, sign up now. Full details are posted on our website www.westgrovePACK.org/dog-training-information.html

3) Children in the park. As most of you know, children 8 and under are not allowed in the park. Although park rules are posted, some parents choose to bring children into the park - even after been encouraged to leave for the sake of their children. If you see children in the park, please feel free to gently remind parents of the rules. If you like, hand them a PACK brochure; this brochure contains a full list of park rules. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rules/dogpark.htm If all else fails, you can call the Fairfax County Police Department in their non-emergency number 703-877-3715.

4) Water update. We have an estimate from FCPA for installation of water ~\$14000. In June we submitted a grant application under FCPA's Mastenbrook program to pay for 50% of the costs. (We have the other 50% available in our budget). We expect a decision on the grant application in September and will keep you informed. (Getting a water source for the park is the Board's #1 priority). For more information, go to www.westgrovepack.org/water-access.html

5) Landscaping. In July, the Board collaborated with Friends of Dyke Marsh and the local chapter of the Audubon Society to develop a landscaping plan which we submitted to FCPA for approval. First up on this plan is planting shade trees along the north end fence line this fall.

6) Elections and next General Meeting. Several PACK Board positions are coming up for re-election (Vice Chair, Operations Director and three at-large positions). Please consider volunteering your time to this worthwhile effort. Nominations are due in early September (date TBA) and voting will take place on line and at the October general meeting (date TBA). For more information, go to www.westgrovepack.org/approved-bylaws.html

Any questions about the information in this email, please ask me or another Board member or email us at: westgrovepack@gmail.com.

Kathy Seikel
Westgrove PACK