

**Environment Committee  
Dufief Homes Association  
February 5, 2025, 7:00 pm, on Zoom**

**Minutes**

**Present:**

Committee Members: Vin Kortraiah, Roger Rasnake, Moira Davenport  
Homeowners: Carolyn Carlson, Jaime Pfasterer

**Front Entrance Beautification - Phase 2**

Discussion of Phase 2 of planting at front entrance, planned for this Spring. Trees, shrubs and ground cover will be planted in the easement areas on both sides of Dufief Drive. Green Team volunteers will do the planting, with help from the HOA landscaping company. PPR, to dig the holes.

Dogwoods, a sweetbay magnolia and viburnums will be installed. Golden groundsel and fox sedge will be used for groundcover. Deer fencing around the trees and shrubs will be necessary until they reach a height of over 4 feet. Ground covers selected are deer resistant and will not be protected.

**Green Team Activities for 2025**

The Committee decided on the following activities:

- Monthly nature and bird walks, alternating with a week day and a Saturday. Dates TBD
- Invasive weed removal for early May to remove garlic mustard around the pond.

**Community Picnic**

Preliminary plans for the summer picnic were discussed. The HOA has included \$500 in the 2025 budget for the Committee's activities. We will use some of our budget for a mosquito bucket trap giveaway, similar to last year. A Green Team table skirt will also be printed to make our presence more visible. Vin will check with the County about acquiring compost bins to give away.

We will also repeat the Leave the Leaves campaign in the Fall.

### **Tree and Shrub Giveaway**

The Department of Natural Resources is providing sapling trees and shrubs to the communities for \$3 a piece. The Committee will use \$150 from its annual budget to purchase 50 plants to give free to residents, one per household. This project will be advertised to the community via email and the Readwood. 25 serviceberry trees and 25 arrowwood viburnums have been ordered. Date of delivery has not been received from DNR.

There was discussion of the logistics for the giveaway. We decided to stage the plants at the pond entrance, and to give residents an inexpensive pot to plant the saplings until ready for permanent placement. The plants will be delivered bareroot.

### **Other Business**

Roger informed us that on Feb 28 or March 1 the native plant sale from Muddy Branch Alliance will go live - watch for social media posts and the plant catalog on the Muddy Branch Alliance website.

Vin will send a short draft to Moira for the Readwood on the lantern fly problem by Feb 23.

