



Spring in Riverdale

The April 2023 Sustainability Group Newsletter

Our meeting was held this past **Thursday, April 27th**
The following is what was discussed.



What It Means To “Leave The Leaves”

We discussed simplifying our current explanation on how to properly “Leave the Leaves” in order to provide much needed insect habitat and improved soil health over the winter.

We also discussed going on a walkabout with Artan and George in **early Fall** to better understand the correct methods and best areas to consider.

Wendy and the board will be kept aware as well.



No Mow May

The goal of NMM is to **allow grass to grow unmown for the month of May, creating habitat and forage for early season pollinators.** This is particularly important in urban areas where floral resources are often limited.

This idea of thinking differently about our lawns has been gaining in popularity and been endorsed by everyone from Bob Vila to Better Homes & Gardens. Beginning on **May 1** we will post a No Mow May graphic on bulletin boards to raise awareness with a link so residents can learn more about it.

Here's [a site](#) to learn more.

What's Sapling with the trees?



Scarlet Oak



White Oak



Sweet Bay Magnolia

It appears the three native saplings we planted in the fall have made it through the winter successfully. Many thanks to **our Care team** and the kids of **the Garden Club**.

As far as the naming the trees we decided to nix the idea of a contest (too involved) and decided on the following approach instead.

The White Oak is to be called **George**. The Red Oak will respond to **Ken** and the Magnolia would like to have our Garden Club put their choices for a name in a hat and pick the winning name.



Go Native!

The group discussed the urgent need for more native plants in our public, private and community spaces. Since we collectively own a large amount of land, we are responsible for how it is used.

We believe we should follow the recommendations of the majority of ecologists, etymologists and environmentalists to plant more native plants and remove or cut back invasive non-native plants. Our current invasives include porcelain berries, burning bushes and trees of heaven.



To be added to our mailing list please email us at: pgbxriverdalepark@gmail.com
And join us on [Facebook](#) and visit our [website](#)

*Our next meeting will be **May 23 at 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm***