


**COUNTRY CLUB HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION APPLICATION
CITY OF FAIRFAX COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMITTEE
2018 NEIGHBORHOOD APPEARANCE GRANT APPLICATION**

Section 1: Executive Summary

- Application Date: March 18, 2018
- Organization name and contact information:
 - Name: Country Club Hills Civic Association (CCHCA)
 - Contact: c/o Leslie Daniels, 3426 Brookwood Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030
 - Telephone: (703) 383-1272
 - Website: www.cchca.org
- Fiscal Agent: Treasurer of CCHCA
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- President of CCHCA: Leslie Daniels
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- Contact Person for Proposal: Judy Fraser
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 - Email: jrobbfraser@gmail.com
- Dollar amount of this funding request: \$1,000
- Total Project Budget: \$2,000
- Purpose of this funding request:

This funding request is on behalf of the neighborhood served by the CCHCA, consisting of 320 single family homes. The requested funding will be used to purchase permanent plantings and pavers to beautify the neighborhood common area which is a City of Fairfax park within the boundaries of the neighborhood. Community events for the neighborhood are held at the common area. On any given day, community members will enjoy relaxing there and children often play at the common area.
- Signature of President: 

Section 2: Narrative

CCHCA history, mission and goals

1. CCHCA was established in 1954 as the first homes were occupied in the new neighborhood. The civic association has been in continuous existence since that time. CCHCA is a voluntary association with an elected board of directors which oversees civic, appearance, social and safety concerns of the neighborhood. The CCH Common Area was originally intended as the location for a community pool. When it was determined that the property was not a good site for a pool (the pool was eventually built adjacent to Old Lee Hills) the community maintained the property for common use. The City of Fairfax provides park related system and provides mowing and tree maintenance. Residents have helped to plant and maintain through the years. The CCH Garden Club actively maintains two perennial gardens and individual residents also maintain sections of the planted areas.

2. **Current activities, recent accomplishments and future plans**
The park plays an integral role in the neighborhood as a setting for many activities, with several major events per year and many smaller get togethers throughout the year. The neighborhood installed a book sharing box, built by a CCH resident, in 2015. In 2016 the CCHCA attained Audubon at Home certification for the common area as a Wildlife Habitat. The Audubon program required identifying a minimum of ten native species of insects and birds. The log book with identified species is kept in the book sharing box. In 2015 the CCHCA, with funding from the Community Appearance Committee Grant program, planted 16 native trees and shrubs (eg oak, hickory, serviceberry, redbud, silky dogwood), along with little bluestem and Pennsylvania sedge. Part of the plantings planned for 2018 are groundcovers that will support these earlier plantings. The CCHCA installed a rain barrel in 2016 and the garden club added a bird house in 2017.

3. **Results we are committed to achieving during the grant period**
The CCHCA plans to continue the momentum to restore and beautify the common area's wood edge. In 2018 we will begin to eradicate invasive honeysuckle, English ivy, garlic mustard and rosa floribunda. With the help of volunteers from the neighborhood and students from the Fairfax High School Green Club we plan to plant several more understory trees, native shrubs and several types of native ground cover perennials along the length of the wood edge and the path to the creek. The wood edge has also been overwhelmed by daylilies and other non-native species and the goal of this project is to replace portions of the daylilies with native blooms such as black-eyed susan, blazing star, mountain mint, bluebells, obedient plant and milkweed that will extend the blooming period and create habitat and food sources for insects and birds. The shrubs and understory trees will help establish a stronger wood edge.

4. **Timeline for accomplishing these results**
During the grant period this spring we plan to have three work days in April and May, with the first focused on maintenance work and planting area preparation and the second and third work days focused on planting the new plants and mulching. We will also place stepping stones through the garden area to prevent plant damage and reduce soil compaction while allowing maintenance access. The planned dates are April 8, April 15 and May 6 with a back-up/rain date of May 20.

Project Information

1. Identified Need

The common area represents an important asset of the neighborhood both in terms of beauty and access to nature. The property is adjacent to the Accotink Creek and as such provides an important area of habitat and support for animals, insects and birds. The invasive plants and aging ornamentals occupying much of the area do not currently provide optimal habitat or aesthetic appeal.

2. Proposed Solution

By restoring and planting the area with native plants both its aesthetic appeal and its ecosystem benefits will be enhanced. Stepping stones and pathways will make the area more accessible to residents while protecting the plantings from damage by foot traffic.

3. Will there be positive or negative impacts from the project on the community served?

We don't foresee negative impacts on the community. We expect that the ongoing improvement of the common area will continue to be appreciated by the residents of CCH and other city residents and staff. Ultimately the improvement of the habitat will contribute to a healthier riparian area and creek habitat.

4. How will this project improve community appearance?

Currently the invasive plants, overgrown aging ornamentals, and daylily masses are somewhat unsightly and single season interest. The proposed plantings, consisting of many native plants that will bloom throughout the spring and summer, will add beauty throughout the growing season. The addition of native plants with dormant season appeal such as silky dogwood, witch hazel and itea will enliven the area in the fall and winter.

CCHCA 2018 Community Appearance Grant Proposed Budget

Budget Total \$2,000

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL
Groundcover	50	10	500
Perennial herbaceous	42	10	420
Shrubs	12	30	360
Understory trees	3	40	120
Paving stones	50	6	300
Labor	30 hours	10	300
Total			2,000