



YMVA Newsletter

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Stormwater Management and Road Improvement Project

By: Leanne Lewis

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416-485-0959

Sanitary Sewers:

In preparation for the stormwater management and road re-construction project, the city began rehabilitating our aging sanitary sewer lines earlier this year. Although technically this is referred to as a “no dig” method, to many of us laypeople it would seem that there has been a fair bit of digging going on. That being said, we have been told that this is a state-of-the-art project which involves a lot less digging than would normally be required by this type of task. More typically, traditional sanitary sewer rehabilitation projects require that large trenches be opened up from the road right up to each house. In our case, D. M. Robichaud (the contractor) is using a method which requires that a “modest” hole be dug in order to install a new sewer cleanout on city property in front of each home. The location of each of these cleanouts is indicated by the blue access pipe that is currently sticking out of the ground in front of most homes. At present most of these cleanouts have not yet been passed by the city inspector and therefore most residents still have bare patches of sand or gravel around a raised blue pipe.

Over the coming months, underground photos of the rehabilitated pipes will be reviewed and inspection work will be done by the city. When the cleanout passes inspection by the city the location of the cleanout will have been mapped and the blue pipes will be cut down such that they cannot be seen above ground. Once that work is complete lawn or driveway repairs will be done.

We were originally told that this project would be finished this fall before winter set in. However, (and don't shoot the messenger) we have just been advised that it is going to last well into next year, possibly as late as June. This change in timeline is new information that only came to light when doing research for this newsletter. It is concerning that Toronto Water (the folks responsible for the sanitary sewer rehabilitation) did not proactively advise our neighbourhood or their own colleagues in Technical Services (the folks responsible for the road and stormwater management project) of this significant change in timing.

As of this writing we are setting up a meeting with YMVA reps, Councillor Jenkins, city staff and D. M. Robichaud to address this unacceptable delay, the poor communication on the part of Toronto Water, and other issues related to some isolated problems stemming from the sanitary sewer rehabilitation project. Among other things we will be discussing strategies to tighten up and bring discipline to the schedule, we will be getting clarification as to what residents can expect over the coming months as the project proceeds and we will be clarifying how a delay might affect the stormwater management and road construction project. Additionally

we will be making clear our expectation that the two city offices involved in our neighbourhood's two intertwined projects (sanitary sewer rehabilitation and stormwater management/road construction) will establish procedures to effectively communicate and coordinate with each other. We will also request that the city and/or D. M. Robichaud send out a mailer to update you on a realistic time line and to advise what you can expect for the remainder of the sanitary sewer project.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments about any aspect of the project, contact Anthony Paolini, Senior Engineer, City of Toronto at 416-395-6371 or Tim Ruttan, Project Manager from D. M. Robichaud at 905-767-7067. If you are having a problem relating to the sanitary sewer rehabilitation project that you think we should know about, please email or call Leanne (leannelewis@rogers.com or 416-485-0959).

Stormwater Management and Road Construction Project:

Continuing on the theme of delayed time lines... As is obvious, road and storm sewer construction has been delayed yet again. The reasons for the delays are various including Conservation Authority issues, right of way issues, pipe capacity issues and the unanticipated discovery of a large holding tank near the top of the golf course which has brought the Ministry of the Environment into the picture etc. We are sure you are as tired of hearing about the delays as we are in the telling. However, we continue to prod the city on this project to keep things moving. We are cautiously optimistic that storm sewer work will begin later this fall in

areas that have the most problems with stormwater run off.

We do pass your feed back to The City and we have made The City aware that the delay in construction is increasingly having a negative effect beyond Priority Area A. For example, these delays have contributed to the ongoing deterioration of many neighbourhood roads. Since the start of construction has been considered “imminent” for several years now, the city has been reluctant to invest in substantial road maintenance. Therefore many of our roads are in increasingly bad shape. Also, standing water problems, especially in parts of Priority Area B, have been exacerbated by increasingly poor road quality and this year’s high volume of rain.

Since the start of the project has been so significantly delayed and since residents outside of Priority A are increasingly affected by water problems and road deterioration to various degrees, we have been discussing with The City the possibility of adjusting time lines for the entire project by effectively folding the project into two rather than three priority areas. That is, they would more or less eliminate the concept of Priority Areas A, B and C as was originally conceived i.e. originally A was to be completed, then B would follow one to two years after the completion of A, and C would follow one to two years after that. This change would not hold up the start of construction in Priority Area A. Priority Area A will get started first since it is a priority in terms of resolving the more urgent water problems. However, we have given them a proposed a timeline that would see portions of Areas B and C get started at the same time or very near to the same time after “A” areas are started. Our primary goal is to address

water and road problems on basis of highest need while limiting the amount of time the neighbourhood has to live with major road construction. The City agrees that the time-lines should be revisited and has had a staff meeting to review our proposal. The YMVA will be meeting with the city in the near future to discuss this and other project related issues. At that time we will also be requesting that The City updates area residents on this project through a special written communication.

We should also note that in addition to working with the city on road design issues and logistical issues on the macro level, we also work with the city on logistics as they relate to the individual resident. Once the city is ready to proceed with construction on a particular street, residents will get the information that they may need to plan for construction e.g. how landscape features, sprinkler systems etc. in or near the construction zone could be handled etc.

Beautification Fund:

Thank you to the following residents who generously donated to The YMVA Beautification fund:

Brown, Stephen & Lo, Susan
von Stedingk, Vicko & Paula
Macdonald, Robert & Bacardi, Victoria
Shepherd, Dave & Nada
Armitage, Susan
Colgan, Terry & Jez, Donna
Fielding, John & Pat
Cianciotta, Frank & Fortier, Jennifer
Chan, Andrew & Glendy
Friedel, Chanoch & Maly
Hazen, Kathryn & Mogil, Mel
Gluckstein, Bernard & Bertye, Jill
Ross, Donald & Lois
McGillivray, Ian & Mary

Shohet, Morris & Noelle (Grace)
Westlake, Brian & Joyce
Hardie, Norman & Nell
Williamson, David & Roberts, Margot
Alkier, Mike & Kelly
Campbell, Henry & Vicki
Dillow, Nancy
Santaguida, Mary Lou & Louie
Cooper, Peter & Sherry
Pryde, Robbie & Laura
Rao, Vikram & Julie
Konig, Phyllis & Jacques
Chu, Edward & Frances
Mida, Daniel & Masak Mida, Ingrid
Wleugel, John & Leonor
Woodrooffe, Rob & Fran
Martinaitis, Dzidra
Chua, Chia-yi & Isidean, Laura
Payne, David & Susan
Desbrisay, Hugh & Catherine
Johnston, Beth
Cowie, Pau
Lewis, George & Leanne
Rabinovitch, Martin & Kirkwood,
Belinda
Cardarelli, John M. & Kay
Dhillon, Harjit & Lydia, Delaire
Geisler, Robert & Sheila
Tator, Charles & Carol
Hecimovic, Kim
Pearl, Melvin & Rhonda
Katsiris, Annie
Franklin, Robert & Pinky
Lavelle, Paul & Stoker-Lavelle, Gillian
Cooper, Barry & Sue
Clark, Edmund & Fran
Stoddart, Philip & Nadine
Miller, Tracey & Gordon
Demers, Jacques & Susan
O'Brien, Michael & Mary-Catherine
Gould, Hal & Kim
Morgan, Michael & Margo
Dobbin, Terry & Linne
Thimm, Anja and Shaun
Gibson, Gordon & Lorraine
Torrens, Robert & Sherry

Nella, Ralph & Erin
Lea, Ted & Barbara
Shelley, Robert & Jessica
Somerville, William & Bronwen
Vincent, Kitson & Martha

Landscape Architect, Mark Hartley, has donated time to provide suggestions and plant lists to The YMVA. YMVA Beautification Chair, Christine Acconcia, is also working with the City to develop ways that they will support our beautification efforts so that our fund's dollars will stretch as far as possible. At present two areas are being focused on for beautification: The Millstone Parkette and the area around the historic school wall at Mill Street since these areas will not be affected by road and sewer construction. A modest amount of work will be done in these locations this fall with more to be done in the spring. As the road work is completed other beautification opportunities will be considered. A post-construction priority will be in the area around the "Loblaw" wall.

Get a Free Tree !

Urban Forestry Services plants trees on City owned street allowances fronting residential properties for free. For more information go to http://www.toronto.ca/trees/pdfs/FreeTree_Final.pdf to download The City's residential street tree planting brochure or call (416) 338-TREE (8733). For an additional fee residents can order a larger tree. The City will provide advice on tree choice. Even if you have a mature tree on your front lawn, The City suggest that residents order a young tree that can get growing so it will make a nice, full replacement tree if something happens to the older tree.

Interested in a tree for your backyard?

Contact LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) which is a local non-profit group dedicated to improving Toronto's urban forest. They offer Toronto residents subsidized backyard tree planting.

The service includes on-site advice on appropriate species and planting location, a 1.2 to 1.8m tall native tree, and the planting service. Native shrubs are also available.

Contact LEAF at 416-413-9244 or on the web at <http://www.leaftoronto.org/>.

Filming in The Valley:

Several homeowners who have had films shot at their residences have arranged for the movie companies to donate to the YMVA to account for the inconveniences caused by the shoots. Typically the donation is \$1,000.00 depending on the length of the shoot. If you are negotiating a film shoot at your home, please consider asking for a donation to the YMVA. Cheques can be dropped off at 2A Ivor Road.

Noisy Airplanes:

There is legislation in place that is designed to limit the times of day that aircraft can fly over residential areas and that requires aircraft to remain at specific altitudes when in our area. The goal is to limit excessive airplane noise. Often, however, these rules are disregarded by aircraft controllers and pilots which can lead to unreasonable aircraft noise. If you are bothered by an excessively noisy plane, we encourage you to make a noise complaint on the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) web site. All complaints are investigated and over time it will help if our neighbourhood

is a squeaky wheel (pardon the pun). Simply go to www.gtaa.com then click on the grey "Community Relations" tab, click on "Noise Management" and once there look for "Register a Noise Complaint".

Toxic Waste disposal

By Christine Acconcia

If you are cleaning out your basement or garage this Fall and have old paint cans, other solvents, batteries etc. which you'd like to dispose of responsibly, please call the City's FREE Toxic Taxi at 416-392-4330. They will book a pick up for you, usually a few weeks out, but this saves you from driving it to a drop off location. Call them and listen to their pre recorded message or talk to someone directly about this service and more.

Ravine Bylaw – Head's up to the new rules!

By Barbara Wilkes
bwilkes@miicapital.com

Over the summer there were a few issues around the new ravine bylaws and cutting of trees and shrubs. If your property falls into the area defined as part of the ravine by the city, you are not allowed to remove any trees or shrubs without permission from the city – regardless of their size. The 10" diameter rule does not apply to ravine properties. The bylaws came into effect in 2002 to help prevent erosion and to try ensure soil stability. They were recently updated. For the most recent updated information please go to the city website – at <http://www.toronto.ca/trees/ravines.htm> On this webpage, there are links to all the critical information including the bylaws and a link to the maps that show clearly which properties and areas fall under the bylaws.

Membership

By Sherry D'Costa Sherry.dcosta@taic.net

All paid members should have received their Valley Directory by now. If you have paid your membership dues for this year but did not receive your directory, please contact Sherry D'Costa.

A big "thank you" to Frank Bowman for co-coordinating and to Sherry D'Costa who has provided her considerable expertise to update the YMVA's membership management software into an easier-to-manage format. This took some extra work but it will make future list management more efficient.

For those of you who have not had a chance to take out a membership for this year, it is not too late. Simply drop your cheque off to 2A Ivor Road payable to YMVA in the amount of \$50.00. Also please include a note with your name, address, phone number and email address. Membership entitles you to a copy of the Valley Directory, a copy of The YMVA's annual report, and voting privileges at the annual general meeting. Perhaps most importantly, your contribution supports the activities and initiatives of one of the oldest and most respected ratepayers' groups in the city.

Valley Crime Watch

By: Penny O'Rourke
Porourke21@rogers.com
416 486-5060



I am happy to report that there have been no valley incidences reported to me since the last newsletter. In a conversation with Wayne Pierce, the crime analyst for 32 Division, he reported no increase in Break & Enters or car theft, not just Hogs Hollow, but surrounding areas, in the last quarter. He recommended GPS units and equipment

should be out of sight when not being used and not to lock glove compartment/consul boxes so that if there is a B & E, thieves don't break it open.

Purse snatching is on the rise. Officer Pierce said people walking slowly from subways through the park or even walking on our streets with groceries (hands occupied) could be an easy target. He felt our park lighting could be updated a little to make it safer. A reminder also, to leave front and back porch lights on. This acts as a deterrent.

Following up on a request made at last year's Annual General Meeting, on a rainless summer evening, a few neighbours (including YMVA members) conducted a review of the status of our Valley's Street lighting. A total of seven city streetlight bulbs need to be replaced. Once this has been taken care of, we believe we will have a better balance between community safety and our much cherished rural character.

Don't forget to contact me if you observe anything unusual related to safety. And of course, please let me know if there are safety/theft issues.

Communications

By: Leanne Lewis
leannelewis@rogers.com

We have changed web servers and web masters. Our new provider is less expensive and more efficient than our former provider. We are just getting up to speed on the new web site management system. However, we anticipate that our site will have been updated by the time you get this newsletter. Over the coming weeks and months the web site will continue to be updated and will be

expanded to include new and helpful information for our neighbourhood so we invite you to periodically check it out. Our web address remains the same at www.hogghollow.net.

A blast email system will be a feature that we can utilize through our new server. This will be an important new communication tool that will allow us to electronically distribute time-sensitive information to YMVA members while ensuring email address confidentiality. We will post a notice on the bulletin board when the system is fully operational so you will know to look for a test email. Also, more information will be provided in the annual general meeting notice letter.

During this transitional time we would like to extend a big “thank you” to Steve Neil our outgoing web master who served the YMVA in that role for several years.

2008 Valley Fair

The Hoggs Hollow High School Musical Fair 2008 was a whopping success! Thanks to all those who attended our fun-filled day. It is your support that makes this day an event to remember. I hope that everyone who attended enjoyed themselves! The Fair is a great way to kick off the summer season after hibernating all winter and it gives us all a chance to reconnect with those neighbours who we don't see during the winter months. It is your support that makes this day an event to remember.

Many thanks are due to all our neighbours who contributed prizes towards our annual auction, your donations were much appreciated. To all those generous people who bid on those wonderful items – thank you, thank you, thank you! The auction is the main fundraiser for the fair and your

participation in the annual auction was again successful in raising enough money to cover the cost of the day with a tidy sum left over. The excess funds will be used throughout the year to fund various N.A.G. organized events. Our whole hearted appreciation also goes to Sherry D'Costa for the bake sale co-ordination and to the many Valley bakers-contributors and volunteers. Recent statistics have been as follows: 2006- \$375 (despite the rain storm); 2007- \$748; and 2008- \$576.

Thank you also to Frank Bowman and the YMVA for their unending support, both leading up to and during the Fair itself.

Last, but certainly not least, thank you to all our committee members for all their hard work! In no particular order: Peter Weiss, Jill Haythornthwaite, Trudy Young, Betty Ann Franssen, Norm Lamarche, Kelly Alkier, Dale Hewat, Alison and Joel Rochon, Sherry D'Costa, Priti Kawale, Susanne Holland, Michele Hopper, Leslie Corrigan, Lauren and Sarah Fisher, Leanne Lewis, Stephanie Coffey and thank you! The Fair would not have been a success without you!



We look forward to the 2009 Valley Fair which will be just as fun. If you would like to help us in this endeavour please contact us soon, we start planning in January!

N.A.G. (Neighborhood Activities Group)

Chris Rosenthal 482-6666

chrisrosenthal@rogers.com

Erin Nella 485-1858 erinnella@hotmail.com

*****Please remember to check the notice boards to confirm times and locations!***

FALL SOCIAL:



Come on out and enjoy a fall evening with your Hogg's Hollow neighbors! For those of you new to the valley, this is a great way to meet your new neighbors. For the rest of us, the evening is a great way to reconnect with friends who scatter in the summer to various holiday destinations.

Date: Thursday, October 30th **Location:** The Miller Tavern, Lounge **Time:** 8:00 to closing

Tickets: \$30.00 per person which gets you a delicious tasting menu and 3 beverages of your choice.

Payment: cash or cheque payable to Hogg's Hollow NAG. Please drop off payment and RSVP to Susanne at 14 Knightswood Rd (485-2218)

KIDS GET INVOLVED:

an initiative by Hogg's Hollow residents that allows the children of the Valley to learn how great it feels to help others.

We all know that we are extremely lucky to be able to live in beautiful Hogg's Hollow and provide a safe and happy home for our children. Unfortunately there are many families unable to give their children the basic comfort of a good home-cooked meal on a regular basis. Let's work together and show our children by example that it is our responsibility to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

In early November children of the Valley will be knocking on your doors to give you a bag and list of dry goods needed by the Food Bank. Please take the time to read the list and pick up some of the items on your next trip to the grocery store. Remember to check expiry dates on canned goods and to not donate anything in glass jars or that needs to be refrigerated. Once all the food has been collected, it will then be taken down to the Food Bank by Valley kids who will spend an evening sorting the food into hampers for the needy.

Watch your mailbox and the notice boards for more details – and please give generously!

Contact: Janna Tatham 482-9862 or jannatatham@hotmail.com

HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE:

Do you and your family love baked goods, but are tired of the same old recipes? Are you invited to a bunch of holiday drop ins and looking for a quick hostess gift? Are you in charge of desserts at a family holiday get-together and looking for a new idea? Then this event is for you! You bake 6-9 dozen of the same cookie and plate them up. Come on out to the exchange to enjoy good conversation while browsing through all the delicious baked goods. You go home with

6-9 dozen of a variety of tasty treats – how simple is that?

Date: Wednesday, December 3rd **Location:** Lynn Richardson's house at 12 St. Margaret's Drive
Time: 8:00 pm
Contact: Lynn 322-7918

KIDS HOLIDAY CRAFT PARTY:

What can we say – bring your kids to an afternoon of quick holiday themed crafts and they will come home with a handful of cute things to decorate your home over the season!

Date: Saturday, December 6th **Location:** Finnish Agricola Church on Campbell, basement
Time: 2:00 - 4:00pm (not a drop off event)
Contact: Kelly Alkier 486-1200 or Stephanie Coffey 544-0087

And new to this event;

USED BOOK DRIVE:

In keeping with the theme of Valley kids helping kids less fortunate than themselves, we are collecting gently-used books. How many books are on shelves in your house that have not been read for more than 6 months? Why are you keeping them? Why not give them to someone who can use and enjoy them? Why not encourage kids to discover the joy of reading and the many places books can take you? Bring your donations to the Kids Craft Party, even if you can't stay!

Contact: Louise Sugar 483-6614

HOLIDAY NAG LUNCHEON:

Before the holiday rush completely sweeps us all away into the party void, let's all get

together for a quick lunch. Bring a favorite dish for all to share and come spend an afternoon with friends. **Everyone** is welcome! **Date:** Tuesday, December 9th
Location: Julie Rao's @ 9 Brookfield Rd.
Time: 12:30 to 2:30
Contact: Jill Haythornthwaite 544-9907

CAROLING AT THE MILLSTONE:

What better way to get in the Christmas spirit than to go caroling? We supply the Salvation Army band to accompany us, sheets with the words to the songs and some hot chocolate and treats. You supply the voices, good cheer and smiles. And who knows, if we sing loud and clear enough we might even summon a special guest from afar...

Date: Tuesday, December 16th **Location:** Millstone Parkette
Time: 7:00 pm
Contact: Brett LaGamba 486-2102

VALLEY BOOK CLUB:

Please join your neighbors once a month for a fun social gathering and a lively discussion of an interesting book. Group members will select the books and take turns moderating and/or hosting the session – so try to have a book or two in mind to suggest to the group.

First meeting: Wed. Oct 22 @ 12:30 pm
First book: "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen
Contact: Perry Lupyrypa 433-3871 or at perryanne@sympatico.ca

DINNER CLUB:

Want to meet some more of your neighbors? Do you like to try new recipes with good conversation? Then check out the separate sheet following the NAG events for more

information on this great Hogg's Hollow club.

Contact: Trudy Young 481-6905

MOM & TOTS GROUP:

Feeling a little babied out? Looking for some adult conversation without having to worry about finding a baby sitter? Then this group is for you. Come join Valley moms with their young children. Members will take turns hosting and at the first meeting we'll decide on upcoming dates and locations.

First meeting: Friday, October 3rd **Time:** 9:30 to 11:00 am

Location: 20 Green Valley Road **Contact:** Jennifer Fortier 480-1100 or jennifer.fortier@rogers.com

SKATING RINK:



Calling all those back yard hockey stars and figure skaters! Winter is fast approaching which means that Brookfield Park will soon be home to our outdoor rink. In order for everyone to enjoy the rare pleasure of skating on an outdoor rink, we need volunteers to look after it. Please contact us if you or someone you know can help – remember that many hands makes short work!

TEEN EVENTS:

Calling all Valley Teens – now is your change to be heard and to plan a

neighborhood event of your choosing! Please come to a meeting on Sunday, October 19th at 4:00pm at 44 Donino Ave. Hope to see you there! **Contact:** Perry at 433-3871 or perryanne@sympatico.ca

WELCOMING COMMITTEE:

This committee is headed by Susanne Holland (485-2218) and Trudy Young (481-6905) and exists to help new neighbors make a smooth transition into Valley life and all it entails.

Please feel free to call either of them at the above listed numbers, or call your street representative directly if you have any questions or concerns about Valley goings on:

Brookfield Rd: Christine Acconcia 480-0623
Campbell Cres: Morag Fitzgerald 485-3320
Donino Ave: Dale Hewat at 487-1039
Donino Ct: Dale Hewat
Donwoods Dr (flat section):
Trudy Young at 481-6905
Donwoods Grove: Pam Spence 322-0037
Green Valley Rd: Albina Huang 488-7248
Ivor Road: Kelly Alkier 486-1200
Knightswood Rd: Susanne Holland 485-2218
May Tree Rd: Helen Wong 489-8258
Plymbridge Cres: Louise Sugar 483-6614
Plymbridge Rd: Louise Sugar
St. Margaret's Dr: Lynn Richardson 322-7918
Winton Rd: Brett LaGamba 486-2102
York Valley Cres: Helen Wong 489-8258
Hedgewood Rd - Laura Pryde 488-0218

Have a great Fall everyone!

VALLEY DINNER CLUB

Once again, due to popular demand, we are organizing the Dinner Club . It's all very simple and you don't need to be a "gourmet" cook. **All newcomers to the valley, this is your opportunity to meet new couples in the valley.**

Format

4 couples get together every 2nd month starting in November or December and alternate dinners at each other's homes.

The host couple chooses a dinner theme (optional) and supplies the main course. Other couples bring Hors D'Oeuvres, first course and dessert and a bottle of wine.

It is a great way to meet new neighbours, get to know long time residents and have a lot of fun!

Suggested Dinner Dates

- November 2008
- January 2009
- March 2009
- May 2009

Get Cooking and Have Fun!

----- cut and drop off at: -----

97 Donwoods Drive
BY OCTOBER 15TH

OR FAX TO: (416) 481-7564

Name: _____

E-mail address _____
(please print)

Phone # _____

Address _____

Preferred nights _____

Special requests _____

Please identify food allergies or religious restrictions _____