



The Sherwood Forest CRIER for April 2024 Newsletter of the [Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association](#)

SFNA Wins Columbia Council of Neighborhoods (CCN) Annual Award (From our President):



The CCN (representing 117 neighborhoods) held their annual awards banquet last night. I'm delighted to announce that Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association's "**Forest Friends**" program won the award for **Best Program of the Year!** The award details follow:

"This Neighborhood embraces the culture of an Urban Forest and advocates for tree preservation and wildlife management. For two years, they have hosted an annual tree giveaway. Approximately 20 trees are provided each year at a cost less than \$200 to the association. Neighbors are asked to apply, are given advice on the most suitable trees for their yard, provided instructions for planting and care, and have trees delivered on National Arbor Day. Participants frequently express their delight and gratitude for a program that provides roots for the future residents. The neighborhood has built a symbiotic partnership with the USC Belser Arboretum, and they partner with SC Native Plant Society to acquire native trees at low cost."



Congratulations to Valerie Marcil and all the neighborhood volunteers that made this program so successful! Click [Here](#) for more information about the Forest Friends program.

Forest Friends:

If you didn't plant a tree last fall, you still have time this spring, but don't delay! If you want a nice selection of native trees, shrubs and perennials, check out the Midlands Spring Native Plant Sale, Saturday, April 13 at Canoeing for Kids. Use the QR code on the flyer to see the extensive list of plants that will attract pollinators and birds! Be a Forest Friend and plant natives that support our ecosystem; provide shade, shelter and food; and help to improve our water quality.

Midlands Spring Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 13, 2024

WHERE: Canoeing for Kids
114 Riverchase Court, Lexington SC

Volunteers Needed!
Email mnpsplantsale@gmail.com

The City of Columbia is offering **free compost** Saturday morning, April 6. Click [Here](#) for details.



Branding Task Force: Thanks to your neighbors serving on the SFNA Branding Task Force and in particular, Lani Stringer and David Johnson for their huge assistance in designing the new Sherwood Forest brand logo and gateway sign. We're on track to get the first gateway sign installed by the end of May.

Sherwood Forest Safety & Security: Please report incidents of vandalism and trespassing in the hood to your Block Captain and our assigned officer, MPO David Gibb, Resident Patrol Officer (Lance Corporal) MPO, Columbia Police Department (Southeast Region):

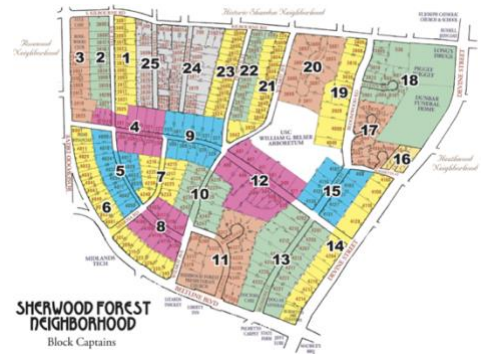
David.Gibb@ColumbiaSC.gov

803-737-5895 (day cell)

www.ColumbiaPD.net

USC Belser Arboretum Book Club Meeting Sunday, April 14th: *A Parrot Without a Name* by Don Stap and discussion with John Cely. We'll meet in the Outdoor Classroom at 3pm. For details about this book, the author and our moderator, John Cely, click [Here](#).

Block Captains Needed: We all so appreciate the willingness of 17 neighbors to take on the leadership of serving as a block captain. Their dedication supports the well-being of all in Sherwood Forest. Note that the map identifies 25 zones. So, some of our neighborly pals are covering more than one Zone, and some zones are not currently covered. I'm confident we can find eight more Sherwood Forest residents willing to dedicate approximately an hour a month. Contact Pat Mason for details: pmason@carolinliving.com



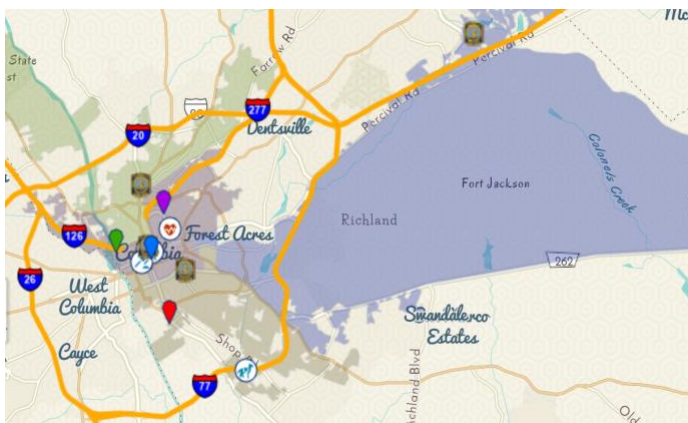
Artist Friends:

With Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association now being re-certified by the IRS as a 501c.3 non-profit, watch-out for Larry Hembree and our 23 artistic neighbors to produce a new era of arts engagement in Sherwood Forest. If you would like to get involved, please email Larry: Larryhembree1@gmail.com

Doggie Friends:

We salute the Rev. Russell Harless of the Sherwood Forest Presbyterian (ARP) Church who is working with Gail Wojtowicz to “rescue” low land owned by the church for potential creation of a dog park, walking path, pollinator garden and playground. We’re only in the initial investigation/planning stages for these projects, but if you are interested in contributing, please contact Gail: kernalwojo@aol.com

Clean-up Friends: Dave Nelson continues to rally neighbors gathering monthly for 90-minutes keeping the neighborhood tidy. All ages are welcome. Volunteers get instruction, pick-sticks and safety vests. Good deed fun. See the [event calendar](#) on our website for the next scheduled cleanup, along with details about meeting location, what to wear, etc.



GIS (geographic information system) is a tool for gathering, managing + analyzing data. Maps are created through GIS software (like ArcGIS, Google Earth + more) to analyze physical locations and organize layers of info into visualizations in the form of maps + 3D scenes. Simply put, really cool virtually layered maps.

- **City of Columbia** has a [website dedicated to GIS](#). Find a mapping of Columbia landmarks, parks, fire stations + more.
- **Richland County** has its own [website dedicated to GIS](#), too. Their website allows you to see land parcel data, voting districts, schools, libraries, police stations, wetland areas + more – all in HD panoramic or high-resolution aerial photos.

Have You Paid Your Annual SFNA Dues?

If you haven't yet, please pay your \$20 dues. If you're not sure, send a text or email (henryn215@aol.com) and our treasurer will let you know your status. And, now that we are a 501(c)(3) organization, you may be able to deduct it as a charitable donation.

Your \$20 pays for parties, events, signage, doggie poop bags, the gardens outside of the arboretum, Forest Friends free tree distribution, web & domain fees, and other such costs. You can send or deliver a check to Henry Nechemias, Treasurer, 4 Robin Hood Ct. 29205, pay through PayPal or set up an automatic annual payment also through PayPal: [Pay Dues Online - Sherwood Forest Neighborhood - Columbia SC](#)

[What are the benefits of membership?](#)

[Join the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association](#)