



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

**Quarterly General Meeting Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> — Special Guest Speaker:** *Clint Shealy*, Assistant City Manager for [Columbia Water](#), will provide an overall update about key issues and initiatives for the City's water and wastewater utility. Topics will include an update on the recovery of the Columbia Canal, water quality news, and customer service improvements. Please plan to join us for this informative briefing.

Join us at the Sherwood Forest ARP Church from 6:30 – 7:30 pm or on Zoom. Door opens by 6pm to allow for set up and collaboration. Please bring a snack to share. [Click here for the meeting agenda.](#)



The Weaver Realty team and Prime Financial Services is a certified Business Friend of the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association.



**Sherwood Forest Gateway Sign Dedication!**

Arrive early @ 6:15 for the Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting and pose for a photo around our new gateway sign in front of the Sherwood Forest ARP Church. Bring the kids! Thanks to Jeff Amberg for volunteering his expert photographic services.

**Forest Friends: Three Easy Ways to Make Your Yard Forest Friendly**

Want to find out how friendly your yard is for birds and other wildlife? Want some tips on how to make it more so? Looking for ways to immerse kids in the wonders of our natural world, right in your own yard? All while improving wildlife corridors and water quality?! Here are three easy programs that can provide you with a quick glance at how well your yard stacks up in the wildlife and water quality categories. Each program has useful information and gives you easy ideas for making your yard more “forest friendly.”

Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association is working to become a certified Neighborhood Wildlife Habitat, so let us know if your yard is already certified by one of these three programs! Certification requirements are similar for all three, so if you qualify for one, it should be easy to qualify for the others!

- **Carolina Yards** – certification from Clemson Extension  
<https://www.clemson.edu/extension/carolinayards/action/index.html>
- **Palmetto Wildlife Habitat** – certification through the National Wildlife Federation  
<https://www.scwf.org/habitat-landing-page>
- **Watershed Champions** – certification through the Gills Creek Watershed Association  
<https://www.gillscreekwatershed.org/Watershed-Champion>

Contact Valerie Marcil ([vallg29205@gmail.com](mailto:vallg29205@gmail.com)), Pat Mason ([pmason@carolinainliving.com](mailto:pmason@carolinainliving.com)), or Regina Monteith ([reginamonteith@gmail.com](mailto:reginamonteith@gmail.com)) to share your accomplishments or get more information.



**HELLO! We live in a forest ~~~** and fallen trees could happen to your family like this on Kalmia Drive next to the USC Belser Arboretum. Neighbors saw this 70+ year-old Oak slowly succumbing to gravity after an abundance of recent rains.

So, what to do when trees fall on the right-of-way and your street?

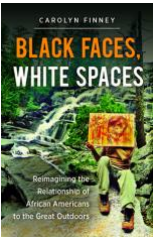
1. During daytime hours, call Officer, David Gibb, IV, Sherwood Forest Resident Patrol Officer (Lance Corporal), Columbia Police Department (Southeast Region) 803-737-5895, [David.gibb@columbiasc.gov](mailto:David.gibb@columbiasc.gov).
2. Alternately, the 911 team will be helpful. Call 803-252-2911 for non-emergencies.
3. Should you want to add or replace a tree on your property for zero cost, click [HERE](#) to select a tree.

Know that city resources will cut and remove fallen tree parts from public land. Homeowners are responsible for all cleanup on their property.

#### **USC Belser Arboretum:**

All are invited to Arboretum Open House, the 3rd Sunday of every month, 1-4 p.m. Gates open at 4080 Bloomwood Rd. and on Wilmot Dr. just west of Duncan. Open weekly for visitors and volunteers: Wednesdays & Saturdays: 9 a.m. - Noon, Thursdays: 4 p.m. – dusk. Weather and work schedules may change these times. Contact Us: [arboretum@sc.edu](mailto:arboretum@sc.edu).

The July Issue of the [W. Gordon Belser Arboretum newsletter](#) is now available. To join the mailing list for upcoming newsletters click [Here](#).



**Book Club at the Belser Arboretum** Sunday, August 25, 3 p.m.

*Black Faces, White Spaces* by Carolyn Finney; Discussion with Tameria Warren.

[Details and Registration.](#)

#### **Your Sherwood Forest Branding Task Force:**

- Celebrates our second Neighborhood Improvement Program grant for \$1500 from Richland County Planning & Development in support of our gateway beautification signs.
- The Sherwood Forest Business Friend enrollment campaign rolls forward with planned meetings to introduce owners of Dunbar Chapel and Piggly Wiggly to the benefits. If you can nominate a business owner, [let Pat Mason know](#). Think: major vendors like plumbers, HVAC, landscapers, roofers. Then, brick and mortar businesses: dentists, veterinarian's, restaurants, chiropractors, dog groomers, etc.

#### **Your Sherwood Forest Block Captain's are Alive ... and**

- Finding a couple of hours a month (amidst their busy lives) to lead, serve and engage.
- Listening for their Zone neighbors' comments and suggestions.
- Inviting you to join and renew.
- Showing up at Quarterly Meetings with your cheers and concerns.
- Being there should you need a friendly chat.

Let's support their efforts and give 'em some personal recognition. Connect via the block captains list on our website: <https://sherwoodforestneighbors.org/documents/block-captains>

THANKS!

### **SF Dog/Pocket Park:**

We have written a planning grant request for \$5,000 from the Columbia Youth Climate Action Fund. It will be part of the \$50K City initiative to engage youth in climate solutions, sponsored by Bloomberg Philanthropies. Thanks to Scout leaders Kirby Shealy and Craig Perry for their willingness to engage their troops in this reclamation/recreation/tree planting project in conjunction with the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association and the Sherwood Forest ARP Church.

### **National Night Out, August 6<sup>th</sup>**

National Night Out (NNO) is a nationwide event held each year on the first Tuesday in August. The Shandon Neighborhood held its first National Night Out event in 2009 and has continued to host the event each year. The event is held at Sims Park where ice cream and hot dogs are served. The event is free to residents and is organized by the Shandon Neighborhood Council and made possible by business and individual donations. City leaders, state and local representatives, members of law enforcement, and safety personnel usually attend. The purpose of the event is to encourage neighbors to come together to show their support against crime. Sherwood Forest has elected to not hold an outdoor NNO event due to the extreme heat and humidity in August (NNO was originally started by northern states). However, **the Shandon Neighborhood has invited Sherwood Forest residents to join them at this year's August 6<sup>th</sup> event at 6pm in Sims Park.** Sherwood Forest usually holds our night out during our Halloween celebration on October 31<sup>st</sup> on Kalmia Drive (more on that in a future *CRIER*).

### **The City of Columbia wants to hear from you!**

We at Columbia Green know the value of incorporating green spaces into city planning and we know you do, too! The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department is developing a **10-year master plan** to identify current and future needs for recreation programming, parks, greenways, and recreational facilities, and they want to hear from you! Do you think the City of Columbia needs more river access? Better connected greenways? Environmental education programming? Do you have other ideas on how the city can improve their parks and recreation offerings? [Share your ideas with the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department today.](#)

### **Have You Paid Your Annual SFNA Dues?**

If you haven't yet, please pay your \$20 dues. If you are not sure, send a text or email ([henryn215@gmail.com](mailto:henryn215@gmail.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](#)