

Wheelwrighter - June 2023

TreeSmith USA, LLC will be onsite doing cluster tree work on Tuesday, June 27th. TreeSmith USA will be offering residents a 15% discount on tree services on their own properties while they are here. If you would like to schedule tree trimming/pruning at this time, please reach out to:



TREESMITH

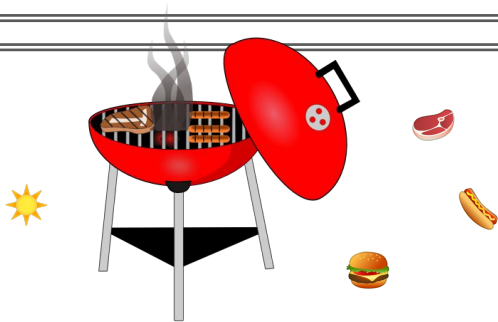
<https://treesmithusa.com/>

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Treesmith USA LLC

(703) 901-9001



On Sunday, July 16th, the Wheelwright Board will be hosting a midsummer cookout for the neighborhood. Location TBD. Look for more details in early July. Don't miss this opportunity to add some sizzle to your summer - we look forward to seeing you there!

PLEASE SLOW DOWN

when driving through Wheelwright Cluster.

There are many small kids in the neighborhood as well as people walking with their pets. No one should be driving more than **10 mph** through the neighborhood. Keep our street safe for everyone!!

Please be sure to clean up after your pets in our neighborhood. Dogs should NOT use the bathroom in people's yards. If an accident happens, you MUST pick up after your pet. **It's the LAW!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Spring Cluster Clean Up at the end of April! Spearheaded by our illustrious carpentry expert, Sandy Mohler and her Mom, Rhea, 8 new benches were built and installed around the neighborhood with help from several members of our community,



the slope by 2231 was mulched



the bus path had a new layer of wood chips spread along the trail,



and of course, last but certainly not least, litter was picked up around the community!

Next Wheelwright Board Meeting is Thursday, July 11th at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. Look for Zoom link on our [Facebook](#) page and [Wheelwright website](#).

The Benefits of Planting Native Plants in Your Yard

We often overlook the immense value that native plants can bring to our yards, choosing exotic and non-native varieties in our quest for a vibrant and unique garden. Yet, the beauty, sustainability, and ecological harmony that native plants offer are second to none. Let's take a moment to delve into the numerous benefits of integrating native plants into your landscaping plans.

- **Low maintenance:** Once established, native plants generally require little maintenance. They do not need fertilizers, pesticides, or extra watering, as they are already suited to the conditions of our area. This can save you time, money, and hassle, as well as protect the environment from harmful chemicals and water waste.
- **Beauty:** Many native plants offer beautiful showy flowers, produce abundant colorful fruits and seeds, and display brilliant seasonal changes in colors. They add variety and interest to your garden, and can create a stunning contrast with your lawn or hardscape. You can choose from a wide range of native plants to suit your preferences and needs, such as trees, shrubs, grasses, vines, perennials, and annuals.
- **Biodiversity:** Native plants support and restore biodiversity by providing nectar, shelter, and food for pollinators, birds, mammals, and insects. They also help prevent the spread of invasive species that can outcompete and degrade the native habitat. By planting native plants, you can create a vibrant hub of wildlife activity, contributing to local biodiversity and offering a daily nature show right outside your window. In turn, many of these creatures assist in pollination and pest control, enhancing the health and beauty of your garden.

Planting native plants is a simple and rewarding way to make a positive difference in our community and the planet. [Plantnovanatives.org](https://plantnovanatives.org) is a wonderful resource for the Northern Virginia area. Additionally, you can use online databases such as Audubon's Native Plants Database or USDA's PLANTS Database to find out which native plants are suitable for our area and which types of birds and animals they will attract. You can also visit local nurseries or garden centers that specialize in native plants to get advice and inspiration.

Fall is widely considered the best time of year to plant native trees, shrubs, grasses, vines and perennials, as they have more time to establish their roots before the summer heat. So why not start planning your native plant garden today? You will be amazed by the results!



Courtesy of plantnovanatives.org

