

APR  
2021

FORT LEE INSIGHTS  
**NEWS & STORIES**



# PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

## Our President's Message



April is a special month for our HMC families as we celebrate the Month of the Military Child. It is a time to honor the sacrifices made by military families worldwide and especially the dependent children of military members serving at home and

overseas. Since 9/11, over 2 million children have had a parent deployed overseas, and some have had a parent deployed multiple times. Military youth of today promise to be some of the most active and involved populations in our nation's history. It is only fitting that we take time to celebrate them in a special way. Thank you to our military families with children who continue to teach and inspire our future leaders.

Best,

John Ehle  
President  
Hunt Military Communities

## Earth Day History

Earth Day was founded in 1970 as a day of education about environmental issues. Earth Day 2021 will be celebrated on Thursday, April 22, which will be the holiday's 51st anniversary. The holiday is now a global celebration that's sometimes extended into Earth Week, a full seven days of events focused on green living. The brainchild of Senator Gaylord Nelson and inspired by the protests of the 1960s, Earth Day began as a "national teach-in on the environment". It was held on April 22 to maximize the number of students that could be reached on university campuses. By raising public awareness of pollution, Nelson hoped to bring environmental causes into the national spotlight.

Fort Lee Family Housing will kick off Earth Day and Spring Planting on April 22, 2021. FLFH will provide the planting pots, crayons to decorate, soil, and seeds. They will be available at your Neighborhood Center on the day of the event. Please post to FLFH Facebook page for bragging rights!

Help Fort Lee Environmental Management Division celebrate Earth Day this year by participating in our Earth Day events! This year's Earth Day theme is "Restore our Earth!"

## Month of the Military Child

April is designated as Month of the Military Child. This is a time to honor the sacrifices made by military families worldwide, with an emphasis on the experience of the dependent children or as we like to call them, our little residents, of military members serving at home and overseas.

Fort Lee Family Housing will be celebrating our little residents by placing purple balloons each week around the neighborhoods. Once a child finds a balloon, they will follow the instructions that are listed on the card that is attached to the balloon. They will have their parents take a photo of them with the balloon and post the picture to our Facebook using the special hashtag provided and tag the property in their post. For each balloon that is found, a goodie bag will be given to the child. The goodie bags will be available at the Welcome Center at 1510 Sisisky Blvd.



### Contact Information

1510 Sisisky Blvd. • Fort Lee, VA 23801

Phone: 804-733-1558

Facebook: Fort Lee Family Housing



HuntMilitaryCommunities.com





**Congratulations to our March Yard of the Month Winners - J.S. Nunley, Jennifer Sifuentes, & Shirali Wilson**

## APRIL EVENTS

### April 1st & 2nd

#### Easter Basket GiveAway

Some bunny thinks you're Eggstra special! To show our appreciation, we are offering free Easter baskets and decorating supplies! We will give Easter baskets, grass, ribbon, and eggs for the kiddos to decorate their Easter basket. Send us a photo of your finished baskets to [fortleefamilyhousingleasing@huntcompanies.com](mailto:fortleefamilyhousingleasing@huntcompanies.com) so we can share on our social media!

### April 2nd - 8th

#### Pet of the Month Contest

We are continuing our Pet of the Month Contest. This monthly contest runs from April 2nd - 8th. Comment a photo of your pet on our Facebook post by April 8th at 11:59PM. One cat and one dog will be randomly chosen to win a \$25 PetSmart gift card!

### April 20th - 27th

#### Yard of the Month

With the weather getting warmer, it's time to get outside and prepare your yard for our Yard of the Month Contest! Comment a photo of your yard on our Facebook post by April 27th at 11:59PM, and seven winners will be randomly chosen to win a \$25 gift card!

### April 22nd

#### Earth Day - Spring Planting Celebration

Help us celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd, 9:00AM to 5:00PM and help beautify our community. Stop by your neighborhood Community Center and pick up your free potting supplies. Included in the supplies are a flower pot, soil, and seeds of your choice.

## Teach Your Children Kindness

Children listen and act the way they observe their parents. They are parrots. They repeat what they hear their parents say because you are their heroes.

Recently, some very bad and disturbing behavior has happened on the playgrounds that has been described as hurtful and wrong. So, remember that your children are always listening even when you think they aren't. Teach your children kindness.

## Spring Cleaning

Spring cleaning is a trademark of starting anew. Even though it is the dreaded backbreaking chore, the benefit is a clear space. Evidence has shown that mess causes stress and that physical clutter in a disorganized room meant there was mental clutter in the mind.

Here are some tips on how you can create your very own stress free space this spring:

Keep it minimal – Nonessential items in our line of vision are stressors and a distraction.

Remedy – Rearrange your spaces to store more items in your closets and cupboards OR get rid of it!!

#### Clean As You Go

This can be the ideal spring cleaning solution for those who hate the prospect of cleaning. Rather than hunkering down one weekend and spending hours doing the job, try picking up, spraying, and washing right away.

Breaking the larger task of spring cleaning into several mini tasks will mean the entire job seems less daunting and mentally exhausting.

## Wear Purple

Since April is the Month of the Military Child, in celebration, Fort Lee Family Housing is having a #WePurpleUpFor Facebook Contest on Purple Up Day on April 16th. This contest will run over the weekend and will close at 11:59 PM on April 18th.

To enter, residents must post a photo in the comments of the contest post of them and their loved ones wearing purple. They must also comment who they are wearing purple for and include the hashtag.

One person will randomly be chosen to receive an Amazon gift card, and they will be announced on the Facebook page on April 19th.

## Congratulations to Our March Pet of the Month Winners

**Twinkie - Owned by Erin Duncan (Dog)**

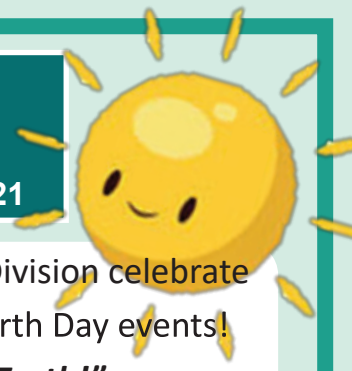
**Sasha - Owned by Brandi Allen (Cat)**

*THEY BOTH RECEIVED GIFTS CARDS TO PETSMART*



# 2021 Fort Lee Earth Day

April 2021



Help Fort Lee Environmental Management Division celebrate Earth Day this year by participating in our Earth Day events! This year's Earth Day theme is **"Restore our Earth!"**



## Children's Poster Competition

**WHO:** Preschool—Grade 6

**WHEN:** Deadline to drop off your poster is April 16, 2021.

**WHAT:** Design a poster on what "Restoring Our Earth" means to you. Most creative poster will win a prize!

**HOW:**

1. Draw, paint, color, whatever you want on an standard 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper.
2. Write on the back of the poster child's name, grade, parent name, & parent e-mail.
3. Drop off your poster at DPW (825 19th St.). Doors are open from 7:00 - 16:00. Collection box will be by front doors.

## Family Clean-up Competition

**WHO:** All families on Fort Lee

**WHEN:** April 19-26, 2021

**WHAT:** Clean-up around your neighborhood with provided trash bags and gloves. Family who collects the most trash will win a prize!

**HOW:**

1. E-mail [dina.t.huynh.civ@mail.mil](mailto:dina.t.huynh.civ@mail.mil) with your name, address, and how many family members are participating. Families must sign up by noon on April 16.
2. Environmental Management Division will take this information and prepare trash bags and gloves to be dropped off at your home on April 19.
3. To be considered to win, you must submit photos to [dina.t.huynh.civ@mail.mil](mailto:dina.t.huynh.civ@mail.mil) whenever you finish your family cleanup! Photos must be submitted before 5PM April 26 to be judged. Please include in the photo your family and trash bags collected.

## Competition Prizes

One winner for each competition. Each winner will receive a family pack of 4 tickets (2 adults and 2 children) to the **Richmond Zoo!** Winner will be announced on the Fort Lee Facebook page and will be contacted by email. \*All photos and posters will be forwarded to Fort Lee Housing and PAO to be posted on the Facebook page. For any questions or concerns, contact: [dina.t.huynh.civ@mail.mil](mailto:dina.t.huynh.civ@mail.mil)

Sponsored By





# Prince George Clean Community Day

## Saturday, April 17, 2021

### 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Sponsored by

**Prince George County and Prince George Extension Office**

**Locations:** (A) Police Department Parking Lot - 6600 Courthouse Road, Prince George, 23875  
 (B) Prince George Convenience Center – 3100 Union Branch Road, S. Prince George 23805

The Prince George Clean Community Day is held for Prince George County residents to dispose of hazardous waste, tires, and certain unwanted items **without charge**. Adopt-A-Highway volunteers will be out on many local roads picking up litter. **Keep In Mind: Improper disposal of hazardous materials and trash is harmful to our environment.**

**For more information: Call the Department of General Services at (804) 722-0775**

## (A) Police Parking Lot Location – Drop Off Items (Below)

### Tires Accepted

- Car and light Truck Tires
- Truck Tires
- Farm tractor and Implement tires

**Industrial tires used on logging and construction equipment will NOT be accepted.**

**ANY SIZE TIRES WITH RIMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

### Paper Shredding

**Bring your old personal documents and papers to shred!**

Shredding will be on site to assist you with a secure way to destroy those old personal files and documents. Paper clips and staples may be left in the papers. NO cardboard, binders, or computer related materials.

### Hazardous Materials

- Oil-based paints
- All Pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodent baits, including weed & feed fertilizers)
- Paint thinners and solvents
- Unwanted fuels (gasoline, kerosene)
- Unwanted household cleaners (oven, drain, floor)
- Chemistry sets
- Photographic chemicals
- Brake fluid

**Please bring materials in their original containers.**

Certain materials **WILL NOT** be accepted such as, (dioxins, kepone, radioactive material, explosives, shock sensitive materials).

**NOTE: Latex paints** can be allowed to dry/harden and then placed with household trash.



*Thank you  
to our local  
sponsors!*

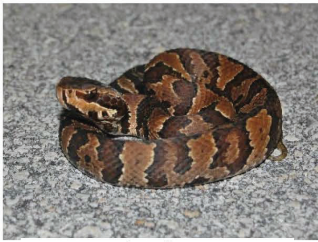


**HEATON'S LAWN MAINTENANCE**  
804-862-LAWN





# Snakes on the base!



Cottonmouth - Chris Petersen

Spring is the first opportunity for snakes to emerge seeking the warm sun rays and a tasty meal. Fort Lee hosts more than **15 species of snakes**, two of which are potentially dangerous. One, the copperhead is very uncommon and is normally found in the woods.

The other, the cottonmouth, or water moccasin, is rarer, only having been seen twice on Fort Lee in the last 10 years, both times along the Appomattox River.



Copperhead – photo: Seth Berry



Garter Snake- Chris Petersen

More common species are the docile black rat snake and its similar, but faster and smoother, black racer. Often found in gardens are the common garter and northern brown snakes.

**The killing of wildlife, including snakes, is prohibited!**



Northern Brown Snake - Chris Petersen

The Public Works Environmental Management Division (EMD) requests your assistance in an ongoing study to investigate a fungal disease that affects snakes. EMD takes skin samples from the snakes. All snakes are released after sampled. The skin test does not harm the snakes.

To help, if you see a snake and you are at a safe distance, take a photo of it in case it slithers away, so EMD can document the species. If possible, contain it in a bucket, pillow case, cooler, or box using a broom or any tool that keeps you a safe distance away. Even non-venomous snake bites can lead to infections and require medical treatment.

We conduct inventories of our wildlife and encourage you to send photos of your observations to assist us in monitoring our flora and fauna. Please tag or send snake, turtle, or other nature photos to **@flee365** on Instagram or emailed to **usarmy.lee.imcom.mbx.lee-nepalee@mail.mil**. **When you see a snake, call:**

Earl Long, Wildlife Biologist 804-765-7667/804-898-9546

Dana Bradshaw, Natural Resources Manager 804-734-5080/804-912-5955

Officer Jones, Game Warden 804-734-7400



Black Rat Snake - Lindsay Eiser



Spotted Turtle – Jacob Spain



North American Racer -Chris Petersen

# Thank you!

### And There's More...

Whatever ends up in your toilet can potentially impact the water environment, so it's really important to keep household wastes such as window cleaners, cosmetics, pharmaceutical products, paint thinners, fats, and fruit labels out of toilets and dispose of them properly. Visit <http://www.wef.org/HouseholdWaste> for a Household Waste Disposal Guide chart.

### Y Todavía Hay Más...

Todo lo que termine en su excusado puede afectar el entorno acuático, por lo que es muy importante no tirar desechos domésticos, como limpia cristales, productos farmacéuticos no usados o caducados, diluyentes para pinturas, grasas y etiquetas de fruta, manténgalos fuera del excusado y los desagües y deséchelos adecuadamente. Para obtener más información visite <http://www.wef.org/HouseholdWaste>.



 **Water Environment Federation**  
the water quality people®  
601 Wythe Street  
Alexandria, Virginia  
22314-1994 USA  
Tel. 1-800-666-0206  
Fax. 1-703-684-2492  
[www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org)

HS1808

# It's a Toilet, Not a Trashcan!



# ¡Es un Excusado, No un Basurero!



## Some Things Just Don't Belong in the Toilet...

Toilets are only meant for one activity, and you know what we're talking about! When the wrong thing is flushed, results can include costly backups on your own property or at your local water resource recovery facility. Flush only the 3Ps - pee, poop and paper, toilet paper that is. **Remember, your toilet is NOT a trashcan.**

## Hay Cosas que No Deben Desecharse en el Excusado...

Los excusados están diseñados para una sola actividad, ¡ya sabe a qué nos referimos! Cuando se desechan otras cosas, los resultados pueden incluir acumulaciones costosas en su propiedad o problemas en la planta local de tratamiento de aguas residuales. Es por este motivo que el uso correcto de los excusados tiene tanta importancia: sólo para desechar sus desperdicios corporales a la planta local de tratamiento de aguas residuales.

### Don't rush to flush any items like:

- Baby wipes and diapers
- Rags and towels/paper towels
- Cotton swabs
- Syringes
- Candy and other food wrappers
- Clothing labels
- Cleaning sponges/wipes
- Toys
- Plastic items of any description
- Aquarium gravel or kitty litter
- Rubber items such as latex gloves
- Cigarette butts
- Sanitary napkins
- Hair
- Underwear
- Disposable toilet brushes

### No tire al inodoro:

- Pañales y toallitas para bebé
- Trapos y toallas
- Hisopos
- Jeringas
- Envoltorios de dulces y otros alimentos
- Etiquetas de ropa
- Esponjas
- Juguetes
- Toda clase de artículos plásticos
- Gravilla de acuario o arena para gatos
- Artículos de hule como guantes de látex
- Colillas de cigarrillos
- Toallitas sanitarias
- Cabello
- Ropa interior
- Cepillos desechables para limpiar inodoros

### Sewer Overflows Are a Mess— Disposable Does Not Mean Flushable!

Flushing anything other than the 3Ps can create sewer backups in your home and backups in the public sewer pipes or at the local water resource recovery facility. Because you are responsible for your property's sewer pipe, any backups caused from improper flushing will cost you money, too. Increased maintenance of public sewer pipes will cost you money. Even if its label reads "flushable," place the item in a trashcan just to be sure. **It's a toilet, NOT a trashcan— you plug it, you pay for it!**

### Los Desbordamientos de las Alcantarillas Sanitarias Son un Desastre — ¡Desechable No Significa que Puede Tirarse al Excusado!

El desecho de toallas de papel y otros desperdicios en el excusado malgasta el agua y puede crear acumulaciones y desbordamientos del desagüe. Asimismo, se pueden crear acumulaciones que lleven mucho tiempo reparar en la tubería del desagüe público y en la planta local de tratamiento de aguas residuales, y los costos que ello genere se pueden cargar a los consumidores. Aun cuando la etiqueta del producto diga flushable ("desechable en el excusado"), es más seguro y correcto para el ambiente desechar dicho artículo en el basurero. Y como los propietarios de la vivienda son responsables de las tuberías del desagüe de su propiedad, el uso inadecuado del sanitario puede costarle dinero. **¡Si usted lo atasca, usted lo paga!**

