



Carleton Square

CARLETON CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION (CCC) 38

NEWS & VIEWS

AUGUST 2024

INSIDE:

Updates

Features

News & Views

Board Notes

Around the Square

🔄 UPDATES: ANNIVERSARY

Carleton Square is Celebrating Its 50th Anniversary This Year!

That's right, back in 1974, the first units in Carleton Square saw owners for the first time. Since then some of you stayed here, some of you moved away then returned, some were even born and raised here. No matter who you are, this is a big occasion for Carleton Square.

So we're celebrating that with a big party on Saturday, August 24. The website has all the details, and more will be sent out via email this week and will be posted to the recycling sheds as well. We would love to see all your smiling faces to help us celebrate this huge occasion.



🔄 UPDATES: EVENTS GROUP

This newsletter will be going out before the 50th Anniversary celebration, so please visit the website if you haven't already to learn more about that event. But also know that the Events Group is just getting started and is always looking for members to help with upcoming events.

If you want to join this group, or you have ideas for an event, we really want to hear from you.

Just email events@carletonsquare.com and let's get planning to have some fun.



This is a reminder that owners are responsible for plantings in their yard and the area approximately two to three feet in width from the exterior of the unit owner’s fence.

The Landscaping and Gardening Bylaw includes:

Front Lawn Areas

- The area between the front of each house and the sidewalk may be regarded as an area for which the owner should accept horticultural responsibility (grass cutting excluded).
- (This) also applies to an area approximately two to three feet in width from the exterior of each unit’s fence.
- Owners may plant bushes not trees.

If you don’t want to take care of these areas, please consider replacing them with grass. The landscaper is not responsible for weeding but will cut the grass outside of your fence.

Garden News



In addition to the hogweed found near the tot lot earlier this month there are several other invasive species in the square.

Invasive species are not simply weeds, they are a threat to the plants and trees in the common element BUT also your gardens. See [Managing invasive species in Ontario](#).

Restricted Invasive Species

In Ontario, it is illegal to import, deposit, release, breed/grow, buy, sell, lease or trade restricted invasive species.

If you need help identifying plants or want help to remove them, contact the Gardening Group at gardenccc38@gmail.com.

Dog-strangling Vine

Dog-strangling vine is the newest invasive species in the Square.

Last week the Garden Group removed two large garbage bags of dog-strangling vine from the roses planted beside the pool gate.

It starts with a single plant but quickly spreads and has been found in several locations both in the common element and yards. Dog-strangling vine is difficult to control. The best tactic is to remove them as soon as possible, particularly now as they are going to seed.

- The plant grows up to two metres high and smothers other plants, shrubs and trees.
- Removal is quite difficult once established.
- Ideally, digging out the root of a first year established plant will prevent spread. The entire root must be removed.
- Plants can re-sprout from any remaining rootstock.
- The stem can be cut close to the ground, this will have to be repeated many times as the plant will regrow.
- If the plant can not be removed it is important to remove the flowers or seed heads. A single plant can produce up to 28,000 seeds per square metre.

This plant must be disposed of in dark garbage bags. Do not put them in the compost bin or discard them in natural areas. Discarded flowers may produce seeds.



Continued on page 2



Common Buckthorn (also known as European Buckthorn)

This is another invasive species growing in the square. We removed several large trees and some shrubs a couple of years ago. More have been found in private yards and will be removed.

Because it can affect agricultural crops, [common buckthorn](#) is listed as a noxious weed under Ontario's Weed Control Act. For more information, visit [Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program](#).

How to Identify Common Buckthorn

- Buckthorn is usually the first shrub to leaf out in the spring and the last to drop its leaves late in the fall.
- It often grows two to three metres tall. Occasionally it reaches six metres, with a trunk up to 25 centimetres in diameter.
- Smooth, dark green leaves are finely toothed, 2.5 to six centimetres long, and arranged in opposing pairs along the stem.
- Most branches older than one year end in a short, sharp thorn.
- Flowers have two to six small yellowish-to-green petals.
- Common buckthorn produces clusters of berry-like purple/black fruit in late summer and fall.

If you have either of these plants, need help identifying plants or want help to remove them, contact the Gardening Group gardenccc38@gmail.com.



A big thank you to the garden group and residents for making our common area gardens look so beautiful! Please enjoy this sampling.





Wildlife: Pests or Friends?

We're fortunate to have an abundance of wildlife that calls Carleton Square home, like cottontail rabbits, Eastern grey squirrels, red squirrels, mice, little brown bats, lots of birds, striped skunks and raccoons. Many human/wildlife interactions can be delightful and entertaining. Not so entertaining is when wildlife gains access to our units, gardens and sheds. Here are tips to keep wildlife at bay.

Do Not Feed the Wildlife

This cannot be stressed enough. On any given day, I'll see a squirrel with a peanut, which is obviously from a human-supplied stash. Feeding wildlife will attract not only squirrels, but also larger wildlife that can be very unpleasant to interact with, such as rats, raccoons and skunks. These creatures, as well as mice, can find a way into our homes, gardens and sheds much more easily than you'd think, especially if there's a food supply.

Here are other reasons to not feed wildlife: [Should People Feed Wildlife?](#)

Do Not Leave Garbage in Your Yard That's Accessible to Wildlife

Use garbage cans and compost bins with tight-fitting lids. If an animal can't access a ready food supply, it will move on. If you have space, purchase a sturdy shed to house your waste bins.

Ensure Wildlife Doesn't Have Access to Your Unit

If you have rodents in your unit, please visit [Solving Wildlife Problems](#) at the Rideau Valley Wildlife Sanctuary for safe and effective information about dealing with unwanted wildlife.

While most wildlife situations can be solved easily and cost-effectively using humane eviction techniques, there may be times where you need professional help with wildlife removal or to animal-proof your home. There are wildlife control companies that practice a humane approach and take the best interest of

both the animal and the client into consideration. Visit [Humane Wildlife Solutions](#) at the Ottawa Humane Society for a list of questions you can ask before hiring a wildlife control company.

Another great resource for information on human/wildlife conflicts is the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre. Two great pages there are [Wildlife Problems](#) and [Mice in My House](#).

Do NOT Use Poison

Remember, using poison is risky for pets and non-targeted wildlife. If the unwanted wildlife manages to carry the poison outside, or ingests it and goes outside, it can then become prey for pets and other wildlife, like birds of prey. Truly, there's never a reason to poison an animal—it's inhumane. More information can be found at [The Dangers of Poisoning Mice and Why Exclusion is Safer For Wildlife](#).

We all live in one big connected community at Carleton Square. Small actions, like not feeding wildlife, can go a long way in preventing unwanted human/wildlife interactions.

Tips to Transition Your Outdoor Cat to Being Indoors

The last issue of *News & Views* had an article about how detrimental outdoor cats are to wildlife populations and the risks to the cats themselves. Here are some resources to help transition your outdoor cat to a life indoors:

[Indoor Cats](#)

[How to Bring an Outside Cat Indoors](#)

[It Can Be Done: Transitioning an Indoor/Outdoor Cat to Indoor Only](#)

[Transitioning an Outdoor Cat to Indoor Life](#)

If you're interested in a catio and have space for one in your yard, there are many options to be found for purchase online, or consider building one yourself: [How to Build a Catio For Your Cat](#).





Communication Sub-committee

Website

The website is being updated piece by piece and we are using it for things like the 50th Anniversary event and we will use it for the upcoming AGM in a few months. We are looking for someone with WordPress skills and/or web design skills, so if you have those, please contact us at info@carletonsquare.com or CCC38Website@proton.me and help us make this website better.

Newsletter

We have changed the schedule for the newsletter to better fit with the calendar year. It is still on the 15th of every second month, but we skipped July due to other priorities and summer holidays. So now it will be every two months starting with the August 15 newsletter. If you want to include anything in the newsletter, please make sure that the Communications Sub-committee has your content BEFORE the last day of the month prior to the publication month. Content or inquiries can be sent to info@carletonsquare.com and we'll be in touch!



BOARD NOTES

Pierre Hamel	President
Birgitta Endemann	Vice President
Jody McDonnell	Treasurer
Lori Moore	Secretary

Monica McGahey	Director at Large
David Wituluk	Director at Large
Robert Couturier	Director at Large

How do residents communicate with the Board?

- To contact Noah Johnston at Sentinel Management, email info@sentinelmanagement.com or phone 613-736 7807.
- Residents may drop off a letter at the Administration Building (515 Orkney Private) for consideration by the Board outlining any suggestions or concerns.
- The Board holds a special meeting once each month (not including June, July, August or December) specifically to meet with residents about concerns or proposals they may have. The exact time and day of that meeting will be announced soon as it might change from the time and day it was previously scheduled. Email info@carletonsquare.com to request to attend. A short letter outlining the issue should be emailed or dropped off at the Administration Building in advance.



Carleton Square
CARLETON CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION (CCC) 38

Special thank you to Gary Warnock for creating our lovely new Carleton Square logo!

Be sure to visit carletonsquare.com for events and information

Call for Volunteers

Do you want to be part of an active and vibrant community? That's what Carleton Square is all about. And we want you! Get involved a little or a lot. Meet your neighbours from around The Square!

We're looking to establish volunteer groups, like the current and successful Gardening Group, in other areas, such as:

- Communications and Engagement
- Community Events
- Community Safety and Emergency

What is your vision for our neighbourhood? More social? More beautiful? More inclusive? Safer? More transparent?

You can help make it a reality by volunteering for any (or all) of these groups — or even suggest some that we haven't thought of yet!

To ask a question or to volunteer, send an email to volunteer@carletonsquare.com or call Arlene Trudeau at 613-266-0315.

Get involved and show you care about The Square!



AROUND THE SQUARE

Fragrance-free is the Way to Be

Please consider that many people have environmental allergies to strong fragrances. Because we live in a close community, it's important to be mindful of our neighbours. Scented dryer sheet fragrances escape through the dryer vents; you may not smell it in your unit, but it's very evident outside. Please consider using unscented dryer sheets or dryer balls.





Pool News

The pool season has been a good one this year, despite the above average rainfall. The upgrades and maintenance during the winter and spring performed well, and we had a lot of use this summer. And we are please to say that we can extend the pool season to the Labour Day weekend! We have been able to confirm a guard for August 29, 30, 31, September 1 and 2. This is all good news, and we invite you all to please enjoy the pool during this last part of the summer.



Lighting

You may have seen holes around some light poles over the course of this summer. Our electricians are working hard to find the complexities of the underground wiring that keeps our common space lights running. The specific paths of the original wiring were never mapped, and working backwards to find some of the faults is complicated. We have a plan going forward and we should have most lights back on the common power source soon, and we may be adding some solar lights in some areas as well. We are awaiting a final report from the electricians, which should come in early autumn at the latest.

Roofs

There was a delay in getting the last phase of the previous roofing contract completed, but they are currently on the job and finishing the last of the units that were listed as part of that contract. We are still looking at other options going forward and doing a more complete inventory of needs and replacement histories so we can better allot time and financial resources to roofs that need to be replaced. There will be more roofing information in upcoming newsletters.

Attic and Basement Inspections

We are still making a decision on the contract information and scope of the attic and basement inspections. As stated previously, for safety and insurance reasons, and for the health of our buildings, we are required to inspect the attic spaces of all units from time to time, and we need to complete this item this year. The reason for adding the basement inspections was the new information we encountered regarding backflow valves found in some units, an item that was undocumented in our plans. We have contracted DSQ Plumbing and Environmental to replace this item in two units, and that work has been completed. We are now looking to cost and propose the replacement of the remaining valves on a phased-in basis. This means that we will be looking at many basements during the attic inspection opportunity to document where and how many of these valves are installed in Carleton Square. This is very important for all owners and residents and your patience with us as we go through this discovery phase is much appreciated.

Cladding Project Update

Most of you attended the Town Hall meeting that we held in late July to review the details of the cladding project. Everything is in place now, and we are moving forward with Phase 1 right now. That will give us a great deal of insight as to what to expect going forward with this project. There will be a page on the website devoted to this project soon that will be able to answer most of your questions, and there are plans to communicate updates of the project starting in September. This is a huge project, and we ask that you have some patience with us, your neighbours, and those doing the work so that we can navigate this project as fast and efficiently as possible.

Fences

We now have a complete inventory of all fences around CCC38 and their current condition. Some are in higher degrees of need than others, and we will be focusing on repairing and replacing those as soon as we can. We are currently trying to be prudent with regards to spending in light of the cladding project, so we are looking at a new long-term strategy for fence replacement that will be finalized in future budgets and be more efficient.



Advertise

in the Carleton Square newsletter!

Walk dogs? Baby sit? Shovel walks or weed gardens?

If you have a service you'd like to offer to Carleton Square residents, send the info (including your rate) to info@carletonsquare.com and we'll create an ad for you and place it in the newsletter.

CARLETON SQUARE

NEWS & VIEWS

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome!

If you have something you would like to see covered, please email the editors at info@carletonsquare.com or leave a note at the Administration Building (515 Orkney Private).

Special thank you to Sandra Hamel for volunteering her time and amazing design skills!