



Bigelow Neighborhood Association

BNA Newsletter 8/1/15 - Jay Elder, secretary

I'm sure you've spent the summer devising ways to deal with the extreme sun, heat and dryness. Have you tried taping space blankets over your windows? Tacky, but effective.

The weather has had an effect on a few BNA practices as well.



1. Bigelow Neighborhood Annual Summer Block Party

Usually, we have the BNA block party during the first week in August on Olympia Avenue. This year, because of conflicts and the heat, it will be held

**Sunday September 13 from 3 - 6 PM
at the Bigelow Springs Park**

- Tables, chairs, umbrellas and food will be set up on Quince Street above the park, since this is the only level ground. Bigelow hill (the street) will be closed to traffic.
- As usual, hamburgers, hot dogs, non-alcoholic beverages, plates and utensils will be provided. Please bring a desert, salad, snack or beverage of your choice
- A car shuttle will bring anyone from their house to the party, if they have trouble getting to the top of the hill.
- If you already have a BNA membership card (\$10 individual, \$20 family), you get in free. If not, picnic admission also buys you a membership (\$10 individual, \$20

family). If you want to get a membership card ahead of time, contact our treasurer Barb LaForge at blaforge5@gmail.com.

2. Bigelow Springs/ Bigelow House Matching Grants

In the last newsletter, I told you that two of our matching grant applications were approved by the City. One (≈\$1400) will have goats eat away the blackberries behind the Bigelow House, and then we'll dig out the roots and plant an orchard. The other (≈1300) has us leveling the Bigelow Springs Park lawn with dirt, planting grass seed and installing new gardens.

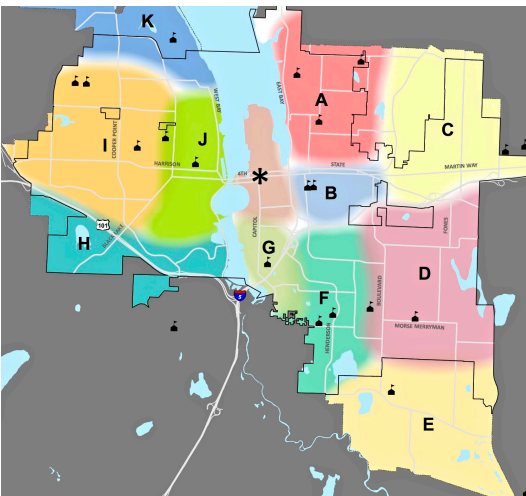
Two things have postponed these projects until September. The weather has been too hot and dry to plant anything, and the paperwork to allow us to actually draw funds didn't come out until last week. So, starting in the last half of September, we'll begin having volunteer work parties on Saturdays to get these projects done.

3. Vice Presidency Open

You've probably had enough of politics already. But because of personal conflicts, our vice president Tim Walker had to bow out a few months ago. So at the picnic, we need to elect another VP for the next year (it's a 2-year office). What are the duties? Attend BNA board meetings (about once every 2 months), attend pertinent Planning Commission meetings (about every 3 months), head up neighborhood projects of your choice. Interested, or know someone who would be good? See you at the picnic!



4. NONA



An experiment in City governing is being tried right now, and the BNA is one of the guinea pigs. It's called sub-area planning, and gives groups of neighborhoods more influence in determining how City funds will be spent on their areas (sidewalks, paths, and streets, safety, parks, code enforcement, etc). ONNA (Olympia Northeast Neighborhood Alliance) is sub-area A (see map at left), and includes the BNA, East Bay Drive NA, Bigelow Highlands NA, Upper Eastside NA, and Northeast NA. It's the first and only group so far, and what we do will be a pattern for future sub-area groups. I'll put more about this on our website. I am our representative.

<http://www.thebigelowneighborhood.com>