

# BELLA VISTA NEWS

SUMMER 2019  
SPECIAL ISSUE

## BELLA VISTA NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION

a Registered Community Organization

Bella Vista Neighbors Association (BVNA) serves residents of Bella Vista, which is bounded by 6th and 11th Streets, and South Street and Washington Avenue. BVNA encourages civic involvement, provides a neutral and public discussion forum, preserves and augments our institutions and character, supports the delivery of government services, and promotes dialog with elected officials. We are an independent and nonprofit registered community organization (RCO).

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# CLEANING AND GREENING

By Ali Perelman,  
BVNA Beautification Committee

Welcome to the special Cleaning and Greening issue of the Bella Vista Neighbors Association newsletter!

This topic-specific issue—the first BVNA has ever done—was borne out of an interest in accomplishing two principal goals. First, we wanted to share stories and insights about a set of topics that matter to our neighbors, including litter, recycling, waste management and, most importantly, our neighborhood-powered sidewalk sweeping program. Additionally, we challenged ourselves to find a new way to raise much-needed funds to support our sidewalk sweeping program; this special edition newsletter does exactly that.

As is the case with all BVNA newsletters, this issue is made possible by the advertising support of the local businesses you'll find inside. Let's use the occasion of their investment in our sidewalk sweeping program (Spoiler: we collected over 10.61 tons of garbage in 2018!) to support these businesses. Not only do these businesses support our neighborhood, but many business owners are also our neighbors.

Sidewalk sweeping is a program of the BVNA Beautification Committee. For years, community members expressed an interest in the organization doing more to help neighbors maintain clean and litter-free streets. Some of you live on blocks that manage their own micro-sweeping

See **CLEANING AND GREENING**, page 1



Thank you to all our neighbors who joined the effort to clean-up Bella Vista on April 6.

## CLEANING AND GREENING, continued from page 1

programs. On the whole, however, prior to our sidewalk sweeping program getting off the ground, many of the blocks in Bella Vista didn't enjoy regular sidewalk and curb cleaning.

The BVNA Beautification Committee, which is tasked with helping maintain a clean and green neighborhood, endeavored to find a solution to this problem. Last April, after much planning and fundraising, we launched sidewalk sweeping in Bella Vista. The project was a success—you'll learn more about what we were able to accomplish in this issue—and following another round of fundraising, was relaunched in April of this year.

It is, of course, fair to ask whether a basic service such as sidewalk sweeping ought to be outsourced to a volunteer-run neighborhood association; I'd argue it isn't, but until there is a scalable citywide solution, we'll step in to fill the gap.

We've packed a lot into this issue, and I hope it helps inspire some new strategies you can use to keep Bella Vista beautiful. ♦



Before and after sidewalk and curb sweeping by ACAM

## BELLA VISTA SIDEWALK AND CURB SWEEPING REPORT

BVNA is excited about the success of our clean-up program in 2018. Through the generosity of neighbors we were able to keep the crews of Acam Management, our service provider, busy cleaning the sidewalks, curbs and storm drain inlets after garbage and recycling collection day.



Donations

**\$23,884 RAISED**  
from the community



2018  
(one-year contract)

**\$19,665 PAID**  
for 9 months of sidewalk  
and curb cleaning



1014 bags

**44,616 GALLONS**  
of garbage collected  
in 9 months



Going the  
Distance

**100.9 MI. CLEANED**  
5.3 mi./wk in 2018



Priceless

**\$0.44/GALLON**  
of garbage collected

*\$5,000 raised but not spent was carried over into 2019,  
which was critically needed to restart the program*



### BELLA VISTA SIDEWALK AND CURB SWEEPING COVERAGE AREA

*The sweeping program is entirely funded by neighbors, we  
need \$30,000 for weekly cleaning in 2019, so #givegivegive*

# A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED TO INAUGURAL YEAR OF THE BVNA CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

## **Founder: \$1,000+**

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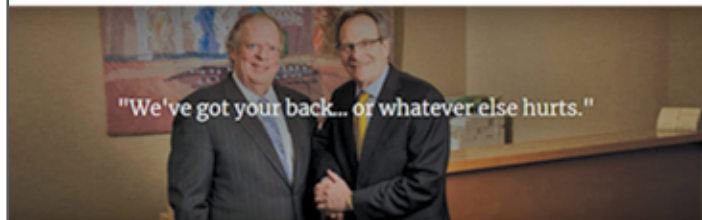
Reduce the production and packaging of new things by joining a *Buy Nothing* group. Bella Vista residents can participate in *Buy Nothing - Old City/Washington Square West/Bella Vista*; and *Buy Nothing - Passyunk Square/Italian Market/Pennsport*. Join on Facebook, then find gently used items you need from neighbors, and offer the gently used things you no longer want to neighbors.



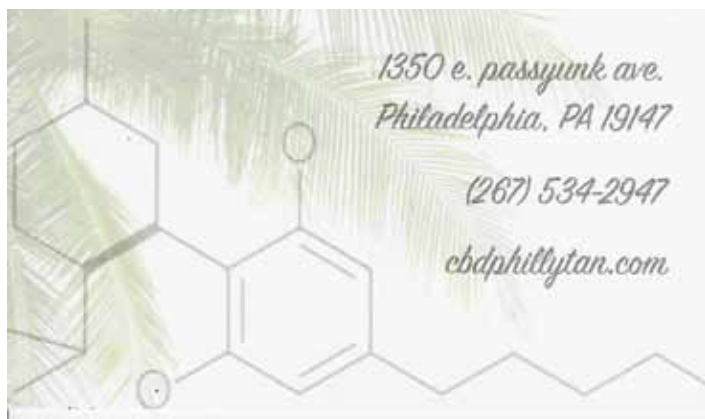
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# IT'S ALWAYS GREEN IN PHILADELPHIA

By Julie Hancher

To live a sustainable lifestyle, you don't have to keep all of your trash in a mason jar or make sacrifices. After all, we often share the benefits of living sustainably on Green Philly: whether it's losing a few pounds from biking or walking, building relationships with local makers at Farmers Markets or being lazier from less trips to the trashcans.

Here are some ZERO WASTE tips you can incorporate TODAY:

- ✓ Bring your own bag to the store. Keep a few stashed by your door, in your car or the office to form a habit.
- ✓ Bring your own containers for bulk aisle items. Essene, Sprouts, MOMs and Whole Foods all have fantastic bulk sections. You'll save money and packaging, plus prepare meals and snacks from whole ingredients.
- ✓ Refuse what you don't need. Minimizing the number of tools in the kitchen (who needs an avocado peeler anyway?!) and extra "stuff" will help keep things less cluttered and more organized.
- ✓ Support local businesses. Did you know that almost 3x as many dollars stay in the local community when you shop locally instead of online or at big box stores? (An estimated 45% stays locally versus 9%, according to Forbes.) Plus, you'll build relationships, and reduce emissions and packaging when you shop locally.
- ✓ Pack a utensil set in your backpack or purse for meals on the go. Whether you invest in a bamboo set of flatware or DIY from thrift store + linen napkin, BYO flatware to avoid plastic.
- ✓ Dine in instead of takeout. We all love the temptation of Netflix and the couch, but you don't use disposable takeout containers when you dine in locally. Plus, you'll avoid the distractions of laundry and other chores around the house.

- ✓ Bike, walk or take public transit. Bella Vista is conveniently located with businesses and services close by to meet nearly every need. Plus, you'll avoid traffic and parking hassles.

Find more tips about how to live a sustainable lifestyle at Green Philly, visit [thegreencities.com](http://thegreencities.com).

Julie Hancher is Co-Founder & Editor of Green Philly, a local media company that makes sustainable living easy, accessible and affordable to the region through its website, events and podcast. Find out about local changemakers at SustainPHL on August 8th. And BVNA thanks Green Philly for providing the Philly Recycling Guide on page 6. ♦

## PHILADELPHIA STREETS DEPARTMENT

manages recycling

[www.philadelphiastreet.com/recycling/](http://www.philadelphiastreet.com/recycling/)

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SUNDAY RACLETTE + food & drink 12pm-Midnight

French tavern fare on the corner of 7th & Kater.



# PHILLY RECYCLING GUIDE



EVERYTHING THAT CAN AND CAN'T GO IN THE BLUE BIN.

✓ YES! (CLEAN, DRY and EMPTY)

✗ NO!

PLASTICS



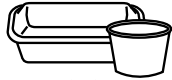
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DETERGENT & SHAMPOO BOTTLES



HARD PLASTIC TAKE-OUT CONTAINERS



SPRAY & PUMP BOTTLES



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PLASTIC BAGS



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PAPERBACK & PHONE BOOKS



PAPER BAGS



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WET OR SOILED PAPER



TISSUES, PAPER TOWELS, NAPKINS



WAXED PAPER PLATES, CUPS & TAKEOUT CONTAINERS



SHREDDED PAPER

CARDBOARD



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CLEAN PIZZA BOXES



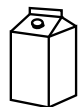
DRY FOOD BOXES



EGG CARTONS (CARDBOARD ONLY)



PAPER TOWEL & TOILET PAPER ROLLS



EMPTY LIQUID (MILK, JUICE, WINE, SOUP) CARTONS

GREASY PIZZA BOXES



RECYCLING PRO TIP

Make sure recyclables are **CLEAN, DRY and EMPTY** to reduce contamination!

GLASS

ALL BOTTLES & JARS



LIGHT BULBS



BROKEN GLASS BOTTLES



PORCELAIN & NON-CONTAINER GLASS

METALS



ALUMINUM, STEEL & TIN CANS



EMPTY PAINT CANS



METAL TRAYS & BAKING DISHES



EMPTY AEROSOL CANS



JAR LIDS & BOTTLE CAPS



ALUMINUM FOIL



NOT RECYCLABLE IN SINGLE STREAM



FOOD WASTE



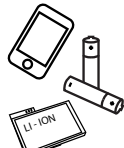
GARDEN HOSES



NEEDLES & SYRINGES



ELECTRONICS & BATTERIES



LI-ION

FOR MORE RECYCLING TIPS LIKE HOW TO GET RID OF ODD ITEMS, HAZARDOUS WASTE OR GET A FREE BIN, VISIT:

[WWW.THEGREENCITIES.COM](http://WWW.THEGREENCITIES.COM)





# TAKE A MINUTE BEFORE YOU RECYCLE

By Amy Cornelius

The US recycling industry took a big hit when China and then Malaysia decided to stop accepting our dirty streams of glass, plastic, metal, and paper. Philly used to offset its total waste bill with the revenue stream from recyclables. No more. Although recycling still costs less than landfilled waste, it still costs the City a lot of money to collect, sort, and find markets for materials collected. Under the new contract ALL recyclables are being processed (not burned) at the Waste Management materials recovery facility (MRF—pronounced MERF). There are a few simple steps we can take to make recycling successful:

- ✓ **Ditch the plastic bags.** Philadelphia recycling does not accept plastic bags. Period. They wreak havoc on the recycling process by getting caught in and fouling up the sorting machines—that is why the city crews are instructed to not pick up any recycling that is in or contains plastic bags. If they are picked up, that load is destined for the landfill and all the work you did to collect recyclables will be a waste.
- ✓ **Ditch the paper bag containers.** Recycling needs to be put loose in solid sided containers that are labeled RECYCLING. Paper bags blow over in the wind and get soggy and break up in the rain, dumping their contents everywhere. City crews are not required to pick up recycling that is put out in paper bags.

- ✓ **Decontaminate your recyclables.** Clean and dry all of your recycled materials so that the entire load stays clean and marketable. One unwashed jar of peanut butter can make an entire load of paper greasy and unusable.
- ✓ **Avoid wishful recycling.** If you are wondering if something is recyclable then it probably isn't. Instead of putting it in the bin and hoping, put it in with your landfill bound waste. Or look it up on the City's website and know for sure.

Philly has a pretty good average recycling rate and it has set an aspirational goal of zero waste to landfill by 2035. To get there we all need to recycle and recycle right.

*Amy Cornelius is a Sustainability Consultant with GreenBeams, working to develop and implement sustainability strategies for residential, small business, not-for-profits that increase energy efficiency and reduce waste. Amy writes a sustainability blog which can be found on: [greenbeams.us](http://greenbeams.us); she can be reached at [amy@greenbeams.com](mailto:amy@greenbeams.com). ♦*

## WHAT TO DO WITH OLD ELECTRONICS

Looking to dispose of that old TV, printer, or microwave? Take it to either:  
**Sanitation Convenience Center: 3033 S. 63rd Street, or**  
**E Force Electronic Recycling: 3114 Grays Ferry Avenue.**  
**REMINDER: electronic waste is not accepted curbside.**



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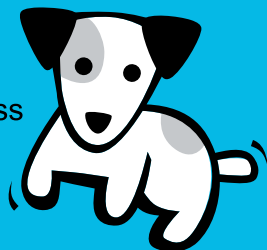
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# LEASH-UP BELLA VISTA

By Carrie Maria

I'm a dog lover. My life revolves around dogs. I make a living working with dogs. As a company we have completed over half a million LEASHED dog walks in the City. And we are HUGE leash advocates. Why?

Let's start with the basics. Dogs are animals. Even if your dog is a wiz at verbal commands, recalls without fail and is and a certified therapy dog, your dog is still an animal. And while you think your dog is predictable, they can be unpredictable, instinctual beings. A car could backfire at just the wrong moment and your dog could bolt into the street. There is a saying in the dog rescue world that "no dog is bomb proof." Meaning, any dog can, and will, act out of character when faced with something scary. Life is unpredictable and leashes keep our best friends safe in those surprising moments.

I sit on the Mayor's Animal Advisory Committee for the City of Philadelphia, and I can tell you without a doubt: it is the law to keep your dog leashed. There's nothing

flashy about this. Leashing your dog makes you a good Philly citizen and you are breaking the law if you do not.

Finally, leashing your dog makes you a good neighbor. The fact is that many people live with legitimate fear of dogs from past trauma or bites. In a public space, they should not face an off-leash animal, even if it's your totally friendly dog. Your dog's freedom is not more important than their right to enjoy a shared, public space. (And I say that as someone who loves nothing more than watching dogs run around like lunatics.) Additionally, dog professionals will tell you that one of the MOST DANGEROUS times for leashed dogs is when an off-leash dog approaches them.

I don't have the word count to go into the behavioral dynamic at play between leashed and off-leash dogs (hint: fight or flight), but trust me that you are much more likely to experience a dog fight in that moment than at any other time. Professional dog walkers know where off-

leash dogs tend to be and avoid these areas at all costs, knowing how dangerous the interactions can be.

Luckily for us there are two off-leash dog parks within easy walking distance for most of us in Bella Vista: Mario Lanza Dog Park: 3rd & Catharine; and Seger Dog Park: 11th and Rodman. These spaces are great for safe, off-leash fun and dog socialization. Be a good neighbor, obey the law, AND protect the safety of your best friend (and other dogs) by leashing them 100% of the time.

Carrie Maria is the Founder, CEO, and Manager of local business Monster Minders, and Founder of The Monster Milers, a non-profit runners club that runs with adoptable dogs sheltered at local animal rescues. ♦

## SCOOP THE POOP

Furry friends are gonna do what they've gotta do. What they can't do is pick up their poo. For this they rely on you!



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# YOU CAN HAVE A CIRCULAR-FREE HOME

By Joe Alkus



Are you tired of having menus stuffed in your door? Sick of getting advertisements for storm windows when you have already renovated your home? You can do something about it. Join the Circular Free Philadelphia program. To become a member of the program you need to register and receive your Circular Free Philadelphia Sticker. The link below gets you started. But having the sticker affixed to your door or window is just the start of making your home circular free. Once you join this zero-waste program you must also help your neighborhood by reporting those businesses that violate the Circular Free Property program.

If you do receive circulars or ads, even with your Circular Free Sticker affixed to your home, you can get violator fined by the City's Licensing and Inspection staff. You need to collect the circulars and either mail them to L&I or take a picture

or scan the circular and email it to L&I at the email address below. You can help stop this annoying, wasteful advertising. Please be sure to indicate the date and time you received the material along with your address, on whatever you send. It is also very important that you make sure whatever you send, clearly shows the name and address of the business or phone number.

Download and complete the form: <https://bit.ly/2WXnagUf>

PLEASE SEND TO:

Via regular mail:

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Circular Free Property Coordinator  
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Via Fax: 215.686.1443

Email: [operationsvending@phila.gov](mailto:operationsvending@phila.gov) ♦

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# BELLA VISTA NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION

A Pennsylvania  
Nonprofit Corporation

Bella Vista Neighbors Association (BVNA) is a volunteer organization. None of our members receive compensation for their service. Your involvement and contributions are essential to our success and the quality of life in our area.

## YES! I support Bella Vista Neighbors Association, Inc.

I am interested in helping as (please check all that apply):

- ☐ Newsletter Sponsor \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Contributor \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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Enclosed is my check in the total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please make check payable to BVNA, Inc.

Mail check and this portion to: **BVNA, PO Box 63955, Philadelphia, PA 19147**

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Please visit [BellaVistaNeighbors.org](https://BellaVistaNeighbors.org)



## BVNA Meetings

### ZONING

**First Tuesdays at 7:30 pm**  
**Palumbo Recreation Center, 10<sup>th</sup> & Fitzwater**

*Open meetings for community input on building and renovation projects requiring variances of the zoning code.*

### PSA 1

**First Wednesdays at 6:30 pm**  
**Santore Library, 7<sup>th</sup> & Carpenter**

*Meeting between police leadership and stakeholders in Police Service Area 1 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. Review of monthly crime statistics.*

### BVNA BOARD

**First Mondays at 7:30 pm**  
**Palumbo Recreation Center, 10<sup>th</sup> & Fitzwater**

*Board of Directors' monthly business meeting.  
All meetings open to the public.*

*Check our website and social media for possible schedule changes:*

[BellaVistaNeighbors.org](https://BellaVistaNeighbors.org)



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE BVNA BOARD PRESIDENT

### Eugene Desyatnik

Welcome to the special summer edition of the Bella Vista News! We hope you find it to be a helpful resource on all things anti-litter, recycling, zero waste, and sustainability. Thank you to our contributors to this issue, each has expertise in their field, and some are neighbors.

I'd also like to thank our neighbors and businesses for continuing to support BVNA's efforts in these areas. In addition to keeping our sidewalks swept and storm drains clear, we also rely on the generosity of neighbors to support BVNA's general operating expenses—such as the website, email,

insurance, our PO Box, and other expenses necessary to keep the lights on and continue to serve the neighborhood. We hope you consider supporting BVNA at whatever level you are comfortable.

We also encourage readers to stop in and express your support for the businesses that have chosen to support BVNA. If you have a business or service, we welcome inquiries about newsletter sponsorship opportunities. The next print edition will be issued in autumn and will be delivered to 3000 households and neighborhood businesses. ♦



Thank you to Wawa, ACAM, Councilman Squilla, and Representative Sims for joining BVNA for our neighborhood clean-up day, April 6.

*BVNA's Beautification Committee reminds us, we are all in this together, our neighborhood is ours to keep nice, so do your part . . .*



Do you get Bella Vista news delivered to your email inbox? No?! Well then . . .

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