

2013  
November

# Bates-Hendricks Newsletter



## 2013 Great Indy Cleanup Goes Well Despite Cold



On a very cold Saturday morning in the last weekend of October, a large number of Keep Indianapolis Beautiful volunteers teamed up with neighborhood resident volunteers to work on a new park, do maintenance work on the School 31 Garden and the adjacent Alabama Street esplanade, work with Paint the Town, and clear trash and weeds from the neighborhood. For the trash pickup efforts, three crews, each with a packer truck in tow, went through almost every street and alley in the neighborhood picking up heavy trash and litter. Mayor Greg Ballard, who has made a very big push over the last few years to clean up the city, kicked off the day's efforts in the morning with a short speech.



This massive effort would not have been possible without the City of Indianapolis, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, the amazing, hardworking people at the Department of Public Works, and all the wonderful sponsors who provided funds to make it all happen. The Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association played a big part in organizing and coordinating all of the projects. And, finally, a big thank you to all the volunteers who came out on this cold morning to help out!

## Save the Date: December BHNA Meeting/Pitch-In

The December 2nd Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association meeting will be our annual pitch-in. The meeting will be at the usual time and place: 6:30pm at Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect Streets. The Neighborhood Association will provide ham, buns, condiments, lemonade, water, utensils, and napkins. Everyone else, please bring a side dish or dessert. Hope to you there!



And don't forget the November 4th neighborhood meeting at Immanuel at 6:30pm!

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## Letter from the President

### Big Neighborhood Events for October & November

It has been a very busy month of October. We have been actively planning (and executing) two very big cleanups, and there was also another Surplus sale held on October 14. This was once again a very successful sale for the neighborhood. Similar to the last auction, all but one property was sold! There is very possibly a point in the near future when we can walk around the neighborhood and not see a single abandoned home!

The Great Indy Cleanup on October 26 was amazing. The cold weather scared off some of the volunteers from outside the neighborhood, but we still had a good showing of Bates-Hendricks volunteers. Even more exciting, we started to see some interest from media outlets. Fox 59, WISH-TV 8, and the Indy Star made their way to our neighborhood to see the amazing things going on in the neighborhood (see our Facebook page – [facebook.com/bateshendricks](https://facebook.com/bateshendricks) – for links). The secret is out, Bates-Hendricks is a great neighborhood with fantastic neighbors!

This weekend we have a unique opportunity to follow up with a second volunteer event. This will be extra special since we were able to focus on cleaning last weekend, now we will be able to focus on beautification this weekend. Northview Church will be bringing volunteers in four different groups: Saturday morning and afternoon and also Sunday morning and afternoon. Over the weekend, we will continue work on creating Baumann Park, paint East Street Church of Christ, plant two new green spaces, and spruce-up the garden at School 31. I hope that our neighbors will accept the second challenge and continue to transform our amazing little place that we call home.



**BHNA President, John Winter**

# Leaf Pickup Season Is Upon Us – November 4 through 30

- Each household is permitted 40 bags of leaves for weekly disposal.
- Place leaves in large plastic trash bags or specially-built large paper lawn-waste bags.
- Place the leaf bags out by 7:00am on your regular trash day.
- Keep all leaf bags at least three feet away from trash carts to ensure DPW trucks can pick them up.
- Make sure sewer inlets and drainage pipes are clear of leaves to avoid drainage problems.

Making your own home compost can be an economical and environmentally prudent way to deal with yard waste. The process produces material you can apply to enrich your soil and promote growth of plants and flowers. Here's how to set up home composting:

- Build your own enclosure to a size appropriate for the amount of yard waste you deal with, or simply form a pile made up of grass clippings, dead leaves, weeds, tree prunings, etc.
- Start with a layer of about six inches of waste.
- Cover with one inch of top soil.
- Repeat layers as needed, adding a small amount of lime or nitrogen fertilizer to each, if you like.
- Make a dish-like area on the top layer and add water to make the mixture about as moist as a squeezed-out sponge.
- Turn the whole pile over weekly, and check the natural heat it generates. The compost is ready to use when the temperature drops.



## Get Your House & Garden Ready for Winter by Greg Allen

Now is the time to dig up any tender bulbs that can't take the winter cold. Gladiolas, Dahlias, Santa Lilies, Elephant Ears, and Caladiums all need to be stored for winter in the basement where they will not freeze. Move Geraniums inside into pots or bare-root them and put them in the basement. You will still have to soak the bare roots about once a week to keep them alive. I leave mine in pots and put them in front of a window where they provide happy, much-needed blooming cheer until spring. I also cut them back, saving the outer 4 inches of each stalk. I brush the bottoms with rooting compound and stick the cuttings in clear plastic cups filled with growing medium. I have already taken over 40 cuttings for next year. And while some die, the ones that live provide a free source of geraniums next spring.

Also, this is probably the most important time of year to treat your lawn for weeds. Right now, I also like to mulch my flower beds deep with chopped leaves. Of all the things used to augment your soil, they are the best and they are FREE. I get them from my yard and from the curbs up and down my street. The ones at the curb are the best because cars have already started mashing them up and they also come with sand, which loosens this heavy clay we deal with in Indiana.

Finally, it's not too late to plant lettuce, carrots, peas, beets, turnips, cabbage, broccoli, kale, and onions. If you don't have cold frames like the ones I have built, use clear storage containers and just place them over the top of any plants you want to protect all winter long. Just remember, on our winter's warmer days you have to remove the containers or at least prop them up so your plants won't overheat. You should be able to harvest wonderful, fresh, and healthy produce out of your garden all winter long if you are careful to protect your plants when they need it. Have a great winter!

# Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association

The Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association strives to improve the quality of life of those living in the neighborhood through efforts to assure safety, to maintain or improve the living environment, and to enhance the spirit of cooperation and neighborliness among all residents. We meet monthly on the first Monday of the month at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect at 6:30pm. Annual dues are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for families, and \$25 for businesses. Please mail dues to Kate Reinhardt, 1407 S. New Jersey Street, Indianapolis, IN 46225. More information about the neighborhood can be found online at [bateshendricks.org](http://bateshendricks.org).



Like Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association on Facebook!  
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**Newsletters Online**  
This newsletter and previous newsletters available online at [bateshendricks.org/news](http://bateshendricks.org/news)

## Monthly Calendar

- Nov 2-3** **Good Neighbor Weekend in Bates-Hendricks!**  
Volunteer to help with a number of landscaping projects and other beautification efforts. For more details on how to get involved, contact John Winter at [president@bateshendricks.org](mailto:president@bateshendricks.org) or just show up at Immanuel United Church (East St. & Prospect) at 9:00am on Saturday and/or Sunday.
- Nov 4** **Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association Meeting, 6:30pm, Immanuel United Church of Christ.**
- Nov 8 & 22** Senior Euchre, The Burrello Family Center at Garfield Park, 1:00pm, Free or \$1 to play in prize fund.
- Nov 14** Afternoon Book Discussion, Fountain Square Library, 1:30pm. Adults are invited to this monthly book discussion program. The book to be discussed is "Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth" by Resa Aslan.
- Nov 19** Family Game Night, Fountain Square Library, 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Families are invited to play a variety of fun and educational board games with their children.
- Nov 22** Tonic Ball 12, Radio Radio/Fountain Square Theatre/White Rabbit Cabaret, \$25. Visit [www.tonicindy.com](http://www.tonicindy.com) for details.
- Nov 28** Happy Thanksgiving!

