

Everything Green!
Bradley Hills Village

Who Is Bradley Hills Village?

- BHV is an intergenerational village
- BHV has more than 70 members
- In 2024 BHV will celebrate its 10th anniversary
- BHV is located in Bethesda near Suburban Hospital



It Took A Village To Grow This Project-Thank you to the leaders!

Triangle Garden

- Caryn and Bob Musil
- Ginny Ingram-Wells
- Pamela Jensen

Garden Events

- Gail Douglas
- Maggie Dittemore
- Bill Primosch
- Phil Hugill

Environmental Interest Group

- Melissa Crown
- Bill Primosch

Walking Group

Claire Munter

Book Group

- Caryn McTighe Musil
- Dominie Nash

And many other committed BHV members

This project is inspired by and in memory of Eva Cohen

The Idea

In 2022 BHV grew the "Everything Green Project" that used the out-of-doors and nature as an organizing theme

Activities organically developed that helped to:

- Increase member engagement
- Attract new members
- Reduce social isolation
- Bring BHV neighbors and members together to care for the neighborhood and community.

What Members Did

- Organized a group to care for a neighborhood garden, replanted with native plants
- Launched an environmental interest group
- Planned walks, neighborhood garden tours, and outdoor events
- BHV Book group read books about nature

What Was Achieved?

• BHV's leadership supported the *Everything Green* project by creating virtual spaces for groups to convene, a reputation for offering welcoming and educational programs, and providing some modest organizational support to the groups. In addition, many of the activities have been grassroots community-based initiatives that have had strong volunteer leadership and reflect interests of village members.

 Taken together these activities provide support to Village members and neighbors who want to be good community stewards and live in a neighborhood that supports aging in place.

What's Next? Building A Village of Engaged Members

- The activities helped reunite members and reminded members how much they can learn from one another.
- We estimate that ten members joined or renewed lapsed membership because of these events.
- Five new leaders emerged from designing and conducting these activities.
- "Everything Green" project is a good model for building a community of engaged members who immediately see themselves as having a positive impact on their community