December 2015 Volume 6, Issue 12



Building a Stronger, More Sustainable Community

The West Colfax Association of Neighbors (WeCAN) is the Registered Neighborhood Association (RNO) for the neighbors who live, work, or own property in the West Colfax neighborhood. WeCAN is a citizens group that meets the second Tuesday of every month, 6:00pm, in the main hall of the Confluence Ministries building, 1400 Quitman.

WeCAN's mission is that together WE CAN provide community support, safety, and education within our neighborhood through volunteerism, proactive programs, outreach, and kindness; all the while preserving our neighborhood's history, unique character, and vast diversity.

The next general meeting is Tuesday, December 8th, 6:00-6:50pm, 1400 Quitman

Agenda:

6:00-6:10 – WeCAN Announcements and Board of Directors elections 6:10-6:20 – Report from Denver Police District 1 Community Resource Officer, Denise Gomez 6:20-6:30 – Pam Virden and Jenna Lane from Lake International Middle School 6:30-6:50 – Jill Locantore from WalkDenver on Denver Deserves Sidewalks

Letter from the WeCAN Board of Directors

The West Colfax Association of Neighbors (WeCAN) next General Meeting will be Tuesday, December 8th, from 6:00-6:50pm in the main hall of the Confluence Ministries building at 1400 Quitman. Our neighborhood Community Resource Officer will be there to share crime statistic, crime prevention tips, and to answer your questions. Leadership from Lake International, our Denver Public School's neighborhood Middle School, will also be there to talk about the school and answer any questions. WeCAN will also be voting in the Board of Directors for 2016. If you're interested in becoming a part of our leadership please contact Nadia or Leah @wecandenver.org.

WalkDenver will also be at the December General Meeting to share information on their Denver Deserves Sidewalks campaign. Currently Denver property owners are responsible for building and maintaining sidewalks adjacent to their property. A fee of \$5-\$10 per month (for an average property) would provide a sustainable funding source for building new sidewalks, repairing old sidewalks, and upgrading substandard sidewalks throughout Denver. WalkDenver has therefore launched a petition calling upon the City and County of Denver to assume responsibility for building and repairing sidewalks, and to establish a dedicated funding source (such as a property fee) for this purpose. Learn more about Denver Deserves Sidewalks at http://www.walkdenver.org/

In an effort to become even more sustainable and save paper, WeCAN would like to change the way the newsletter is delivered. A newsletter will still be written every month, but only delivered door-to-door in print every other month, and digitally delivered to member inboxes every month. Please join us at the January 2016 General Meeting to discuss and vote on these changes.

West Colfax was recognized by the City of Denver as an Outstanding Sustainable Neighborhood for the second year in a row at the November General meeting!!!



West Colfax Neighborhood Events Calendar

December

- **5** Mayor Michael Hancock's Cabinet in the Community, 9:00-11:00am, DSST: Byers Middle School, 150 S. Pearl, Denver. Continental breakfast provided.
- **8 -** WeCAN General Meeting, 6pm, 1400 Quitman (main hall)
- **13** Broncos game, 2:05pm, Sports Authority Field
- **14-18** Denver Waste Management Large Item Pick-Up
- 21 Denver Police Department District 1 Commanders Advisory Group meeting, 6:00pm, 1311 W. 46th St.
- **28** Broncos game, 2:05pm, Sports Authority Field

January 2016

- **3** Broncos game, 2:25pm, Sports Authority Field
- **12** WeCAN General Meeting, 6pm, 1400 Quitman (main hall)

Stay connected to WeCAN:

Find us online at www.wecandenver.org 'like' us on Facebook – WeCAN Denver

Contact us at: info@wecandenver.org 303-578-6263 PO Box 12474 Denver, CO 80212

Register to become a WeCAN member (FREE to join): http://wecandenver.org/join/

West Colfax was chosen to participate in the Sustainable Neighborhood Network last year, and WeCAN has brought many sustainability projects to the neighborhood, including – clean-up days, tree planting, school, food, and clothes drives, community gardens, workshops on composting and energy saving, and more. Look for our new signage hanging in the neighborhood soon! You can learn more about the program at www.sustainableneighborhoodnetwork.org.

The next sustainability project WeCAN is bringing to the neighborhood is the Denver Energy Challenge. This program helps residents make home energy upgrades easy and affordable. Free, Energy Advisors work with Denver residents to identify energy goals, develop a tailored Energy Action Report, and provide guidance on rebates, tax credits and low-interest financing, review bids, select a contractor and act as an expert resource until the work is complete. If you are thinking of making energy upgrades to your home you can contact the program at 720-865-5520 or through their website at www.denverenergy.org. Let them know you are from West Colfax and WeCAN will earn points for the Sustainable Neighborhood Network program!

A huge **THANK YOU** to all of our volunteers this year! WeCAN runs exclusively on volunteer man-power, which allows us to stay a FREE organization for the neighborhood. This year WeCAN's volunteers planted trees, participated in two clean-up days, contributed to food and school drives, donated and shopped at our WeCAN Cares garage sale, participated in a walk audit, and more!

Coloradans Against Auto Theft offers prevention tips, victim tips, auto theft facts, maps of neighborhood auto theft hot spots, and information on police response at: **www.lockdownyourcar.org**.

Auto Theft Prevention Tips: Lock your doors every single time, don't leave your car running unattended, always park in well-lit areas, and don't hide spare keys in your car.

Denver Police District 1's Community Resource Officer is Officer Denise Gomez. If you have non-emergency issues about what is going on in the West Colfax neighborhood don't hesitate to contact her at Denise.Gomez@denvergov.org or 720-913-0566.

WeCAN collects Box Tops for Education for the neighborhood school of Colfax Elementary to support their Reading Partners tutoring program. Box Tops are collected at each general membership meeting. Clipping and saving Box Tops is an easy way to help support our neighborhood school!



How can YOU volunteer with WeCAN this month?

Join our Community Engagement Committee!

WeCAN is looking for new ways to engage more neighbors to get involved in the West Colfax neighborhood. If you have experience in marketing, event planning, or similar skills and want to get involved please email Leah@wecandenver.org.