



WILDE LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SLAYTON HOUSE
10400 Cross Fox Lane
Columbia, Maryland 21044-2183
(410) 730-3987

Dear Wilde Lake Village Resident:

Thank you for your interest in running for the Columbia Council.

This packet contains the information that you need to become a candidate, including the nomination petition that must be returned by **5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 18th**. Please read the 2026 Wilde Lake Village Election Information document for details about obtaining and validating resident signatures.

You are also required to submit a candidate statement (no more than 150 words), biographical information form and signed declaration of compliance form.

Please make careful note of the following important election dates and deadlines:

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 - Nomination period opens.

Nomination packets are available to download on the WLCA website or hard copies may be picked up from Slayton House.

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 - Nomination period closes

All required documents must be returned by e-mail to [wlca@wildelake.org](mailto:wluca@wildelake.org) or hand-delivered to Slayton House by 5:00 pm. Please see the 2026 Wilde Lake Village Election Information document at www.wildelake.org/election.

Friday, March 20, 2026 - Nomination petitions validated

If there are five or less valid petitions for Village Board, then all candidates are deemed elected. If there is only one valid petition for Columbia Council, then the candidate is deemed elected.

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 6:30 pm - Candidates' Night (Hybrid) Format to be determined.

Friday, April 24, 2026 - Absentee ballots due by 4:00 pm

Absentee ballots will be mailed to all residents in late March/early April. Online absentee voting will also be available.

Saturday, April 25, 2026 - Village Election Day

In-person voting from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at Slayton House. The Election Chair will contact each candidate by phone with the election results. The results will be posted on the outside doors at Slayton House as well as the WLCA website and Facebook page.

If you have any questions about the election process, please do not hesitate to contact us or Sharon Cooper-Kerr, Executive Director/Village Manager, at [wlca@wildelake.org](mailto:wluca@wildelake.org).

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Lopez, PhD
Election Chair
wlelectionchair@wildelake.org

WILDE LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

2026 ELECTION INFORMATION FOR COLUMBIA COUNCIL CANDIDATES

- This year's election is Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at Slayton House
- Absentee ballots will be mailed to all residents in late March. They can be returned to Slayton House by mail or in person before 4:00 pm on April 24th. Online voting will be available.
- Members in good standing as of Sunday, March 1st are eligible to vote. Members are defined in the By-laws as Owners and Tenants. Where property is owned jointly, only one vote is permitted. Where property is rented, one owner and one tenant vote are permitted.
- There are five members of the Village Board and one Wilde Lake Columbia Council Representative. Each serves a term of one year, beginning Monday, May 4th. The Board meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:30pm.
- Each candidate must submit a nomination petition signed by at least ten (10) residents of the Village of Wilde Lake. The petition must include resident signatures, printed names, addresses and telephone numbers. Nomination petitions are available as part of the candidate's packet at Slayton House beginning February 25th. Candidates' packets are also available on our website at www.wildelake.org. They must be returned to Slayton House by 5:00pm on Wednesday, March 18. (When obtaining signatures, candidates should verify signer resides in Wilde Lake.) See options for obtaining signatures on cover letter.
- All nomination petition signatures will be validated by the Election Chair. Individuals who submit petitions will be notified by phone whether they are official candidates by Friday, March 20th.
INCOMPLETE PETITIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
- All candidates must submit a candidate's official statement, a biographical information form and a signed declaration of compliance with the completed nomination petition. Forms for the statement and profile are provided in the candidate packets.
- The candidate's official statement must be 150 words or less. All words in excess of 150 words will be deleted. The statement may include biographical data as well as positions on issues of interest to the public. It will be included in the absentee ballots, appear on the website, and be available to all voters. It will not be edited.
- All candidates are asked to attend Candidates' Night which is scheduled for April 9th, 6:30pm at Slayton House. The format of the event is to be determined.
- Votes will be counted immediately following the end of voting on April 25th. The results will be posted on the outside doors of Slayton House as soon as they are available, as well as on our website www.wildelake.org
- Any challenge to the results of the election must be in writing and submitted to the Election Chair within five (5) calendar days after the posting of the election results.
- Complete election guidelines are available on the website www.wildelake.org/election and at Slayton House.

WILDE LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

2026 Wilde Lake Village Election Information for Columbia Council Candidates

The following documents must be returned by e-mail to wica@wildelake.org or hand-delivered to Slayton House by **5:00pm on Wednesday, March 18th**:

1. Nomination Petition Form

Residents may send you an e-mail stating that they support your candidacy. The e-mail must include the resident's name, address and phone number, AND/OR

You may make multiple copies of the petition form and have one (or more) person sign each copy.

Please note that residents who live in rental apartments or condos/townhouses/detached homes that they do not own must have a current lease agreement on file to validate their signatures.

Owner signatures will be validated using the eligible voter list and/or the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation records.

Incomplete petitions will not be accepted. If at least ten (10) signatures cannot be verified, the petition will not be validated.

2. Biographical Information Form

3. Signed Declaration of Compliance Form

4. Candidate Statement

The statement should not be more than 150 words. Only the first 150 words of your unedited statement will be printed. Your statement may include biographical data as well as positions on issues of interest to the Village. Statements will be included with the election newsletter and published on the WLCA website.

**NOMINATION PETITION - COLUMBIA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE
VILLAGE OF WILDE LAKE, COLUMBIA, MARYLAND**

I, _____		, residing at _____	
(First)	(Middle)	(Last)	(Address)
hereby submit this petition as evidence of my candidacy for the COLUMBIA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE of Wilde Lake Community Association.			
Email: _____		Preferred Phone Number _____	
_____ (Signature)		_____ (Date)	

*This petition is validated by at least ten (10) Association members who reside in the Village of Wilde Lake, appearing below. Please note that residents who live in rental apartments or condos/townhouses/detached homes that they do not own must have a current lease agreement on file to validate their signatures. **NOTE: INCOMPLETE PETITIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.***

NAME (Print legibly)	ADDRESS	PHONE NO.	SIGNATURE
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			

NOTE: A resident of the Village of Wilde Lake and member of the Wilde Lake Community Association, Inc., may sign more than one petition.

Return petition by email to wica@wildelake.org or hand deliver to: Slayton House, 10400 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia, MD 21044 410-730-3987 by Wednesday, March 18, 2026 by 5 pm.

VALIDATED: _____
(Date)

(Signature, Chair, Wilde Lake Election Committee)

WILDE LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

DECLARATION

I, _____, a nominee for the Columbia Council Representative, am not aware of any current violation on any property owned by me which is subject to the covenants of any village in Columbia.

If elected to a position in the village, I will obtain a certificate of compliance for my property.

Further, I am not aware of any pending application, violation, or litigation in which I would have a conflict of interest.

Signature

Address

Date



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INFORMATION ABOUT WILDE LAKE

Wilde Lake, Columbia's first Village, was incorporated in 1967. Slayton House, the first community center, was opened the same year. The village associations were designed by Columbia's founders to be a focal point for coordination of resident interests and concerns, especially in the areas of advocacy, information and referral, architectural control, and programs for the community.

Every April, elections are held for Village Board of Directors who represent village residents on civic issues and set policy for use of the community center. A village representative to the Columbia Council is also elected at that time. The Wilde Lake Council Representative serves on the Columbia Association Board of Directors. Every adult who owns and/or resides on property in the Village of Wilde Lake is a member of the community association and is eligible to run for office and to vote on behalf of his/her household.

Slayton House is managed by the Wilde Lake Community Association and is used primarily for community meetings, theatre, dance and concert productions, classes for children and adults, and social events. The Bernice Kish Gallery at Slayton House and the Wilde Lake Community Association offices are located here.

To get the latest information about what is happening in our community:

- **Subscribe to our email newsletter.** It is sent out weekly to our e-mail distribution list and is also available on our website. To subscribe to the e-newsletter, please visit our website and go to the "Subscribe to Newsletter" on the home page.
- **Visit our website** at www.wildelake.org
- **Attend a Wilde Lake Village Board Meeting.** First Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. Agenda is posted on our website.
- **Like us on Facebook** at www.facebook.com/wildelakevillage.
- **Follow us on Twitter** at <https://twitter.com/WildeLakeCA>.

The Wilde Lake Community Association is also responsible for the operation of three neighborhood centers: Bryant Woods, Faulkner Ridge and Running Brook. The neighborhood centers are used primarily by nursery schools during the school year.

The community association's resources exist for your use. If you have any questions about the community, interests, or concerns that you would like to address, or if you would like to get involved in the community association activities, please contact 410-730-3987 or wlca@wildelake.org.