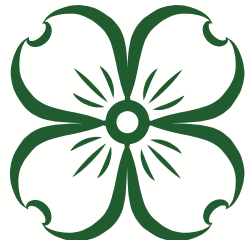


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# HISTORIC BROOKHAVEN

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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### **Purposeful Park, Triangle, and Monument Greenspaces** **Our Neighborhood's Bountiful 2024 Autumn**

Christy Campbell, CME Chair & Shelby Cobb, CME Member

Historic Brookhaven's treasured greenspaces were shown a lot of love and attention last fall, thanks to City of Atlanta taxpayers voting in favor of a bond supporting parks and trails in 2022. At the invitation of the City of Atlanta, your HBNA Board's Committee for Maintenance and Enhancement entered into a successful collaborative effort to invigorate our park, triangle, and monument greenspaces with funds for abundant plant material, hardscape, and soil amendments.

Implementation of the master plan included several groups working in concert, including City of Atlanta's Department of Parks and Recreation, HBNA's CME, Club Estates Garden Club, Friends of Vermont Park, Callahan Landscaping, and neighbors who helped fine tune the transformational results. In each instance, careful consideration was given to plant material choices, ecological placement, and hardscape design ensuring the best long-lasting survival from weather conditions and lack of irrigation systems.

A special thank-you goes to Michael Callahan of Callahan Landscaping and the four-man crew who worked so hard and with such positivity throughout each installation day. Mike was our point person to the city departments for acquisitions, temporary storage, and installation staging of all plants, trees, stone and soil amendments.



Historic Brookhaven is enhanced by eighteen greenspaces, ranging in size from large parks to pocket parks, traffic islands, and planted monument markers. Here is a summary of improvements made through our partnership with the City of Atlanta and the collaborators listed above.

*Continued* →

**| CONTACT INFORMATION**  
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Visit our website for more information at:  
[HistoricBrookhaven.org](http://HistoricBrookhaven.org)





## Vermont Park

The Club Estates Garden Club has championed Vermont Park since 1939. Owned by the City of Atlanta and under the auspices of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the park has also benefitted through efforts by the Friends of Vermont Park group in recent years. The Friends group works with Park Pride to share information and raise funds. Club Estates Garden Club and Friends of Vermont Park work side by side on projects to enhance the park.

In 2019 the HBNA Board budgeted funds for the park to be cleaned and cleared of invasive species, while also focusing on the health of its many established trees.

Photos below were taken before the 2019 clean up and after the 2024 improvements which included the addition of several varieties of ferns, hellebores, and butterfly bushes to help preserve the banks of the creek, while hardier mondo and liriopie were planted on the north and south tips where there is increased sun exposure. Neighbors Diane Beck, Ann Cully, and Lydia Mays lead the park's advocacy group with fundraising, native plant protection, and a scheduled watering system by neighbors. A redesigned walking trail is part of the 2024 improvements and was funded by Friends of Vermont Park. Along with the planting of numerous dogwood and redbud trees in the interior, a new head wall and protective fencing were provided by the Parks Department. The new bench at the south tip is a gift from neighbor Bonnie Copeland.

### Vermont Park- *Before*



### Vermont Park - *After*



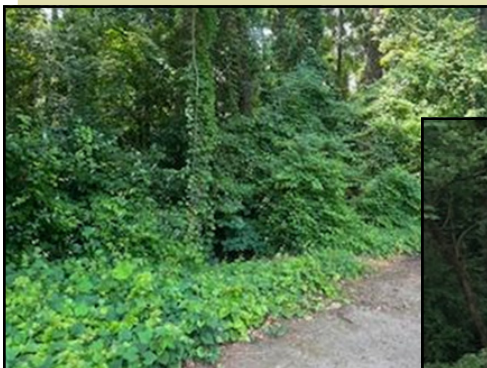


## Mayson Ravine Park

Around 2002-2004 a group of neighbors sought to protect this land from home construction. At the time, the property was owned by Capital City Club but was sold to the City of Atlanta as part of an agreement ensuring it would remain a greenspace in perpetuity. In 2005, Mayson Ravine Adopt-A-Park was formed by surrounding neighbors and Brookhaven Club Neighborhood Association (the former name of HBNA). Unlike Vermont Park, the City of Atlanta classifies Mayson Ravine Park as a nature preserve...land set aside for preserving natural resources with an emphasis on ecological stewardship and wildlife protection.

In 2018 Friends of Mayson Ravine Park was established and, with the guidance of the City of Atlanta Parks Department arborists, HBNA cleaned up the park, removing fallen tree debris and invasive plant species. HBNA and proximate neighbors continue to maintain the natural aesthetic look of the park. In January 2025, fifteen upper story trees were planted on the west bank to help prevent erosion and summer weed growth. Other 2024 upgrades provided by COA in this area include curbing and storm drains along the park portion of East Club Lane, cleaning of adjacent Mayon Ravine Park North on Davidson Avenue, and tidying the corner lot at West Club Lane and Davidson Avenue which had become smothered in vines, fallen tree branches, dead trees, and trash. These areas will remain natural and maintained by HBNA going forward. Benches, plants, and stone work now grace the Davidson Avenue entrance to West Club Lane and provide a sitting area along East Club Lane, all made possible by the City of Atlanta. In late 2025, Davidson Avenue near Mayson Ravine Park will undergo remedial construction for erosion and improved drainage followed by paving.

### Mayson Ravine Park - *Before*



*Continued* →





Mayson Ravine Park - After





## New Vermont Triangle

As a result of the City of Atlanta's Department of Watershed project named the North Buckhead Storm Drain Project (August 2022 to September 2024), the traffic triangle at Vermont Road and Winall Down underwent safety and aesthetic reconstruction. Watershed worked with ATL DOT to provide street markings and signage appropriate to line-of-sight protocols, street architecture, and other considerations. The triangle offers beautiful stonework, sun-tolerant groundcovers, and a new bench purchased with donated funds from nearby neighbors. Vermont Road resident Boyd Johnson kindly offered a Japanese maple sapling for the triangle, which was gratefully dug from his yard. This triangle is dedicated to Carole Simpson, former HBNA Board member and chairman of CME, in appreciation for her many years of service toward the maintenance and enhancement of our neighborhood greenspaces.

### Vermont Triangle - Before & After



## East Brookhaven / Club Drive Triangle

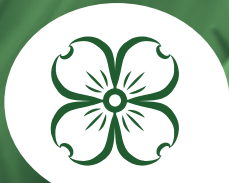
An established triangle that was badly damaged by vehicle traffic at its tips and suffered a tree removal, this prominent triangle was ready for both an aesthetic revival and preventative measures from car and truck traffic. Boulders, egg rock, grading, variegated liriopse, camellias, a dogwood sapling, and bench repositioning with a stone patio now give this triangle a refreshed, inviting appearance.

### East Brookhaven/Club Drive- Before



Continued →





### East Brookhaven/Club Drive- After



Your CME and Callahan Landscaping were also able to complete several upgrades to triangles and monuments on the City of Brookhaven side of Historic Brookhaven that were slated for 2024 in the CME budget.

#### Entrance Monuments at Brookhaven Drive

This busiest entrance to Historic Brookhaven features new boulder placement, variegated liriopie groundcover, and water-preserving mulch, giving this area greater definition and prominence.



#### Blue Star Marker Triangle at Brookhaven Drive and East Brookhaven Drive

Additional bright, variegated liriopie planted and mulched at the east and west tips of this notable triangle completes the look of this high-visibility greenspace.

Added together, our autumn 2024 windfall project, made possible by the approved bond, should be considered a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. We hope that the collaborative, far-reaching, and purposeful nature of our work last fall will be enjoyed and treated with respectful care by all of our Historic Brookhaven neighbors for many years to come.





# Four-Year Results of HBNA’s 28 Flock Cameras

According to Brookhaven and City of Atlanta Zone 2 police, **ALL** HBNA neighbors have benefitted from better home protection due to Flock cameras (fully installed January 5, 2021). In fact, the Flock cameras are **protecting residents better than expected**, not just in prevention but also through investigations.

Nationally, 83% of property crime goes unsolved due to a lack of actionable evidence. Seventy percent of these crimes occur with a vehicle. Flock cameras identify vehicles connected to criminals.

Twenty-eight cameras have been operational for four years. Two cameras are mounted on Georgia Power poles at all 14 entrances into Historic Brookhaven (one facing inbound traffic and one facing outbound). Each camera can read license plates including the state on traditional reflective license plates as well as temporary paper ones from a car dealer. They can also identify a vehicle’s make, model, and color.

Additionally, police in their patrol cars receive “alerts” within 15 seconds about a vehicle entering or exiting Brookhaven which is connected to a criminal situation (e.g. stolen car, stolen license, wanted person, missing person, sex offender). The camera system can also be custom modified to search for specific criteria in a range of categories. Flock’s database is connected to police locally and nationally (48 states) as well as the FBI’s National Crime Information Center.

An in-depth study of 48 months shows substantial declining vehicle threats entering our neighborhood. Also, cameras have operated superbly, currently working at 100%. Most criminals now avoid Brookhaven because they know the vehicles they use for crimes can be detected in real time.

## Examples of dramatically declining criminal “alerts” of inbound vehicles into HBNA

<b>Inbound Alerts 2021</b>	<b>Inbound Alerts 2022</b>	<b>Inbound Alerts 2023</b>	<b>Inbound Alerts 2024</b>
Stolen Plates: <b>151</b>	Stolen Plates: <b>44</b>	Stolen Plates: <b>38</b>	Stolen Plates: <b>12</b>
Stolen Vehicles: <b>34</b>	Stolen Vehicles: <b>8</b>	Stolen Vehicles: <b>13</b>	Stolen Vehicles: <b>5</b>
Sex Offenders: <b>8</b>	Sex Offenders: <b>3</b>	Sex Offenders: <b>2</b>	Sex Offenders: <b>1</b>

## Operational excellence in terms of cameras working nearly 100% of the time

<b>Uptime 2021</b>	<b>Uptime 2022</b>	<b>Uptime 2023</b>	<b>Uptime 2024</b>
<b>95.5%</b>	<b>93.5%</b>	<b>93.7%</b>	<b>99.1%</b>
98% for 25 cameras.	95% for 25 cameras. Trees damaged 2 cameras. GA Power took 90 days to fix.	98% for 25 cameras. 2 cameras off-line over 90 days due to Canterbury Court construction.	99.7% for 25 cameras. 100% currently.





## Neighborhood News



### HBNA Spring Fling at Vermont Park – A Family Fun Day in Historic Brookhaven!

Get ready for an afternoon of fun, food, and community spirit at the *Spring Fling* on April 27th from 2:00-4:00pm at Vermont Park in Historic Brookhaven! Presented by the Historic Brookhaven Neighborhood Association, this event is the perfect way to welcome the season with your neighbors and preview all the newly-updated garden areas within Vermont Park.

Enjoy a variety of exciting activities for all ages, including delicious snacks from local vendors, a bounce house for the kids, and lively music for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're relaxing with family or meeting new friends, there's something for everyone!

#### Interested in sponsoring the event?

If your business would like to be a part of the *Spring Fling*, reach out to HBNA Events Chair, Justine Regnier at 404-991-0492.

### Lead the Mailbox Brigade for CHOA in Historic Brookhaven!

Help spread holiday cheer and support Children's Healthcare of Atlanta by organizing a neighborhood mailbox decorating event along with other CHOA events. You'll coordinate with CHOA and neighbors, host a bow-making party, and inspire others to participate in this festive fundraising effort.

#### Skills Needed:

*Strong organization and communication skills.*

#### Why You'll Love It:

Unite the neighborhood, spread joy and beauty in our neighborhood, and make a real difference for kids in need during the holiday season!

**Contact:** Justine Regnier @ [justineregnier6@gmail.com](mailto:justineregnier6@gmail.com) if you are interested in taking on this role.

### The Brookhaven Women's Bible Study

Join us! The Brookhaven Women's Bible Study meets each Thursday from 8:00-9:30am at St. James United Methodist Church. Women of all denominations are welcome, as well as women who may be exploring faith for the first time. Our studies have ranged from taking a close look at the Book of James in the New Testament to learning how to determine our spiritual gifts. This winter, we are studying Psalms.

Our group also has social gatherings and community service projects. Our new member luncheon was February 7th. In November, we purchased items for and packed 68 Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child boxes. Our spring community service plans include participating in the Atlanta Mission's 5K Race to End Homelessness and working with Praying for the Next Generation.

