



The
**FOREST
PARK**
CIVIC ASSOCIATION



About Forest Park and the FPCA

The community of Forest Park consists of almost 2900 private residential properties (single-family homes and duplexes), plus apartments, condominiums, commercial properties, City-owned parks and schools, in a 1.4 square mile area of the Northland area of northeast Columbus. These properties adjoin a total of 132 distinct streets and courts maintained by the City of Columbus.

Forest Park was developed beginning in the late 1950s by the Metzger Brothers Company, founded in 1955. Metzger Brothers also developed Devonshire and several other communities in the Northland area. Metzger Brothers Company, which had its headquarters at the current location of the Boy Scouts of America offices at 1901 East Dublin Granville Road, was dissolved in 1980.

The majority of homes in Forest Park West (west of Karl Road) were built in the 1960s, while most homes in Forest Park East (east of Karl) were constructed during the 1970s. (Area 13, known officially as Minerva Park Place and adjoining Forest Park East, was developed later by Layman Homes and was incorporated into the FPCA service area in the late 1990s.)

Metzger Brothers Company developed Forest Park as a well-planned, self-contained community. In 1961, Forest Park West was the first residential neighborhood in Columbus, and among the first in the nation, to incorporate internal shopping and recreation (including a swimming pool and bowling center), making it virtually self-sufficient. Forest Park East was developed in 1965 and included its own central shopping and recreation district at Tamarack Circle.

The Forest Park Civic Association (FPCA) was formed as a not-for-profit Ohio corporation in April 1962 by residents of the community and has continued since that time to *“promote, conserve and maintain the general and cultural welfare of the residents ... by giving special attention to public improvements and their betterment and to all that relates to the health, safety, welfare, convenience and comfort of the said residents, and to encourage social, civic, educational and recreational activity among said residents.”*

The FPCA is served by a volunteer board of trustees which includes a representative from each of 14 designated areas of the community, with an average of 200 homes in each area. The board also includes representatives of the local business and rental property communities. The board meets on a monthly basis, with general public meetings of the Association held each quarter (in January, April, July and October). No FPCA officers or representatives are compensated for their time or services.

The Forester, the Forest Park newsletter, is delivered to more than 4000 homes in and around Forest Park every month except February. It is free of charge to area residents and largely self-supporting through advertising by local businesses. *Forester* editor Arline Ries has been a member of the newsletter staff since 1969, becoming editor in 1979.

During the most recent FPCA membership drive, more than 900 Forest Park households, or nearly 1/3 of all Forest Park homeowners, became members of the Civic Association by paying only \$20 in annual dues. (FPCA dues have remained unchanged since the mid-1990s.) In addition to supporting the Civic Association and its activities, Association members enjoy the ability to request free Supplemental Security house checks by off-duty police officers when traveling, among other benefits. Two-thirds of FPCA dues are currently dedicated to providing Supplemental Security patrols in Forest Park. The FPCA also publishes a triennial *Forest Park Directory* of residents, provided at no additional charge to paid member households.