West Colfax Association of Neighbors (WeCAN) is a Registered Neighborhood Organization (RNO). WeCAN holds general membership meetings the second Tuesday of each month at 1400 Quitman St in Confluence Ministries main hall. WeCAN is dedicated to the advancement and well being of the West Colfax neighborhood.

Start the year of 2013 with WeCAN at the general membership meeting and healthy potluck dinner on January 8 at 6:00pm in the Confluence Ministries main meeting room at 1400 Quitman. WeCAN anticipates an eventful 2013 with the opening of the West Corridor light rail in the spring and the opening of the new branch library in the last part of the year. Both events have been long anticipated and will have a great impact on our neighborhood.

The Denver Police Department issued this statement on December 27: During the last 48 hours 4 cars left running and unattended in District 1 were stolen. As a reminder, leaving your car unattended and running to warm up is an open invitation for a criminal to steal your car. Parked and unattended vehicles left running are referred to as "Puffers," as they can be easily identified by a would-be thief simply by driving or walking down the street and looking for car exhaust. Every year residents report cars stolen that were left running at the curb or in the driveway. Over the last year 56 cars were reported stolen in these circumstances in Police District One. Please take a moment to watch this video produced by "Coloradans Against Auto Theft." [http://lockdownyourcar.org/]

RTD Update: Now that construction of the West Corridor Light Rail line is almost complete, we’re entering the testing phase. Localized testing of systems is already happening along the corridor, but integrated testing of the whole system should begin in early January and you should expect to see light rail vehicles moving up and down the corridor. Testing will continue to get more frequent until the Grand Opening on April 26, 2013.

Now is the time to become a charter benefactor of the Denver Public Library branch on West Colfax and Irving. Set to open in late 2013, this 26,000-square-foot discovery zone will offer individuals and families a place to learn, explore and dream. Please learn more about this unique opportunity to memorialize your family or business on a beautiful paver. Your name or message will be engraved on a path leading to the Library entrance, a wonderful way to show how much the Library means to you.

Take advantage of the Enterprise Zone Project -- qualifying donations of $100 or more may be eligible for a state tax credit of 25% of the donation up to $100,000, depending upon your tax situation. Visit the DPL website: [http://dplfriends.org/donate/west_side_pavers.html]
for pricing, Enterprise Zone information and more details.

**Free Trees for West Colfax Residents.** Denver digs Trees and the Mile High Million are joining forces to provide Denver residents with Free trees this spring. Denver Digs Trees provides trees for along the street while the Mile High Million is providing yard trees to shade the west side of your house. Please consider taking advantage of these wonderful programs. Trees help improve our quality of life by beautifying our neighborhoods, improving property values, and supporting good health by encouraging us to spend time outdoors. They also filter air and water pollution, and cool our communities with their shade, which conserves energy and saves us money.

For more information about either program go to [http://www.theparkpeople.org/Programs/DenverDigsTrees/FreeTreesSpring2013.aspx](http://www.theparkpeople.org/Programs/DenverDigsTrees/FreeTreesSpring2013.aspx). You can also call the Denver Digs Trees program at 303-722-6262 or the Mile High Million at 720-913-0631 for more information.

**Recently the Denver Mayor’s Office sent** WeCAN a reminder that Keeping Denver’s alleys clean is everyone’s responsibility, including homeowners, renters, and the City. Please take a few moments to read these clean alley tips and together, we can keep our neighborhoods clean!

- Bag all trash before throwing it in the dumpster or trash can (use heavy-duty trash bags if possible).
- Pick up loose trash in the alley. Loose trash creates an unhealthy environment by attracting animals, insects and rodents.
- Do not put trash on the ground.
- Do not overfill dumpsters. If your dumpster is full, look for another dumpster in your alley with available space.
- Do not place furniture & other large items in dumpsters.
- Pull weeds & trim overhanging trees.
- Large items are collected every nine weeks. You can find more info about Large Item Pickup and your scheduled LIP weeks at [www.denvergov.org/LIP](http://www.denvergov.org/LIP)
- Only set out large items according to the LIP collection schedule. Do not put large items out at any other time.

**Report illegal dumping:** The dumpsters in your alley are for the residents on your block and for household trash only. If you think someone else is using these dumpsters or dumping trash or large items in your alley, call 3-1-1 as soon as possible and give a description of the person(s). If they are driving, describe the type and color of their vehicle, the license plate state and number. *Please do not approach or confront the person(s). You do not have to give your name to report illegal dumping!* The fines for illegal dumping in Denver can be as high as $999.

**Report graffiti:** Call 3-1-1 to report graffiti. We provide FREE REMOVAL of graffiti on your property or anywhere in your neighborhood. You can also call 3-1-1 to ask for FREE PAINT to remove graffiti from your property. You do not have to give your name to report graffiti!

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**WeCAN Calendar - January 2013**

- **Jan. 8** - WeCAN General Membership meeting 6:00pm, 1400 Quitman.
- **Jan. 9** - Recycling pickup
- **Jan. 9** - Land Use Committee, 6:00pm, 1400 Osceola
- **Jan. 12** - Broncos, Divisional Playoff 2:30pm
- **Jan. 16** - WeCAN Board of Directors meeting, 6:00, 1400 Quitman, basement.
- **Jan 20** - Broncos, AFC Championship, 4:30pm
- **Jan 24** - Recycling pickup
- **Jan 27** - Bridal Festival 12:00pm, Sports Authority Field

**Register to become a WeCAN member online:** [www.wecandenver.org](http://www.wecandenver.org)

**Visite [www.wecandenver.org](http://www.wecandenver.org) para mirar el boletín WeCAN en español.**

**WeCAN needs an additional newsletter carrier.** The WeCAN newsletter serves as our primary contact point to residents of our neighborhood and cannot go out without the help of numerous volunteers. If you have an hour or two you can set aside at the beginning of each month to help us get the word out about our organization and the happenings within our neighborhood, please consider helping us with this distribution. Its an easy way to help the organization and get a little exercise while you’re at it. You might even consider partnering with a friend or neighbor to do it twice as fast and have some pleasant conversation while working. Please contact **Bill Baker** at **303-946-8230** if you’re at all interested in this important volunteer opportunity.

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**Support WeCAN Fundraiser**

**Recycling:** All scrap metal or items that can be resold on Craigslist are welcome. All donations are tax deductible, receipts on request.

Contact Bill Baker: 303.946.8230 or bigbuddy2@comcast.net