



Petworth Peanuts Messaging Application Group Policy

In line with our mission to connect and support caregivers in the Greater Petworth, DC area, Petworth Peanuts maintains numerous WhatsApp groups providing a platform for members and caregivers to connect, share resources in real-time, ask questions and strengthen our community together.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and more importantly, as a diverse community of caregivers, we are committed to keeping these spaces *nonpartisan, respectful, and welcoming to all*.

Petworth Peanuts does **not tolerate** racism, bigotry, dehumanizing speech, or aggressive behavior. This includes:

- Harmful stereotypes
- Derogatory language
- Exclusionary comments
- Cursing directed at others
- Statements of dismissal or inferiority

✓ What's Welcome in Petworth Peanuts Messaging Application Chats:

Informational posts are acceptable. While not exhaustive, here are some examples:

- "FYI – ICE activity reported near Georgia Ave. Here's the hotline: 202-335-1183."
- "Road closures are in place near Sherman Circle due to a National Guard presence. Allow extra time for school pick-up."
- "DCPS budget hearing is this Thursday. Learn more here: [link]."
- Sharing parenting resources, school and childcare updates, and public safety alerts (e.g., local road closures, weather-related closures).
- "If you're looking for nonpartisan information about *all* election candidates, click here"
- Linking to community resources and events relevant to Greater Petworth / Peanut families and caregivers (e.g., library programming, school registration deadlines, public health info,).
- Sharing parenting advice, gear and resource exchange/sales, lost and found, provider recs and requests, etc.
- Local service and charity opportunities / apolitical opportunities for giving
- Community resource opportunities / general neighborly support = offering help or connections that strengthen the caregiver network, connect/support nannies etc

⊘ What's Not Welcome in Petworth Peanuts Messaging Application Chats:



Organizing is not acceptable. While not exhaustive, here are some examples:

- “We need to form a rapid response team,” “please sign this petition,” or “don’t cooperate with XXX under any circumstances.”
- Join us at Sherman Circle tonight to protest XXXX
- Raise money for this XXXX political campaign or political cause
- Councilmember X or Y is terrible. Vote them out.
- Sharing political memes, satire, or humor targeting political figures, policies or parties.
- Anyone who supports XXXX is XXX or not welcome here.
- Discriminatory, aggressive, condescending or dismissive language of *any kind*.
- Endorsing or opposing political candidates or parties at *any* level, elected or appointed.
- Debating the merits of political policies or figures (e.g., immigration reform, election results, and bills).
- Encouraging others to take political action (e.g., “call your representative,” “protest here,” “sign this petition”, “vote yes on...”).
- “XXX is the best candidate for ANC / Council / etc.”
- ANY messaging that crosses into political organizing (e.g., forming resistance groups, posting protest flyers, or circulating petitions targeting officials or policies).
- **Contentious content that is not relevant to parenting in Petworth or that incites significant complaints from other members may also be removed.**

If you are unsure whether something fits within the guidelines, please check with a moderator before posting. This ensures the space remains constructive, calm, and relevant to our shared purpose: supporting parents and caregivers in Greater Petworth. Members wishing to engage in political discussion or organizing are **encouraged to create and manage their own independent spaces** (e.g., separate WhatsApp or Signal groups) so that our shared channels remain inclusive and focused. **Or, members interested in political causes are encouraged to join alternative existing spaces** - which include: Project Petworth, a Mutual Aid-focused space with a dedicated [WhatsApp community](#), including chat groups with appropriate spaces for political discourse; as well as [Free Range Petworth Parents](#), an unaffiliated, unrestricted WhatsApp chat group for parents in Petworth. Donations can be made to [Ward 4 Mutual Aid](#), [Migrant Solidarity Mutual Aid Network](#), and [Capital Area Food Bank](#), all of which are handling significant direct outreach to communities in need.

To help maintain a safe, respectful, and mission-aligned environment, Petworth Peanuts reserves the right to remove any content that does not comply with the guidelines outlined above. In cases where conduct continues to violate these standards after 2 warnings, Petworth Peanuts may take further action, including revoking an individual’s access to group(s), in order to preserve the integrity and purpose of the space(s). Members who are purposefully posting irrelevant or inappropriate content may be removed without warning.



Petworth Peanuts is a volunteer-run nonprofit. Our moderators are fellow parents and neighbors who are here to foster respectful, helpful spaces for all. Please treat them — and all Peanuts members — with the same respect you wish to receive.

IMPORTANT: *By participating in Petworth Peanuts WhatsApp groups, you also acknowledge and agree to the following:*

Petworth Peanuts does not vet or endorse the advice, opinions, vendors, services, or resources shared by individual members in these chats. While we moderate affiliated groups to the best of our ability to ensure respectful and appropriate communication, all information shared in these groups is for general informational purposes only.

Any medical, legal, educational, or parenting advice offered by members should not be considered professional guidance. It is the responsibility of each member to independently evaluate and verify any recommendations, links, resources, or opportunities shared.

Petworth Peanuts is not liable for any injury, loss, damage, or negative outcome resulting from reliance on or participation in any activity, product, service, or advice mentioned in these chats.

By continuing to participate in any affiliated WhatsApp group, you agree to use your own judgment and discretion, and hold Petworth Peanuts harmless from any claims or consequences that may arise from group participation.