

Colonial Park Homeowners' Association

Newsletter – Spring 2017

!!Annual Homeowner Meeting – Plan to Attend!!

The Board has scheduled its annual membership meeting on Tuesday, May 23rd, at 7:00pm at the Elks Lodge (corner of Stevenson and Quarterfield roads). Community updates, **open space planning/next steps** and board elections will be on the agenda.

A Sincere “Thank You”

All residents of our community play an important role in making our community a beautiful place to live. In February, three resident families proactively sought to clean up trash blown into common areas and woods. Thank you to the McFarland, Drury and Lautzenheiser families for your selfless service to our community!

Yard Waste Disposal Change

Beginning January 1, 2017, Anne Arundel County no longer accepts yard waste stored in plastic bags. Yard waste may be placed at the curb in paper bags or reusable containers marked with an “X”.

Community Compliance Walk-Through...Avoid Violations!

The Architectural Control Committee anticipates it will conduct a walk-through of our community this spring/summer, looking for homeowners' compliance with our Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, as well as the Supplemental Rules, Standards and Guidelines.

Shutters in need of paint?

Landscaping weed-free?

Tree limbs blocking sidewalk?

Bushes/shrubs need trimmed?

Dead trees replaced?

Algae growing on home?

Mailbox post needs painted?

Fence in need of sealing?

Sidewalks edged?

Need to Power Wash your Home? Save \$

Is your home's siding growing algae? Let's band together to get a group discount on power washing. Email boardcolonialpark@hotmail.com by Friday, May 19, 2017, to be included in a group request for preferred pricing, with a target schedule of late-May to mid-June for the service to be performed.

Barking Dogs

Concerned about barking dogs (during the middle of the night) coming from a local business on Delmont Road? We need to hear from you. Additionally, if you are a dog owner, please be considerate of your neighbors and your pet's ability to disturb the tranquility of your their enjoyment of their home.

Contact Information: Ours & Yours

The Board created BoardColonialPark@hotmail.com as one way to improve communication between homeowners and the Board. If you are not receiving communication from the HOA via email—we need your email address! 85% of Colonial Park homeowners have an email address on file with the Board. This helps reduce the cost of contacting a homeowner—and we can get important announcements to you without the delay of postal mail. Please email us with your name and address...and we'll add you to the group list. Also, check out our website: www.colonialpark-hoa.org.

Refunds

We are reconciling our accounts. If you live at 1226 Colonial Park, 8206 West Hatton, 8214 West Hatton, or 8413 Garfield, please email us to arrange for a refund.

Planning an Exterior Change? Email your Application!

Planning an exterior change to your home or lot? Don't forget to submit an architectural change request! Most exterior changes require approval. If unsure, ask! There is no charge for submitting an application; however, an after-the-fact application may be assessed a \$50 fine, and, according to our Declaration, violations (and recurring violations) are subject to a \$25 fine/day/violation until resolved. Homeowners can submit architectural changes via postal mail or scan (preferred) and send to ACCcolonialpark@hotmail.com.

Want to Become Involved? We need you! Email boardcolonialpark@hotmail.com

- **Open Space Planning Committee**

We want to enhance the open spaces in our community as a way to increase the desirability of our community and increase home values. We are seeking a chair of this committee and other homeowners to gather ideas and propose a plan/design to enhance our open spaces.

- **Architectural Control Committee**

We need another member to help review exterior change requests and participate in community walk-throughs. This is not time-intensive service, but it is an important one. Cindy can use you!

- **Community Events Committee**

Want to help plan activities (holiday cookie swap, Spring Fling, walking club, etc.) to strengthen our community bond? Rosa is looking for your involvement, especially if you live in phase III (Lexington, Governor Johnson, Teacher Lane).

Storage of Trash and Recycling Containers

All trash/recycling containers must be stored out of view at all times when not out for retrieval on trash pickup days. Trash cans and refuse may be placed curbside the evening before a trash pickup day and must be re-stored out of sight by 7:00am the day after the trash pickup day.

Dog Walking – Do Your Part & Fines

Please let the Board know if you observe a dog owner not cleaning up after his pet. HOA rules and County Code permit fining, and we will begin levying fines if caught, as well as reporting to the County.

Parking Courtesy Reminder

Homeowners and their guests are reminded to be considerate of neighbors' driveways and right-of-ways when parking vehicles on our Community's streets:

- If you/your guests have multiple vehicles parked on both sides of the street, you are responsible to ensure there is sufficient room for vehicles to pass.
- Mailboxes, fire hydrants and neighbors' driveways must not be blocked.
- Vehicles should never be parked on grassy areas.

Also, please ensure you keep sufficient space for school buses to pass—we do not want to lose the privilege of having bus stops inside our community!

Grinder Pumps

Many homes in our community have sewage grinder pumps installed in the front yard. The grinder pumps are an important part of the County's waste management system for homes whose sewage cannot enter the sewage lines by gravity alone. If the pump is malfunctioning, an alarm will sound. Wait 15 minutes to see if the system will self-correct; if the alarm light DOES NOT turn off, call the Department of Public Works 24-hour emergency dispatcher at 410.222.8400 to report the problem. This service is at no cost to homeowners. For more information, visit www.aacounty.org/dpw/Utilities/grinderPumps.cfm.

School Bus Stops

If your children are using the school bus stops in our community, please make sure they are properly disposing their trash. Littering has become a frequent problem at our bus stops.

Renting Your Home

Homeowners may lease their home but must keep a current copy on file with the HOA. A homeowner cannot lease part of his/her home, however; the entire home must be leased. If you have questions, please contact the Board.