

# TABB LAKES NEWSLETTER

JULY 2010



## LIFE IN SEKAL-BAT? - DAVE WEST

### Board of Directors

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In these times, there is this mysterious land of Sekal-bat that surrounds two wonderful lakes. The people of this land, Sekal-battorians, work hard to make their lives pleasant. There is one thing these wonderful people live in fear of, the dreaded Dob's.

There are five Dob's in Sekal-bat. The Dob's have a quest: a quest for landscape and curb-appeal perfection over the entire land. For the past two years, the Dob's have had a fair-haired leader named Evad, who walks with two mighty furry monsters up and down the streets with a plastic bag over one hand. Other members of the Dob's go about, traveling through the land with smiles and kind words.

The Sekal-battorians often don't know what to think of the well-meaning Dob's. In the land there are rumors of how the evil Dob's make these proud folk toil in the heat of the summer and cold of the winter on their homes, gardens, and lawns. If a home owner does not do this, an all powerful champion, hired by the Dob's, will come. This champion, whose name shall not be spoken, reports all he sees to the Dob's.

Back in the ancient times before the Dob's hired this champion, the Sekal-battorians had a stewardship

over their own land; but not enough of them were true to their stewardship. Homes became dingy and moldy. Noxious weeds and thorny bushes appeared where fine gardens once grew. Their homes sparkled every morning with the rise of the sun. What once was considered the finest land in the nation of Batty-Ork, new people from other lands now chose to live in other green lands, along the Kiln Creek and around the Covent Tree.

As the dreaded Dob's continue their quest, they soon become tired, worn and grey. Some Dob's last only about two years. Others continue on to become helpers to the Dob's, as members of the EEt-tim-moc's. The EEt-tim-moc's members serve their neighbors well, protecting and maintaining the shared lands and lakes of Sekal-bat and preparing for horrible storms and spreading great stories about the deeds of the Sekal-bat people. As valiant as they are, even they do not last long.

Other Sekal-battorians do bravely come forward to join the ranks of the Dob's or serve within the ranks of the EEt-tim-moc's. Though sometimes fearful of the task, the new Dob's find that the Sekal-battorians are mostly good people and that Sekal-bat is a great place for old and young with

(continued on page 2)

**LIFE IN SEKAL-BAT? (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)**

neighbors that care. Soon the Sekal-battorians will be called together as some, or maybe all the present Dob's, will fade into the mist of the two lakes. It is

hoped that new Dob's will find the rewards as great as the old Dob's have.

May the land of Sekal-bat glow in its glory for many years to come.

Clues:  
 Sekal-bat = Tabb Lakes  
 Dob's = Board of Directors  
 EET-tim-moc's = Committees  
 Evad = Dave



**ODE TO THE BIG GREEN BUCKETS – DAVE WEST**

It's Tuesday morn.

We are all forlorn.

Where is that big green bucket?

It is filled with trash.

Better git it out fast.

Push-Pull that big green bucket.

A loud blue truck comes a rollin'.

Down the driveway we're strollin'

With that smelly big green bucket.

Is it week one or week two?

Out with the recycling we flew

To put beside the big green bucket.

You've done your green duty.

Mother earth is a cutie.

No recycling for the big green bucket.

At the day's end

We must haul it in

That now empty big green bucket.

But it's week two, not one.

That ain't no fun.

Why'd they only dump the big green bucket?

The still full recycle bin

Must also be taken in

Just like the big green bucket.

**NEW CURBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

Our new schedule is every other Tuesday. As of this writing, our next scheduled collection day is August 31 for the recycling bin. Garbage is still picked up every

Tuesday. If your bin is not large enough, please use paper bags and/or containers similar in shape and



size to your VPPSA bin. If you put things in plastic bags, they probably will not be picked up. Please place your

items curbside by 7:00 a.m. For additional information, please click on the recycling collection link at [www.yorkcounty.gov/eds](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/eds) or call 890-3780.

**SAFETY PRECAUTIONS NEAR OUR LAKES – LOU LAFRENAYE**

Please be careful walking near the banks of our lakes. The water level has dropped nearly 12 inches over the past month due to the extended period of hot weather and lack of rain. This has caused parts of the lake bottom to be exposed. Please be cautious and do not let children or ani-



mals step out into this area. It may look solid, but can be a soft, thick “mud” of organic material that can be deep.

Anyone stepping or falling into this material may become stuck and may not be able to pull themselves out of the lake. This could be extremely dangerous. Please take care and keep children and pets away from the lake edge.

**YARD OF THE MONTH**

A volunteer is needed to coordinate the Yard-of-the-Month program and keep it running. The duties are simple:

- Every month from approximately March to November, you will be provided with a list of 6-8 homes that are considered to have outstanding front yards. You will need to take a look at each yard and select a winner.
- Contact the winning homeowner and receive permission to post a very attractive ‘Yard-of-the-Month’ sign in the yard.
- Install the sign and take a picture for the Tabb Lakes Newsletter
- One month later, remove the sign and repeat the process.

If you are interested in doing your part to encourage attractive landscaping in Tabb Lakes, please contact HOA President Dave West (534-7442) or HOA Secretary Charles Rossi (867-8322)

**RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP**

Carry a pooper scooper and plastic bags when you walk your dogs, and let’s be good neighbors.



If you are receiving this newsletter via USPS and would rather receive it electronically, please go to our website: [www.tabblakes.org](http://www.tabblakes.org) and fill out the form.

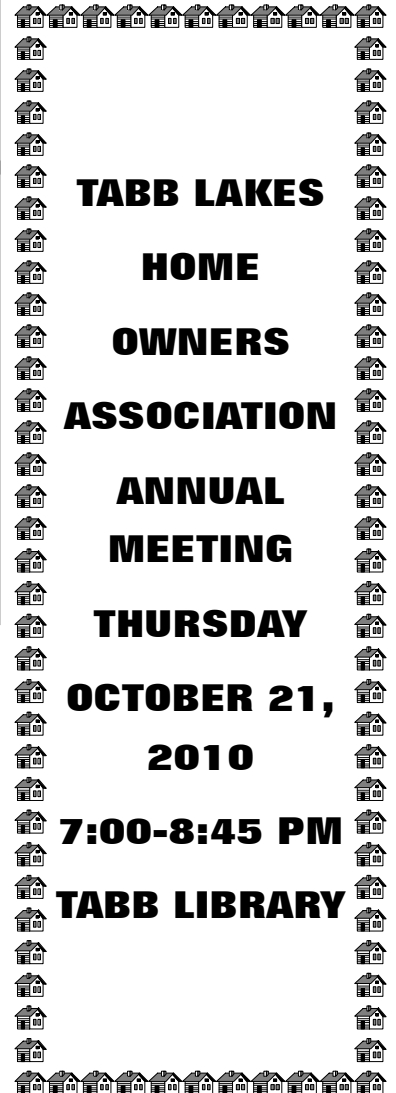
**VACANCIES**

As we approach our annual meeting in October, please be considering how you might contribute to Tabb Lakes by serving on the Board of Directors or one of the committees. Here are the present committee vacancies.

- Activities
- Welcome

All five places on the Board of Directors are open for nominations. Nominations are accepted before the meeting as well as from the floor on that night. If you have a nomination, please check with that person that it’s OK for you to nominate him/her, the submit the name to Dave West at 645-7442.

**TABB LAKES HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY OCTOBER 21, 2010 7:00-8:45 PM TABB LIBRARY**



**TABB LAKES EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE—LOU LAFRENAYE*****Preparing Your Home for a Hurricane*****Hurricane Season: 1 June to 30 November**

To help those with no experience with hurricanes and to remind us all of some things we should do, the Tabb Lakes Emergency Response Committee prepared this list of common sense things we can do to prepare our homes for a hurricane event.

First priority is always to protect you and your family. We cannot stress enough the importance of the recommendation: Get a kit; Make a plan; Stay informed. Go to the Virginia Dept of Emergency Management or the York County Fire and Life Safety web sites or obtain info from the York County Fire Dept on how to develop an emergency kit, make a family plan, and how to stay informed. Understand the impacts of a hurricane and the evacuation process out of Hampton Roads. Tabb Lakes is NOT in a storm surge area so do not expect our location to be under any State directed mandatory evacuation order. You will have to decide for yourself if you want to evacuate and when.

**Before hurricane season:**

- Walk around your home and imagine the impact of 60+ MPH sustained winds and higher gusts.
  - Look at trees and shrubs close to your house. Are branches overhanging your roof or brushing up near your home siding? Trim and cut to keep away from your house. High winds will cause branches to rub violently against shingles and siding and rip them off.
  - Do trees have dead branches that need to be removed? These will break and fall during high winds. Thin out tree branches to allow wind to flow through.
  - Repair any loose shingles and gutters.
- Look for loose or hanging items on your home or in the yard that you will have to remove prior to a storm. High winds can cause items to be projectiles.
  - Examples are garbage/recycle bins, bird feeders, yard ornaments, flags, hanging plants, yard furniture, trampolines, grills and covers, window screens, bird houses, portable basket ball hoops, wind chimes, etc. Anything that is not tied down and secure can become a flying object.
- Check on the condition of your garage doors. Are door hinges tight? Are the tracks bolted securely to the house? Are oversized garage doors reinforced? Strong winds can cave in garage doors.
- Ensure fences are sturdy and repaired. Loose boards will become flying objects.
- Do you have a boat or trailer that has to be secured? Research techniques to secure them.
- Do your research and planning now. Look up and print information on preparing for and responding to emergencies. Keep info handy. Take readiness courses such as Red Cross first aid/CPR, CERT training, etc.

**Before a hurricane hits our area (complete prior to the arrival of tropical storm winds):**

- Check your kit and review your family plan. Stay informed. Conditions can change rapidly.
- Walk around home. Remove and store all outside loose or hanging items (see examples above).
- Check garage doors for sturdiness.
- Secure boats and trailers.
- Secure shed doors.
- If you live by the lakes or drainage ditches:
  - Pull all boats fully out and away from the water and double tie to a secure object.
  - Move all loose and floating objects away from the lake. Examples are firewood, lawn furniture, picnic tables/chairs, umbrellas, etc...

**CERT (CONT. FROM PG 4)**

→Remove footbridges across drainage ditches/waterways and tie to a secure object away from drainage system.

→Plan for lakes to rise quickly. Our lakes have risen over 54" in previous storms pulling unsecure boats, footbridges, firewood and other objects into the water.

- Implement your family plan in a timely manner.
- Decide if you will evacuate and know the routes. If you chose to leave, plan to leave early. The 2010 VDOT Hurricane Evacuation Guide describing evacuation routes is located at [www.virginiadot.org/travel/resources/hurricaneEvacuation1.pdf](http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/resources/hurricaneEvacuation1.pdf)
- If you decide to go to a local shelter, ensure you have the proper supplies/equipment for an extended stay. See the Red Cross web site for a check list of things to bring to a shelter.
- Ensure you have a NOAA weather radio and a portable FM/AM radio (with extra batteries). FM 99.1 will broadcast any York County emergency information.
- Ensure you have a corded phone connected (not a remote phone). Sometimes, phone lines remain operational even though power is out. Remember, older portable TV's will not work unless you have a digital converter.

**After a hurricane passes by:**

- Stay informed. Monitor FM 99.1 and local news. Prepare for an extended period of time with no electricity.
- Remain cautious of dangers outside.
  - Fallen/leaning trees and damaged homes can pose significant dangers.
  - Stay away from damaged pad mounted transformers and exposed electrical/gas lines.
  - Do not drive around sightseeing.
- The most common cause of injuries and deaths after a hurricane are:
  - Improper operation of generators causing deaths by carbon monoxide poisoning or fire.
  - Improper use of chain saws.
  - Falling off of ladders/roofs while trying to repair damage to homes.
- Stay calm and safe. Remember that phone lines may be down for a while. Emergency 911 may not be available. Prevent illness from food and water, or injuries. The best thing to do is not need emergency help in the first place.
- Recovery could take days or weeks so stay flexible and help one another as best you can. Learn what you can do to help as a member of the Tabb Lakes Emergency Response Committee. For more information go to our web site at [www.tabblakes.org/CERT/TabbWebCERT.html](http://www.tabblakes.org/CERT/TabbWebCERT.html)

**Information on securing garage doors, boarding up windows, and roofing straps:**

You often hear about boarding up windows to prepare for a hurricane. This is a good idea if you live on or near the ocean or bays where you would feel the direct effect of wind. Although you may consider doing this in Tabb Lakes, the more pressing danger would be trees and branches falling on homes and garage doors buckling. Below are some web sites with info on how to secure your garage doors, windows, or make structural improvements.

**How to Board Up Windows:**

- [www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/retrofit/shutters.shtml](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/retrofit/shutters.shtml)
- [http://images.lowes.com/animate/hurricane/hur06\\_boardwindow.pdf](http://images.lowes.com/animate/hurricane/hur06_boardwindow.pdf)

Garage door info:

- [www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/retrofit/garage\\_doors.shtml](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/retrofit/garage_doors.shtml)

**Structural Improvements:**

- [www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/retrofit/straps.shtml](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/retrofit/straps.shtml)
- [www.floridadisaster.org/mitigation/rcmp/hrq/index.asp](http://www.floridadisaster.org/mitigation/rcmp/hrq/index.asp)

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**Tabb Lakes Homes Association**  
**P.O. Box 8088, Yorktown, Virginia 23693**  
**Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Request for Approval**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of request: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of modification:** (deck, patio, outbuilding, addition, fence, etc.)

**Plans and specifications:** Please attach a copy of plat with a sketch of proposed modification. Show approximate shape & measurements. List colors and materials to be used if needed for approval.

*I have provided an accurate representation of the planned modification. I will notify the ARC of any changes that need to be made which would affect their approval prior to resuming work on the project.*

Signature of homeowner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Homeowner check list:**

- County permits: 890-3522
- Call Miss Utility before digging, to locate underground utilities: 1-800-552-7001

**Committee Action** Date of receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ Approval by maintenance committee (i.e. mods affecting lake area)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as submitted
- \_\_\_\_\_ Approved subject to modifications as required by covenants
- \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved for reason listed on reverse side

**Architectural Review Committee signature and date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

You may return this form to any of the persons listed below for processing. Mailing will delay the review process by approximately one week. To submit online, see our website at <http://tabblakes.org/>

**Tabb Lakes Homes Association Officers**

| Office          | Name           | Telephone |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|
| President       | Dave West      | 534-7442  |
| Vice President  | Ron Maddox     | 867-7261  |
| Member-At-Large | Bob Spell      | 867-8184  |
| Member-At-Large | Bill Hopkins   | 867-9229  |
| Member-At-Large | Ellis Sharadin | 867-8816  |
|                 |                |           |

**TABB LAKES HOMES  
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 8088

Yorktown, VA 23693

<http://www.tabblakes.org>



# ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 21, TABB LIBRARY, 7-8:45 PM

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

| COMMITTEE/MANAGERS                | CHAIR                 | TELEPHONE | E-MAIL                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Activities Committee              | Vacant                |           |                          |
| Architectural Review Manager      | Dave West (temporary) | 534-7442  | arc@tabblakes.org        |
| Emergency Response Committee      | Lou Lafrenaye         | 867-8333  | tlert@tabblakes.org      |
| Grounds Maintenance Manager       | Bill Hopkins          | 867-9229  | grounds@tabblakes.org    |
| Lake Maintenance (Lake 1) Manager | Bob Spell             | 867-8184  | lakemaint1@tabblakes.org |
| Lake Maintenance (Lake 2) Manager | Gary Porter           | 867-9120  | lakemaint2@tabblakes.org |
| Neighborhood Watch Committee      | Christel Doucette     | 867-8863  | watch@tabblakes.org      |
| Newsletter Editor/Manager         | Shirley Flanagan      | 867-6860  | newsletter@tabblakes.org |
| Stormwater Committee              | Lou Lafrenaye         | 867-8333  | stormwater@tabblakes.org |
| Web-Site Manager                  | Clint Flanagan        | 867-6860  | webmaster@tabblakes.org  |
| Welcome Committee                 | Vacant                |           |                          |