

TABB LAKES NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2012



ON SPEEDERS AND SPOTLIGHTS—ELLIS SHARADIN

Board of Directors

- **President— Bob Spell,**
509-0009 (cell)
- **Vice President— Dave West,**
534-7442
- **Secretary—Ron Maddox,**
775-2866
- **Members at Large—**
Bill Hopkins, 867-9229;
Ellis Sharadin, 867-8816
- **Treasurer—Charles Rossi,**
867-8322

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In this Newsletter, I'd like to focus on a couple of areas around the community that affect the health, security, and the safety of our families.

Your association regularly receives complaints about speeding vehicles, particularly on Tabb Lakes Drive, Bridgewood Drive and Gardenville. In the past, we've tried to get more active enforcement from York County; but this remains an ongoing issue. Your Board of Directors will renew efforts to get County support, but meanwhile there are things you can do to help this situation. For one, keep in mind the old adage that "the squeaky wheel gets the grease." In other words, when you observe a vehicle speeding down your street, whether it's your neighbor or someone cutting through the neighborhood from Greenlands, pick up the phone and report it to the **Sheriff's Department** at **890-3630**. Even if you can't read the speeder's license plate number, the increased "noise level" we can generate will have a positive effect in helping us get attention to the problem.

As we move into Spring, we can also expect to see more driving activity by our younger drivers, not to mention larger numbers of children playing in the streets after school

and on weekends. If you have a teenage driver at home, be sure to remind them to keep their speed down and maintain a sharp lookout for children. It also helps to reiterate that, in our neighborhood, we have a \$200 additional penalty tacked onto the price of a speeding ticket and hold them personally responsible to pay the full amount if they are caught. We're often asked: "Why not install speed bumps on our main thoroughfares?" The short answer is that our streets are maintained by VDOT, not the association, and VDOT rules prohibit installation of speed bumps on public highways. Thus, we have to rely on outside help and reminders.

Moving on to another subject, let's talk briefly about home security. Again, with warmer weather, we often see a spike in the number of attempted break-ins, vandalism, and petty crime. One of the biggest deterrents we have to crime is the presence of good street lighting. Around the neighborhood we have numerous "night watch" streetlights. The Association pays the electricity bill for the lights, but responsibility for maintaining the lights falls to Dominion Power. If you see a street light that is out, don't assume your Board is going to make the call. Pick up the phone and notify **Dominion** at **888-667-3000** (continued on page 2)

ON SPEEDERS AND SPOTLIGHTS (CONTIN. FROM PAGE 1)

and they'll submit a work order on your behalf. It's an easy process: just give them the address closest to the street-lamp.

That said, our night watch lights are spaced every 4-5 homes and don't provide enough lighting to cover everyone. You can make a major difference here by replacing your garage

and porch lights with sensor lights that come on when anyone approaches the house. You'll not only save electricity by not having to leave a light burning all night, but the addition of your light when there are people passing by will serve as a strong deterrent to crime and vandalism by denying criminals the cover of darkness. Sensor lights

are readily available in the hardware sections of local stores. They're easy to install, and falling prices on these units have made them very affordable.

If you have additional ideas for improving security and safety of the neighborhood, please pass them along to any Board member; our contact numbers are listed on the first page of this newsletter.

At this writing, we still have no volunteers to run our **Neighborhood Watch program**. We would love to have new volunteers to reinvigorate this much-needed program. If you care enough for the safety of your family and your neighbors, won't you please consider getting involved?

YORK COUNTY CIVIL WAR 150TH ANNIVERSARY 2012 SCHEDULE

April 14-15
Artillery Through the Ages
April 21-29
National Park Week
May 5
Hunt for York County's History
(Magruder Community)

May 10 - 28
An American Turning Point:
The Civil War in Virginia
May 26
Civil War Balloon
Observation Exhibit



May 26-27
Civil War Week-end
May 26-28
Virginia Civil War
History Mobile

May 28
Memorial Day Ceremony
Monday, May 28th at 12:00 Noon
York Hall, 301 Main Street, in Historic Yorktown

STAY SAFE ON THE BUS (FROM YORKTOWN'S "CITIZEN NEWS")

These bus safety tips, provided by the YCSD Transportation Department, will help our students stay safe on the road.

- ◆ STOP on either side of the road when a bus displays flashing red warning lights and extends the stop signal arm.
- ◆ Do not pass the bus until the lights are turned off and the stop signal arm is retracted.
- ◆ Remember, a bus has to stop at all railroad crossings.
- ◆ Be nice, and allow room for a bus to merge if the driver has turned on its signal.
- ◆ Encourage children to speak softly when riding the school bus so they do not distract the driver.
- ◆ Never walk behind a bus. Always walk at least 10 steps away from the bus and be sure you can see the driver's face.
- ◆ Children should follow all bus safety rules posted at the front of the bus.



TREASURER’S REPORT—CHARLES ROSSI

As Treasurer of the Tabb Lakes Homes Association, it is my responsibility to keep track of the Association’s income and expenses, pay the bills, and make regular reports to the Board of Directors at their monthly meetings.

Here is a general overview of where our money comes from and how it will be spent in the upcoming year:

The Association’s income this year will be approximately \$70,600. Of this, \$69,800 comes from homeowners’ annual Association dues, \$650 comes from interest on our tax-free bond fund invest-

ments, and \$150 comes from newsletter ad sales.

Our expenses this year should be approximately \$67,000. Our biggest expenses, on an annual basis, are:

- ◆ Contingency Fund - \$22,300 that is set aside every year for possible future major lake expenses, although the Board can re-allocate it if needed. We have accumulated about \$200,000 in this Fund over the years.
- ◆ Electricity -\$14,000 (power for our streetlights, entrance lights, and lake fountains & lights).

- ◆ Property Management - \$9,000 (Covenant Enforcement and Architectural Review tasks that are handled by Cox & Lee Management)
- ◆ Lake Maintenance - \$8,000 (water treatments to control algae and other aquatic plants; maintenance and repair of the lake fountains; water quality tests).
- ◆ Grounds Maintenance- \$6,000 (landscaping of our entranceways on Rt. 17 and Rt. 134, and the common area near Lake 1)
- ◆ Insurance - \$4,000 (liability insurance for the Association

and property insurance for our entranceway brickwork and signs)

- ◆ Legal Fees - \$1,500 (costs incurred when disputes involving covenant compliance or payment of dues must be settled in court)
- ◆ The remaining expenses include: postage, taxes, water for our entrance sprinklers, dues collection expenses, and newsletter printing.

Any comments or suggestions from homeowners are always welcome.
(treasurer@tabblakes.org or 867-8322)

YCSD Calendar	
March 30—Early Dismissal	
April 2-6—Spring Break	
April 9—Schools & Offices	Closed
April 13—Report Cards	Issued
May 11—Early Dismissal	
May 28—Memorial Day	Holiday

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



The National Kickoff of the Great American Cleanup™ Hampton Roads, through the partnership of www.askHRgreen.org and Keep Virginia Beautiful, has been selected as one of the 2012 National Kickoff locations for the Great American Cleanup™! Get the latest news about the Kickoff at www.askHRgreen.org.
THE DATE of the Kickoff is April 27-28, 2012.
RESIDENTS and BUSINESSES can find out more at www.askHRgreen.org.

TABB LAKES EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE – LOU LAFRENAYE

Everyone Should Participate in Statewide Tornado Drill
Annual drill set for March 20 at 9:45 a.m.

Last year, 51 tornadoes hit Virginia, the second highest number on record. Ten people died, more than 100 were injured, and 212 homes and 17 businesses were destroyed. Nearly every part of the state was affected.

All Virginians need to practice taking cover from tornadoes. Plan now to participate in the Statewide Tornado Drill, set for **Tuesday, March 20, at 9:45 a.m.** Every home, business, organization, school and college can hold a tornado drill. If you can't participate at that time, then choose another time or date – the most important thing is to have a drill. If you have children, teach them what to do in the event of a tornado.

To start the drill March 20, the National Weather Service will

send a test tornado warning at about 9:45 a.m. that will trigger a tone alert and message on NOAA Weather Radio. This will prompt local radio and TV stations to broadcast a test message.



who are hearing impaired. They come in battery-powered models in case the power is out, and many also have AM/FM bands so you can hear local radio stations that may be broadcasting emergency information.

- ◆ Go immediately to a safe area – usually the lowest level of your home, office or school.
- ◆ Move to a windowless interior room, closet or hallway.
- ◆ Take a “drop, cover and hold” position. This means crouch as low as possible to the floor, facing down and covering your head with your hands.
- ◆ Get instructions on how to hold a drill at www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

In the meantime, get a NOAA Weather Radio with SAME alerts. This is the fastest way to get tornado warnings. These radios are available at electronics and sporting goods stores, discount and department stores, and online. Some have strobe lights for those

Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

Make sure you install these in your home and garage and inspect them regularly.

- ◆ Consider purchasing combination smoke/carbon monoxide detectors.
- ◆ Install them in sleeping areas and on every level of your home.
- ◆ Install them away from air vents.
- ◆ Interconnected smoke alarms are best because if one sounds, they all sound.
- ◆ Test smoke alarms monthly. Change alkaline batteries at least once a year. Use a date you already know as a reminder, such

as your birthday or when you change your clocks.

- ◆ Prepare and practice a fire escape route with everyone in your home, including children.

For more information go to www.usfa.dhs.gov/smokealarms

"Dual Pol" Radar comes to Virginia

The National Weather Service offices in Virginia are getting new radar technology that will help improve weather forecasts in the commonwealth. The new technology, called polarimetric Doppler radar (also called dual-polarization radar), will improve total precipitation estimates, ability to track heavy rainfall, ability to differentiate precipitation types and provide new severe thunderstorm and tornado signatures. The radar at NWS Wakefield has already been upgraded. For more information on this new radar, go to the following NOAA web site www.nssl.noaa.gov/research/radar/dualpol.php

LAWN CARE—RON MADDIX

Whether your approach to lawn care is do-it-yourself, or you are fortunate enough to have a service do the work for you, here is a quick list of springtime Do's and Don'ts for having a healthy lawn without spending any more than you have to spend. Maybe it will just jog your memory.

You should check with a nursery regarding advice for your particular type of lawn grass:

Do's

Pre-emergent Weed Control: Do use a pre-emergent crabgrass and weed seed control that contains Prodiamine™ as the active ingredient. Unlike other pre-emergents that only last for up to 90 days, Prodiamine continues to kill weed seed of all types all spring and summer.

Pre-season lawn mower check: Do get your mower out early and start it up to be sure that everything is working properly. Also, if your mower's blade needs to be sharpened, it a good idea to get this into a service

shop early, before they get swamped when the mowing season starts.

PH testing: Do have the PH level of your lawn tested professionally every 2-3 years. This will give you (or your service provider) a better idea of what the specific needs are of your particular lawn.

Directions on the labels: Do read all product labels and follow the recommended rates of application for any lawn product.

Raking: Do rake up any leaves that have trapped themselves under your shrubs. This will allow air to replace the leaves and help aerate and dry the soil that has gotten soaked over the winter.

Don'ts

Pre-emergent Weed Control: Don't apply pre-emergent weed control if you have seeded your lawn, as the pre-emergent weed control will kill the developing seeds. Instead wait until after your grass seed has

germinated and started to grow.

Grass Seeding: Don't plant cool season grass seed in the spring. Planting in spring exposes the seedlings to fusarium blight and other disease pathogens, plus the new grass will be exposed to the summer heat before their roots have had a chance to develop. Fall is a better time to plant cool season grass seed.

Fertilizer: Don't over-fertilize. A little fertilizer is good, but too much too early in the spring can cause problems like lots of top growth. Although it may look nice at first, top growth comes at the expense of your lawns' roots. Rather than go heavy on fertilizer in the spring, it is better to fertilize lightly throughout the season.

Pest Control: Don't use pest control as a preventative measure. Pesticides are expensive and some can cause significant damage to the environment. If you don't have

an actual problem with lawn insects, then don't use insecticides. And similarly, if you don't have a disease problem, then don't use fungicides.

SUMMARY

We hope this list has helped you understand some quick Do's and Don'ts for caring for your lawn. And that it helps you get your lawn off to a great start this year.

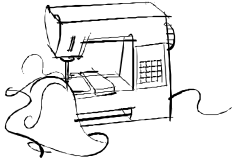
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www.tidewatergutters.com

These advertisements are not an endorsement by the Tabb Lakes Homes Association.

If you are a Tabb Lakes homeowner who owns your own business, you still must fill out a form from our web-site and submit it in order for your ad to appear in our newsletter.

If you are a business in our community, you must fill out the form and submit it with your check.

Please see our web-site for instructions.

<http://www.tabblakes.org>

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(757) 897-1082 (Cell)

Free Estimates

Tabb Lakes Homes Association
P.O. Box 8088, Tabb, Virginia 23693

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Request for Approval

Name: _____ Date of request: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Telephone: _____ Alt 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 have contacted my immediate neighbors to inform them of my proposed project. 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.

Homeowner's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Homeowner check list:

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

To Submit:

- E-mail form to Cox & Lee Management for minimum turnaround time: coxleemgt@gmail.com.
- Mail form to the following address:
 TLHA ARC Committee
 c/o Cox & Lee Management
 458C Wythe Creek Road, #141
 Poquoson, VA 23662

NOTE: This form can be downloaded from our webpage: www.tabblakes.org/arc.html.

Questions: Call Cox & Lee Management, 757-593-6088

Committee Action _____ Date of receipt: _____

____ Approved as submitted

____ Approved subject to modifications as required by covenants

____ Disapproved for reason listed on reverse side

Architectural Review Committee or Cox & Lee Management representative signature and date:

**TABB LAKES HOMES
ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 8088
Yorktown, VA 23693
<http://www.tabblakes.org>

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

COMMITTEE/MANAGERS	CHAIR	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Activities Committee	Vacant		
Architectural Review Manager	Cox & Lee Management	594-6088	coxleemgt@gmail.com
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	Vacant		
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	Susan Maddox	775-2866	vicepresident@tabblakes.org