



Golf Course View Cluster Association

September 2011

GCVCA Board of Directors

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Sandy Dresser

Vice President Bob Williamson

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Rob Aaron

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Architecture Sandy Dresser

Capital Improvements Bob Williamson

> Communication Sandy Dresser

> **Drainage** Bob Williamson Gary Villhauer

Landscape & Trees Patty Williamson

> Playgrounds Lori Allred Rob Aaron

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The next board meeting Oct. 11 at 7:30 pm at 2206.

A "Difficult" Month with Mother Nature

An earthquake, followed by a hurricane, followed by an unending downpour—what a month we've had! Happily the earthquake was only an "interesting experience" for most of us, and Irene only brought down one branch and spoiled our television watching for a day. But that rain two weeks ago was a different story altogether. One board member reported that, between Tuesday morning and Friday noon, her rain gauge collected 17.5 inches of rain. That is two inches more than the huge rain event we had in June a few years ago.

We know that a few of you experienced significant water damage during the most recent storm, but, in general, the drainage improvements we've made on common property since the last deluge worked exceedingly well. The dry river beds we built beside or behind Courtyards E and F and in front of 2088 in Courtyard A carried most of the runoff water into the storm drains as they are intended to do. The new plantings between 2086 and 2088 absorbed the rain and prevented a poolsized puddle from forming there. We didn't lose any top soil into the parking circle and the new grass swale between Courtyard D and the natural area by the swimming pool carried water safely into the natural area.

Drainage Committee Co-Chairs Bob Williamson and Gary Villhauer will be meeting with a drainage contractor in the next few weeks to discuss the scheduled work behind 2151 (see more information at right). If you have a drainage issue, on either your own property or common property near your house, you should contact Bob or Gary right away.

Yellow Curb Painting In October

We will be repainting the yellow curbs that mark no parking zones along Golf Course Drive and in the parking lots early in October. We will not be restriping the parking places or space numbers this time around, so you won't be required to park out on the street. However, it's wise to be sure that your cars are parked a safe distance away from any yellow curb to prevent damage to your vehicle.

Are You On the Email Network?

We are still interested in getting as many residents as possible participating in the clusteremail network we use to share important cluster news bulletins and share neighborhood concerns.

To join the network, just send us an email at **gcvca@golfcourseview.org**. If you prefer not to have your name and email address shared with the whole neighborhood, just request that we put you on the blind copy list.

New 5-Year Landscape Plan

At it's September meeting, the board of directors accepted a new 5-year Landscape Improvement Plan that was developed by the Landscape/Tree Committee this summer. We owe a big <u>thank you</u> to **chairman Patty Williamson** and the eight residents who comprised the committee: **Stephanie Cavanaugh** and **Marge Hogarty** from Courtyard A, **Mary Ann Borsetti** from Courtyard C, **Darya Villhauer** from Courtyard D, **Karen Durishin** and **Ken Kuskey** from Courtyard E and **Sandy Dresser** and **Jennifer Zoerkler** from Courtyard F.

The plan identifies the major landscape projects scheduled for completion each year starting in 2012 and includes a list of new trees to be planted to replace trees that we have lost over the years. It is designed to maintain the same \$16,000 a year budget allocation as in the past, of which at least \$9,000 is set aside for routine tree maintenance work each year and some money is set aside to support volunteer projects requested by homeowners.

In completing its work, the committee assessed the landscape and trees in and around each courtyard, identified areas that could be improved and then prioritized the resulting suggested projects. As was true for the previous 5-year plan, enhancements are specifically scheduled for every courtyard, and in general, the residents of the affected courtyards will have an opportunity to have input to the details of the work to be done and the plant material to be installed.

In 2012, two areas are scheduled for landscape enhancement. The first is the area in Courtyard A between 2074 and the steps down to the golf course beside the gully. The focus here will be to remove unwanted tree seedlings/saplings and weeds, control or remove the English ivy which threatens the health of the large trees, and develop a more open, attractive and manageable landscape going forward.

The second area is along the Reston Pathway behind Courtyards E and F. Along the S-curve on the steep hill, we continue to have a drainage issue that is badly eroding the landscaped bed and creating a dangerous section of the Pathway where, depending on the season, mud/ moss or black ice make walking on the Pathway hazardously slippery. The plan is to either enlarge the existing catch basin or add a second catch basin to divert as much runoff water as possible into the underground pipe that drains into the County storm sewer and then plant a drift of liriope or other soil-holding plants on the inside of the curve to absorb or slow any additional runoff water. The plan also includes the addition of new shrubs to give the landscaped bed a more finished appearance.