



ReView

Golf Course View Cluster Association

March 2012

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Landscape & Trees

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Next Board Meeting

Wed., April 10, 2172
7:30 pm.

2nd Quarter Assessments Due April 16th

If you pay your assessment in quarterly installments, the 2nd quarter payment is due by Monday, April 16th.

Send your check or money order payable to Golf Course View Cluster Association to GCVCA, PO Box 434, Oakton, VA 22124-0434.

Spring Comes Early This Year

You have to love spring in Golf Course View! The cherries, magnolias and daffodils are in bloom already and the dogwoods and azaleas can't be far behind.

The unusually warm weather has encouraged many of us to get out and walk around the neighborhood earlier than in recent years. This is a good time to remind ourselves that we all need to take care of our common spaces and make our sidewalks and street as safe as possible.

Those of us who regularly walk the neighborhood are aware of how many people drive faster than is safe on Golf Course Square and Golf Course Drive. Now that the children are out playing, please obey the speed limits—25 mph on Golf Course Square, 15 mph inside the cluster.

Parents, please be sure your children know where our playgrounds are and also know that the landscaped areas are not playgrounds. Children should not be permitted to play in our landscaped beds, which have been developed to enhance the appearance of our neighborhood and control runoff when it rains.

Dog owners, please be sure that you routinely pick up after your pets. If you see any dog owner ignoring this responsibility, please make note of the owner or the dog, the time of day and location and let a board member know. We'll clearly communicate our interest in keeping the neighborhood clean to the dog's owner.

For Those Planning Home Improvements

A lot of us have undertaken home improvements recently, and more are on the planning board. As we mentioned last month, we've experienced a lot of damage done to common property by contractors accessing our back yards. Please be sure that your contractor is aware that trucks and trailers cannot be parked on common property (street or parking lots) overnight, and should never be parked on our grounds or pathways. You and your contractor are solely responsible for repairing any damage done to our turf, landscaped beds, curb areas and walkways.

Landscape Update

The Landscape/Tree Committee has been busy the past few weeks. Last month all of the tree pruning and removals were completed for the year. A number of problematic trees were cut down and lots of potentially dangerous branches and deadwood were removed. There will be no more tree work done this year, except for storm damage cleanup and other emergency problems. If you have concerns about a tree or branch, please contact Patty Williamson to report the problem. Patty will evaluate the tree, and if appropriate have an arborist also evaluate it. She'll either put it on her "to do" list, or if it presents a clear danger, have it taken care of.

Contracts have been signed for two major landscape improvement projects that are scheduled to be done in the weeks ahead. Shenandoah Landscapers will be renewing the area between the gully and 2074 Golf Course Drive. They'll be removing brush and "volunteer" seedling trees, pulling the ivy down and away from the large trees, stabilizing the steep slope and planting a new weeping cherry tree in the gully. Along the common sidewalk in front of 2074, they'll be removing the old scraggly Japanese holly hedge, planting new ornamental grasses, heliobores and a rhododendron to give the area a more "finished" look.

Blake Landscapes will be working in the landscaped area behind 2151 where we recently had some drainage work done. They'll be planting a wide drift of liriopoe to stabilize the soil and slow rain water runoff along the curve of the Reston Pathway and adding a dozen mountain laurels to enhance this area that has always tended to feature native plants.

In addition, we will be adding two additional new trees. At the entrance to Courtyard F, where both a large pin oak and an old white pine tree have been removed in recent years, we'll be installing a Cryptomeria japonica similar to those installed several years ago on the island in Courtyard C. At the south end of the "hosta garden" behind Courtyard F we'll be installing a Himalayan birch, that will, in time, replace two declining white pine trees.

For those of you who are wondering, the annual spring landscape and parking lot cleanup is scheduled for next week. Crews will also be cutting back our liriopoe and ornamental grasses and mulching our landscaped beds. Because this is a new contractor, if you see any places that you think they missed, please call Sandy Dresser or send us an email at gcvca@golfcourseview.org.

Editor's Note:

My printer is acting rude again. If you got a newsletter with an ugly black line on the back, my sincerest apologies. A new one is on order.