



ReView

Golf Course View Cluster Association

July 2015

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Cluster Website

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gcvca@golfcourseview.org

Next Board Meeting

Sept. 8, 2015
7:30 pm

Green Everywhere

July is a month when greenery can get out of control, especially this year with all the rain. Here are a few ideas about keeping your garden looking neat.

- Don't let vines climb over your other plants.
- Trim shrubs, ground covers and ivies that are creeping onto the sidewalks.
- Look around every time you go outside. Pull one or two weeds every day.
- Go after that crabgrass.
- Dead-head your flowers. By removing spent blossoms, you will help your plant to grow more flowers instead of wasting energy to produce all those brown and ugly seeds.

If all that green seems overpowering, go for a few pops of color. Buy a couple of large annuals, on sale if possible. Geraniums and marigolds are great for sunny spots. Begonias and impatiens flourish in the shade.

Contributed by Marge Hogarty

Contractors List

The most up-to-date list of resident-recommended contractors is now available on the Cluster website. If you're getting ready to put on a new roof, replace your gutters, need a house painter, or looking for a good carpenter or landscape company, you may find the list of recommended contractors of help. At the website, www.golfcourseview.org, click on the Handbook and Standards Tab, then scroll down the page to Area Contractors and click on the list of companies.

Important Reminders

The Cluster requires the name and contact information (email address and/or phone number) of at least one resident of every townhouse. If you have not yet provided this information for yourself or your tenant, please do so as soon as possible. You can call Sandy Dresser at the phone number in the left-hand column of this page, or send us an email at gcvca@golfcourseview.org. This information enables us to contact you in the event of an emergency. If you prefer not to have your contact information shared with other residents, we'll honor your preference.

If you pay your cluster assessment quarterly, your 3rd quarter installment was due July 15th. Mail your check to GCVCA, PO Box 434, Oakton, VA 22124-0434.

The Board of Directors will not meet in August, and won't publish a newsletter unless there is essential information to share with you.

Enjoy the summer!

Golf Course Update

On June 30th, the attorney for Reston National Golf Course (RNGC) filed a pleading with the Fairfax County Circuit Court that included motions to dismiss the three petitions previously filed in May by a group of affected homeowners, Reston Association and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS). These three petitions requested a Writ of Certiorari regarding the ruling of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) that generally favored the golf course's interests.

Very simplistically, RNGC's motions to dismiss (which were anticipated) are based primarily on: (1) the assertion that the homeowners and RA have no standing to file an appeal of the BZA decision because RNGC has never submitted a specific development plan to the Zoning Administrator—thus the appealing property owners (individuals and associations) cannot be aggrieved by the BZA ruling, and (2) that the documentation (specifying the requirement that any plan to redevelop the golf course must first get BOS approval of an amendment to the County Comprehensive Plan, a revised PRC plan and a new Development plan) presented by the Zoning Administrator regarding the property in question was not available for the January 15, 2015 BZA hearing.

What this means is that the legal process is proceeding, and we are still waiting to see what happens next.

What's In Your Recycling Bin?

Last year about this time, we received a letter from VHI, our trash/recycling contractor, that warned us about a possible increase in the price of their services due to fees and fines levied by the county to process contaminated recyclables. We passed this letter along and asked all of us to be thoughtful about what we put in our recycling bins each Friday. Late last month the *Washington Post* published two articles (one of which made the front page) about the rising costs counties are experiencing because of the declining quality of and market for recycled materials. Recycling used to be a money maker; now it's a rising cost of doing business.

The problem seems to be a consequence of co-mingling recyclables. This important convenience for residents has apparently encouraged people to put all kinds of non-recyclable materials in their bins. According to the *Post* articles, the worst contaminants are plastic bags, waste food materials, packing foam, and scrap metal like coat hangers and mirror frames. The contaminants make the cost of processing the recyclables higher and significantly reduce the value of the resulting bales in the marketplace. Thus much of the processed recyclable material is dumped in landfills. It's a lose-lose situation—and it's costing everyone money.

If we want to recycle, we have to do it right: **NO plastic bags, unrinsed containers, food-encrusted paper or plastic containers, packing foam, metal objects except cans in our bins.** If we can't do it right, it's better to just put everything in our trash cans to begin with.