



The WREporter

The Voice of West River Estates

Volume 12 Number 3

Fall 2006

Message from the President

By Debra Patrick



FALL is definitely here and I hope everyone is enjoying some cooler temperatures. The end of summer Community Cookout was a nice success.

There was a new caterer this year that did a wonderful job. The D.J., clown, moon bounce, popcorn machine and snow cone machine are always a nice addition. There is a small group of volunteers that puts this together each year so if there is anyone that would like to help out or has suggestions please let someone on the Home Owner's Association know.

Here is a list of upcoming events:

- Halloween Party October 29th
- General HOA Meeting November 15th Tree
- Trimming beginning of December
- Decorating Street Lights beginning of December
- West River Estates Holiday Party December 8th

This year we are putting swags up on every street light for the Holidays. If there is anyone that is interested in helping with this please let Debra Patrick know 301-261-9745.

There are a number of streetlights that are out. Anyone is able to call and report this. If the street light is on someone's property you can simply call BGE 800-685-0123 and give the address. If the pole is not near an address, retrieve the pole number from the pole and give that to BGE along with the street name.

The vandalism has slowed down some but has not ended. There were vehicles this past summer that had driven down the path to the community pier and parked for the evening. Anne Arundel County police were called and the violators were approached by the AACO

so hopefully that will not happen again. There have been several instances of liquor bottles and fire works found at and close to the pier so please be aware when you are taking your children down there. If you notice any suspicious activity in our neighborhood or surrounding areas, please call Anne Arundel County Police 410-867-8610. The AACO Police have told us numerous times to call anything in and let them decide if follow up is needed. When you do this you are asked if you would like a follow up report; say yes and let the HOA know since we do keep a record of all incidents.

Thank you,
Debra Patrick



Social Committee

By Andrea Shove

I hope everyone has enjoyed their Summer! As you know Fall is fast approaching and that means our Halloween Party will be here soon. This year we will have it on Sunday, October 29 at 2pm. We will begin our parade at the corner of Birch Court and Plantation Boulevard and parade to my house at 610 Lavender Court. There will be a party that includes refreshments, games and crafts. Therefore, I will need volunteers to help, along with volunteers to bring snacks and drinks. Please call and let me know what you can do.

I would also like to try a holiday tree decorating party again. I have a bunch of new ideas and I am looking for someone to help me. I would like this event to be the first weekend in December. I am also looking for help with Santa. So if you think you might be interested in helping with this, please call or email me and I would love to share what I have come up with so far. My phone number is 410-956-3127 or my email is amshove5@aol.com.



I look forward to enjoying these moments with our children. I hope to see you all soon,
Andrea Shove

Reminder

Homeowner's Dues raised from \$300.00 to \$400.00 starting Jan 2007

Covenants



There are basketball hoops that are blocking sidewalks or are out in the street. The basketball hoops need to go on your property and should not be blocking any of the sidewalks.

Political signs are a covenant violation and should be removed from the front of your yard. Please refer to your covenants **ARTICLE VI Use Restrictions Section 6.02 i.**

There have been several complaints of dogs being left outside during the late evening hours or early morning hours. Please have respect for your neighbors and bring your dog(s) in if it is barking. Remember that when you are walking your dog(s) that they should be on a leash. This is not just a community law it is a County Law. When walking your dog(s) remember it is your responsibility to pick up after them especially when it is in a common area.



Trash Days are Wednesday morning and Saturday morning. Recycling Day is Wednesday only.



Remember to bring in your trash and recycling bins on those days.

Anne Arundel County Animal Laws

Article 12 Section 4-903 Public Nuisance

The owner of an animal may not permit the animal to be a public nuisance or to cause a public nuisance condition. Public nuisance includes the following acts by an animal:

- Molesting pedestrians
- Chasing vehicles

- Damaging property of someone other than the owner of the animal

Article 12 Section 4-904 Animal Disturbance Prohibited

It is unlawful for a person who owns, keeps, or has possession of an animal to permit the animal to disturb the quiet of a person or neighborhood.

Article 12 Section 4-905 Running at Large

“At Large” means off the property of an animals owner and not leashed and not under the control of a responsible person.

Article 12 Section 4-909 Removal of Animal Excreta

The owner of any animal shall be responsible for the removal of any excreta deposited by his or her animal on public walks, recreation areas, or private property other than his own.

Title 10 Penalty

Anyone violating section of Article 12 may be subject to a fine not less than \$50 and up to \$500

ARTICLE VI Use Restrictions Section 6.02 e

Trash and garbage containers shall not be permitted to remain in public view except on days of trash collection. No incinerator shall be kept or maintained upon any lot.

Fall 2006 Landscaping Update:

By Jack Mateosky

Another year of landscaping maintenance is beginning to wind down. 2006 saw some changes that the HOA decided to make with respect to our landscaping contractors. Joe Wing, a professional gardener and landscape consultant was hired to work to improve our various mulch beds and tree and shrub plantings. I feel good progress is being made in maintaining the neighborhood's appearance with further improvements coming this fall and spring. One of our goals is to add more colorful flowers and shrubs to the various beds to enhance their look throughout the year.



Because of the changes and the addition of Joe Wing, I feel Relms Landscaping, our main lawn care contractor, has had more time to focus on lawn care and side-walk and path edging. I think we have seen a marked improvement this year in their output and performance.

Some challenges presented themselves this year related to vandalism and the weather. Vandalism, both by automobile tire tracks and ruts, run down trees and lamp posts as well as spray paint have created some extra work for the HOA. Please be watchful of these incidents and report any and all suspicious activity to the HOA and the Anne Arundel Police at (410)222-8610 (Southern District) immediately.

The weather, namely several wind storms, knocked down tree limbs and trees all around the neighborhood. These storms brought to the HOA's attention the need to remove some large dead trees. We have removed one such tree from our main entrance on Plantation and MD468 before it damaged our stone entrance sign. There are at least two other trees which are on our list for removal. Remember to keep an eye out for your own property and remove dead trees before they fall on your house or your neighbor's.

If you have any landscaping suggestions or concerns please feel free to contact me via email or phone at your leisure.

Jack Mateosky
jmateosk@ieee.org
(410)867-3226

Landscape Committee

By Andy Wilson – from Scotts.com

Fall Weed Control

The grass in your lawn isn't the only plant enjoying the ideal weather conditions in the fall. Weeds will start to appear, and if not controlled will resurface again in the spring.

Take care of those weeds with your last lawn feeding of the year by applying [Scotts® Turf Builder® WinterGuard™ with Plus 2® Weed Control](#) as part of your [Scotts Annual Program](#). It kills [dandelions](#) and other broadleaf weeds completely, so you'll have fewer weeds next spring.

If there are scattered weeds in your lawn, spray them with [Ortho® Weed-B-Gon® MAX™ Weed Killer For Lawns Ready to Use](#). It kills the toughest lawn weeds without harming the grass, and it's Rain-Proof™ an hour after spraying.

Fall Lawn Diseases

The cool nights and heavy rains of the fall are great for lawns. Those same conditions also help turf grass diseases thrive. If you are out in your lawn and see a different color besides green, it could be one of the following lawn diseases.

- **Rust**

The most notorious of fall lawn diseases, rust looks just like, well, rust. Grass blades are flecked with orange and walking through an infected area will leave an orange dust on your shoes or boots. The disease generally disappears with a change in the weather, or fertilization. Rust seldom becomes a problem until the grass stops vigorous, active summer growth. This generally occurs after an extended dry period.

- **Powdery Mildew**

Powdery mildew is often ignored since it is more unsightly than damage-causing, although it will cause grass to slow its growth. Turf infected by powdery mildew will have a whitish, dull-gray powder on it as if it were covered with dried soapy water. Its presence suggests an imbalance in the turf's growing conditions, which could lead to future problems.

It is mostly found in shady, cool areas of the lawn and mostly affects Kentucky bluegrass. Often the problem can be remedied by simply trimming a few trees or shrubs. Treat the infected area with a systemic fungicide.

- **Slime Mold**

Slime mold can occur in the spring, summer or fall after heavy rains. It is similar to powdery mildew in its ability to coat the grass blades with a whitish appearance. No controls are necessary to control this fungus.

- **Red Thread**

Red thread is likely to appear on water-logged lawns, and particularly those that are deficient in nitrogen.

Bright pink fungal threads grow among the grass creating a pinkish hue. Later, the grass blades redden and then look bleached. It rarely forms patches larger than 12 inches across.

Mildly affected lawns can be given a shot of nitrogen or potassium and it will often control the problem. Scotts® Lawn Fungus Control is most effective as a preventative, but will also stop disease in progress.

These are just some of the turf grass diseases you might experience in the fall. Depending on the type of grass and the conditions, other lawn diseases may appear. We suggest consulting a professional in your area or contacting your local county extension office.

West River Estates Website



I am looking for someone to help maintain the WRE website that has prior web editing experience. This does not require much time. Please contact Colleen Horvath @ 410-867-4131 or horvath11@comcast.net.

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE??????

By Andy Wilson



I am trying to get the common area on Sweetwater Drive a little more user friendly. I like the idea of another section of the community being transformed into a place that you can go and sit and watch your children play. There is footwork that has to be completed before any of that could even be considered. The first thing is finding out if we can get approval from the county to put any type of structure in that area. This is why I am trying to recruit other homeowners in the community that could help with this project. If you have any interest please e-mail Andy Wilson @ andy.wilson@eds.com.

Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time	Location
Halloween Parade/Party	October 29	2:00 pm	Corner of Birch and Plantation
General HOA Meeting	November 15	7:30 pm	West River United Methodist Center
Tree Trimming	First Weekend in December		
Decorating of Street Lights	First Weekend in December		
West River Estates Holiday Party	December 8		West River Yacht Club

West River Estates Directory

By Mia Jones

Welcome to our new residents. If you would like to be included in our West River Estates Directory please email or complete the following form. We only include people that forward their information. New directories will be distributed in the New Year.

West River Estates Directory

To be included in the directory, please submit the following information to Mia Jones at 641 Plantation Blvd. or Miabjones@aol.com.

Last Name: _____

Family Members' First Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____



From the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society

By Mavis Daly

TOP ENTERTAINERS, ARTISTS TO APPEAR AT SHADY SIDE OYSTER FESTIVAL OCTOBER 15

A full slate of entertainers, artists, authors, craftsmen, and food vendors will be on hand at the eighth annual West River Heritage Day Oyster Festival from 12:30 until 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 15, at the Captain Salem Avery House Museum, 1418 E. W. Shady Side Road, sponsored by the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society. The day will also mark the grand opening of the Museum's new pier where the oyster gardens will be in full operation with demonstrations.

Musicians will provide entertainment throughout the day including Janie Meneely, Dan Wilson, Ship's Company Chanteymen, the Shady Side Sour Notes, and the Good Deale Bluegrass Shop Band. Pam Offer will be on hand with her famous crab cakes, and Whitman Catering will have their oyster stew, among other food items. Craftsmen and authors and the Museum Shop will have displays and items for purchase. Games and crafts will take place in the children's activity corner including face painting, harvest crafts, oyster culling and tonging games, pound need croquet, and pumpkin decorating.

A new feature this year will be a silent auction. There will be many enticing items offered for bids.

Mrs. Avery's Tea tours will bring visitors to the kitchen where samples of the cakes and cookies typical of the 1870's will be served. Homemade desserts will be for sale on the porch where guests are invited to "sit a spell" and enjoy the view of the West River and festivities on the grounds.

Topping off the afternoon will be the drawing of the winner of the \$10,000 raffle sponsored by the Society. Ten dollar tickets will be for sale at the Festival or in advance by calling 410 867 4486.

Admission to the West River Heritage Day Oyster Festival is \$5. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Parking will be available at the nearby Shady Side ball fields with free shuttle service. There will be handicapped parking at the Museum. For more information, call the Museum at 410 867 4486.

The event is one in a series of South County Fall Heritage Days events, made possible through a Four Rivers Heritage Area mini-grant. For more information on South County Fall Heritage Days visit www.fourriversheritage.org. This program has been

financed in part with State Funds from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, an instrumentality of the State of Maryland.

EXHIBIT ON SHADY SIDE HISTORY TO OPEN AT SHADY SIDE MUSEUM SEPTEMBER 24

"Shady Side's Got History!," an exhibit which is the culmination of a year-long partnership between the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society and its Captain Salem Avery House Museum and the Shady Side Elementary School, will be opened at the Museum, 1418 EW Shady Side Road, on Sunday, September 24, from 1 to 4 p.m. This family friendly event is free and open to the public.

In the spring of 2005, the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society teamed up with educators from Shady Side Elementary School on this project, and activities relating to the community's history were conducted this past school year at all grade levels to expose students to the history and culture of Shady Side, and engage them actively in researching and telling the story of the village. Students learned about local history and became performers, singers, dancers, artists, interviewers, historical researchers, writers and quilters.

Art teacher Sarah Sheckells, one of the dedicated group of teachers from Shady Side Elementary School who planned and organized this project, commented, "History, culture, and the lifestyle of local residents were incorporated into the cultural arts curriculum."

Last April nearly 30 long time Shady Side residents participated in an oral history day at the School, sharing their memories of growing up in Shady Side.

"The most important part of the Society's mission is to share local history and culture, said Museum Director Janet Surret, adding, "This exhibit was a hand-on way to get the children involved, connecting past and present."

The exhibit is sponsored by a Freeman Foundation F.A.C.E.S. grant, and a Maryland Historical Trust Museum Enhancement grant. The opening celebration is one in a series of "Fall Heritage Days" sponsored in part by the Four Rivers Heritage Area, Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.