



THE MESSENGER

The Official Newsletter of Smithy Glen

October - December 2024



ANDOVER COURT * CHADWICK COURT * CRESCENT COURT * DURHAM COURT * FOUNDRY COURT * HAMLET COURT * KENSINGTON COURT
KINGSTON COURT * LINDEN COURT * MONUMENT COURT * STERLING COURT * WEXFORD COURT * WROUGHT IRON BEND

The Smithy Glen Board of Directors holds open meetings every other month for the residents, on the 4th Tuesday, at 7PM at the Clubhouse.

The *open forum meetings* that will be held in the third quarter of 2024 will be on Oct 22nd - Annual Meeting. All residents are invited to ask questions and give their views on community issues. We look forward to seeing you there!



From the President's Desk

What Your Association Board Does for You: As a recognized homeowners association, our community has a board to help our HOA run smoothly. The board consists of volunteers who execute a wide variety of tasks you may not be aware of; however, their work affects every single resident. One of the most important things the board does is create and enforce the association rules. While some residents may not like being told what they can and can't do, ultimately the board is looking out for the greater good. By enforcing the rules, the board is doing its best to keep property value up and conflicts down. Of course, the board wants to make sure the rules are beneficial for the majority—and hopefully all—residents. Another major responsibility of the board is to collect assessments from homeowners. Collecting this money is important for the stability of the association, because the assessments pay for the common elements enjoyed by all residents. Assessments also help to replenish the reserve funds, which pay for any major repairs the community may need. The board is responsible for the association's finances, and collecting assessments is how it ensures that the association remains solvent. Finally, the board acts on behalf of the community by hiring attorneys, contractors and other professionals who help better the community.

Board members also help conceive and lead many of the projects that will improve the HOA. While it's a big job, board members are happy to serve the residents and make the community a great place to call home. So why not learn more about what these volunteers do by talking to your board members, attending an open board meeting or even running for a seat on the board during our next election? The more people we have looking out for our association, the stronger it will be.

Respectfully,

SG President

Coventry Neighborhood Calendar

OCT 2024 ACTIVITIES

7 Coventry HOA MTG 7:00 PM
8 Ferguson Glade MTG 7:00 PM
12 Fall Yard Sale 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
22 Smithy Glen Annual MTG 7:00 PM
28 Architectural Review Committee MTG 7:00 PM

NOV 2024 ACTIVITIES

6 Finch Terrace MTG 7:00 PM
12 Ferguson Glade MTG 7:00 PM
13 Coventry HOA Annual MTG 7:00 PM @Coventry Elem 25
Architectural Review Committee MTG 6:30 PM

DEC 2024 ACTIVITIES

5 Light Contest
9 Coventry HOA MTG 7:00 PM
10 Ferguson Glade Annual MTG 7:00 PM
23 Architectural Review Committee MTG 6:30 PM

Coventry Book Club - Next meeting is October 21 at 7:00 PM at the Clubhouse. Theme is "Unsung Heroes of WWII". There was a great showing during the first meeting. They are going to meet every month. Come out and meet some of your neighbors and enjoy wonderful discussion. If you have questions e-mail madawson555@aol.com



CALLING ALL CREATIVE MINDS!

Join Our Smithy Glen HOA Newsletter Team!

Our Newsletter Editor has relocated from the neighborhood so we are currently on the lookout for a talented individual to serve as our Newsletter Editor! Do you have a few hours to volunteer every quarter? Are you passionate about communication and community engagement?

If you're ready to make a positive impact and play a vital role in fostering a sense of community within our neighborhood, we want to hear from you!

To apply or learn more, please contact the main office.

Safe Halloween is a kid's delight. It's a blast to dress up in costumes, go trick-or-treating, attend parties and, most of all, eat candy. At the same time, Halloween can be scary for parents. Costumes can be dangerous, too much candy can be sickening and walking around at night can be risky. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer these tips (in anagram form) to make sure your little ghouls and goblins have a safe Halloween: **S** – Swords, knives and similar costume accessories should be short, soft and flexible. **A** – Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Children should walk in groups or with a trusted adult. **F** – Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see trick-or-treaters. **E** – Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before they're eaten. **H** – Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help see and help others see you. **A** – Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it when done to avoid skin irritation. **L** – Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible. **L** – Lower the risk for serious eye injury by avoiding decorative contact lenses. **O** – Only walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe. **W** – Wear well-fitting masks, costumes and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips and falls.

E – Eat only factory-wrapped candy. Avoid eating homemade treats unless you know the cook. **E** – Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. **N** – Never walk near lit candles or other open flames. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes. If you're hosting a party or expecting trick-or-treaters: • Provide healthy treats, such as individual packs of raisins, trail mix or pretzels.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ NOTES FROM YOUR BY-LAWS

ELECTION SIGNS

Political Signs no larger than 18" x 36" may be placed on private property. They may be displayed up to one month before an election and must be removed 48 hours after the election.

LIGHTING (Decorative)

Holiday lights shall not be operative prior to Thanksgiving, and not later the following 7th of January. They must be totally removed by January 22nd. The ARC suggests that you make sure your lighting display is not objectionable to your neighbors or adjacent properties, or across the street from you.

SOME THINGS ARE WORTH REPEATING!

Our past newsletters have addressed issues that may not be comfortable, but necessary to talk about. We want to maintain a positive tone but need to be realistic about the issues that neighbors are concerned about. So, let's review a few of the issues that continue to be in the top Facebook and CAF discussions and are raised by our residents during open meetings.

DOGS!!!!

Be a Good Neighbor!

During almost every Meeting, Smithy Glen residents urge the Board to increase efforts in educating residents about the issue of dogs leaving waste in flower beds. Despite repeated mentions in past newsletters, there seems to be a limit to what can be done. The plea remains for residents to demonstrate courtesy towards their neighbors by refraining from allowing their pets to relieve themselves in flower beds.

Without a name or picture, the Board's ability to address the issue is severely limited. However, it begs the question: why should residents feel compelled to report on each other just to prevent dogs from relieving themselves in their neighbors' flower beds? And why are multiple time offenders not learning from the excessive fines? We've been having a horrible time with people just letting their dogs relieve themselves, and make no effort to clean up their mess. If you have a dog, it's your responsibility to clean up after them. If you see someone not cleaning up, report it, give a description - and it's even better if you know where the dog resides. Fill out a CAF! It's the only way to help solve the problem. As responsible pet owners, it is our duty to keep our furry friends safe and happy while also being respectful of our neighbors and community. Using a leash and picking up after your dog are not only CHOA mandates, but also important steps in being a good neighbor. Picking up after your pet helps keep our community clean and enjoyable for all. It's important to remember that our actions impact those around us, and it's our responsibility to be considerate of our neighbors who walk the paths and the children who run and play in the grassy common areas.

Smithy Glen governing document titled "Design Document Smithy Glen HOA Sub", Use restrictions, para G, page 8, Animals, states:

No animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind shall be raised, bred, or kept upon any Lot or within any townhouse thereon or in the Common Area, except such dogs, cats, or other household pets as may be permitted by the rules and regulations adopted by the Association. Homeowners are restricted to two four legged Pets. The document also clearly states that No animals should be allowed to run free. *All dogs must be on a leash.*



York County School Zone Camera Project

In a major initiative to enhance the safety of children in our community, York County is launching new school zone speed enforcement cameras. Starting September 25, 2024, these cameras will be operational and issue citations to drivers who exceed the speed limit by more than 10 MPH in designated school zones. To ensure a smooth transition, there will be a 30-day warning period beginning August 26, 2024, during which violators will receive warnings instead of citations. This period aims to educate drivers and encourage compliance before enforcement begins. Go-Live date is September 25, 2024 and the citation cost is \$100. The cameras will be located at Bruton High, Dare Elementary, Grafton Bethel Elementary, Seaford Elementary, Tabb Elementary and York High. Our primary concern is the safety of our children. By implementing school zone speed cameras, the Sheriff can enforce speed limits more effectively, even when officers are not physically present. This technology ensures continuous monitoring and enhances the safety of school zones.



NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

Online County Magazine:
York County Citizen news is

available free on-line at:

<https://www.yorkcounty.gov/1610/Citizen-News-Quarterly>.



This is a great resource to learn about the Fall activities, Park hours, Yorktown Market Days, Open Air Concerts, and other happenings in Yorktown.

New to the area and not sure how to navigate County Offices and Services? for a complete list of available services, visit the "HOW DO I?" page at <https://www.yorkcounty.gov/9/How-Do-I>



Have you visited the **Yorktown Learning Garden**? Located at 301 Goodwin Neck Road, it was established by the Virginia Cooperative Extension-York County/Poquoson Master Gardeners established the Learning Garden in 1994 as an educational garden designed to display ornamental plants that thrive on the Peninsula. Each plant is marked with the botanical and common name to help you identify the plant and species. The Learning Garden is open to the public and anyone wanting to take a self-tour is welcome to do so. Plant lists may be found in the mailbox within each garden section.

ARC

A quick reminder - if you plan on doing any work to the exterior of your residence (windows, doors, fence etc) before you complete the work, you must have an approved ARC request. If you fail to get approval prior to completing the job, you face having to remove or replace the completed work - don't risk the large financial input!



SATURDAYS

APRIL 13 TO OCTOBER 26

(except May 4 & Oct. 5)

8 AM TO 12 PM

Riverwalk Landing
425 Water Street, Yorktown

2024 Themed Markets

APR 13	GO GREEN MARKET
APR 20	SISTER CITIES FRENCH MARKET
APR 27 & 28	PIRATE INVASION MARKET
MAY 11	VINTAGE MARKET/CAR SHOW ON MAIN STREET
JUL 13	FUN IN THE SUN MARKET
AUG 3 & 10	NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK
SEP 7	FIRST RESPONDERS MARKET
OCT 12	FALL FESTIVAL
OCT 19	YORKTOWN VICTORY MARKET
OCT 26	PAWS AT THE RIVER
NOV 9 & 10	MARITIME FESTIVAL
NOV 16	HARVEST FESTIVAL
DEC 14	MISTLETOE MARKET

Some themed markets have extended hours. See back for details.



YORKTOWNMARKETDAYS.COM



Smithy Glen Yard of the MonthWe've had a great start of the year with yards of the month. The homeowners clearly went above and beyond in the care of their flower beds and exterior of their houses, the entire Community benefits from their care. Let's keep up the good work - we're always looking for that next residence to nominate for YOM, maybe it could be you! Winners so far this year:

- 200 Hamlet Court (May)
- 501 Kingston Court (June)
- 302 Crescent Court (July)
- 207 Andover Court (Aug)
- 203 Hamlet Court (Sep)



Be Prepared

York County's Guide to Hurricane Season

As the Atlantic Hurricane Season approaches, it's essential for everyone in York County to be ready. Hurricanes can bring dangerous conditions like high winds, heavy rain, and flooding, causing significant damage and disruption. Predicted as an extremely busy season, it's vital for everyone to understand the importance of readiness.

Emergency Kit

Stock up on water, non-perishable food, flashlight, batteries, first aid supplies, and meds.



- Water
- Non-perishable food
- Flashlight
- Batteries
- First aid kit/Medications
- Personal hygiene items
- Copies of important documents
- Chargers and backup battery
- Multi-purpose tool
- Whistle to signal for help
- Manual can opener
- Cash
- Emergency blanket
- Pet supplies if applicable



Secure Your Home

Strengthen windows, doors, and roofs. Trim trees and secure outdoor items to prevent damage.



Plan Ahead

Develop a family emergency plan with evacuation routes and communication strategies.



Stay Informed

Develop a family emergency plan with evacuation routes and communication strategies.

Emergency Contacts and Resources

- York County Department of Fire and Life Safety: (757) 890-3600
- National Weather Service (Wakefield): <https://www.weather.gov/akq/>
- Know Your Zone: <https://knowyourzoneva.org>
- York County Emergency Alerts (York Alert) : Sign up for notifications and alerts that provide critical information quickly. Visit: <https://www.yorkcounty.gov/376/York-Alert>



For more information, visit the [website](#) or call 757-890-3600, Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In an emergency, always call 911.



Household Chemical Collections and Computer Recycling 2024 Schedule of Events



*Providing environmentally safe disposal to the residents of Williamsburg, James City County,
York County, Hampton and Poquoson since 1997.*

Events are only for residents of the above listed communities; proof of residency may be required.

	<u>Williamsburg/ James City County</u>	<u>York County</u>	<u>Hampton</u>	<u>Poquoson</u>
Location:	Warhill High School 4615 Opportunity Way Williamsburg	105 Service Drive, Yorktown (enter from County Drive off Goodwin Neck Road)	Hampton Coliseum Parking Lot Coliseum Drive Hampton	Poquoson Swimming Pool Parking Lot Municipal Drive Poquoson
Time:	8:00AM—12:00 Noon	8:00AM—12:00 Noon	8:00AM—12:00 Noon	8:00AM—12:00 Noon
Dates:	February 10, 2024 April 13, 2024 June 8, 2024 August 10, 2024 October 12, 2024	March 9, 2024 May 11, 2024 July 13, 2024 September 14, 2024 November 9, 2024	March 16, 2024 May 18, 2024 July 20, 2024 September 21, 2024 November 16, 2024	October 5, 2024

ALL EVENTS END PROMPTLY AT NOON!

WE WILL ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING:

► **Computers:** Desktop and laptop computers, servers, computer monitors, cell phones, computer wiring, desktop printers including multifunction printers or "All in Ones", fax machines, and desktop photocopiers and scanners.

*** **Please note that we can only accept the computer items listed above.**

► **Household Maintenance:** latex paint, oil based paint, stains, solvents, glue, varnishes, adhesives

► **Automotives- limited to:** gasoline and other fuels, waxes, gas/oil mixtures, brake fluid, engine cleaner, tar remover.

NOTE: Motor oil and antifreeze are not accepted at most events since many communities already accept them at no charge. Call or check our website at www.vppsa.org for more information.

► **Lawn & Garden:** insecticides, weed killers, pesticides, fertilizers, pest strips

► **Household Cleaning:** cleaners for oven, drain, toilet, septic tank etc., floor waxes, metal polishes, bleach, degreasers,

► **Miscellaneous:** charcoal fluids, dyes, kerosene, pool chemicals, fluorescent lights up to 8 ft, all compact fluorescents (CFLs), and rechargeable batteries (alkaline batteries are NO LONGER ACCEPTED, please put in your regular trash).

If you have any questions, please call us at 757-259-9850 or go to our website at www.vppsa.org

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT:

- X Televisions
- X ALKALINE Batteries
- X Explosives
- X Ammunition or Gun Powder
- X Household Trash
- X Business or Medical Waste
- X Radioactive Products
- X Large quantities of unknown materials
- X We do not have the ability to pump nor will we allow containers larger than 35 gallons

SMITHY GLEN BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Rob Fitzmaurice
VICE PRESIDENT: Ron Moore
TREASURER: Ann Goodwin
SECRETARY: MaryAnn Dawson
DIRECTOR: Matt Cobaugh

IMPORTANT LOCAL NUMBERS

SUICIDE CRISIS LIFELINE: 988
YORK COUNTY POLICE
Emergency: 911
Non-emergency: 757- 890-3621
Sheriff's office: 757- 890-3630
YORK COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 757-890-9631
DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER OUTTAGE
Report Outages: 888-667-3000
YORK COUNTY RECYCLING: 757-890-3780

Contact the HOA office at 757-867-9200

E-mail: coventryhoa@verizon.net

Office Hours: Closed: Sat/Sun/Mon

Tue/Wed/Thur: 10am - 6pm

Fri: 2pm – 5pm

Main Website: www.coventryhoaofyorktown.org
www.facebook.com/CoventryNeighborhoodHOA
www.facebook.com/groups/CoventryWatch

HAVE AN IDEA FOR ARTICLES FOR OUR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS?

Please be sure to let us know by dropping a note in the main office!
Newsletters are produced quarterly.

The deadline for submission for publication in the Jan - Dec issue is December 15, 2024.

Thanks!

PAINTING - We continue to paint on our projected schedule and can only stay on schedule with your help. Prior to painting, approximately a week before, you'll receive a notice that painting/power washing will be completed - it's imperative you move items off your porches pads and out of the way. If you fail to move your items, the house will not be cleaned/painted, and no make-up dates will be honored. It's a simple task to take care of - please do your part.

FENCE REPAIR - The Smithy Glen board would like to thank everyone who stepped up and made much needed repairs to their fences. The new and repaired fences look exceptional! Remember that the wood needs to cure before staining, usually 3 months after installation. Also, be sure to use only the Smithy Glen approved color Sherwin Williams SuperDeck Oil Based Semi Transparent - "Riverwood" or Olympic Elite Semi-Solid "Canyon Sunset".

Share Your Plants

Do you have plants or bulbs you no longer want to maintain in your yard? Are you moving and are looking for ways to share those plants in pots? Plants such as Hosta, Liriope, and Azalea (just to name a few) can always be repurposed by the Beautification Committee to add to areas around Smithy Glen.

