



September - October 2026

Coventry Chronicles

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSPAPER FOR THE COVENTRY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION IN YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA



HAPPY FALL!

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Fall is just around the corner, bringing the excitement of a new school year, cooler temperatures, and a busy season in our community. As everyone settles back into their fall routines, we invite you to reconnect with your neighbors and take part in the events that make our neighborhood a great place to live. Start setting aside items for our October 10th Community Yard Sale, where one person's no-longer-needed treasures can become someone else's great find. Join our monthly Book Club if you're looking to meet fellow readers, and don't miss our October 25th Halloween Costume Parade and Trunk-or-Treat—a fun tradition for families and neighbors of all ages. We're also looking for volunteers to lend a few hours during our Community Beautification Day on September 26th to help keep our neighborhood looking its best. Finally, we encourage everyone to attend our upcoming HOA meetings. Your ideas, questions, and participation help shape the future of our community, and we'd love to see both familiar and new faces this fall!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Coventry HOA

PRESIDENT: David Dierberger, *Ferguson Glade*
VICE PRESIDENT: Stephene Orlando, *Justinian Grove*
TREASURER: Trevor Webb, *Lilburne Meadows*
SECRETARY: Gary Cusack, *Justinian Grove*
DIRECTOR: Jeffrey St Sauver, *Justinian Grove*

Smithy Glen HOA

PRESIDENT: Robert Fitzmaurice
VICE PRESIDENT: Ron Moore
TREASURER: Shana Steiner
SECRETARY: Vacant
DIRECTOR: Matt Cobaugh

Ferguson Glade HOA

PRESIDENT: Marcus Carasquero
VICE PRESIDENT: Sue Crandall
TREASURER: Tammy Dierberger
SECRETARY: Cindy Bloxom
DIRECTOR: Judy Finley

Finch Terrace HOA

PRESIDENT: Joe Klingshirn
DIRECTOR: Michael Bray
DIRECTOR: Sam Mabry
DIRECTOR: Juana Connors-Trujillo

Site Manager

Danielle Cooke

Site Administrator

Janez McLaurin

Maintenance Manager

Eric Rowlands

Upcoming CHOA Meetings

All meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm at the Coventry Clubhouse (check Facebook for any date changes) and are open to all residents. Homeowners are welcomed and **encouraged** to attend!

CONTACT US

Coventry Homeowners Association
100 Wrought Iron Bend
Yorktown, VA 23693

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday, 10am - 6pm
Phone: 757-867-9200
Email: office@coventryhoa.com
Fax: 757-766-0249

COMMITTEES

Architectural Review

CHAIRPERSON: Guy Hagen, *Justinian Grove*
Gary Cusack, *Justinian Grove*
Hunter Thurmond, *Justinian Grove*

Beautification

CHAIRPERSON: Stephen Orlando, *Justinian Grove*
Cassie Ansel, *Justinian Grove*
Mary Ann Dawson, *Smithy Glen*
Gifford Gayle, *Smithy Glen*
Ann Goodwin, *Smithy Glen*
Gioia Norton, *Ferguson Glade*

Social and Recreation

Jeffrey St Sauver, *Justinian Grove*

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Coventry Book Club

Mary Ann Dawson, *Smithy Glen*

Coventry Sailfish Swim Team

<https://coventrysailfish.swimtopia.com>

CHOA SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

<https://coventryhoaofyorktown.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/CoventryofTabbVAHOA>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Coventrywatch>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/coventryhomeowners>

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 OUTAGE

Report Outages: 888-667-3000

YORK COUNTY RECYCLING: 757-890-3780



From the President's Desk

Dear Coventry Neighbors,

As summer gives way to the crisp days of autumn, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued support, patience, and pride in our community. Fall is one of the most beautiful times of the year in Coventry, offering the perfect opportunity to enjoy our walking trails, scenic lakes, and the changing colors that make our neighborhood such a wonderful place to call home.

This year has brought both opportunities and challenges, but it has also demonstrated the strength and resilience of our community. While we continue to make improvements throughout Coventry, including the restoration of Patrick Lake, irrigation upgrades, landscape enhancements, and improvements to our common areas, we remain committed to preserving and enhancing the quality of life that makes Coventry such a desirable place to live.

We are also pleased to share an update on the **Coventry Trail Rehabilitation Project**. York County has secured all necessary easements to proceed with the rehabilitation of the asphalt trail that runs along Owen Davis Boulevard and Coventry Boulevard. The first phase of the project will focus on the sections of trail that are in the greatest need of repair. The County is currently finalizing funding and contractor arrangements following the transition into the new fiscal year. While that process has taken a little longer than originally anticipated, the current goal is to complete the first phase of the rehabilitation before **January 1, 2027**. As construction schedules are finalized, we will continue to keep residents informed of anticipated start and completion dates, as well as any temporary impact on roadways or trails. We appreciate York County's partnership and look forward to seeing this long-awaited improvement become a reality.

Earlier this year, our nation celebrated **America's 250th Anniversary**, marking two and a half centuries of freedom, perseverance, and opportunity. It was a meaningful milestone that reminded us of the importance of community, service, and working together for the common good. Those same values are reflected here in Coventry through neighbors helping neighbors, volunteers giving their time, and residents working together to make our community a place we are all proud to call home.

Community safety continues to be one of the Board's highest priorities. As the days grow shorter and more residents enjoy evening walks, we ask everyone to remain aware of their surroundings and report any suspicious activity around our neighborhoods, parks, trails, recreation areas, or common property. If you observe suspicious behavior, please contact the **York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency Dispatch at (757) 890-3630**. Your vigilance and willingness to report concerns are invaluable in helping keep Coventry a safe place for all.

As we gather with family and friends during the upcoming holiday season, I encourage each of us to continue building the sense of community that makes Coventry special. A friendly wave, lending a helping hand to a neighbor, or simply taking pride in our homes and common areas all contribute to making our neighborhood stronger.

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From the President's Desk

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As summer gives way to the crisp days of autumn, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued support, I encourage you to read the accompanying article, "**Clubhouse Pool Restoration Update.**" It provides a detailed overview of the challenges we've encountered, the work completed to date, and the steps we are taking toward restoring this important community amenity. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work toward a long-term solution.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continued trust, involvement, and commitment to Coventry. I wish you and your family a wonderful fall season filled with good health, happiness, and time well spent with those you love.

Warm regards,

David Dierberger

David Dierberger
President, Coventry Homeowners Association

Your Voice. Your Neighborhood. Your Future.

Join us at the next HOA meeting and help shape the community we all call home.



SAVE THE DATE:

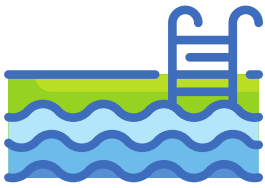
THE CHOA ANNUAL HOMEOWNER MTG
will be held on 9 NOVEMBER 2026 @ 7:00pm
at Coventry Elementary School



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE CHOA BOARD?

Fill out the Coventry Candidate Interest Form on pg 23 and turn it into the office!

We Look Forward to Seeing You!



CLUBHOUSE POOL RESTORATION UPDATE

Working Together Toward a Long-Term Solution

Many homeowners have asked about the status of the Clubhouse Pool, and we want to provide a comprehensive update on where things stand and what has been discovered throughout this process.

First and foremost, we want to thank our residents for their patience and understanding. We know the closure of the Clubhouse Pool has been disappointing, and the Board shares that disappointment. Unfortunately, the extent of the damage has proven to be much greater than anyone initially anticipated.

How We Got Here

The first signs of a problem were discovered in January after an abnormal water loss was observed. Due to winter weather and freezing temperatures, a thorough investigation could not begin until conditions improved in the spring.

Our initial inspection revealed a significant underground plumbing failure that resulted in the loss of more than **100,000 gallons of water** beneath and around the pool. While freezing temperatures may have contributed to the initial failure, subsequent investigations revealed that the plumbing issue was only part of a much larger problem.

After repairing the initial break, the pool was refilled. However, the water level would only rise to a certain point before dropping again. This prompted a second, more extensive investigation.

Once the pool was drained, contractors discovered that **four separate return lines beneath the pool had sheared at their 90-degree fittings in nearly the exact same location**. This unusual pattern strongly suggested that the pool itself had shifted rather than the pipes simply failing independently.

All four lines were repaired, pressure-tested, and confirmed leak-free before the pool was refilled.

Unfortunately, after refilling, the water level dropped again to approximately the same level. Additional cracking became visible, and several tiles began separating from the pool structure. At that point, it became clear that the problem extended beyond broken plumbing.

Further Investigation

To better understand what was happening beneath the pool, the Board authorized a comprehensive Ground Penetrating Radar (GPRS) investigation.

The results confirmed our concerns.

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CLUBHOUSE POOL RESTORATION UPDATE

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The scan identified multiple underground voids beneath and around the pool, indicating significant soil movement beneath the structure. These voids explain why the pool shifted and why multiple plumbing lines failed simultaneously. While the final repair plan is still being developed, it is evident that the pool experienced structural movement that will require significant repairs before it can safely reopen.

Where We Are Today

The Association is currently working with qualified contractors to develop a comprehensive repair plan and obtain repair estimates. Because the repairs involve structural stabilization in addition to plumbing and pool restoration, this project cannot be completed quickly.

Our priority is to repair the pool correctly—not simply reopen it as quickly as possible. We want to ensure that once the repairs are completed, the pool will provide many years of safe and reliable service for our residents.

Looking Ahead

Although this has been a difficult and disappointing situation, the Board remains committed to restoring the Clubhouse Pool. We understand how important this amenity is to our community, and we are pursuing a long-term solution rather than a temporary fix.

We will continue to provide updates during our monthly Board meetings, through our website, and in future newsletters as new information becomes available.

Thank you again for your patience, understanding, and continued support as we work toward restoring one of Coventry's most valued community amenities.

Pool Restoration at a Glance

January

Problem Discovered

- Abnormal water loss observed.
- Investigation delayed due to winter weather.

April

Investigation Begins

- Contractors identified a major underground plumbing failure.
- More than **100,000 gallons** of water had escaped beneath and around the pool.

May

First Repairs

- Initial plumbing repairs were completed.
- Pool refilled for testing.

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CLUBHOUSE POOL RESTORATION UPDATE

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Late May

Additional Damage Found

- Pool continued losing water.
- Four underground return lines were discovered sheared at the same location.
- Repairs completed and pressure tested.
- Pool refilled for testing.

June

Structural Issues Identified

- Water levels began to lower, indicating more unidentified leaks.
- New cracking and tile movement observed.
- GPRS investigation authorized.

June 23

Ground Penetrating Radar Completed

- Comprehensive subsurface scan performed.

June 25

Results Received

- Multiple underground voids identified beneath and around the pool.
- Significant structural repairs are determined to be necessary.

Current Status

Permanent Repairs Being Planned

- Contractors are preparing repair recommendations and cost estimates.
- The Board remains committed to restoring the pool safely and correctly.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding.

Harvest Lake End of Season Schedule

August 9 - 23:	10am - 8pm Daily
August 24 - 28:	Closed for Public School
August 29 - 30:	10am - 8pm Daily
August 31 - September 3:	Closed for Public School
September 4 - 7:	10am - 8pm Daily
September 8 - 11:	Closed for Public School
September 12 - 13:	10am - 8pm Daily



Community and Local Events

SEPTEMBER 2026

8 Ferguson Glade HOA Resident Mtg, 7pm @ Clubhouse

12 Yorktown Market Days - First Responders Market, 8am - 12 pm @ Yorktown Riverwalk Landing

12 Waterman's Museum Oyster Roast, 12pm - 3pm, Water St, Yorktown

12 York County Household Chemical Collection and Computer Recycling Event, 8am-Noon

13 HL Pool Closed for the Season

19 Yorktown Market Days Maritime Festival, 9am-3pm @ Yorktown Riverwalk Landing

14 Coventry HOA Resident Mtg, 7pm @ Clubhouse

19 14th Annual Yorktown Folk Festival, 10am - 5pm, Historic Main St, Yorktown

21 Coventry Book Club Meeting, 7pm @ 100 Hamlet Court

22 Smithy Glen HOA Resident Meeting, 7pm @ Clubhouse

22 First Day of Fall

26 Art in the Park, Coventry Children's Garden, 10am - 12pm, Coventry Blvd

28 Architectural Review Board Meeting, 6:30pm @ Clubhouse

OCTOBER 2026

3 Yorktown Wine and Oyster Festival, 12pm - 6pm, Water St, Yorktown

10 Community Wide Fall Yard Sale, 8am until 2pm

10 Yorktown Market Days Fall Festival, 9am - 3pm @ Yorktown Riverwalk Landing

12 Coventry HOA Resident Meeting, 7pm @ Clubhouse

13 Ferguson Glade HOA Resident Meeting, 7pm @ Clubhouse

17 Yorktown Market Days - Victory Market, 9am - 3pm, Yorktown Riverwalk Landing

19 Coventry Book Club Meeting, 7pm @ 100 Hamlet Court

24 Yorktown Market Days - Paws at the River, 9am - 3pm, Yorktown Riverwalk Landing

25 Halloween Trunk or Treat, 2pm at Harvest Lake

26 Ribbon Cutting for the Children's Garden

26 Architectural Review Board Meeting, 6:30pm @ Clubhouse

27 Smithy Glen HOA Resident ANNUAL Meeting, 7pm @ Clubhouse

31 Yorktown Market Days, 8am - 12pm, Yorktown Riverwalk Landing

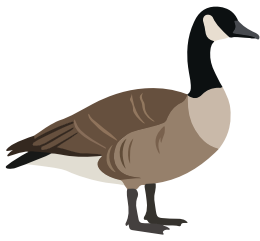
31 Halloween Trick or Treating, 6pm - 8pm

Current as of Printing. Please check Facebook for any schedule changes that may be necessary!



The York County Public Affairs office publishes a wonderful magazine that covers everything going on in the region. It provides updates from the Board of Supervisors, boating information, sports, festivals, Markets Days, restaurants, business info, schools - and so much more! The "Citizen News" is published quarterly and can be accessed on-line at:

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



PLEASE HELP BY NOT FEEDING THE GEESE!

Geese Cause Environmental, Health, and Safety Issues

During certain times of the year, the open space around our park is coated with goose droppings, making the grass and walkways unpleasant for everyone to enjoy. While feeding the geese may seem like a kind gesture, it actually creates problems for both the birds and our community.

Please help by not feeding the Canada geese. Here's why:

- It encourages geese to remain and congregate in our community instead of foraging naturally and continuing their seasonal migration.
- Large flocks leave excessive droppings that create environmental, health, and safety concerns in our park, along walking paths, and near the lake.
- Geese damage shoreline grasses and other common areas as they feed and gather.
- Feeding causes geese to lose their natural fear of people, making them more likely to approach residents and become aggressive—especially during nesting season.
- Human food is unhealthy for geese. Bread, crackers, chips, and similar foods can cause poor nutrition and illness.

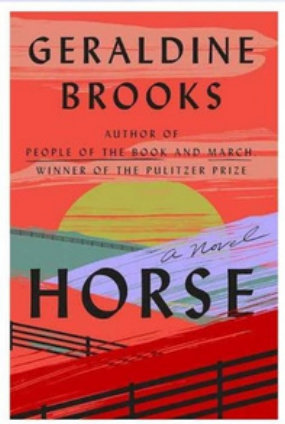
The kindest thing we can do for our wildlife is to let it remain wild. By simply enjoying the geese from a distance and not feeding them, we can help keep our community and walking paths cleaner, safer, and healthier for everyone.

Thank you for doing your part to protect our community and its wildlife.

Coventry Book Club
7:00 pm
100 Hamlet Court



Sept 21st
BEACH READS
Reader's Choice



Oct 19th
HORSE
by Geraldine Brooks

**COVENTRY
NEIGHBORHOOD
YARD SALE**

Multi-Family fantastic garage sale right in our community! It's the perfect opportunity to find hidden treasures and score amazing deals!



YARD SALE

SATURDAY, OCT 10TH
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Advertising for this sale will be taken care of by the Office.
You do not need a permit.
Feel free to advertise on your social media sites.

HAVE FUN AND GOOD LUCK!

Congratulations to the Coventry Sailfish Swim Team!

We're So PROUD of Our Sailfish!



The Sailfish had a fantastic season this year, with 127 swimmers aged 5-18 on the team. This was our first year participating in the Red Division (which is the most competitive division for our summer swim league), and we placed third for the season. We also had an exciting moment this season, when a team record which stood since 1998 was broken in the Men's 200 Medley Relay!

The championship meet was held on August 1 at the Hampton Aquaplex, and the Sailfish sent 56 swimmers to compete. Out of 18 teams, the Sailfish had the most swimmers qualified to compete. Our team placed third overall at the championship meet! Both of those trophies will soon be displayed with the past season's at the Harvest Lake Pool.

Our season would not have been possible without our fantastic coaching staff, with Rachel Bishop as Head Coach, Ryan Griffith as Assistant Coach, and Tyler Brohimer, Emma Turgeon, and Stacy Turgeon as Junior Coaches. Their dedication, hard work, and connection with each swimmer made our phenomenal season possible!

But most importantly, we saw each swimmer on our team, from age 5-18 improve in their swim skills, drop time in their races, show fantastic sportsmanship at every competition, and build friendships in their community. For the Sailfish, that's what summer swim is all about, and we are so proud of every one of them.



Vanna Upchurch

Vanna Upchurch
Sailfish Team Chair



NEED TO FIND A LOCATION FOR A PARTY?

The Coventry Clubhouse is a GREAT Location for Birthdays, Showers, and Office Events

The Coventry Clubhouse is available during day and evening hours from noon to midnight for private social use by Homeowners and sponsored outside social groups. Contract forms are available in the office and should be signed four weeks in advance. All charges are prepaid in advance and due at the time the contract is signed. The costs are:

- Resident: \$275 (Includes \$75 refundable deposit)
- Non-Resident: \$475 (Includes \$75 refundable deposit)
- Monday to Thursday ONLY Meeting rate: \$30 per hour + \$75 Refundable deposit

If a party is cancelled 14 days before the scheduled event, the \$75 deposit will be refunded within 14 days. Residents will be provided a User Agreement checklist so they are aware of all requirements. Alcohol is allowed but the resident must obtain the necessary ABC license for the event.

In addition, residents may also rent the outdoor Pavilion area. Parties are required to leave the area tidy which includes cleaning the grills after each use and providing their own trash bags/containers and taking the trash with them at the end of the party. Unfortunately there are no rest rooms available for Pavilion party guests.



PLEASE CHECK
FACEBOOK AS WE GET
CLOSER TO HALLOWEEN
FOR MORE UP-TO-DATE
INFORMATION ON THIS
FUN EVENT!



THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN

Providing Hands-On Learning through Interaction with Nature

The Children's Garden, located on Coventry Blvd next to the lake, is a welcoming space where children can discover the joy of planting, growing, and caring for a garden. Children are encouraged to get their hands dirty, learn about flowers and vegetables, explore nature, and experience the rewards of watching something they planted grow. We are not only growing edibles, but we are growing plants to attract pollinators.

Gardening not only offers food and purpose but teaches responsibility, patience, and satisfaction that comes from nurturing something over an extended period of time. We created the garden for the Community to give children a place where they can come, with their parents, to do hands-on learning. Watching the plants grow encourages healthy lifestyle habits through direct interaction with Nature. Parents are welcome to bring their children to the Garden anytime. Parents can use the Garden to teach their children how to weed the beds, show them what the food looks like as it grows, and even pick tomatoes, muscadine grapes, blueberries, or raspberries to enjoy the “ripe on the vine” flavor that sometimes gets lost in the large-scale process of food production. The garden currently is filled with warm weather plants and will convert to cool weather vegetables (such as broccoli, lettuces, herbs, and carrots) when the weather is cooler.

To help keep the garden beautiful for everyone, we ask that children:

- Be respectful of the plants and garden beds.
- Return any tools to their proper place after use.
- Clean up after activities.
- Be accompanied by an adult while visiting the garden.

The concept for this Garden began in 2025 and is sponsored by the Beautification Committee. We were so fortunate to have Benefactors help us realize this dream and they deserve a Shout Out and a Big Thank You! Our Generous donors include Gault Electric, Smith Turf & Irrigation, Outdoor Lighting Perspective Bennett's Creek Wholesale Nursery, HND Garden Solutions, Anderson's Greenhouse, and Peninsula Hardwood Mulch. Most recently, we realized we needed a gardener's box to hold gardening tools and Nathan and Cassie Ansel stepped up to donate the box. A pump was purchased to bring water from the nearby lake to water the plants and MaryAnn Dawson donated the hose to insure we could keep the plants alive. Once the beds were in place, resident Gifford Gayle has been there daily to care for the Garden and keep it looking beautiful for us all to enjoy.

Throughout the year, we'll host a variety of family-friendly gardening activities and special events. To stay up to date, simply scan the QR code displayed on the marquee in front of the garden for the latest event information, volunteer opportunities, and announcements. We hope you'll join us as we grow together—one seed at a time!

Art in the Park, September 26th: Children will be painting large river rocks - one to take and one to leave to decorate the Garden. All supplies will be provided for this fun outing! Please find the QR code on page 13 to sign-up.

Dedication and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, October 26th: Sheila Noll, our District 2 Representative on the York County Board of Supervisors will be attending. *As of Press Time, the details have not been finalized. Please check Facebook closer to the event date for details..*



COVENTRY BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Help Your Lawn Survive the Summer Heat

Hello everyone. How's your summer? How's your summer lawn?

We observe it every year during our long, hot season—our lawns begin to look tired and sad. Heat and humidity can cause grass to go dormant. When nitrogen is added during this time, it forces the grass to grow when it should be resting. That, in turn, can burn the turf, deplete root energy, and invite diseases such as brown patch. Even when your lawn professional applies a lighter or “diluted” amount of nitrogen, it can encourage top growth instead of healthy root growth.

The overall appearance of the lawn suffers—and so does its curb appeal.

Fertilize in early fall, September and October, and then again in late spring when lawns need to be fed. You may also be able to reduce your yearly lawn-care costs simply by requesting fewer treatments during the hottest part of the summer.

One further important note: Always have your soil tested. Take advantage of our local Virginia Cooperative Extension Service and its publication, Soil Sampling for the Homeowner (Publication 452-129). This free publication, available online, provides detailed information about soil testing and recommendations for lime and nutrients.

The final result? Your lawn's appearance can improve—and so can your budget!

Thank you.

Stephen Orlando

Stephen Orland, Beautification Committee Chairperson



ART IN THE PARK
CHILDREN'S ROCK PAINTING
AT THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN
SEPT 26TH, 10AM - 12 NOON
SIGN UP HERE



SPONSORED BY THE COVENTRY BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY DAY

26 SEPT 2026

9 TILL NOON

RAINDATE IS 3 OCT 2026

Teams are needed to prune, plant, and rake identified spots in the Common Areas & Monuments. The more helping hands we have, the more work we will accomplish to Beautify our Community!

MEET AT THE CLUBHOUSE
AT 9 AM

All ages are welcome, but children under 7 must be accompanied by a caregiver.

**BRING TOOLS,
GARDEN GLOVES,
AND A FEW CLEAR
LEAF BAGS**





FALL FLOWER BED MAINTENANCE

It's Time to Clear Your Flower Beds of Weeds and Annuals

Even though we are still experiencing the dog days of summer, Fall will soon be here – and that means it's time to start cleaning up your flowerbeds before winter settles in. The more you weed now, the less you'll have to do next spring and summer. In fact with just a little work now, you really can set the stage for low-maintenance flowerbeds next year.

Many gardeners place a huge emphasis on spring mulching. But in many ways, fall mulching is even more important. Not so much for looks, but for stopping next year's weeds, and providing protection for plants through winter. One of the biggest mistakes gardeners make in the fall is to turn or flip the mulch already in their beds. Although it may “freshen up” the mulch a bit, it also replants any weed seeds sitting on top of the soil. The less you disturb the old mulch the better. Instead, topcoat your bed with a thick, 3 to 4 inch layer of new mulch. Not only will it help protect against weeds, it will also help insulate the roots of your perennials from winter's fury. If you're starting from scratch, you may want to use a barrier cloth under your mulch or rock to prevent the weeds from growing through. Flowerbeds left bare, or mostly-bare through the winter are easy access for blowing and drifting weed seeds to find a home. And once they do, they will plant themselves and lie in wait til spring. Bare soil also leaves perennial roots more vulnerable to freezing out in extremely cold weather.

Here is to cleaning up your flowerbeds this fall, and to having less weeds, less hassle – and more flowers next spring and summer! *Happy Gardening!*



WHEN TO PLANT GRASS SEED

Get good results from Fall Planting

The best time to plant grass seed in Virginia is early fall (late August through mid-October), specifically utilizing the optimal windows of late August to mid-October for cool-season grasses like tall fescue. Warm soil (50°F to 65°F) promotes fast germination, cool air temperatures reduce seedling stress, and weed competition is low. Following these steps will give your roots 2 to 3 months to establish before winter dormancy.

It's also a good idea to get your soil tested so that you are adding the proper nutrients for the grass to grow. You can get your soil tested by picking up a physical soil sample kit from the York/Poquoson Cooperative Extension Office at 5338-I George Washington Memorial Hwy, Yorktown, VA 23692. Upon getting the kit, prepare the sample according to directions and mail it along with a \$10 testing fee to the Soil Testing Lab located on the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, Virginia. Response time is approximately two weeks. You will receive a Soil Test Report with recommendations based on your soil type and plant needs.

- **Rake the Dirt** and loosen the top layer of soil with a garden rake so the seeds can drop into small grooves. Aerating your lawn will give it a good start. If you can't aerate, avoid throwing the seeds on top of the dirt. Seeds sitting on top of hard dirt or thick existing grass cannot root properly.
- **Cover Lightly:** Put a very thin layer of compost, topsoil, or peat moss (about 1/8 to 1/4 inch) over the seeds. A layer that thick will suffocate and kill the underlying lawn, because grass generally cannot survive being buried under more than 0.5 to 1 inch of soil.
- **Water Often:** Keep the soil damp with light, daily watering until the grass grows.



VIRGINIA E-BIKE & ELECTRIC SCOOTER LAWS

Ride Smart. Ride Safe. Ride Respectfully.

As e-bikes and e-scooters continue to grow in popularity with children and teens, it's important to remember that e-bike riders are required to follow the same traffic laws as traditional bicyclists. This means riding on the right side of the road, obeying all stop signs and traffic signals, yielding when required, and riding in a safe and predictable manner. In Yorktown and across Virginia, electric scooters are regulated under state code as motorized skateboards or scooters.

- **One rider means one rider:** Unless an e-bike or scooter is specifically designed to carry a passenger, only one person should ride at a time. Carrying passengers can reduce stability and increase the risk of an accident.
- **Helmets:** York County requires helmets for riders **14 years of age and younger** on bicycles, e-bikes, and electric scooters on any public highway, sidewalk, or public bicycle path. **Violating this ordinance can result in a \$25 fine.**
- **Class 3 e-bikes:** Riders must be at least 14 years old, and both operators and passengers are required to wear a helmet.
- **Electric scooters:** Riders must follow the same traffic laws as bicyclists, including obeying stop signs, traffic signals, and yielding when required. Local governments may also establish additional rules regarding where e-bikes and scooters may be operated.
- **Age Restrictions for Kids:** No child under 14 years old may operate a motorized scooter, e-scooter, or a Class 3 e-bike unless they are under the immediate supervision of an adult at least 18 years old.
- **Speed Limits:** E-scooters are legally capped at a **maximum speed of 20 mph**. Operating any scooter capable of going faster than 20 mph on public infrastructure is a violation.
- **Road Placement:** Scooters are permitted on public roadways with speed limits of 25 mph or less. They are strictly prohibited on all interstate highways.
- **Hands-Free Law:** Virginia's distracted driving laws apply to e-scooter riders. Holding a handheld personal communications device (like a smartphone) while operating a scooter on a public road is a primary offense.
- **Nighttime Visibility:** If operated after dark, the device must feature a front white light and a rear red light or reflector

The York County Sheriff's Office is actively enforcing these traffic laws to help keep everyone safe. Riders may be stopped for unsafe behaviors such as riding in the middle of the roadway, weaving through traffic, performing wheelies on public streets, ignoring stop signs or traffic lights, or riding on roads where bicycles are prohibited. Off-road bikes (motors greater than 750W, no fully operable pedals) have separate laws and are not allowed on our streets. For more information, refer to Virginia Code 46.2.904.1. In addition, Sheriff Montgomery has recently shared a brief video message for parents and riders, which you can watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4HEaioAtxE&t=1s>

Parents are encouraged to review these safety rules and to watch the Sheriff's video with their children. A few minutes spent discussing safe riding habits can help prevent accidents and ensure everyone can enjoy our community safely.

Are You a Mobile Notary?

Are you a Notary? Residents are always looking for a mobile notary within Coventry that may be willing to assist/advertise their services. Please contact the staff at office@coventryhoa.com to let us know if you are willing to be contacted. Thank you!



Household Chemical Collections and Computer Recycling 2026 Schedule of Events

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

Events are for residents of all VPPSA communities; proof of residency may be required.



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
- ▶ **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 accepted for **Hampton** residents only; other communities dispose of at your convenience centers.
- ▶ **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 feet, all compact fluorescents (CFLs), rechargeable batteries
- ▶ **Propane Cylinders:** 1 and 20 pound cylinders only; limit 2 per vehicle per event for James City County, Poquoson, Williamsburg, and York County residents; unlimited per vehicle per event for Hampton residents.

If you have any questions, please visit our website at www.vppsa.org

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT:

- ♦ Televisions
- ♦ Alkaline Batteries
- ♦ Explosives
- ♦ Ammunition or Gun Powder
- ♦ Household Trash
- ♦ Business or Medical Waste
- ♦ Radioactive Products
- ♦ Large quantities of unknown materials
- ♦ Containers larger than 20 gallons

York County

105 Service Drive, Yorktown
(enter from County Drive off
Goodwin Neck Road)

8:00AM—12:00 Noon

September 12, 2026
November 14, 2026

Household Chemical Collection

- Do not smoke.
- Do not leave material in hot, unventilated areas for long periods.
- When possible, keep products in original container and ensure lids or caps are tight.
- Place items securely in boxes for transport.
- To prevent unfavorable chemical reactions, do not put multiple containers in bags or soft containers where they may spill or break.
- If you have a leaking container, place this item separately in a clear plastic bag, with newspaper or paper towels on the bottom. Secure in an upright position so it doesn't spill in your vehicle. Please notify staff that the item is leaking.
- MXI is the premiere service provider for household hazardous waste collection events sponsored by states, counties, and municipalities and provides disposal services at the VPPSA events. With a fleet of permitted vehicles, national network of terminals, staff of highly trained personnel, and a Materials Recovery Facility, MXI offers a full range of recycling and disposal services using the cutting edge of universal hazardous waste management technology.



Computer Recycling

- Since 2001, our contractor, Computer Recycling of Virginia, has erased every hard drive using software that meets or exceeds all industry standards, including the NIST 800-88. Once the wipe process is complete, any hard drive that fails the wipe process is physically destroyed.
- The mission of Computer Recycling of Virginia, Inc. (CRVA) is to place educationally-useful equipment into Virginia's schools and non-profit organizations free of charge, while promoting electronics recycling throughout Virginia.

At the collection:

- A VPPSA employee will ask which city or county you live in, and what materials you've brought. Proof of residency may be required.
- Your vehicle will be unloaded for you. Stay in your vehicle unless requested to do otherwise.
- There are separate drop off points for household chemicals and computers.
- Be prepared to identify your materials. If unsure, tell staff before they begin unloading.

Thanks for your patience and cooperation.

Alternative Recycling and Disposal Sites

Best Buy accepts computer components at no charge (limit three items per household per day). Computer monitors and televisions are accepted at a \$29.99 charge per item (limit two items per household per day). TVs accepted are tube TVs smaller than 31" and flat-panel TVs - LCD, plasma, and LED - smaller than 50". Mobile phones are accepted at no charge (limit three items per household per day). See www.bestbuy.com/recycling for a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable items that Best Buy recycles.

Batteries Plus accepts recyclable batteries, bulbs, and electronics. Take your items to your nearest store and they will take care of the rest. Please be aware fees may apply, and will vary based on location.

Goodwill Industries accepts computer components for recycling at no charge. Goodwill uses a U.S. Department of Defense-grade program on all donated devices to clean hard drives and erase personal and sensitive information. Additional electronics are accepted for donation. See <https://goodwillvirginia.org/donate/personal-donations/what-can-i-donate/> for a complete list.

Home Depot and Lowe's accept Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs and rechargeable batteries at no charge (fluorescent tubes are not accepted.)

To learn about all VPPSA programs, visit our website at www.vppsa.org.



VIRGINIA PENINSULAS
PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY
475 McLaws Circle, Suite 3B
Williamsburg, VA 23185

Phone: 757-259-9850
Fax: 757-259-9855



HOA 101

Why Do Some Homeowners Belong to Two Associations?

This is a question we hear quite often, so we wanted to provide a simple explanation. Every homeowner in our community is automatically a member of the Master HOA, often referred to as Coventry HOA or CHOA. The CHOA is responsible for maintaining and managing the amenities and services that benefit the entire community. This includes our clubhouse, landscape & maintenance for all common grounds and village entrance monuments, swimming pools, tennis courts, volleyball court, soccer fields, playgrounds, lake management, truck, and the salaries of the office and maintenance staff who help keep our community running smoothly.

The single-family homes are served solely by the Master HOA. Because these neighborhoods do not have the same shared exterior maintenance responsibilities as the villa/carriage home/townhome communities, they do not require a separate Sub-Association.

The homeowners in the villa/carriage home/townhome sections belong to one of three Sub-Associations. These associations exist because these homes have unique maintenance needs and shared responsibilities that do not apply to the single-family homes. The services provided by each Sub-Association vary. For example, some Sub-Associations are responsible for major exterior maintenance, such as roof and siding replacement, while others provide additional services such as painting, landscaping, and garbage collection. These neighborhood-specific services are funded by the homeowners who receive those benefits.

In short, the CHOA serves the entire community by maintaining amenities and services enjoyed by all residents, while each Sub-Association focuses on the unique needs of its specific multi-family home neighborhood. Although belonging to two associations may seem confusing at first, this structure ensures that community-wide amenities are shared by everyone, while neighborhood-specific services are funded fairly by the homeowners who benefit from them.

CHOA Only (\$65 per month):

Davis Forge: Blacksmith Arch, Bellows Place, Ferrier Place

Faison Green: Judith Circle, Camille Court, Kathleen Place

Justinian Grove: Ivy Arch, Peachtree Lane, Blackberry Bend, Hemlock Court

Lilburne Meadows: Lilburne Way, Amelia Court, Crimson Court

Presson Arbor: Honeysuckle Lane, Harvest Way, Leyland Court, Brantley Court, Lochmere Court, Shorewood Trace

CHOA & Ferguson Glade HOA (\$65 + \$97 per month): Ferguson Bend, Grindstone Turn, Seekright Drive, Tui Place, White Ridge Lane

CHOA & Finch Terrace HOA (\$65 + \$128 per month): Belmont Circle, Chanticlair Drive

CHOA & Smithy Glen HOA (\$65 + \$120 per month): Andover Court, Chadwick Court, Crescent Court, Durham Court, Foundry Court, Hamlet Court, Kensington Court, Linden Court, Monument Court, Sterling Court, Wexford Court, Wrought Iron Bend



CRITTER CORNER

Canada Geese

by Kelly Burleson

Each year I share this information to help the residents of our community to be aware of the information surrounding the geese in our neighborhood. In 2010 the population of geese in our neighborhood had risen to approximately 70 geese. Each week from December to February, I found the groups and counted the birds to estimate their numbers. I then went to Northern Virginia where they were having a much larger issue to take a class on how to humanely deal with the population. The class was put on by an organization that had been very successful controlling an even larger problem along the Hudson River. I brought back that information to our CHOA board at the time, we implemented the same program in our neighborhood and experienced the same success.

Did You Know

- The correct name for the subject bird is not Canadian Geese, it is Canada Geese.
- Geese live 25 to 30 years.
- They mate for life and mourn the loss of their partners and/or goslings.
- Not all the birds are migratory; some are called resident Canada Geese as opposed to migratory Canada Geese.
- Resident geese do what is referred to as pond hopping, moving between ponds and properties looking for grazing and nesting opportunities.
- Walk-ins are geese that move between properties or ponds on foot; this happens when eggs hatch on one property and the parents lead them to adjacent properties looking for grazing opportunities.
- Geese are usually only aggressive to protect their eggs and/or young; it is best to steer clear of family groups.
- Groups will have sentinel males; males have longer necks than the females and will stand on alert when the family is feeding; it is best to steer clear when you see this.
- Coventry has a “no feed” policy to dissuade geese and ducks from loafing and hanging about for food.

The over populations in urban and suburban places is a man-made problem that was created prior to the 1930s for hunting purposes in which some of the geese were domesticated to act as decoys to draw the migratory geese into shooting ranges.

In the 1930s this was outlawed, and the decoy geese were released, they stayed put, proliferated, did not migrate. These geese became known as resident Canada Geese.

It is unlawful to harm, harass, or kill the geese or ducks which carry fines of up to \$2,500 per bird; unlawful harassment of Canada geese in Virginia involves any action that harms, injures, or kills the birds, or disturbs their active nests and eggs without specific federal or state authorization.

Harm is defined as hitting, striking, shooting, or using dogs/pets to catch, injure, or kill adult geese or flightless goslings; includes hazing. Hazing is defined as aggressive physical tactics, harmful chemicals, or unapproved devices that cause direct physical trauma or persistent undue distress to the birds.

During the late summer to fall we may see temporary increases in birds because it is possible that migratory birds may stop in to feed on their way back north.

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CRITTER CORNER

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To understand the potential population growth of resident geese, I provide the following chart which assumes a straight-line continuous growth. The reality is that the numbers will fluctuate, but this demonstrates how just a few geese can become many over the course of a few short years.

Years	Pairs	Eggs	Cumulative Eggs	Added Pairs
1	1	6	6	3
2	4	6	24	12
3	16	6	96	48
4	64	6	384	192
5	256	6	1536	768

Controlling the Population

The most important thing to understand about geese is they are highly intelligent. This affects what an effective and successful population control program should consist of.

What Works

- Adjacent communities working together; otherwise, geese just pond hop or walk between properties
- Tall, thick, vegetated buffer around the ponds; the ideal buffer should be at least 3 feet tall by 2 feet wide to be effective.
- Egg Addling in accordance with federal and state regulations using corn oil
- Site Aversion; using border collie services provided by companies with trained dogs, and have the appropriate business licenses, liability permits and knowledge of state and federal wildlife regulations, etc; the dogs are perceived as a predator; Coventry had a company for about 9 years that performed this service for us
- Use of lasers at night; lasers appear to be the eyes of a predator to the bird; it is important to be aware of federal laws regarding the use of lasers

What Doesn't Work and Why

- Plastic Decoys; owls, coyotes, scarecrows etc. – Geese are intelligent they quickly figure out these fakes are not a threat
- Wire fencing around the lakes – only works when geese are in molt
- Live swans – the geese eventually get used to the swans and the two then live in harmony; please also be aware that swans can be more aggressive than geese

It is hopeful these things will help the community understand some facts about geese and to understand the framework around managing them.



FUN FACT:

According to <https://onthegomap.com>, walking one-way down Owen Davis Blvd from the Clubhouse to Coventry Elementary School, will provide you with 809 steps or .46 miles. Ready to take on more? The length of Coventry Blvd between Owen Davis Blvd and Mary Bierbauer Way is 1197 steps or .68 miles. Want to calculate a favorite walking route? Visit the website to measure your walking distance. For the average person, 100 steps burns 4 calories. Every step counts!



NOTICE ANYTHING THAT NEEDS TO BE FIXED?

The Community Action Form (CAF) is the Easiest Way to Report an Issue

Coventry is a large neighborhood and we need your help maintaining the beauty by identifying issues that require our attention. For example, if you see burned out street lights, broken and unsafe sidewalks, potholes in the road, inoperable fountains, a broken sign, or a tree that appears diseased/dead, please take a moment and submit a Community Action Form (CAF) . You can obtain a copy of this form in the office or download it from the Coventry website: <https://coventryhoaofyorktown.org/community-action-form>. Once you've completed the form, you can drop it off at the office. To ensure each owner has the opportunity to address a specific issue and receive a timely response, **no more than one form may be submitted within a 30 day period**. Thanks for your help in maintaining our Community!



ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC)

Exterior Alteration Applications are required for all Exterior Home Projects

If you are planning any changes to your home that can be seen from the street or might change the look of your home in any way, please plan ahead and submit an Exterior Alteration Application review form to the office BEFORE YOU START THE PROJECT. Even if you are replacing a fence with the exact same style, you are required to submit an application. Remember, you live in a Planned Unit Development which means you need to have approval for many things before you can do them and our covenants require every home change to be reviewed (and approved) by the ARC. This also protects the homeowner if there are questions during a sale or a neighbor takes issue with your change. ARC meets on the 4th Monday of each month; paperwork must be in office by the 5th of the month - so give yourself plenty of time to follow the process and DON'T START UNTIL YOU ARE APPROVED! If you are not sure if you need ARC approval, fill out a form. They will let you know if you don't need approval. FYI, if you are looking to paint the exterior of your home you can stop by the office to request the color swatch. All of our Coventry colors are also on file with Sherwin Williams (Yorktown), Home Depot, and Lowe's.

You can obtain a copy of this form in the office or download it from the Coventry website:

<https://coventryhoaofyorktown.org/exterior-alteration-app>. Once you've completed the form, you can drop it off at the office and it will be forwarded to the Committee.

ARC Meeting Dates 2026

The Architectural Review Committee meets on the 4th Monday of each month. Exterior Alteration Applications are available on the Coventry website for download. All applications must be received by the 5th of the month to be considered.

SUBMIT APPLICATION

Sept 5

Oct 5

Nov 5

Dec 5

ARC MTG DATE

Sept 28

Oct 26

Nov 23

Dec 21



Volunteers Needed

ARC AND NOMINATING/ELECTION COMMITTEES

The Coventry Homeowners Association is seeking homeowners interested in becoming more involved in the community by serving on either the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) or the Nominating/Election Committee.

There are currently two vacancies on the ARC COMMITTEE that must be filled prior to next month's meeting. The ARC is responsible for reviewing exterior modification applications and helping maintain the community's architectural standards.

The Association is also looking for volunteers to serve on the NOMINATING/ELECTION COMMITTEE, which assists with identifying qualified candidates and supporting the annual election process.

Volunteer forms are available at the HOA office for interested homeowners. If you would like to serve your community and contribute to these important committees, please stop by the office to obtain an application or contact the office for additional information.

**Thank You for your willingness to
support and strengthen our Community!**



COVENTRY Candidate Interest Form

- ☐ COVENTRY Homeowners Association (Master Association)
- ☐ SMITHY GLEN Townhome Owners Association (Sub-Association)
- ☐ FERGUSON GLADE Homeowners Association (Sub-Association)
- ☐ FINCH TERRACE Homeowners Association (Sub-Association)

(Use this form to apply for nomination to elected positions within Coventry. Select only one of the Associations listed above.)

I'm interested in serving in the following position(s): _____

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER(S) _____

HOME _____

WORK _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

(Briefly list the qualifications and work experience you feel make you a viable candidate for the position.)

CERTIFICATION

- ☐ I certify, that to the best of my knowledge, I am a member in good standing of the Association (i.e., dues and assessments are paid and no legal or disciplinary action is pending against me by the Association).
- ☐ I certify, that if elected, I will regularly attend scheduled meetings, work sessions, and other events deemed necessary by the Board to properly conduct the business of the Association. I understand that failure to attend at least 75% of such scheduled activities may be grounds for my removal from the elected position.
- ☐ I certify, that if elected, I will attend such training as the Board may deem necessary for the proper performance of my duties. I understand any such training will be on my own time, but at Association expense. Such training, if available, will be accomplished within 4 months of taking office.
- ☐ I authorize the Association to review pertinent records and communicate with others regarding my stated qualifications. I hereby release all entities from any liability for any damage whatsoever resulting from giving such information.

Signature: _____

Date: _____