



THE MESSENGER

The Official Newsletter of Smithy Glen

April 2023



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, on the 4th Tuesday, at 7PM at the Clubhouse. The next open meeting is 25 April 2023. All residents are invited to ask questions, say what's on their minds and give their views on community issues. We look forward to seeing you there!!!



From the President's Desk

I want to take a couple minutes and welcome all the homeowners to the Smithy Glen Homeowners (SGHOA) Community. As we start off 2023, the entire board wants to thank every homeowner that helped make 2022 very prosperous.

Every resident is a part of our Community, whether you've been in here for 30 years, or three months, as a homeowner, your voice is just as important. All we ask is that before you bring an issue to the board, that you look in the Coventry and Smithy Glen Covenants to know the rules set forth in them.

From those who have helped out by picking up litter in Smithy Glen, to everyone identifying violations in the community, to those volunteering time working with the Beautification committee.

We look forward to seeing everyone at one of our meetings, it one of the best ways to let your voice be

heard, and find out first-hand what the Board is looking at completing in the future.

Our Board of Directors strive to make our community a better place to live in. Remember, you can also volunteer to become a member of the Board in our community, or to help out with a special committee, supporting the SGHOA.

All the committees strive to make the Smithy Glen Homeowners Association a peaceful and beautiful place to live, and every resident in our community is bound to do the same.

As we progress into 2023, we have another major project coming as we look to have Monument Court milled and paved within the next couple months, which will run approximately \$80,000. Next year we'll be starting Wrought Iron Bend, which will probably take two-three years to complete.

We renewed the lawn care contract with the same service we had last year, but added a couple extra items, like spraying for weeds/grass in the sidewalks and parking areas. Speaking of parking areas, "Did You Know" that the two parking spots for your house are your responsibility to keep clean and free of debris? They are – so please ensure they are always taken care of, there are several areas that need attention.

Again, we would really like to see as many homeowners as possible at the monthly meetings – bring your ideas!

Respectfully,

Rob Fitzmaurice

Rob Fitzmaurice, SG President

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.

CURB APPEAL & FLOWER BED MAINTENANCE *Help maintain the Appearance of the Neighborhood*

Our homes are more than just a place to live; they are a reflection of who we are and how we contribute to the community. Taking pride in the appearance of our homes is important in creating a welcoming and visually appealing environment for everyone. One way to enhance the curb appeal of our homes is by regularly weeding and mulching our flower beds, which not only promotes healthy plant growth but also adds color and beauty to our surroundings. Additionally, removing broken toys and furniture from our yards can help to create a more organized and visually pleasing outdoor space.

It's important to remember that **the appearance of our homes can impact the property value of our community**, so taking pride in our homes benefits everyone!



A successful BEFORE and AFTER Flower Bed Transformation



We all agree that beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but weeds, tall grass, and untrimmed shrubs are not neighbor-friendly landscaping techniques. Since we live in close proximity to each other, we need to respect the rules and goals of the community. Please note that **during the next month, inspections will include a review of all flowerbeds. We will be looking at weeds, mulch and pruning of shrubs.**

If you are unable to do these tasks on your own, please don't hesitate to reach out to a reliable lawn contractor for assistance. **The Vine** is our lawn contractor for Smithy Glen and provide good service to us and are more than willing to come give you a quote for any service you need, mulching, shrub trimming, gutter cleaning, etc. **They can be reached at (757) 561-2212.** By showing interest in the appearance of our homes, we can create a beautiful and cohesive community that we can all be proud to call home. Let's all do our part in maintaining the appearance of our homes and create a beautiful community that we can all be proud of!



LITTER

Don't Be a Litter Bug!

It's heartwarming to see the efforts of our dedicated neighborhood volunteers who take time out of their busy schedules to pick up trash along our sidewalks and in our ditches. Their hard work and selflessness have helped to keep our community clean and beautiful, and we are grateful for their commitment. However, it's unfortunate that they must pick up several bags of garbage every day.



It's a stark reminder that littering is still a significant problem in our community, and it's up to all of us to take responsibility and stop littering. **Let's follow the example of our volunteers and take pride in our community by properly disposing of our trash and keeping our streets and sidewalks clean. Talk with your children.** Together, we can make a positive difference and create a healthier and more beautiful environment for everyone to enjoy.

Lead by example: Be the change you want to see in your community! When your neighbors see you taking action, they may be more inclined to follow suit.

FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS

Be a Responsible Pet Owner

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.



Leashing your dog is the best way to ensure the safety and well-being of your beloved pet. By using a leash, you can prevent your dog from running off into dangerous situations or getting into conflicts with other animals. It also shows respect for your neighbors and their property because you are in close proximity when your dog requires you to pick up remains. Demonstrate your love and care for your furry companion, while also being a considerate member of the community, by adhering to the Community Rule and keep your pets and neighborhoods safe by always using a leash.

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.

SMITHY GLEN FENCE COLORS

SG Has Approved 2 Stain Colors

Smithy Glen Resolutions and Policies Document, #2015-2, FENCE Colors, Dated 24 March 2015, **requires all residents to weatherproof fences with only Olympic Elite Semi-Solid Sunset Canyon stain and sealant in one to maintain a uniform appearance.** During the Pandemic, Home Depot, the main local supplier of this product, could not maintain this stock, so the Board added an additional fence stain color for community use: **Sherwin Williams SuperDeck Oil Based Semi-Transparent "Riverwood".**

If your fence has faded over time to a warm brown, or a cedar or reddish brown, similar to the top picture, it's time for you to restain your fence. The canyon sunset semi-solid color is the color of dark chocolate (a freshly stained fence using the Sunset Canyon semi-solid stain is shown in the bottom picture.)

Please note that during the next few months, **inspections will include a review of your fence stain color to ensure all fences are consistent with either approved color.** Now is a good time to take advantage of the warm summer weather to bring your fence color into compliance.



WHERE CAN I BUY EXTERIOR PAINT?

And Match The Approved Building Color?



If you are looking to paint the exterior of your home (shutters, doors, fascia boards, garage doors) you can stop by the office to request the color swatch. Please note that all of our Coventry colors are on file with Yorktown Sherwin Williams, Home Depot, and Lowe's to help you with your paint purchases. The base for all colors has changed so the paint sealer will have to color match the sample on file at the office.

GARBAGE TOTES

Follow the Schedule and Properly Store Your Tote

Our documents require all residents to put their garbage totes out NET 5pm on Wednesday Night and to take them back in NLT 7pm on Thursday. Totes should be kept inside a privacy fence, shed, garage or other screened area.



If you know that your neighbor is elderly and has a hard time handling the large totes, or is sick, or on vacation, please be a good neighbor and give them a hand by bringing in their trash tote for them. Doing a good deed is good for the heart!

As a reminder, GFL will not pick up garbage bags left on the ground next to your totes. However, they will pick up the extra bags and bulk items such as leaf bags, shrubs, carpet, and many types of furniture for a small fee. Call their Customer Service Department, Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm, at 757-487-2020, to coordinate this service.



SMITHY GLEN ROADS ARE PRIVATE

Reserve Funds Are Used To Pave Roads and Courts

The cost of Paving Roads, Courts, and Parking spaces is managed by the SG HOA. Due to the large cost of road upkeep, roads throughout our area are paved on a rotational basis. Last summer Crescent Court, and 24 parking spaces on Wrought Iron Bend were paved.

This summer we anticipate having sufficient funds to resurface Monument Court and the remaining parking spots along Wrought Iron Bend. Residents will be notified when the paving is scheduled so that they can find alternate parking on paving days and schedule deliveries accordingly. Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

Smithy Glen HOA Dues are currently set at \$151.00 and are due on the first day of each month. A \$25 late fee will be applied to all accounts not paid on or before the 16th.

PREPARING TO SELL OR LEASE YOUR HOME?

Both Actions Require Board Coordination

Spring often means the buying and selling of homes. If you are embarking on a new adventure and will be moving, remember that PODS portable storage containers require coordination and permission from the Board and can only be placed in your driveway or in your parking space. You must fill out a Community Action Form and submit to the office several weeks before delivery of the POD for approval.

Also, should you lease out your home, you must notify the Office of your forwarding address so that you will be sure to receive all SG HOA notices and Annual Reports that are mailed to the homeowners.



SMITHY GLEN ROOF REPAIRS

Reserve Funds Are For Lifecycle Replacement

There have been many inquiries lately about roof repairs. The Board published a revised **Responsibility Maintenance Chart** that provides residents with the breakdown of responsibilities for repairs of the townhomes. The SG HOA programs Reserve Funds (part of your monthly assessment fee) for the Lifecycle Replacement of the roofs, however, all routine upkeep and repair of the roofs, skylights, and gutters is the responsibility of the homeowner.

To access the chart, view the Covenants and Declarations Document on the main Coventry website, page 14: <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/19acc21a-97f5-4f34-83a8-ebda8218fd6e/CCR%20SG-0003.pdf>



ARE BEES ATTACKING YOUR HOME?

York County Can Help!

The **Colonial Beekeepers** are the ones to call if you see a swarm of honey bees. A professional will visit the location, collect the swarm, and move them to a new home. Please call 757-828-7707.



NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY
There's Lots Going On!

York County Citizen news is available free on-line at: <https://www.yorkcounty.gov/1610/Citizen-News-Quarterly>. Learn about the Summer camps, family activities, Yorktown Market Days, Open Air Concerts, and other happenings in Yorktown.

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

There are activities for all ages on the Yorktown Parks and Recreation Page. The County sponsors Art and Fitness Classes, Senior Activities, and Youth Sports such as tennis, soccer, biking, and the ever popular skate-rattle-and roll! More information is available at <https://www.yorkcounty.gov/634/Parks-and-Recreation>.

The Yorktown Market 2023 regular season kicks off on April 8 and runs every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.* through the end of October (except May 6 & Oct. 7). Did you know that many of the vendors now participate in the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to help ensure all families in our community have access to fresh fruits, vegetables, and other healthy food options. Please visit the website for more details: [https:// www.visityorktown.org/225/Market-Days](https://www.visityorktown.org/225/Market-Days)



NOTICE ANYTHING THAT NEEDS TO BE FIXED?
The Community Action Form is the Easiest Way to Report an Issue

Smithy Glen 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, broken or missing street signs, 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 from the office or download it and print 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.

Thanks for your help in maintaining our Community!



SMITHY GLEN HOME REPAIRS

The Reserve funds that the Board Collects and manages covers several items, to include painting of wood railings, shutters, wood porch posts and repair of some of these items when they rot. However, if the wood rot is due to homeowner neglect like clogged gutters which rots out the wood behind, or even the front posts, the homeowner will be responsible for those repairs. Please make sure you keep gutters clear, and wet items off the front porch railings, this will prevent wood rot.

Within the next month we'll be starting the painting back up as the weather warms up. Courts are on a 3-3.5 year rotation for paint. Before your house is attended to for paint, our company will do a quick power wash, trying to eliminate and mildew from the unit. On the off years, the homeowners are responsible for ensuring the house is free of mildew – this saves the life of your siding.



DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR TOPICS FOR OUR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS?
Please be sure to let us know by dropping a note in the main office.

SMITHY GLEN YARD OF THE MONTH 2023



A well-kept yard not only adds to the curb appeal of your home but also makes our community a more welcoming place

for everyone. **We will begin accepting nominations for Smithy Glen Yard of the Month beginning 1 May 2023. If you want to nominate a neighbor, please send an email to coventryhoa@verizon.net.** Let us know why you think they deserve recognition for maintaining a beautiful and welcoming home! Have they turned their property “around”? Is their home an inspiration for you? Do they have a “green thumb”? We want to hear from you!



THE YORK COUNTY TREX RECYCLING PROGRAM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuLfyU-HHUE&t=83s>

The York County Beautification Committee collects plastic bags and wraps to participate in the Recycling Challenge, hosted by The Trex Company. Participants collect plastic



bags and film with the goal of collecting or exceeding 500 pounds of plastic in a 6-month period. If the goal is met the group is awarded an earth-friendly Trex bench, created from recycled plastic bags

and film. This is an ongoing program, and benches are donated to local schools, libraries and public county areas. To date, York County has been awarded with **9 benches!**

Plastic bags can be delivered to the drop-off recycling center at 145 Goodwin Neck Road, Monday through Saturday, 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. They can also be delivered to **the Tabb Library** or the **McReynold's Athletic Complex (MAC)** main office.

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
Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday, 10am - 5pm
E-mail: coventryhoa@verizon.net

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

Newest Resident Group, Coventry of Yorktown:
www.facebook.com/groups/519681916655777

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

SPEED LIMIT 25	SPEED LIMIT 15
COVENTRY BLVD MAIN ROADS	ALL SMITHY GLEN ROADS, COURTS, & PARKING AREAS

Keeping the Neighborhood Safe!