



THE MESSENGER

The Official Newsletter of Smithy Glen

June 2022 Vol 23 No 1



A Note From Our President:

Smithy Glen Board of Directors meets every other month on the 4th Tuesday at 7PM at the Clubhouse. The next meeting is 28 June 2022. This will be a Town Hall where everyone is invited to ask questions, say what's on their minds and give their views on anything! We look forward to seeing you there. All are welcome!!!!

For homeowners that attend the meetings on a regular basis, they already know of a couple recent changes. First, **we now have a second approved color for fences.** It's very close to the original color. We had to go with a second choice because our original color, Olympic Elite Semi-Solid "Canyon Sunset" has been hard to find. We now also accept Sherwin Williams SuperDeck Oil Based Semi-Transparent "Riverwood" for your fences. No other color is approved. Please adhere to the correct color, we don't want you to have to strip it off and re-apply the correct color.

Second big change will be our trash service. There have been so many complaints over the last year regarding the service we have been receiving from Waste Management, that we looked into alternative services. We looked hard into the pricing we were going to get from WM, re-cycling, and prices from two additional companies. Based on all factors, it was voted on that we switch our service to GFL. GFL has a great reputation, to include two personnel manning the truck on every trip to ensure proper service. **The major change will be that we will no longer have re-cycling service.** The re-cycling service was costing a great deal of money each month, and much of it was winding up in the dump anyway because of items found in the truck not being re-cyclable, in which, the entire truck got dumped with normal trash. By deleting this service, it allowed our Association to go without raising the monthly dues again this year. If you would like to continue to re-cycle, the York County Drop-off Center is located at 145 Goodwin Neck Road and is

open to anyone wishing to recycle. Hours of operations are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Our last day of service with WM will be on June 29, 2022; please ensure you put all trash and re-cycle totes out for service and do not bring the totes back in.

You will be receiving a new tote from GFL on or about 1 July, 2022. Each tote will have your specific house number on it. Please retrieve it from the street near your house as soon as they are delivered.



FOG Alert (Fats, Oils, and Greases)

This is a constant problem for the Smithy Glen Board. We have had numerous drain clogs and 99% are due to things going down the drains that shouldn't.

Can the Grease: Pour used cooking grease into an empty container. Store in freezer. Once solidified, toss into your trash.

Scrape your Plate: Wipe all pots, pans, dishes and cooking utensils with a paper towel prior to washing to absorb the grease.

Catch the Scraps: Eliminate using the garbage disposal. Catch food scraps in your sink with a basket or strainer and toss them into the trash.

Once a Month: Buy a bottle of Dawn dish detergent and each month go to the downstairs bathroom closest to the street. Squirt 4-5 squirts of Dawn into the toilet bowl and let stand for 10 minutes, then flush. Dawn is a great degreaser! (This came from a plumber that was on site cleaning out a clogged drain).

How to Dispose of Items

Living in a townhome with one trash tote can often be a challenge for a family. Here's some information on how you can dispose of your items.

BULK TRASH: Even though our trash contract is managed by our HOA, if you need large items removed, you may take your bulk trash to the dump at 145 Goodwin Neck Road or call the County to schedule a pickup at 757-890-3780. There is a limit of three items for the service (it depends on the item, for example - mattress and box springs are considered one item) and a \$30 per load fee, which will be billed to you through your York County Utility (sewer) bill.

For more information on this service and to view the list of acceptable items, visit their website at: <https://www.yorkcounty.gov/581/Bulk-Collections>

RECYCLING and YARD DEBRIS: The York County Drop-off Center is located at 145 Goodwin Neck Road and is open to residents wishing to recycle. Hours of operations are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Over time, many of us end up with a collection of various hazardous materials that has either expired, has been contaminated, or we no longer need. Caustic home cleaners, old automotive fluids, lighter fluid, old pesticides and fertilizer, and expired rechargeable batteries are just a few of the items that we may have around the house. We shove them under a sink or more likely store them in our garage or shed, then forget about them. Keeping them around your home can be a health and injury risk to you and your family members. Please take some time to identify these items and dispose of them properly.

To help you safely dispose of hazardous material, the Virginia Peninsulas Public Service Authority (VPPSA), in coordination with York County, holds five (5) Household Chemical Collection and Computer Recycling events each year. **The remaining collections for 2022 are scheduled for July 9th, Sept 10th, and Nov 12th** from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon at 105 Service Drive, Yorktown, VA.

For more information, go to the York County website and download the VPPSA brochure that explains what can and cannot be disposed of and what the procedures to follow to drop off chemicals:

<https://www.vppsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/HHC-COMPBRCHURE-2022.pdf>
<http://www.vppsa.org/services/#chemical>

Fun Fact:

There are 1,028 homes total in Coventry. Of these, 315 homes (31%) are part of the Smithy Glen Community!



Creating Curb Appeal

Making a Good First Impression Counts!

Stand at the curb and take a good look at your house as if it were the first time you were viewing it. Does it look clean and inviting? Are the plants dead? Do the shrubs need pruning? Are your gutters and screens just hanging on by a corner? Are your blinds broken? Curb appeal includes all areas of your home, not just your flower beds.

Curb appeal plays an important role in property valuation, and even though you may not be looking to sell right now, you want to make sure your neighbors are able to attract quality buyers. And it goes without saying, we all want to be proud of our neighborhood!

FENCES: Doors that are off hinges, holes in boards or missing boards, and stain color are the main features you should inspect.

Our covenants mandate that we all use Olympic Elite Semi-Solid Canyon Sunset on our fences. However, it was in short supply last year, so **the Board has authorized an additional fence stain: Sherwin Williams SuperDeck Oil Based Semi-Transparent "Riverwood"**. It's now a good time to take advantage of the warm summer weather to bring your fence into compliance

LAWN FURNITURE & TOYS: Remove items that are no longer used from the exterior of your property, such as rusty chairs, broken bikes, and discarded furniture. You can take these items to the York County site at 145 Goodwin Neck Rd or call the County to use their Bulk Pick Up service (details in this newsletter). Do not leave them on the curb as our trash company will not pick them up!

MOLD ON SIDING: We can all agree that stains on the exterior of a home are unattractive. To keep the homes clean, our dues allow for each home to be power washed every 3 years. However, mold may appear on your home before your scheduled power wash. You can tell the type of mold on your home by the color. Black stains are usually a sign of mildew, algae, mold or fungus; Green stains are almost always the result of algae or moss. Not

only are the mold stains unsightly, Algae and mildew can produce toxins and can cause allergic reactions and skin irritations. Homeowners should regularly inspect for mold and mildew to keep your investment looking great.

MULCHING: The HOA does not provide mulch/flowers/bushes for the front of our homes. This is a personal choice and is the responsibility of the homeowner to prune shrubs, maintain the landscaping, and ensure healthy plants.



What is Allowed Above the Fence Line?
Check the rules before you plant a tree!

Policy Resolution 2014-1, dated 28 Oct 2014, establishes that nothing will be visible above the privacy fence line. This includes, but is not limited to trees, shrubbery, tents, gazebos, and pergolas. This restriction was enacted because many homes planted trees within their privacy fences and after years of growth, the trees grew to heights (in some cases) over the roof lines of the homes and the roots caused damages to the foundations, patios, and sidewalks.

Policy Resolution 2012-1, dated 24 Jan 2012, establishes the architectural guideline for **Tool Sheds** and requires a complete application to the ARC. They must be located inside the fence and behind housing units and shall not be visible above the fence line. The structure should be non-metal and stained or painted to match the townhome.

Homeowners are allowed to have **one pole umbrella** inside the fence, but the umbrella must remain closed when not in use. **American flags flown from a pole** attached to the fence are permitted and do not require ARC approval. Reasonable consideration should be given to the flag's size and location. All other flags require ARC approval.



Future Newsletters will now be Paperless!

Our plans for the new format will be to include much more info - not just about Smithy Glen, but also happenings in Coventry and the County. The newsletter will be available through the Coventry website: <https://coventryhoaofyorktown.org/newsletter>

Architectural Modifications

The next ARC Mtg is 27 June @ the Coventry Clubhouse. You can obtain the ARC form from the Coventry website: <https://coventryhoaofyorktown.org/exterior-alteration-app>

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 submit an ARC review form to the office **BEFORE YOU START THE PROJECT. All changes MUST be approved by the ARC committee.** Remember you live in a Planned Unit Development which means you need to have approval for many things before you can do them. 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 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.



Yard of the Month MAY 2022

Congratulations to the first Smithy Glen Yard of the Month winner - 201 Wexford.

Thanks for all you've done to make your yard look so nice!



As you might have noticed we have been busy fixing several broken sidewalk sections and potholes in the community. We plan to repair more as they are identified and the budget allows. If you know of an area in need of repair **please fill out a Community Action Form (CAF)** in the office so we might look at it and add it to our list. You can download the CAF from the Coventry website: <https://coventryhoaofyorktown.org/community-action-form>

To ALL Our Military Families
We Appreciate Your Sacrifice and Dedication!

The Smithy Glen Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to once again thank our dedicated military members and their families. No matter what your rank, whether you are stationed here at home or abroad, your Service is important to our country. We salute you and Thank You!



Stay Informed and Find Things to Do!
Summer is the perfect time to Explore All York County has to offer!

York County has a new website! To stay connected and access all the information about our local area, visit the new site online at <https://yorkcounty.gov>. You can sign up through that link to receive the weekly **Citizens News** and receive updates about Yorktown Market Days, The Sounds of Summer Riverwalk events, Camps for the kids, the Board of Supervisor's meetings, and the Senior Citizens calendar.

Did you know that York County has a television channel and several videos archived on You Tube? Visit <https://www.yorkcounty.gov/365/Local-Programs> to access videos of local sights, businesses, and how to obtain services. You can also catch the daily live stream on **Cox Channel 46** and **Verizon Channel 38**.

Looking for some live entertainment? You'll love the **Sounds of Summer Series at Riverwalk Landing** on Thursday nights from 7pm-9pm: Bring your lawn chairs and coolers and stay until the sun sets. You'll get to jam to some of the area's top acts playing beach favorites, Motown, disco, funk, R&B, Pop & more. Come early to enjoy dinner and drinks at Historic Yorktown's restaurants.

Looking for Local Vendors? Yorktown Market Days are held every Saturday and are a one-stop shop for seasonal produce; fresh poultry, eggs, and milk; beef, pork, and seafood; artisan bread and scratch-made desserts;

honey, jams, and sauces; flowers, plants, and herbs; coffee, tea, fresh-pressed juices, and wine; high-quality art; and even gourmet dog treats! Free parking is available and the complimentary, wheelchair-accessible Yorktown Trolley starts at 10 a.m. on Market Days and makes several convenient stops throughout town. Visit: www.yorktownmarketdays.com



**JUNE 29th:
PUT OUT
YOUR
TRASH & RECYCLE TOTES
AND
DO NOT
BRING THEM BACK IN!**

EMERGENCY - 911
Non-emergency: 757- 890-3621
Sheriff's office: 757- 890-3630

Contact the HOA office at 757-867-9200
E-mail: coventryhoa@verizon.net
www.coventryhoaofyorktown.org
www.facebook.com/CoventryNeighborhoodHOA
www.facebook.com/groups/CoventryWatch