

MVS FALL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

The MVS Annual Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 14th at the Saunders Volunteer Fire Station on Smith Mountain Lake Parkway from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.

- Please be sure to include the food category you are planning to bring on the RSVP form. This will greatly help the Board organize the event – *thank you*.
- Invitation w/RSVP is being mailed later this month with an updated neighborhood directory.

GARBAGE CANS

Problems continue with the garbage cans not being placed out for pickup in time for the garbage truck. This means that they can be left out for days with trash that will attract animals and can also become a health and safety issue. Even after the garbage has been picked up, the cans are being left at the side of the road which continues to be an invitation for critters. There have been rabid racoons in Mountain View Shores within the last several years, and bears have recently been sighted.

- Garbage cans should only be by the side of the road the evening before pickup (Wednesday night for Thursday pickup; Friday night for Saturday pickup). Trash cans need to be back to the side of the house by the evening of pickup day.
- Please note that all garbage inside the trash can should be inside **LARGE PLASTIC GARBAGE BAGS**, not plastic shopping bags.
- The trash company, Bay Boys will **NOT** empty trash cans that have overflowing or loose trash in the pickup bins.

It is the homeowner's responsibility to ensure that everyone utilizing a trash service is aware of and conforms to these requirements. **If violations continue within our neighborhood, commercial trash pickup may be prohibited.**

REMINDER

All renovations and new construction **MUST** be compliant with the MVSHOA Restrictions which can be found on our website along with the Guidelines for Homebuilders and Remodelers (see <https://mountainviewshores.org/documents>). Please note that the \$600 fee for projects more than \$60,000 is to cover the damage to our community roads caused by large equipment. These are private roads and are maintained solely by the property owners of Mountain View Shores.

UPDATES FOR STOP SIGNS

There are plans to paint white lines at the intersections with stop signs. This will assist drivers as a reminder of where in the neighborhood they should be stopping.

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE QUALITY

As homeowners in Mountain View Shores, we all have a vested interest in the quality and vitality of the lake. The HAB, Hazardous Algae Bloom, that closed a large part of the lake last year for half of the summer was a wake-up call. It is everyone's responsibility to use environmentally safe practices.

Phosphorus and other nutrients are introduced into the lake through runoff and stormwater. Sources of these nutrients include lawn and plant fertilizers, pet and wildlife waste, leaking or malfunctioning septic systems, and erosion/siltation. Nutrients can also be found in the lake bottom. Sunken leaves, brush, and dissolved organic material all release nutrients as they decompose.

Ways you can help keep Smith Mountain Lake healthy:

- Do not blow leaves or other yard trash into the lake.
- Construction sites should have appropriate runoff protection.
- Pump out and examine your septic system regularly, and please adhere to the septic plan approved by Bedford County. (i.e., if your home has been approved for 3 bedrooms don't exceed that.)
- Consider planting a buffer garden. Smith Mountain Lake Association, a volunteer agency, has free resources available to assist. (540-719-0690)
- Avoid fertilizer containing phosphorus. The numbers on the fertilizer bag are nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K). Common lawn fertilizers usually have 10-10-10. **Homeowners should look for fertilizer with zero phosphorus, and don't forget to ask your lawn maintenance company to do the same.** Nitrogen is primarily responsible for nurturing the leaf growth on plants, and potassium helps to nurture overall plant function.

MVS BLUEBIRD TRAIL 2024

If you've been wondering about the new gray bird houses that showed up this spring along the neighborhood roadways, we have happy news to share.

With 25+ years' experience of building boxes and caring for bluebird trails, Glenn Hudler set up a 10-box trail in Mountain View Shores.

- With permission from BRWA and the MVSHOA Board, he was allowed to install 6 new boxes on well lots and at the filtration plant. He also has one on his lot, inherited the box at the map kiosk, and adopted two others on a neighbor's property.
- Over the years, Glenn perfected a box design that handles the weather well and thwarts most incursions. Should you want to build your own bluebird box, he'll gladly share some key details that will make a difference.

In early March Glenn began weekly visits to the trail, taking inventory of the progress of nest construction, number of eggs, age of any hatchlings, and number of fledglings.

- The many bluebirds we normally have in our area flocked to the boxes.
- All the boxes filled up quickly and most had two broods by the end of July. The map kiosk had three!
- Out of a total of 86 eggs, there were 61 successful fledglings. The map kiosk had the most with 13. It was a very rewarding season!
- It's OK to open boxes and handle babies until day 13 after hatching. After this, please don't since the fledglings may leave prematurely.

If you are interested in learning about or helping with monitoring next year, please contact Glenn.

SOUTHSIDE ELECTRIC COMPANY UPDATE

We continue to communicate with Southside about the low lines in the Deerwood section of Mountain View Shores. Osmose, Southside's consultant, was in our neighborhood the week of September 8th mapping lines on Deerwood and all crossroads. We have followed up with Southside for the next steps.

Hope that everyone is enjoying the beautiful fall weather,

MVSHOA Board of Directors

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www.mountainviewshores.org