

## **MVS SPRING NEWSLETTER**

*(sent out via email 4/1/2021)*

Happy Spring to you all,

Spring is in the air. Daffodils are blooming, maple trees are budding, and the final oak leaves have fallen. Surely spring and warmer weather are not far behind. This winter once again proved how lucky we are to live in this part of Virginia and Mountain View Shores in particular. While the ice storm did considerable damage and most of us were without power for a while, it made us realize how great it is to have electricity and how much we have grown to depend on the unlimited supply. We still have some branch and tree cleanup underway, but it should be completed very soon.

With vaccines becoming more available, life may soon get back to some sense of normal and getting back together with friends and family may happen by summer. The virus is a lot harder to acquire outdoors and that time of year is quickly approaching. This means, maybe it is time to meet those new folks that have been walking by and put a name and a story together with our new residents. There have been several new homes built and established homes transferred to new owners. We are a welcoming group and really enjoy getting together with family, friends, and neighbors

So, let's get outside, rebuild our "TO DO" list and enjoy living on Smith Mountain Lake and in Mountain View Shores. The best area on the lake by far.

Don Moorman,  
President

*Past newsletters can be found online at <https://mountainviewshores.org>*

### **NEIGHBORHOOD SPRING CLEANUP & HOA ANNUAL MEETING**

Once again with safety in mind, the MVS Spring Cleanup will be organized with small groups accomplishing the various jobs. Tom McKeown is planning to send out an email mid-April with more details. The Board is looking forward to next year when we can once again can ALL work side-by-side with our neighbors and enjoy a relaxing volunteer picnic.

Save the Date - The Annual HOA Meeting will be on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. More details will be in the summer mailing that will be sent out mid-July.

### **KEYS FOR BOAT RAMP ACCESS AND STORAGE LOTS**

If you are selling your home, please remember to return any keys for the boat ramp or storage lots before settlement. Keys and space in the storage lots are not transferable. The new owners can fill out the appropriate form to request boat ramp key and inquire about available space in storage lots.

Storage Lots - Only MVSHOA property owners and their family members may have access to the storage lots.

- At this time one space per property owner will be assigned upon request when a parking spot becomes available.
- There is currently a short waitlist for space.
- No more requests for travel trailers over 29 feet (including tongue) – *Thank You*

Boat Ramp Access Key for Renters - Owner is responsible to assure occupants and their guests follow regulations set forth for all MVSHOA property owners.

### **HIGH WATERS?**

<http://www.smithmountainlakelevel.com> is a quick and easy website to check level of Smith Mountain Lake.

## **UNSAFE BOATING PRACTICES & WAKE DAMAGE**

The Board has heard about many unsafe encounters happening in our neighborhood. The most common seems to be jet skis being operated too close to the shoreline and on many occasions within a couple feet of swimmers.

- According to Virginia DWR speed laws, it shall be unlawful to operate any watercraft greater than no wake speed when within 50 feet or less of docks, piers, boathouses, boat ramps, and people in the water.
- “No wake” is defined as the slowest possible speed required to maintain steerage and headway.
- Operators shall reduce speed to avoid endangering persons or property by the effect of the watercraft’s wake when approaching or passing vessels under way, lying to, at anchor, or made fast to the shore; or, when approaching or passing piers, docks, or boathouses; or when approaching or passing persons in the water or using water skis, etc.

Did you know you are responsible for any damage or injury your wake may cause? Smith Mountain Lake Association suggests:

- Stay at least 200 feet away from the shoreline, docks, or other structures.
- Minimize repetitive passes on any one portion of shoreline. Once you have run the same line for a while, move on to another area.

Ways to report or get help:

- Take a photo of jet ski or boat in question and post to Nextdoor.com. Maybe a neighbor will recognize the watercraft and be able to assist the owner in understanding safe boating practices.
- To report violations of boating laws on Smith Mountain Lake, contact VDGIF Lake Watch at 800-237-5712. A photo would also be helpful if possible.
- Tri-County Lakes Administrative Committee (TLAC) is collecting information regarding damage and incidents caused by high wakes. If possible, take photos and report the incident at <http://sml.us.com/navigation/boating-incident-form>.

## **HOA COMMUNICATION**

The HOA Board of Directors will no longer be using Nextdoor.com to relay information. We find that sending out emails is a much more efficient manner of communication. It is the Board’s policy to do our best to keep your information secure, and you may have noticed that when a mass email address is sent out no addresses besides your own can be seen.

These emails are in addition to the three postal mailings sent out during the year for the annual meeting, neighborhood directory, and HOA dues.

## **NEXTDOOR.COM**

If you haven’t noticed Mountain View Shores’ Nearby Neighborhoods seem to be growing. We are up to about nine that participate in conversations. Nextdoor.com automatically connects these neighborhoods to your profile, and MVS has no control over it. With that said this site is still a wonderful way to ask for recommendations, find answers on “how to”, and keep current during major events (ice storms, floods, and more).

Here are a couple of suggestions if you like using Nextdoor.com but find it has become too cumbersome scrolling through posts from other neighborhoods:

- If you wish to receive recommendations, comments or help from only Mountain View Shores, please be mindful to take the extra step and choose just our neighborhood when sending out a post so that the conversation is not open for discussion with the nearby neighborhoods.
- Should you wish not to see posts from nearby neighborhoods, each person can adjust their Nextdoor.com preferences. Visit [https://nextdoor.com/nearby\\_neighborhoods\\_prefs](https://nextdoor.com/nearby_neighborhoods_prefs) and turn off the neighborhoods you choose not to see.