

THE COLONY COMMUNICATOR

FALL 2020



CONTACT INFORMATION:

board@colonyedina.com - Board Members

office@colonyedina.com - Michelle

maintenance@colonyedina.com – Kevin & Julian

- Hate to use the “S” word, but snow will come at some point whether we like it or not. Our plowing trigger is 1 ½”. All vehicles need to be moved out of lots to allow for plows.
- Do not park in fire lanes at any time. Vehicles in these lanes are subject to immediate towing at vehicle owner’s expense.

BOARD UPDATE:

As we could not make quorum even with the mail in voting, the Board of Directors remained status quo. Karen Snyder later decided to resign her position. The position was offered to the candidate who had the highest percentage of votes, David Anger, but he has too many work commitments at this time to fulfill the role. The position was then offered to the first runner up, Sue Neuhart, who graciously agreed to take on the role. **WELCOME TO THE COLONY BOARD, SUE!**

MAINTENANCE STAFF UPDATE:

Julian Stubbs joined us in July and quickly made himself at home. Kevin is mentoring Julian in all things Colony!

GARAGES & PARKING:

- All garages should accommodate a vehicle – they cannot be used solely for storage.
- We rolled out a new permit plan in August. All vehicles should now display a green Colony parking permit.
- Access for emergency vehicles and trash pickup should always be kept clear.

OTHER REMINDERS:

- 2nd floor residents in cluster buildings: do not place plants or decorative items on living room roofs, these are property of 1st floor homeowners.
- Per the City of Edina: **GRILLS AND FIREPITS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE PROPERTY - THEY ALSO CAN'T BE STORED ON YOUR BALCONY OR PATIO.** The only exception is a grill hardwired into the building’s electrical system, (performed by a licensed electrician & proof filed with the office). A professionally installed GFI outlet is sufficient. You may have a grill stored in your garage for use off premise, but no propane, lighter fluid, or other flammable materials can be stored in the garage.
- Place trash containers out on pick-up day by 7AM and return to garage by early evening that same day. Ensure containers are placed so that the wheels and non-opening side are facing garage. For townhomes, place containers at medians in driveways.
- **ALL BOXES ARE TO BE BROKEN DOWN AND PLACED IN THE RECYCLING CONTAINER.** Failure to do so will result in a \$15/box fee.
- **GALLERY DUMPSTERS ARE FOR THE USE OF GALLERY RESIDENTS.** Townhome and cluster building residents are to have their own trash and recycling containers. You can use the gallery building dumpsters if your trash container is full prior to the next pick up date or if you have a trash item that is too large for your container.
- Disposal of mattresses, furniture, small appliances, or hazardous waste must be coordinated directly with Waste Management or another vendor at your expense. Please inform the office of this event.
- **TWO (2) VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED PER UNIT;** a third if a third licensed driver is in residence. One vehicle must be able to park in the garage.
- **WATCH YOUR SPEED WHEN DRIVING IN GALLERY GARAGES (5 mph) AND ON THE PROPERTY ROADS (10 mph).**

- Compost sheds on the property are for compost materials only (not pots or containers). Kindly bag compost materials and stack them neatly within the sheds.
- Be considerate when walking pets; ensure they are on a leash and clean up after them immediately. **ALL PETS ARE TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE OFFICE.**
- All rental units need proper documentation on file with the office, including contact information for the renter(s) and a copy of the current lease.
- If you experience a power outage, please confirm with a neighbor prior to calling the office or the emergency number. Xcel Energy provides outage information via phone and online and will inform you of the outage location and estimated time power will be returned. Please be advised that fire panels in each building will beep until power is restored and the panel resets itself.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

If you have not done so, please provide your current e-mail address(es) to the office, as email is now our primary method of communication. If you are opposed to email, notices will also be posted on the community bulletin board outside of the office, gallery bulletin boards, and townhome laundry rooms.

AUTOMATIC DUES PAYMENTS:

If you are on the ACH program, thank you! If not, please consider signing up to have your dues automatically paid through your checking or savings account. You can pay monthly or quarterly via ACH and eliminate late fee assessments or the office calling you about late payments. Dues are collected to operate and maintain the community. If they are not paid in a timely manner, the Association cannot pay for regular services or maintenance projects. You can obtain a form to register for ACH from the office either in person or via e-mail.

YOUR HOA DOLLARS AT WORK:

- Roof replacements have been completed for the season. We will finish the buildings in 2021 and then move onto the roofs of living rooms and garages.
- We will continue painting interiors of buildings as time allows. There are buildings that have been painted and are still waiting for unit doors to be painted. We will be contacting residents to vote among the colors previously approved (blue, berry, watermelon).
- Many common area trees were trimmed and removed where necessary.
- A mesh fitted pool cover was purchased for the cold season to protect the pool lining and keep the leaves, debris, water (*and baby ducks!*) out.
- All common area carpeting in the cluster and gallery buildings was cleaned in early August.
- A Kinetico water softener was purchased for the 6300 cluster building to replace the softener previously leased by Robert B. Hill. We anticipate the Kinetico system to be more environmentally friendly and provide cost savings. Should this prove to be true, we will replace other softeners as funds allow.
- French drains have been installed in two areas to mitigate water pooling and ice buildup.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY INFORMATION:

PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED INFORMATION. Sensitivity issues to odors and chemicals are a very real struggle and we must be cognizant of the fact that staff, neighbors, visitors may suffer from these issues. The staff will always strive to provide advance notice of any projects that may involve strong fumes such as painting.

GOLF CARTS USED BY STAFF:

Maintenance has received several concerns about their golf carts and the grass. Please do not be concerned – the carts are made to travel on turf.

HOMEOWNERS CORNER:

Anything you'd like to share with your neighbors? Observations, tips, something for sale, even a recipe if you like. Feel free to submit your ideas to the office for inclusion in the next newsletter edition.

LOST AND FOUND: We still have some unclaimed items that will be disposed of at the end of the year.

Dear Residents,

Please note that some of your neighbors may have chemical sensitivity issues. Try to take the following information into consideration if you can:

Volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”) are ubiquitous domestic pollutants

- Fragranced products (such as detergent, dryer sheets, plug-ins, and air fresheners) emit gases called volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”). Some of these VOCs are classified as toxic or hazardous under U.S. federal laws.
- VOCs can cause adverse health effects, including difficult breathing, migraine, and other immune system reactions.
- A 2019 research study found 32.2% of adults suffer from fragrance sensitivity and for 9.5% of adults, the severity of health effects can be considered disabling.
- Due to the structure of the building, it is easy for fragranced products to emit into common spaces and other units.
- Please consider using fragrance-free products to ensure safer air for all residents.

For more details:

<https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/volatile-organic-compounds-impact-indoor-air-quality>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0195925510001125>