



September 2015

Dear residents,

We hope you are enjoying the change in weather after the heat of summer.

### ANNUAL JUNE MEETING

We had an informative presentation by guest speaker **Lorne Field, Environmental Outreach, Chesterfield County**. Mr. Field provided handouts on protecting the Waters of Chesterfield County and Chesapeake Bay Resource Protection Areas and a detailed Rain Garden Installation and Design magazine. He also gave an informative presentation on the importance of doing our part to prevent pollutant runoff into our waterways. A few highlights from his presentation are: the fastest growing source of pollution is from runoff. These pollutants include dog waste and fertilizer and other chemical sprays. Please pick up dog waste and fertilize only in the fall. Spring rain washes fertilizer off your lawn and straight into the storm sewer system and into the lake

Our second speaker was **Brent Epps, from the Department of Transportation, Chesterfield County**. Mr. Epps stated that the first phase of the Lucks Lane, Spirea Road, & Evergreen Parkway project, with design completion expected winter 2016, right-of-way negotiations will commence and construction to be completed late 2016 or early 2017. Lucks Lane will be widened from two to four lanes from Spirea Road to East Evergreen Parkway. The second phase will include left and right lane turns and a traffic light at Lucks Lane/Water Willow Drive. There will be a sidewalk on the SHHA side. He explained that this project is a top priority for secondary roads in Chesterfield County. This level of importance occurred because of statistical data confirming traffic congestion and accidents (safety). It is a revenue sharing project with Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), which considers pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles.

The third phase will include future widening from Lucks Lane, East Evergreen Parkway to Route 288.

### Residential Committee

Homeowner Smitty stated that year after year the attendance and proxy response doesn't yield at least fifty-three (53) of the one hundred five (105) homeowners to equal a quorum of homeowners to elect directors for the SHHA at the annual meeting and vote on other business. He proposed that one (1) person from each street volunteer to be a street representative. This would be a total of six (6) people who would form a committee to serve the following possible functions: review the Bylaws and then agree on changes that are needed and present the

change recommendations to the Directors, organize a fall clean up, create a list of e-mail addresses or just street addresses of all residents, make polite communication with owners who may need help with maintenance of their property, and alert the SHHA board of problems on their street which need a solution. Smitty has reviewed the Bylaws and concluded that it would require about seventy-six (76) homeowners to sign any changes. After discussion with the Directors, then a special proxy would be prepared and each street representative would take the proxy to each homeowner on their street to vote for or against the recommended change to the Bylaws. He concluded by stating that street representatives could be a good way to get homeowners involved. Those in attendance including all board members agreed with his proposal. We need volunteers for every street. If you are willing to volunteer please call Carol at 379-4687.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Thanks to all of the homeowners who have painted, re-roofed, landscaped etc.; you are helping increase the beauty and value of this sub-division.
- In addition to the new trash cans, which are available on the path for pet waste, we are erecting **pet waste stations** at the beginning and end of the pathway .
- Our big new project is to **repave the path**. We received three bids (one of which was the contractor who created the paths around Brandermill) and at the end of October, A-1 contractors will begin work on the path. We did considerable research on other options.
  1. **Dirt trails** would require a lot of maintenance. They would constantly erode away into the pond and need to be re graded every 6 months to a year. The dirt would not allow any traffic for days after rain, as there would be mud and puddles everywhere.
  2. **Stone trails** are a better substitute than dirt. They allow a hard compacted surface to walk on without the mud. The stone will last a little longer than the dirt without maintenance. However when you do have to service the trails there will a lot more work to be done. The stone comes unpacked as it is walked or driven on with bikes, strollers etc. The stone would also become wet in areas when it rains because of the drainage of the land. At this time you would have to have someone come re-grade the trails and add more stone. Grass can grow between stones and require maintenance.
  3. **Asphalt** will be a long lasting surface that will give a good, hard base. There would be neither mud nor stone to re-grade every so often. Asphalt paths will last a lot longer without maintenance, unlike the other options.
- After working for over two years, we finally have a **lease with Verizon** for a cell station on our property (near the power lines), and the land is currently leased by Clearwire. The money they pay us for leasing this property will help us pay for the path repaving.
- **The lake:** We do not own the lake. It was originally deeded to the Lake Evergreen Association but that association is defunct. Some of you have requested that the lake be dredged. None of the other HOA's which abut the lake are in favor of such a project, and the county does not think it would be in best management to do so at this time.
- **New residents** need to contact Mona Nunnaly at 804-921-3341 to ensure that information is up to date with the SHHA records

- If you are interested in having a **fall neighborhood clean-up** please let us know (Call Carol Horner 804-379-2687) We could pay Cliff to remove unwanted items.
- **Cliff Long** was re-hired to provide lawn care for our common areas. He did not increase his fees last year because several residents of Sachem' s Head have employed him for lawn service. Please call him if you need lawn care. His fees are very reasonable. (382-4161).
- We have re-hired **Kristyn Goodman** to add new plants to the entrance of each street and the main entrance. She will also add new plants along the path. We hope you will enjoy these efforts to enhance the beauty of our neighborhood.
- We may need to add more riprap along the lake near the fence to avoid further erosion. Lorne Field, county environmental engineer, suggested a riparian buffer of plants along the edge to help stop the erosion. We plan to continue planting along the water edge.
- We are protecting trees next to the water by wrapping the trunks in wire so that beavers will not damage them.
- We paid \$2000 to U.S. Wildlife Services to remove 6 beavers from the lake. The beavers damaged and killed many trees along the lake.
- Cliff will continue to replace or repair the fence as required and remove trash in the cans.
- Karl Grimsley will be our new board member and will take care of IT and architectural review

## DUES NEWS

Assessments are to be paid the first of every quarter and sent to the address below. A reminder notice is sent out to each homeowner each quarter. Late fees are assessed in the amount of \$15.00 if not paid before the 10th of the month. Our attorney has successfully taken residents to court if they fail to pay fees. Send all fees to:

Mona Nunnaly  
 P.O Box 5628; Midlothian, VA 23112-5628  
 Phone: (804) 921-3341

WEB PAGE [www.SachemsHead.org](http://www.SachemsHead.org)

**Please check out the web pages.**

**You will find previous minutes, financial statements, and letters to residents. A list of useful a list of useful phone numbers and information about changes in Lucks Lane**

**USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

1. **Cliff Long (for cutting lawns): 382-4161**
2. **Chesterfield Police Non-emergency number: 748-1251**
3. **Code Compliance Office: 748-1500** (Please call if you see violations)
4. **Building Inspector: 748-1057** (call to report property complaints anonymously)
5. **Department of Environmental Engineering: 748-1024** (ask for Jerry Duffy, supervisor)
6. **Citizen's Assistance-(to complain about upkeep of rented property) 748-1779**
7. **Animal Control: 748-1683 (weekdays) and 748-1251 (weekends)**
8. **VDOT: (804) 674-2800**

**SACHEM'S HEAD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015**

**PRESIDENT**

**Carol Horner  
12500 Wood Sage East  
379-2687**

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**Bill Fortner  
12501 Spring Cress Ct.  
379-8826**

**TREASURER**

**Mona Nunnally  
P.O.Box 5628  
Midlothian, VA 23112-5628  
921-3341**

**SECRETARY**

**Judy Godwin  
12510 Wood Sage East  
338-1594**

**AGENTS FOR THE BOARD**

---

**NEIGHBORHOOD LIASON**

**Lyn Lyon  
12507 Needle Rush Way  
897-7365**

**IT SUPPORT**

**Nik Grimsley  
12412 Reed Grass Lane  
212-8611**

**GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

**Carol J. Horner  
12500 Wood Sage East  
379-2687**

**Judy Godwin**  
**12510 Wood Sage East**  
**338-1594**

**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE**

**Karl Grimsley**  
**12412 Reed Grass Lane**  
**516-7583**

**Bill Fortner**  
**12501 Spring Cress Court**  
**379-882**

**LANDSCAPING**  
**Cliff Long 382-4161**  
**Kristyn Goodman 873-1859**

**PROBLEMS WE ARE AWARE OF AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS**

1. Homeowners/Renters failing to maintain property which may reduce the beauty of the neighborhood and negatively impact property values for all of our homes:
  - a. Phone calls and Letters of complaint to homeowners have successfully encouraged homeowners to repair their homes
  - b. Our attorney, Gail Holstrom has helped us recover unpaid dues and represented SHHA in court against one homeowner
  - c. Carol Horner called the Chesterfield Code Compliance Office to report a house in deteriorated condition.
  - d. If you notice a house which is in poor repair, please call 748-1779 (Deteriorated structures Office) or a member of the architectural committee.
  - e. Note: According to SHHA Covenants, No building, fence or other structure shall be erected, placed or altered on any property in Sachem's head until the proposed building plans, specifications, exterior color or finish, and plot plan (showing the proposed location of such building or structure, drives and parking areas) shall have been approved in writing by the Sachem's head Community Association Architectural Review Board. No alteration in the exterior appearance of any building or structure shall be made without like approval. (see Form on website.)
2. Homeowners/Renters failing to cut grass If you notice a neighbor's grass is 12 inches or higher call The Code Compliance office and give the address. Call 748-1500. This call can remain anonymous. If you need help with lawn care call Cliff Long who takes care of Sachem Head common areas. His number is 382-4161
3. Parking: Streets in Sachem's Head are state public roads and Sachem's head Community Association does not regulate parking on the street. State laws, enforced by Chesterfield County Police, prohibit the parking of unlicensed vehicles on public roads and the parking of a vehicle so that it blocks traffic or creates a traffic hazard. The nonemergency telephone number for Chesterfield County Police is 748-1251. Please try to stagger parking to avoid crowding and a fire hazard. Fire trucks must have easy access to all houses.
4. Unlicensed Vehicles: Chesterfield County ordinance requires that vehicles have current state and county licenses displayed, or an unlicensed vehicle fee must be paid to the county. The license inspectors' telephone number for reporting unlicensed vehicles is 748-1229. Call to report these.

5. Noise of neighbors: Covenant Section 6. Noxious or Offensive Activity. No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on or upon any Lot or any part of the Properties, nor shall anything be done thereon which may be or may become an annoyance or nuisance, public or private, to the neighborhood or which shall in any way interfere with the quiet enjoyment of each of the Owners of his respective dwelling unit, or which shall in any way increase the rate of insurance.
6. Geese: The fence we added last year did deter the geese. Please keep the gates closed. Remember that both feeding the geese and damaging the fence are prohibited by the board.
7. Dumping in common areas. Dumping in common areas is not allowed. In the past, some individuals have dumped bags of leaves, bricks and other items in common areas. Small amounts of loose leaves and small branches, which are bio-degradable, are allowed. Please do not dump grass clippings on the lake side of the fence. The fertilizer from these clippings adds to the algae bloom.
8. Dogs roaming without leashes and dog owners unwilling to clean up after their pet's leavings. Please control your dog and clean up.
9. Accurate list of homeowners and renters Communication is important and we need an accurate list with accurate phone numbers. Recently I tried to call a homeowner but did not have an accurate phone number for her. Please take the time to call Mona Nunnaly and give her your address and phone number. Thanks for your cooperation.
10. Algae in Lake Evergreen Chemical treatments by Thomas Aquatics have significantly reduced the algae in the lake. We will continue with this treatment in coordination with Grand Manor and Paget.
11. Trimming of shrubs which block driver's vision The best time to trim will be in the fall and at that time, Cliff Long will take care of it.

Have you ever wondered what you can do to help the algae problem in Lake Evergreen?

There are some simple steps you can take at home that will reduce the excessive nutrients in the lake that fuel unsightly algal growth.

The key is responsible lawn care. Nutrients from fertilizers are carried to the lake by rainwater runoff that flows from our yards and into storm drains. The storm drains are not treated...they lead straight to Lake Evergreen.

Here are some tips that will give you a green lawn and reduce the nutrient runoff from your yard.

1. Have your soil tested to determine its exact nutrient needs.  
Soil test kits are available at all Chesterfield County libraries and through the Chesterfield Cooperative Extension office. It only costs ten bucks to have your soil tested and you will know exactly what kind and how much fertilizer you need. Proper fertilization will give you a healthy lawn and save you money in the long run!
2. Avoid fertilizing in the spring!!!  
Spring rains wash fertilizer off your lawn and straight into the storm sewer system. All of those nutrients go straight to the lake and all of your money and effort is wasted.
3. Fertilize in the fall!!!  
Fertilizing in seasons with less rain will prevent nutrients from washing into the lake and give them time to penetrate your soil. This will allow for deeper root growth and will make your lawn more drought tolerant. You will get more for your money and effort! October is the ideal time to fertilize.
4. Keep it on the grass!!!  
When you use fertilizer be sure it stays on your lawn. Fertilizer on streets and driveways will find a direct path into the storm drain. Sweep it up! Again, it will save you money.
5. Mow high and mow often.

Cut often so that you do not remove more than one third of the leafage. This maintains a lush lawn. Don't bag the clippings! They will biodegrade quickly and release nutrients back into the soil and reduce your need for commercial fertilizer.

6. Scoop up after your dog!

This is not necessarily a lawn care practice but cleaning up after you pets will significantly reduce the nutrients going to the lake. When you walk your dog take a couple of plastic bags with you. It is especially important on roads and sidewalks where there is a straight path to the storm drains

Together we can reduce the algae problem in OUR lake!

Other suggestions for homeowners:

1. Keep a light on your front and back porch at night
2. Lock your cars at all times
3. Be sure the address to your house is clearly in sight
4. Report suspicious persons or vehicles to the non emergency police number (748-1251)

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful area we have all chosen to live in. We are truly blessed to live in such a fabulous natural area. Please contact me if you have any suggestions or concerns.

Carol Horner  
President of SHHA  
[cjhorner@comcast.net](mailto:cjhorner@comcast.net)  
804-379-2687  
12500 Wood Sage East