



From the President

The Board of Directors of Country Creek Association would like to welcome all of our new owners and residents. 2006 was a very active year in the real estate market for Country Creek. We have added a "New Residents Corner" to the newsletter to help answer some of the more common questions from new residents. The newsletter also contains a list of phone numbers that you may find useful.

The Board lost two of its longest standing members last fall. Mr. James Pizzarelle, an original owner in Country Creek, recently sold his Sutton Oaks property. His long history with the community, his insight and thoughtfulness made him an asset that we will surely miss. We wish him good luck. Mr. David Helfgott, the association Secretary for the last five years, and a long standing Board Member also resigned last fall. Mr. Helfgott's parents were original owners in Country Creek as well. The Board wishes to thank them both for their many years of service to the community. Mr. Brian Lavoie was elected to the office of Secretary for Country Creek. Mr. Lavoie has also been a Board member for the last six years.

As the ice melts and the cold winds subside, it is time to begin thinking about the warmth of spring. It is time to replant, repair and generally spruce up. The front yards of our homes reflect the type of community we are. Many homeowners work hard to keep their property attractive and well maintained. Whether your front

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Patio Doors

IT HAS COME TO THE ATTENTION of the Board that during the fall inspections of 2006, a number of homeowners received notices regarding their patio doors. The Board has examined this issue carefully and has come to the conclusion that a replacement patio door may be white, ivory (or off white), or brown. The trim surrounding the door must still match the trim of the house, but the outside frame of the door may be white, ivory or brown. Therefore, if you received a notice that stated that your patio door was not in harmony, it was sent in error and should be disregarded.

New Residents' Corner

TRASH PICK UP IS TUESDAY and Friday. **Please place trash out for pick up on Tuesday and Friday mornings only.** All trash must be placed in a plastic garbage bag and securely tied.

Recycling pick up is Tuesday. Please reference the AAA Recycling Guide on the next page.

Parking regulations – Each townhome has **two numbered reserved spaces.** Any car parked within Country Creek property must display a current Country Creek parking decal. Each owner is provided with two decals and two visitor parking tags each year.

Visitor parking tags are just that, for visitors only. Owners should contact Thompson & Assoc. at 703-938-9115 as soon as you move in to obtain current decals.

If you are a renter and did not receive parking decals from the owner of the property or the rental agent, please have them contact Thompson & Assoc. at 703-938-9115.

Parking Decals

New parking decals will be mailed in the next few weeks. **THE NEW DECALS SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE BACK SIDE OF YOUR REAR VIEW MIRROR.** It is essential that it can be seen through the front windshield. Please make sure that your new 2007 decal is placed on the back of the rear view mirror by April 30, 2007.

CCA Board Meetings

CHECK THE WEB SITE FOR THE SCHEDULE and locations. If you have a concern about living in Country Creek and would like to bring it before the Board, leave a message on the Hotline. A Board member will return your call.

www.countrycreekhoa.com

Letters to the Editor

IF YOU HAVE A COMMENT OR QUESTION about living in Country Creek, put it on paper, sign it, and send it to Letters to the Editor, CCA, Inc., 2897 Sutton Oaks Lane, Vienna, VA 22181. Space is limited, therefore, concerns will be paraphrased and answered as space allows. *Reflections* is published quarterly. We aim for January, April, July and October.

The newly completed walkway near the Country Creek Tot Lot between Scotch Haven and Shawn Leigh.



Country Creek Association, Inc.
2897 Sutton Oaks Lane
Vienna VA 22181



Country Creek Board of Directors

- President Pamela Frazier
- Vice President Julie Appleby
- Secretary Brian Lavoie
- Treasurer Sharon Hotchkiss
- Board Members John Ennella
..... Richard Bavier

CCA HOTLINE: (703) 255-1470

- Hotline box #1-Disclosure Packets, #2-Architectural
- #4-Grounds & Maintenance, #5-Board Meeting Updates
- BILLING INQUIRES: Thompson & Assoc. (703) 938-9115

PARKING ADMINISTRATION: Thompson & Assoc. (703) 938-9115

- AAA Recycling & Trash Customer Service (703) 818-8222
Trash pickup Tuesday (+ recyclables) & Friday (+ big items)
- Correct Time..... (703) 844-2525
- Fairfax Co. Animal Control..... (703) 830-3310
- Fairfax Co. Household Hazardous Waste Line..... (703) 324-5068
- Fairfax Co. General Information..... (703) 324-3185
- Fairfax Co. Police, Fire and Ambulance (Emergency)..... 911
Police, Fire and Ambulance (Non-emergency) (703) 691-2131
- Fairfax Co. School Information (703) 246-2502
- Fairfax Co. Web Site:..... www.fairfaxcounty.gov
- Accurate Towing..... (703) 536-0370
- Poison Control for D.C. Metro Area..... (202) 625-3333

yard is sunny, grassy, completely shaded, or one that may require a bit more creativity, there are solutions for you. There are many options available for the front yard. There are many options to improve and beautify the front yard, depending on what direction the yard faces, how shaded it is, and how much time you would like to spend on it. This is a good time to talk with a landscape planner at a nursery about possibilities. All you need to know is how much sun your yard gets, what your budget is and what your time commitment is. The landscape planner can suggest flowers, ground cover, shrubs and plants that can meet your needs and provide a yard plan that is neat and low maintenance or ornate and varied. If you love to see birds and butterflies, there are plants and shrubs that can be planted that will attract them. If you are not sure what you are looking for, just walk around Country Creek and look at some of the yards that have been landscaped. They range from simple and elegant to bursting with flowers. It does not take a lot of money to clean up the front yard and maintain it. You can create a clean and neat yard with a few bags of mulch, a couple of potted plants and few ornamental flowers, such as marigolds or pansies. A little bit of care can go a long way to complementing your home and improving the look of our community.

The last ten to fifteen years have not been kind to our grounds. Country Creek has experienced a tremendous amount of erosion. This erosion has been taking its toll on our grounds in the last five years. The ground has eroded around our homes as well as in the common areas. The most noticeable place that you see this erosion is at the front steps to the house. The cement walkway to the front steps may be lower than it once was. That is because of ground erosion. The bottom step may now be bigger than the other step or steps. This can create a dangerous situation. The walkway may need to be regraded, front and back yards may need to be regraded, drains may need to be repaired or replaced, and sump pumps may need to be installed in window wells. Each year Country Creek spends approximately \$60,000 to \$100,000 to repair drainage problems caused by erosion. This is a good time to assess your foundation both front and back and plan for any repairs that may be needed.

Pamela Frazier
President, Country Creek Association

Reduced Cost Rabies Clinics

BECAUSE OF SEVERAL INCIDENTS of rabies infected animals coming into contact with humans in Fairfax County, all citizens are advised to learn to recognize rabid animal behavior, to protect themselves and to have their pets inoculated against the disease. The most publicized incidents this year have involved rabid foxes, raccoons and a rabid cat. The disease is also prevalent in the bat and skunk populations. Humans are susceptible to the disease through animal bites or other contact with a rabid animal's saliva through a break in the skin.

The next rabies clinic at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter will be held on March 11, 2007 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at 4500 West Ox Road (703-830-1100). The cost is \$10 for both the one-year and three-year vaccines. Dogs, cats and ferrets will be vaccinated. Dogs must be on leashes. Cats and ferrets must be in carriers.

Rabies Clinic Dates for 2007:

- March 11, from 12 to 2 p.m.
- May 20, from 12 to 2 p.m.
- July 15, from 12 to 2 p.m.
- September 16, from 12 to 2 p.m.
- November 18, from 12 to 2 p.m.

Farmer's Market at Nottoway Park

THE ANNUAL VIENNA FARMER'S MARKET will open the 2007 season on Wednesday, May 3 and will close on Wednesday, November 22. The market offers a large array of fresh vegetables, fruits, flowers, plants, baked goods, and many surprises. The market opens at 8 a.m. and closes at about 12:30 p.m. each Wednesday morning. Treat yourself and your family to the freshest in season produce and fruits, and a chance to meet the farmers who do the growing.

Household Hazardous Waste

GET RID OF OLD CLEANING and gardening chemicals, pesticides and poisons, acids, varnish, oil-based paints, solvents, aerosols, wood preservatives, spent batteries and automotive fluids the responsible way by taking them to the I-66 Transfer Station for environmentally safe disposal or recycling. Once you drive to the disposal site, a hazardous waste contractor will remove the items from your car. Weekly collections are Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to noon; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Rd. in Fairfax. Household Hazardous Waste Infoline: 703-324-5068.

AAA Recycling Guide

- **Glass bottles & jars, metal food & aluminum cans:** Rinse out food residue and remove caps and lids. Crush or fold aluminum cans individually to save space. Store in paper bags or AAA recycling bins. UNACCEPTABLE: plate & window glass, pottery, light bulbs, Pyrex, ceramic dishes, pots, pans, foil, pie tins, and scrap metal.
- **Newspapers & magazines:** Bundle newspapers in paper bags or tie with strong twine. DO NOT use plastic bags. Magazines, phone books & glossy inserts are O.K.
- **Brush & yard debris:** Collect separately the woody part of yard debris such as bushes and small tree limbs. Cut into 4-foot lengths, tie and bundle in arm size bundles.
- **Collection information:** Recyclables are picked up each Tuesday. Have recyclables on the curb early on the day of collection. If it's raining, don't worry. It's okay for all recyclables, even newspaper, to get wet. Do not mix trash with recyclables. Cut cardboard into pieces no larger than 3'x 3'; flatten smaller boxes for recycling.



Be a Good Neighbor!

DO NOT put trash out on days when no pickup is scheduled. If you miss a pickup, DO NOT leave trash out until the next pickup.

= PPMI =

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We currently manage homes in Country Creek

Purvis Property Management, Inc.

Office (703) 281-0311
Fax (703) 281-7410
E-mail: ppmi@compuserve.com

Do you know when it is time to clean your gutters?

Signs of gutter blockages:

- If water is seen coming over the side of the gutter during heavy rain, it may indicate that there is a build-up of rubbish. It is surprising how much builds up. The common sources are leaves, the dirt that washes off the roof, scraps of food dropped by birds, etc.
- Check all downspouts to make sure that the water is properly flowing out of them. There could be a build-up of rubbish in the downspouts themselves.

Gutters should be cleaned twice a year:

- Spring: March - April - May
- Fall/Winter: November - December - January

Cleaning gutters is **important preventive maintenance**:

- Water going into your basement will affect your foundation
- Water can run down an outside wall and eventually cause damage to the structure

Gutterwork's General Townhouse Inspection

Service provided for an estimated fee of \$75

(Prices are subject to change based on size and location of townhouse.)

The inspection covers:

1. Roof condition
2. Gutter condition
3. Chimney condition
4. Paint & wood condition
5. Checklist will be provided after inspections have been completed.

Contributed by Tim Gagnon of Gagnon's Gutterworks

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