

Shenandoah Landscape Services assumed full landscape maintenance responsibilities on August 1 of this year. Shenandoah is expected to take better care of our grounds and to provide very good customer service. Mowing will take place every seven to ten (7-10) days beginning April and continuing until the end of October. Our previous contract called for mowing every seven to fourteen (7-14) days, and, on average was closer to twelve. So far, the Board and the Grounds and Maintenance Chairman have noticed an improvement in the look of our community with the more frequent mowing cycle. The first pre-emergent application has been applied. This application of Broadleaf should help kill the clover and weeds. This weedkiller is not dangerous to humans or animals. The next major landscape service that is scheduled for sometime in October is the power seeding. Power seeding is a process by which the grass seed is shot into the ground with a machine. The effect should be to give our problem areas plenty of grass seed that will survive through the winter and grow in the spring. With problem areas, the topsoil can become too muddy to sustain grass seed applied to the top. Shenandoah has also trimmed back a number of trees throughout the community. Many lower limbs needed to be cut back. We are in the process of assessing the tree health in the community. We will be evaluating the health and strength of Country Creek's trees throughout the winter and have a full report in the spring of 2006. Please forward any suggestions to the President or Vice President via the website.

All front lawns and common areas will be aerated in the spring. This aeration is essential to healthy grass growth. If you have a particularly troublesome front yard and would like some advice, please let us know. Please remember that your front yards are your responsibility to maintain. The Association mows the grass and will have three leaf pick ups this fall. The rest is up to the homeowner. The front yard should be kept neat and healthy. Some homeowners have opted for landscaping the front yard without grass. If the front of your home does not get a lot of sunlight, perhaps an alternate landscape scheme is appropriate.

We also completed repainting the parking space lines and numbers, and the curbs. A new coat of paint certainly spruces up a parking lot. The Board would like to apologize to any resident who has inconvenienced during the repainting. We thank everyone for their cooperation.

## FALL INSPECTIONS

The fall inspections have begun and should be completed in the next few weeks. If you have not completed work that was requested by the Architectural Control inspector in the Spring, please do so. Outstanding violations will be turned over to the Board of Directors for consideration. It is your right to dispute any violation and bring it to the Board for a final decision. You may do this in person at a Board Meeting, by letter, or by email.

## ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Country Creek Association Annual Meeting will be held Monday, October 17, 2005, at 7:30 pm, in the Oakton High School Cafeteria. In addition to the election of officers

for the Board of Directors, I will be calling for a vote of the dues increase for 2006 of \$25.00 per quarter, or \$100.00 per year. Please be sure to bring proper identification to the meeting. There will be a presentation of the landscape proposals by Shenandoah Landscape and the Board of Directors.

If you are unable to attend this meeting you may fill out the proxy according to the directions. The proxy can be mailed to 2897 Sutton Oaks Lane, Vienna, VA 22181 or presented to any Board Member prior to the start of the meeting. You may also designate your proxy to someone else.

#### NOTTOWAY PARK ALERT

One of our own residents, Ms. Carol Dilks, recently observed a landscape company employee for another development, dumping twig and leaf refuse in Nottoway Park. Some of you may have recalled seeing a pile of twigs, leaves, etc. in the park just off the connector path. Being a good citizen, she called the police and the offender was issued a violation. The debris was removed. She followed through and went to court to testify. The offender was let off with a \$50.00 fine. What is most disturbing about this incident is that the landscape company that the offender works for took no responsibility for his actions. This is not only a violation of the law but a violation against us, the taxpayers. Aside from polluting our park, our tax money would have had to clean up the mess left by someone else's lazy landscape contractors. Ms. Dilks asked the Board to alert everyone who uses our park to keep an eye out for polluters and to do the right thing and report them. We want to keep our park clean and safe for everyone to enjoy.

#### VIRGINIA POLITICS

In November we will be electing a new Governor, and voting for delegates and various other political positions. If you have not registered to vote, please do. We vote at Hunter House in Nottoway Park as a Country Creek resident. It is an easy walk through the park, or a quick drive to the entrance on Courthouse Road.