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Fox Chase HOA Board Members:

- Debbie Bradfield, President
- Dick Cook, Vice President
- Mary Blackmoor, Secretary
- Dave Frey, Treasurer
- Dan Conway, Parliamentarian
- Sandra Morton, ARC
- Christopher Espenshade, Grounds & Maintenance
- Jennifer Stockli, Pool Manager
- Kevin Kelly, Newsletter

From Our President:

Greetings to all residents living in the Fox Chase neighborhood! We have a new board, and some issues that all residents should be aware of for 2011.

A new board has been elected for 2011. Please note the box on front page of newsletter to see who your new board members are for the coming year. All board positions are held by volunteers. We are currently trying to establish a nominating committee to find persons that would be willing to transition onto the board for 2012. We are always looking for new persons with good ideas to join us on the board and/or committees. If you are interested in possibly becoming a board member for 2012

please check out our website for details.

We need volunteers to help keep our neighborhood running smoothly, and to keep costs down to our residents. Our turnout at the Annual Homeowners Meeting in January was small. While we had two members come forward to fill board positions, we were still lacking the numbers we need to fill committee positions. We have several committees that one could volunteer for, that would require very little time on the part of the resident. If we cannot fill our committee positions, we run the risk of incurring costs to our homeowner's dues. That can be easily avoided by volunteering in our community. Please check

the website to volunteer for a committee.

Home sales in our neighborhood are slowly improving. Fox Chase is a great place to live, so we can hopefully continue with an upward trend! We can all improve our home values by keeping a clean and friendly appearance to our homes and yards.

On behalf of myself, and the board, I would like to extend a warm welcome to any new families that have joined the Fox Chase neighborhood.

Debbie Bradfield
President, Fox Chase HOA



"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin."

William Shakespeare

Pool Manager

The pool will be opening for the season on May 28th. Before you'll be allowed access to the pool this year, you'll need to bring your two key cards down to the pool to get them re-activated for the 2011 season. If you are unable to find one of more of your key cards, you will have to purchase a new set for \$50.

New residents will need to print out the updated Acknowledgment and Waiver form, read and sign it, then bring up to the pool on the following pool activation dates:

- May 21st 2pm to 4pm
- May 22nd 2pm to 4pm
- May 26th 6pm to 8pm
- June 5th 2pm to 4pm

Link for the waiver:

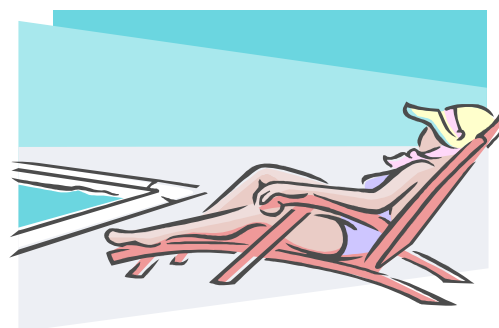
http://www.fox-chase.org/pdf/PoolRulesAcknowledgementAndWaiver_May2010.pdf

If the link above doesn't work, try copying and pasting it into your browser or go to www.fox-chase.org and click on the

Amenities/Pool/Grounds link

Please make it a priority to make one of these dates. Pool committee members who are supporting these dates and any adhoc requests are volunteers. They support our community with time and effort to make this a better community for all of us. If you know you can't make it any of these dates/times, please contact amenities@fox-chase.org and make prior arrangements to drop off your cards. Any re

quests after these dates will be done at the convenience of a pool committee member.



Treasurer's Report

Happy Spring! For those who do not know me, I've lived in the neighborhood for the past 9 years with my family and have volunteered on multiple committees during that time. This is the 2nd year I've been elected to the Board, last year serving as the Vice President and the Treasurer this year. My first goal for 2011 was to prepare a Budget for approval by the Board that would cut where available and move needed funds to other areas such as Grounds and Maintenance to keep up the front entrance. Good news! We were able to cut the 2011 budget by over \$8,000 from the 2010 budget based on the actual expenses and a refi-

of the Pool Loan to a lower interest rate.

Even though the board is elected every year, the current board needs to project out far past that time period to know what is needed financially for the HOA and community in the next 5, 10, and 25 years. This was done a few years ago by a previous board and presented to the community at the annual meeting when the pool loan was obtained. At that time it was estimated that the dues would have to be raised to \$1,200 by 2025 to meet financial obligations. With that in mind, and in preparation for the expiration of the cell tower income in 2018, a final balloon payment for the pool loan due in 2033, and maintaining the reserve

goal for capital expenditures, the Board voted to raise the annual dues to \$660 for 2011. The dues will be collected in two installments. The first \$330 will be billed 5/1 and be due by 5/31 and the remaining \$330 will be billed 10/1 and due by 10/31.

NEW FOR 2011! The Fox Chase HOA will be accepting Credit Card payments through PayPal on www.fox-chase.org for HOA Dues payments. More information will be available when you receive your dues invoice.

We always encourage you to volunteer in the community. Thanks to our volunteers who serve on the Board, various committees and those who sign up to do mowing

and/or pool closing, we've been able to keep costs down by not having a Property Management Company or Pool Management Company.

If you find yourself asking "Where do my dues go?" As always, the board prides itself on transparency with the community. If at any time you would like a copy of the financial reports that are presented at the board meetings each month, please do not hesitate to ask. If you find yourself asking "Where did I put my keys...?" Uh..Sorry we can't help you on that one...

Look forward to seeing you out and about in the community soon! ~Dave Frey, Treasurer

Garden Notes

Finally we have some warm days in the forecast. It's good to be outside! If you haven't already, now is the time to cut back the stalks of any grasses that were left standing over the winter for the birds or for winter interest. Also, cut back stalks of any perennials that are still out there: sedums, chrysanthemums, black-eyed susans, etc. Give your liriopes a haircut too but be careful not to cut the new growth that is starting.

Your perennials all have new growth...have you been in the garden yet? The bunnies especially like to chew on new growth but I've found that even the simplest deterrent, like metal decorative borders or edging, will help keep them away. Try to stay away from chemical deterrents.

When your daffodils are spent, just cut off the flower stalks. Don't cut the leaves off though as this is how the plant replenishes itself. Don't twist or tie them either. Just let them gradually turn brown, then a tug will tell you when they are ready to be pulled. Don't like the brown leaves? Plant some summer bloomers. Any excuse for summer color!

My azaleas really took a hit in the drought last summer. Remember not to prune azaleas until after they bloom. Also, at the end of bloom is the time to prune early flowering shrubs like forsythia. They set their blooms for next year during the summer, so these should be pruned only after they bloom.

In our area planting of annuals should wait until the last week of April. Then, check the forecast, and plant away. And hummingbirds return around the middle of the month!

Summer plant sales are coming up! The Lewis Ginter Botanic Garden has a great sale the last weekend in April. The Rappahannock Adult Activities sale starts April 23 and lasts through the first weekend in May. Keep your eye out in the Weekender for other local plant sales. The Farmers' Market at Gordon Road starts April 23. The Master Gardeners have a table there through the summer for your gardening questions. Any questions? Call me, Beth Malmquist at 972-1472.



FOX CHASE ANNUAL YARD SALE
 Start cleaning out your garage and collecting unused items to sell. This year the yard sale will be held on Saturday, May 21st. The sale will be from 8am until 12 noon. An ad will go in the newspaper, and sign will be placed in front of the neighborhood. Just set your items up at the end of your driveway, and make some cash!

Grounds & Maintenance

I have been elected to take the position of Grounds and Maintenance Chairperson for the 2011 season. I would like to give a special thanks to Jerry Stockli for his excellent services to the community in the 2010 season. We just recently moved into the neighborhood from Harrisburg, PA this past September. I'm currently seeking volunteers for being on the committee. If you are interested, I would like to make sure that you are properly trained on the equipment, and to make sure that you have a key to the maintenance shed. Please follow up with an e-mail to me so I may add your name

to the list. In the coming weeks I would like to schedule a meet and greet for all volunteers. I look forward to serving the community with you all.

Christopher Espenshade



Household Hazardous Waste Tips

Many residence are concerned about the condition of our environment. One way that we can all do our part is to properly manage and dispose of household hazardous waste, or HHW. In broad terms, HHW are those chemicals that we use in our homes, generally for maintenance purposes. It is estimated that U.S. households generate more than 1.5 million TONS of HHW per year.

Spotsylvania County offers an option for residence to properly dispose of these chemicals, rather than tossing them out with regular trash. A collection event is scheduled for April 30, 2011 from 8AM until 4PM at:

Chancellor Public Use Area
5917 Harrison Road
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

The HHW will be collected at this site then transferred to a hazardous waste processing and disposal facility to properly manage these wastes.

Acceptable wastes include, but are not limited to; aerosol cans, oil based paint, corrosive cleaners, gasoline, motor oil, fluorescent light bulb (including the small compact fluorescents), pool chemicals, pesticides, batteries and electronic waste (TVs, computers, etc.).

Many people ask about latex paint and batteries. There are no hazardous chemicals in latex paint. The best management method is to remove the lid from the paint can, allow it to dry out, and then dispose of with regular trash. Alkaline batteries (non-rechargeable D, C, AA, AAA, 9V, etc) are not hazardous and can be disposed of in regular trash.

Below is a partial list of waste that is **unacceptable** at this collection event, with alternative disposal options:

Smoke detectors – These are unacceptable at the collection event and can be tossed out with the regular trash. However, smoke detector manufacturers

are required to accept back used detectors from consumers for reprocessing or proper disposal. Please contact the manufacture of your detector for instructions.

Ammunition– One simple way is to use the ammunition, if it is safe to do so. If this is not possible, The Spotsylvania Sheriff's Office will accept old ammunition for proper management and disposal. Contact them directly for more information, 540-582-7115.

Prescription Medication – The proper disposal of medications is a current hot topic. Some communities are hosting medication disposal collection events. First, do not dispose of medications by flushing them. Some environmental agencies are starting to do ground water testing and these medications are showing up in the analysis.

Currently, Spotsylvania County does not offer a collection event. However, one option is to remove the medications from their container, place into a plastic bag, and crush them. Then, mix

the crushed medications with coffee grounds. At this point it would be very difficult for someone to try to extract and use the medication. The coffee ground mix then can be placed into a coffee can (with lid) and disposed of with regular trash.

Medical Wastes (including sharps) – Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center will accept medical waste and sharps containers from Spotsylvania residence. Please contact the hospital at 540-498-4249 (environmental services). They will direct you when and how to delivery the waste.

For additional information, contact the Spotsylvania County Solid Waste Division at 540-507-7728 or visit them at www.spotsylvania.va.us/content/2614/147/2744/223/1112.aspx

Fox Chase HOA Website

The website has been updated and we are looking for volunteers to assist in the following areas:

- (1) nominating committee—www.fox-chase.org
- (2) Community committees—www.fox-chase.org/committee.htm
- (3) Pool opening (open gate and unlock pool doors every morning for a week) - www.fox-chase.org/PoolSchedule_Opening.htm
- (4) Pool closing (close pool every night at 8:30pm for a week) - www.fox-chase.org/PoolSchedule.htm
- (5) Amenities property mowing (mow the area one time during your week—equipment training and reimbursement for gas is provided) - www.fox-chase.org/MowingSchedule.htm
- (6) Amenities property watering—www.fox-chase.org/WateringSchedule.htm

We have also updated the calendar page with upcoming events—www.fox-chase.org/calendar.htm

Please let us know if you can help out.

