



Quarterly Newsletter

June 2009

Hello Neighbors,

The pool is open! I would like to extend a sincere thanks to the pool committee who ensured that the pool was open on time and in perfect working order. Well done! Kudos are also in order for the grounds committee and their volunteers who work tirelessly to keep the amenities area in stellar condition. With all the rain this year, their work has nearly doubled, so there is plenty of opportunity for those of you interested in volunteering time with the two FC mowers. Volunteer time was also spent recently in a great deal of work removing three large trees from the front entrance of our community. To those that were there or contributed tools...thanks.

On a more somber note, FCHA was recently the victim of senseless vandalism. Damage was primarily centered at the pool and homes at the front of our community. However, I am sure all of you share my concern. Anyone with information regarding these crimes, please call Crime Solvers, 540-582-5822, or go to <http://spotsylvaniacrimesolvers.org/>

Also, our community is still plagued with speeders and inattentive drivers. There have been numerous complaints recently, and on more than one occasion, the proper authorities have been called. Please remember that with the arrival of warm weather, there will be many families out for a jog, stroll, or just hanging out. If you observe a careless or reckless driver, report it to the proper authorities and don't take matters into your own hands. Remember that the speed limit is 25MPH in the association. There are numerous bus stops and a few blind curves as well. Please be alert, the child you hit may be your own! Let's have a safe, enjoyable summer!

Mike, BoD Pres.

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Annual dues were due May 31, 2009:
either a payment of the full \$600, or
a payment of \$300 with another payment of \$300 due October 31, 2009.
The email contact is **Blp53@aol.com**

In an effort to keep Fox Chase looking its best, the ARC will be conducting a review of neighborhood homes. For those neighbors who keep their homes in fine condition, thank you for setting the standard. For those who are behind in spring chores, please make an effort to catch up. The ARC will be sending letters to homeowners detailing corrections that need to be made.



**A
R
C**

- Please remember that lawns need to be maintained and kept below six inches, including the roadside edge.
- Homes, especially those with northern exposure, need to be power washed occasionally. If your home is looking a little green, please add this to your summer chore list.
- If your mailbox is past its prime, please consider a fresh coat of paint or replacement.
- Please avoid on street parking.
- Please submit any changes to your home's exterior, including paint color or a new roof, to the ARC.

Correcting violations may be costly. Your neighbors will appreciate your efforts.

Thanks, Dan, danconway3@comcast.net



Welcome New Neighbors!

We hope to meet you soon!

Contact us at

nancy_bowles@verizon.net

for information, questions,...!

The newsletter is now posted on our FC web site, fox-chase.org
Hardcopies are still mailed to homes not listed on our community email address list. To be added to the list and receive community updates, newsletter, contact our BoD secretary at
mblackmoor@hotmail.com

Amenities

Pool

We are excited for our second season of operation. In the off season, we applied a non-skid treatment to the floor inside the clubhouse, and presently, are in the process of purchasing a bike rack and potentially a few other items if the budget allows. After the walk-thru with the contractor, everything looks great. They provided some suggestions for more preventive maintenance to be done during the off season this fall; so, we'll need volunteer assistance with these projects in order to save money by not hiring a professional contractor.

We would like to give a huge thank you to the following persons who assisted us with applying the non-skid treatment so that we could save money: Lori Kelly, Jerry Stockli, Dave Frey, Mike D'Albis, Mark Shevchuk and John Bell.

The pool will be open from 6:00am to 8:30pm until Labor Day weekend. It will close for the season at 8:30pm on Monday, September 7th. Since we have no lifeguards, please be sure to close umbrellas you have used and put chairs and lounges back to their original spots before leaving.

Last summer our neighbors took great pride in keeping the bathrooms and pool area clean. We did however have a pretty messy contamination in the pool that was left for other neighbors to clean up.

Grounds & Maintenance

Volunteers are needed and much appreciated to mow amenities. Email srjrpaul@comcast.net for information.

If there is a contamination in the pool area, please be considerate and inform other people. Then, be sure to notify the appropriate contacts located on the bulletin board inside the pool house so that the pool management company can be notified. Please post the available sign on the front door, so other neighbors will be aware of the situation.

We will again provide cold drinking water from a water cooler in the pool house. We ask that you please supervise your children at the water cooler. Last summer there were instances of water fights in the pool house which included water from the hot water dispenser.

Also, we've added a new link to the website that has a schedule of the volunteers who have signed up to assist in closing the pool for a week.

It's not too late to sign up if you are interested. We'd appreciate more closing volunteers. Check out the website and sign up for a week.

If you have not received your pool key card or are having a problem with your pool key card, please contact amenities@fox-chase.org

Thank you, Jennifer and Tish
(Co-Chairs Pool Committee)

Social Committee



This summer, the social committee will be trying a new event at the pool. We're calling it: "Second Saturdays at the Pool." This is simply an open invitation for families to bring a picnic dinner and spend some time at the pool/pavilion, either catching up with neighbors or meeting new neighbors. This will start at 5:00pm on the second Saturday of June (13th), July (11th) and August (8th), and will last until closing. The idea behind this is for it to be an informal event within the community in which entire families can attend. As always, pool rules will be in effect for any function at the pool.

The Block Party will be August 29th, with a rain date August 30th. Like last year, this event will be at the pool pavilion. However,

this year the pool will still be open, so bring your swimsuits and towels! More details will be forthcoming.

If you still haven't joined us for Ladies Night, please do!! These events start at 7:30pm, but usually last until at least 11pm, so feel free to stop by later in the night if you can't make it there early. Please bring an appetizer/dessert to share, as well as your own beverage.

Check out the calendar of events and the web site (www.fox-chase.org) for upcoming events, as well as the community bulletin boards. Please, contact me with any ideas for new events or suggestions for current events.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of those who have been involved in putting on our social events and for opening their homes to us.

Lisa,

usmcpsu@comcast.com

Garden Club



With all the rain, our greenery has been looking

great this year. It surely is a pleasure to have plants thriving instead of just surviving! It will probably be a different story in July and August!

- To combat Japanese beetles, try to think "green" and not use chemicals to get rid of these pests. Fill a shallow container with soapy water (dish soap is great), walk through your garden and tap the beetles into the water. You'll find these pests on crape myrtles, roses, and just about anything with fragrance! Remember, these pests don't have a natural predator in North America and that's why we must struggle with them. Even the birds don't want them! But, take heart; they will be gone by mid-August.

- Around July 4th, cut back any of your plants that typically get too tall by September or October - chrysanthemums, tansy, ironweed, New England asters and others.

- Deadhead annuals to keep producing

flowers. At the end of the season, let the flowers turn to seed and either save the dried lower heads, or allow them to self-sow into your beds - they'll come up next spring! This works with all sorts of seeds: cosmos, zinnias, bachelor buttons, butterfly weed, coreopsis and others.

- Did you know that our everyday goldenrod supports up to 115 species of birds and other creatures! Allow this wonderful plant to grow in your garden and you'll be rewarded many times over. (This does **not** produce the allergen associated with ragweed!)

- The parking lot planting bed at the swimming pool is a work in progress. At this stage, we have red yarrow, purple Russian Sage, New England asters, goldenrod, butterfly weed, day lilies, shrubby St. Johnswort and Rudbeckia (black-eyed susans) in this bed. It will take a couple of seasons before it looks like much, and before the surrounding weeds and clover have been dug out. But ultimately it will be a demonstration garden for plants that are native (for the most part) and that will tolerate drought and poor soil. *Cont'd*

Cont'd

- The streams into the pond provide fun exploration and learning for everyone. But parents, be sure to remind children that there is a LOT of poison ivy in the woods and along the stream bank. Also, ticks are very plentiful this year. If anyone experiences a tick bite that results in a bulls-eye pattern rash in 7-10 days be sure to seek medical attention.

- Smokers: if you're walking the nature trail, please don't discard your cigarette butts. Not only could there be fire danger (probably not right now!), but cigarette butts take 10 years to decay!

- Please don't litter and help keep Fox Chase an attractive neighborhood.

For any gardening questions, contact Beth at **NhaBe70@verizon.net**

2009 Events

Jul 11	2ndSat@Pool	Bring Picnic Dinner	
Aug 8	2ndSat@Pool	Bring Picnic Dinner	
Aug 29	Neighborhood Party	Amenities Area	
Aug 30	Neighborhood Party	Rain Date	
Sep 4	Ladies Night	Jennifer Stockli	
Oct 2	Ladies Night	Nancy Bowles	
Oct 3	Community Yard Sale		
Nov 6	Ladies Night	Lori Kelly	
Dec 12	Cookie Swap	Donna Lambert	
Dec 18	Ladies Night	Christy Maupin	

Please bring a wrapped gift \$10-\$15 to exchange.

Contact Lisa at usmcpsu@comcast.net to host a Ladies Night.



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FC WEB

For information go to our
community web site at

www.fox-chase.org

Email questions to the BoD
members via the web manager at

info@fox-chase.org

MAILING

FCHA
PO Box 455
Locust Grove, Virginia 22508

NEWSLETTER

For inquiries regarding
newsletter, please email

Sincerelydrew@comcast.net

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

All Hours Emergency-Phone **911**
All Hours Non Emergency-Phone **540 582-7115**
Sheriff Department Web Site is **www.spotsylvania.va.us**

Intersection of State Route 3 & State Route 20

Latest Development Information:

This 1000 acre development near us on Rt 3 across from WAWA has been proposed, and is in approval phases. For information, visit many sites, one which seemed particularly helpful is **www.pecva.org** (click 'Our Region', then 'Orange County'). This Piedmont Environmental Council web site seems the most current and has many resource references, to include maps. As part of the 1000 acre development, is the approximate 20 acre Supercenter Walmart site. This appears to be located adjacent to the Pagan property, which has now been considered for development as a wholesale nursery. For more on the Pagan development, see our Fox Chase web site, **www.fox-chase.org**

Fox Chase Homeowners Association presents...

AN OUTDOOR SAFETY BULLETIN

Outdoor activities are gearing up! Now's a good time to think about how you can make outdoor activities safer for you and your family. A summary of precautions and safety tips for swimming, canoeing, and stormy weather follow. For more details, please visit the source web sites listed below each section.

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY TIPS



Every year, hundreds of children drown in swimming pools and kiddie pools. A child can drown in as little as a few centimeters (1 inch) of water. Think about these tips to keep your family safe:

- Never leave a child alone in or near a pool even for a moment. A CPR-trained adult should supervise children at all times. Take a course on pool safety, first aid, and lifesaving skills.
- A child under age 3 or any child who cannot swim must wear a life vest; a child age 5 and younger should stay within an arm's length of an adult at all times.
- Send children to swimming and water safety lessons, but remember teaching your child to swim DOES NOT mean your child is safe in the water. Supervision is recommended at all times.
- Install a 4' fence around all four sides of a pool; use self-closing, self-latching gates set higher than a child's reach.
- Keep rescue equipment, such as a shepherd's hook or life preserver, close to the pool; a first aid kit and telephone should be handy; post emergency telephone numbers nearby.
- Do not use air-filled "swimming aids" as a substitute for approved life vests.
- Remove toys from the pool so a child is not tempted to reach for them; secure pool area gates; move toys, garden furniture, etc., away from the pool fence so a child doesn't climb these to get into the pool.
- Install a power safety cover that meets ASTM standards – it may add to the protection of your child but should not be used in place of the fence between your house & pool.

From: National Weather Service NOAA, Office of Climate, Water, & Weather Services, 1325 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. For more information and safety tips, visit <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/overview.htm>



CANOE SAFETY TIPS

Fox Chase Lake is perfect for canoeing! Before you go out this summer, here are a few tips on safe canoeing:

- To get into your canoe, have someone hold it steady so it doesn't tip over; crouch low keeping your knees bent, grab the sides for balance, walk to your seat along the center to keep the canoe from rocking.
- Always sit on the seats or in the center of the canoe; sitting on the side can make it unstable.
- While in the canoe, stay low; do not stand or walk around; avoid sudden or jerky movements; don't rock from side to side.

- ALWAYS wear a life jacket - you never know when you might fall overboard unexpectedly.
- Be aware of lake currents & paddle towards the shore if you are floating further than you planned to; always keep your canoe at a right angle to waves.
- Stay away from low hanging trees or branches near the shoreline.
- Do not canoe in bad weather.
- If you tip over, DON'T PANIC; stay with your canoe, paddle or push your canoe to the shore; in shallow water, flip the canoe to dump the water & climb in - normally, canoes float even when full of water.
- Always bring extra clothing stored in a waterproof container in case you do get wet.
- Bring the proper equipment - sun protection (hats, sun screen, long sleeves & pants), first aid kit, food & water, life vests; secure or tie your equipment - the center beam can be a good place.
- Secure your canoe - lock it to help prevent unauthorized use or hazards to others.
- Remember, after a great day on the water carry out everything you bring in - DO NOT LITTER! Animals don't like a messy home either.

From: Environmental Education for Kids (EEK!), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. For more information and safety tips, visit <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/Org/caer/ce/eeek/nature/camp/canoeSafety.htm>.

STORM AND LIGHTNING SAFETY TIPS



NOAA National Weather Service calls Lightning "The Underrated Killer". On average, over 300 people are struck a year, with about 62 people dying. Here are a few tips to keep you safe while outside:

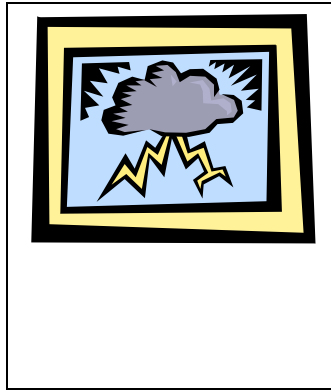
- Watch for developing thunderstorms - as the sun heats the air, warmer air rises, cumulus clouds can form, growing into towering cumulus clouds - the first sign of a storm.
- As the storm approaches - seek safe shelter such as a large building or enclosed vehicle. Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles from an area where it is raining - about the distance you can hear a clap of thunder; so remember, if you HEAR thunder, you are within striking distance, seek shelter!
- Minimize your risk outdoors in the summer - most lightning deaths occur in summer; adults should take the lead in outdoor activities & stop activities at the first roar of thunder; make sure everyone has time to get to a large building or enclosed vehicle; have a plan prepared in case of a storm.
- During a storm, while indoors avoid talking on corded telephones, using computers, & other electrical equipment that puts you in direct contact with electricity: stay away from pools.

indoor or outdoor tubs, showers, & other plumbing; use surge suppressors on key equipment; install ground fault protectors on circuits near water or outdoors; stay inside until at least 30 minutes after the last strike.

- If someone is struck by Lighting, call 911 immediately & get medical care - common effects: cardiac arrest & irregularities, burns, nerve damage; with proper treatment, including CPR, most victims can survive a strike; when helping a victim, you are not in danger of that charge affecting you.
- LIGHTING IS DANGEROUS - at the first clap of thunder, seek shelter immediately - a large building or fully enclosed vehicle; wait 30 minutes after the last strike before going outside.

As NOAA says, "When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!"

From: National Weather Service NOAA, Office of Climate, Water, & Weather Services, 1325 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. For more information and safety tips, visit <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/overview.htm>.



The next three pages are
Pool/Amenities Area Rules revisited.

*We appreciate everyone's
cooperation.*

Pool/Amenities Area Rules Refresher June 2009

Please review the rules with your family so that we all enjoy a safe, memorable summer.

Swimming Pool Operating Regulations:

1. Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a person of age 18 and over. Children using the wading pool must be accompanied by a person age 14 and over.
2. Children that are not toilet trained are required to wear plastic pants or swim diapers. Proper swim wear is required, which does Not include jeans, cutoffs or thongs.....
3. Under no circumstances will alcohol, tobacco, firearms or drugs be permitted in the surrounding amenities area. Anyone seen engaging in the use will be subject to loss of privileges for a period to be determined by the Fox Chase Homeowners Association Board and other legal actions may be taken in conjunction with the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Department.
4. All children using inflatable armbands (e.g. water wings) or any approved Coast Guard flotation device must be supervised one-on-one by an adult who is in the water and within arm's length of the child.
5. Only diving toys, swimming noodles, kickboards and beach balls of less than 12" diameter are permitted in pool. No other flotation devices are allowed in the pool.
6. Only authorized personnel are permitted in the pool equipment shed.
7. If there is a contamination incident, it should be reported immediately to someone from the contact information sheet located on the bulletin board inside the pool house and the sign on the bulletin board should be posted on the front door to alert other homeowners.

Safety Rules:

1. Diving from the side of the pool is not permitted at any time.
2. No running in the bathhouse or on the pool deck area.
3. No boisterous or rough play is permitted inside the perimeters of the bathhouse and fenced areas. Conduct by any person deemed to be dangerous, unreasonable, or offensive (including "horseplay", loud radios and obscene language) is not allowed and should be reported to the Fox Chase Homeowners Association Board (contact information on the bulletin board inside the pool house).
4. Swimmers are encouraged to shower before entering the pool. Persons with open sores, wounds and bandages or communicable diseases (i.e. diarrhea within the last 24 hours) should not use the pool.
5. Spitting, spouting water, blowing the nose and similar unhygienic actions are prohibited in the pool. No chewing gum is allowed.
6. Bikes, rollerblades and skateboards are prohibited inside the perimeters of the bathhouse and fenced areas.

7. Glass containers are prohibited from the pool area. Food is to be consumed only at the designated tables. Waste from the consumption of food or beverages must be deposited in the containers provided.
8. No pets are allowed in the pool or on the pool deck/pavilion area.

Fox Chase Lake and Heathermore Place Field and Trail Head:

1. Swimming in the lake is not permitted. The overflow area is prohibited.
2. Fishing is permitted as a "catch and release policy". Once fish are caught, they must be immediately released back into the lake.
3. Absolutely no trash of any kind can be thrown into the lake, fields and trails.
4. No releasing of non-native fish into lake.
5. A canoe stand will be located by the lake. Only canoes owned by Fox Chase homeowners and tenants may be stored on the stand. Canoes may not be stored on Heathermore Place Field and Trail Head or under the bridges. Security of the canoe is the responsibility of the owner. There is an annual fee of \$25 to store a canoe. Fox Chase Homeowners Association has the right to recover any canoes stored at the lake without paying the annual storage fee or stored in an incorrect location. If you are interested in storing your canoe, please contact amenities@fox-chase.org
6. Any child under the age of 12 must be supervised by an adult at the lake.

General Policies:

1. No lifeguards will be on duty therefore, all members or guests using the pool area do so at their own risk and sole responsibility, and will be held responsible for all actions of their children and guests. The Fox Chase Homeowners Association assumes no responsibility for any accident or injury in connection with such use, or for loss or damage to property.
2. The cost of any damage at the amenities property will be charged to the responsible homeowner. Amenities property includes Heathermore Place Field and Trail Head, bridges, trails, Fox Chase Lake, surrounding fields, pavilion, pool area, bathhouse and parking lot.
3. Pool hours are from 6 am to 8:30 pm. Pool should be vacated in the event of thunder and lightening. Umbrellas should be put down and furniture placed in its proper place.
4. Pool is for residents of the Fox Chase community. Each patron entering the pool must be a resident with a card access or invited guest. Each household will be allowed a maximum of 6 guests.
5. The amenities area is closed after dark. No one is allowed after dark without special use permit approved by the Homeowners Association. No vehicles are allowed to be parked over night in the amenities area or parked and left there for the day.

- 6. Any individual(s) who are reported to be/or found to be in violation of any of the amenities rules will be reported to the Fox Chase Homeowners Board of Directors and/or Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Department (as applicable). Serious infractions or repeat offenses may result in disciplinary action up to and including loss of pool privileges at the discretion of the Board. The nature of the situation will be considered and action(s) toward resolution will be at the Board's discretion.**
- 7. Card-keys will be activated ONLY for homeowners in good standing in accordance with the Fox Chase covenants. If your key card is not working, please contact amenities@fox-chase.org**
- 8. Up to two pool card-keys will be issued to adults (age 18 years and older) per household, after an Acknowledgement & Waiver form is signed. If you don't have your key card yet, please contact amenities@fox-chase.org**
- 9. If your card-key is lost or stolen, you will be provided with a replacement card-key AT A COST OF \$50.00.**
- 10. By signing the Acknowledgement and Waiver Form, members are agreeing only to distribute card-keys to their immediate family or guardian.**
- 11. A Fox Chase homeowner or resident tenant must accompany any guests unless prior written notice is given to the Fox Chase Homeowners Association. Individual(s) who are on the premises without permission or who are under the appointed age without a guardian should be/can be asked to leave by any Fox Chase Homeowner or resident tenant. If the individual(s) will not leave, please contact the Spotsylvania Sheriff's Department and then contact the Fox Chase Board of Directors.**
- 12. There will not be a public phone at the amenities, therefore residents are encouraged to bring cell phones. The pool house address is posted on the bulletin board inside the pool house.**
- 13. Parents must either supervise or provide adult (18 years or older) supervision for any children under the age of 14 while at the pool.**
- 14. When leaving the pool, please be mindful and put pool furniture back to its proper place and let down umbrellas.**