



HOA Board & Committee Members

- Ed Talhame, President: 703-433-9515
- Irv Chilcoat, Vice President: 703-430-8289
- Shelley Grandy, Treasurer: 703-421-9402
- Michelle Baker, TBD: 703-728-0398
- Neil Falcone, TBD: 703-421-8989
- Dayle West, Landscaping: 703-444-9449

Property Management Contacts

Should you have any concerns regarding the Mirror Ridge property, please contact **Catherine Payne at Capitol Property Management:**

1155 Herndon Parkway, Suite 100
Herndon, VA 20170
phone: (703) 707-6404
fax: (703) 707-6401
e-mail: cpayne@capitolcorp.com

HOA Meeting Dates

HOA meetings are held at 7pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Cascades library. All homeowners are encouraged to attend these meetings. Next meeting dates: **October 14th, November 11th, December 9th, January 13th, and February 10th.**

A Word From the President

As we start another annual year, we kiss Isabella and the Cicada's damages goodbye. The person, who handled all the damage with no help, was Dayle West, the landscaping chairman, to whom we owe a great word of gratitude.

The board also welcomes Neil Falcone and Michelle Baker who were voted as the two new members on the board.

The paving project is almost finished, except for some finals touches. With the schools out, the kids can go out and play in new lots and freshly topped streets, so please be careful and drive safely.

The projects for next year are listed on the following pages of this newsletter.

Again thank you for your support.

- Ed Talhame, Board President

The Mirror Ridge Best Yard Decoration Contests

Halloween Yard: Saturday, October 30th, 2004
Holiday Yard: Saturday, December 18th, 2004

The Mirror Ridge HOA will hold a "Best Halloween Yard" contest on Saturday October 30th and a "Best Holiday Yard" contest on December 18th.

Front exteriors of home must be decorated in time for the judging. The judge's panel will consist of HOA board and committee members (who are not allowed to vote for their own yards). We ask that all lights and displays be on that evening for judging. Judging will be based on creativity, tasteful use of lights and decorations, and event theme: 10/30/04: Halloween Theme

12/18/04: Holiday Theme

Winners will be contacted within one week of the judging date. Winning house numbers will be published on the Mirror Ridge website: www.mirror-ridge.org and announced in our next newsletter.

Prizes: For each contest, First place will receive a \$50 Lowe's gift certificate, Second place will receive a \$25 Lowe's gift certificate, and Third place will receive a \$10 Lowe's gift certificate.

- Shelley Grandy, Board Treasurer



Winter Safety Reminders

Lights – As a courtesy, please turn on your porch light during the dark evening hours. Many areas in Mirror Ridge are poorly lit.

Snow – Please make sure you shovel the sidewalk in front of your home.

Water – Turn off outside water supplies to avoid freezing and pipe bursting during the cold weather.

Trash Cans – Mark your trashcans and lids with your house number for easy retrieval on gusty days

Smoke Detectors – Daylight savings time ends 10/31/04 and this is always a good time to check the batteries in your smoke detector. If you need smoke detectors, please contact the Sterling Volunteer Fire Department at 703-430-7010. (smoke detectors are provided free of charge)



TRICK OR TREAT TIPS



For Trick-or-Treaters

1. Children of any age should be accompanied by a parent or adult. Young teens who still trick or treat may resist this notion; if they trick or treat without an adult, set firm rules and require a child to carry a cell phone that can be used in the event of an emergency.
2. Older kids should know where they can go, what etiquette they must follow, safety rules, carry a flashlight or a lit device, and have an absolute deadline for returning home.
3. Purchased costumes should be made of flame-retardant material. Costumes should also be reflective of the local weather.
4. Children should walk, not run, from house to house and stay on the sidewalk or at the side of the road facing traffic.
5. Children should stay in well lit areas and should only visit homes that have their outside lights turned on. Children should not go inside homes.
6. Before your children eat their candy, make sure you inspect it. Throw out any treats that are not wrapped, those in torn or loose packages, or any that have small holes in the wrappers.



For Residents

1. Pick up objects in the yard, sidewalk, or driveway that could create safety issues and be sure any tools are safely put away.
 2. Check hoses, flower pots, and extension cords. Think "trick or treat safety" when decorating.
 3. Keep your house well-lit and inviting, or if going for a spooky home theme, make sure trick-or-treaters know your house has a welcome-mat extended.
 4. ***If you do not wish to participate in "Trick or Treating", please turn off your exterior lights and you should not be bothered.***
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5. Be sure your pets are secured and put away, or appropriate arrangements are made. Some pets become frightened; others may become territorial or even aggressive. You don't want your pets scaring trick or treaters any more than you want kids frightening your pets.
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If you are driving on Halloween

Be extra careful when driving. Children are excited and may forget safety rules. When driving in areas with children, slow down and watch for them. Enter and exit driveways slowly and pay extra attention.

NEW VISITOR PARKING PERMITS

By now, all homeowners should have received the new blue visitor parking permits which were issued in late August. As before, each town home received one permit. While permits do not reflect lot numbers as in years past, the number on your permit is recorded in our records as belonging to your town home.

Please remember that Visitor spaces should not be used by residents at any time and should not be used for permanent parking. We thank you for your consideration of your neighbors.

Also, make sure you adhere to the parking regulations of Mirror Ridge that stipulate only one vehicle per parking space, no double-parking. This parking regulation includes motorcycles.

SPEED LIMITS & PARKING REMINDER

Please remember the speed limit on Mirror Ridge Place (county road) is **25 MPH**.

The speed limit is **15 MPH** on all other streets within our community. Please watch carefully for all pedestrians and especially always keep in mind the safety of the children in our community.



POLICE PRESENCE



The MRHOA has initiated increased involvement with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Department. They are now closely monitoring the loitering in playground areas at night and identifying illegally registered vehicles. This effort is part of their community outreach program that we requested recently. With their increased presence known, we the homeowners, can actively notify the Sheriff's department if we see suspicious activity.

Their phone number is **(703) 777-1021**. Please also inform the HOA board of any persistent problems so that we can possibly remedy a situation internally.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Help make our community even better – get involved! We have positions available on the Architectural Review Committee, Landscaping Committee, and Newsletter Committee.

If interested in donating a little of your time to any of the above committees, please contact Catherine at (703) 707-6404 or by e-mail: cpayne@capitolcorp.com.



LITTER PROBLEM

As member-at-large on the HOA board and fellow homeowner, I am proud of the overall clean appearance in our neighborhood. However, we still have the persistent problem of littering throughout our neighborhood. I believe that most homeowners in our community wish to maintain its cleanliness and beauty. But, it is unfortunate there are some individuals who find it necessary to empty small items of trash, i.e. bottles, cans, wrappers, etc., mostly near road side areas.

I am personally picking up 4-5 bags of trash a week as I walk the property. If we could try to eliminate our petty littering and pick up any trash when you see it - all would appreciate this. Please help keep our community clean.
- Neil Falcone



Most Beautiful Yard Contest

The Board of Directors extends its thanks to all residents who spruced up their yards for the Beautiful Yard contest, and especially to those of you who keep your yards clean and attractive all year long. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and the eyes this time belonged to Shelley Grandy (Board member) and Dayle West (landscape committee). The criteria they used for this, our first

contest, were: curb appeal; composition and use of space; and maintenance/care. Future contests may use different or additional criteria such as seasonal color. (If you have suggestions for criteria, contact Dayle). This time... THE WINNERS ARE:

First Place

(\$50 Lowe's Gift Certificate)
46639 Spectrum Way

Second Place

(\$25 Costco Gift Certificate)
21062 View Glass Terrace

Honorable Mention

46698 Paragon Terrace

Congratulations to each of them and to all who everyday help make our community a pleasant place to live.



PLAYGROUND UPGRADE

You may have noticed that new black vinyl fencing has been installed at all three of the community playgrounds.

Black vinyl fencing was used to replace the former wood rail fencing due primarily to its durability. Unfortunately the previous wood rail fences were prone to being used as benches – a safety concern considering the age of the fencing. The vinyl fencing was slightly more expensive, however the life expectancy of the new vinyl fences is 15 to 20 years, and what will more than likely be saved in maintenance costs over the years will more than make up for the cost difference.



CHANGE IN TOWING

Battlefield Towing has opened a new office in Leesburg, and the Mirror Ridge community has opted to take advantage of this closer location. Please note the new phone number for the Leesburg location: (703) 443-8017



The Leesburg storage lot is located at 41877 Cochran Mill Rd. – simply head North on Route 7 and take a left onto Cochran Mill Road in Leesburg. You will notice that the new phone number has been posted on the signs at the Mirror Ridge entrances off S. Cottage. Should your car get towed, simply call the above number to arrange its pickup.

SMOKE DETECTORS

Daylight savings time ends 10/31/04 and this is always a good time to check the batteries in your smoke detector. If you need smoke detectors, please contact the Sterling Volunteer Fire Department at 703-430-7010. (smoke detectors are provided free of charge)



Mirror Ridge Homeowner's Association

c/o Capitol Property Management:
1155 Herndon Parkway, Suite 100
Herndon, VA 20170

TRASH, RECYCLING & DAYS

TRASH – Monday / Thursday

• Household waste only. No construction, remodeling, or hazardous waste such as pesticides, paints, oil, gas, antifreeze, corrosive chemicals, etc.

BULK ITEMS – Thursday

• Notify customer service at American Disposal at least 24 hours in advance. 703-368-0500

RECYCLING – Monday

• Acceptable items are newspapers, glass food & beverage containers; aluminum & steel cans; #1 & #2 plastic bottles and jugs. Plastic containers used for insecticides, herbicides, petroleum products, or automotive fluids are not acceptable. No plastic bags please.

HOLIDAYS

No pickup on Thanksgiving, Christmas, c
Trash or recycling will be picked up on 1
collection day. Recycling bins can be pur
for \$10.00 by calling the number below.

***Have trash/recycling at curbside
collection days.***



American Disposal Services

Customer Service: (703) 368-0500

EMAIL UPDATES:

If you would like to receive your Mirror Ridge Newsletter and other important updates via email, please send us an email to president@mirror-ridge.org and type subscribe in the subject line.