

Vineyard Oak Community Newsletter, Winter 2017

We are digital! All HOA ARC Forms and supporting documents can be submitted electronically by email now, and all can be found on the website! Big thanks to Mark Hofmann for taking the time to make this happen and for updating our website!

Open Board Seat: Jim Milford is finishing his term of service on the board. We thank Jim for his time, involvement and work over the past three years on behalf of our community! If you are interested in volunteering on the HOA board, please send an email to the HOA, We will include a proxy ballot with the December dues mailing if you cannot attend the meeting.

Annual Meeting: We will have our meeting on Thursday, January 11th, at 6:30 pm, at the Bel Air Public Library downtown. We will meet in Classroom Number 3 upstairs. All are encouraged to attend. The meeting usually lasts an hour.

Dues: Thank you for continuing to pay your quarterly dues on time. This helps the neighborhood finances and makes the treasurer's job easier.

Lights/Lock Your Cars: Using your porch and lamp post lights nightly is a great way to deter vandalism and car break-ins. Please also make sure that you lock your vehicles in your driveway to discourage theft.

Snow: Please keep your sidewalks and driveways shoveled and free from snow as soon as possible after snowfall. If school is in session, please have this done prior to times when kids need to use sidewalks to walk to bus stops.

Tree Removal: Paperwork must be submitted for any significant tree removal. A quote from a tree service indicating the tree is dead, overgrown, or in danger of harming property should accompany removal request. ARC form is on the website.

Yard upkeep: It is our responsibility to keep our sidewalks passable and free from overgrown plantings, and to level paving bricks that may have shifted and collapsed. Please keep bushes and trees from covering windows and at a reasonable height. We have complaints about overgrown landscaping, and yards and landscaped areas full of weeds. When mowing your lawn or raking, grass clippings and leaves are not to be blown into the street. Low lying tree branches overhanging the sidewalk and obstructing path should be pruned back. We have received some complaints and will contact specific properties as needed. If contacted, please act to solve the problem. Failing to do so will result in us hiring a service and billing the homeowner.

Recycling/Trash Cans: Cans are to be kept in garage- not in driveway or on side of house visible to neighbors. When putting out recycling, please use a secure can with a lid. On windy days this must be put out in a secure fashion. PLEASE take your cans in the same day after trash has been picked up.

Contractors/services at your home: If contractors are at your home, they should be parking at your house and not your neighbors. They should also clean up all debris from projects- roofing materials, mulch, rocks, etc. If you will require a dumpster in your driveway, you are supposed to submit ARC paperwork found on the website.

Paperwork: When making improvements to your home, it is important to follow proper channels with the HOA. This includes hardscapes, playhouses, patios, roof replacement, changing doors or shutter colors, and outdoor spaces. We want to emphasize that this is not to prevent anyone from improving their property; it is to make sure projects are in line with general appearance of the community and to make sure you are compliant when it comes to reselling. Often in sales there is a sense of urgency and if a homeowner has not followed proper channels, the HOA can't make things happen more rapidly if paperwork isn't up to date on modifications to a home.

Dogs: Please clean up after your pets. Also, if your children are walking your dog, they need to do the same. It is not ok to let your dog walk in neighbor's yards, even while you are walking your pet on a leash. They should be kept to the grass in between street and sidewalk, and off front yards and landscaping. Please be courteous while walking your pet.

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