

# COVINGTON WOODS NEWS

Newsletter of the Covington Woods Homeowners Association

June 2015

[www.covingtonwoods.org](http://www.covingtonwoods.org) [covingtonwoodshoa@gmail.com](mailto:covingtonwoodshoa@gmail.com)

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Social  
Marie Creighton  
Welcome & Directory  
Nancy Streeter

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy spring! Now that spring is here we can get outside, enjoy the weather and do work on our homes and yards. When you are planning your home exterior improvements, don't forget to submit your completed Homeowner Request for Approval of Exterior Work form to any member of the Architectural Review Committee the Association in person, by email or mail. Also, this is the time of year when the Community Garage Sale and the Labor Day Picnic are held, which are great opportunities to get out to meet and talk with your neighbors in Covington Woods.

As everyone is enjoying the warm weather with outdoor activities, please be mindful of your speed while driving through Covington Woods. There are no sidewalks and many people walk through the community or walk their dogs. In addition, numerous children live in the development who play outside. Also, it is important to remember to stop at all stop signs in the Covington Woods development. This is especially true at the intersection of Walnut and Garnet as there are driveways that residents enter and exit across from that intersection, as well as houses beyond the intersection.

Recently, Robert LaMorte left the Board of Directors. Rob had been a member of the Board for a number of years, as well as the Chair of the Architectural Review Committee. I want to thank Rob for his work and service to our community.

The Board and Committees are all comprised of residents who volunteer their time and energy. We are always looking for additional volunteers. If any resident would like to help with the Architectural Review, Landscape, Newsletter, Social or Welcome & Directory Committees, please contact the Chair of that committee or me. You do not need to be a Board Member to help with a committee. Thank you.

*Cheryl*

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Architectural Review

By Sandy Mason & Taryn Sipperly, Co-Chairs

Welcome Spring! This is the time of year when external home repairs and improvements are at their peak. Please remember to consult the Architectural Standards and submit the Homeowner Request for Approval form before starting any work.

Now that the warm weather is here, members of the Architectural Review Committee have conducted a “walk through” of the community. During the recent walk through a few violations of the Architectural Standards have been noted, specifically:

- There are still a few trash cans that remain visible to the street after trash day. Garbage cans need to be taken in as soon as possible after pick up and must be placed in garages, the rear of the homes, or behind some sort of structure so they are not visible from the street.
- Residents are using the side of their homes to store garbage cans, lawn mowers, etc.
- Several mailboxes are out of compliance with the *Standards* (p. 8). Please take a look at your mailbox and repair, paint, or replace it if needed. Also, you must make sure the house number is on the mailbox.
- No commercial vehicles or recreational vehicles (trailers, campers, boats, snowmobiles, etc.) are permitted to be parked overnight in Covington Woods or kept on any lawn at any time. Such vehicles are to be parked or stored elsewhere.

Now that the warmer weather has arrived, many residents are outside enjoying their patios, decks, and backyards. For those residents with dogs, please remember that barking dogs are not pleasant to listen to

after an extended period of time. Do not leave your dog(s) tethered outdoors, or in your fenced-in yard to continually bark. Also, please keep your dog leashed and pick up its litter. It is not only a Covenant of Covington Woods, it is a Town of Guilderland Law.

It is every homeowner’s responsibility to keep lawns mowed and landscaping attractive. All residents need to be aware of the Covington Woods Covenants, which require lawns to be mowed regularly and kept as weed-free as possible. Shrubs and bushes should not be allowed to become overgrown. While lawns must be adequately watered to prevent large, dry patches, residents must follow water restrictions. On June 1, 2015, the Town of Guilderland banned all lawn sprinkling until further notice. Please check the Town website to see when the ban is lifted.

If you do not have a copy of the Covenants or the Architectural Standards, please contact Sandy Mason or Taryn Sipperly. You can also download a copy from the Covington Woods website ([www.covingtonwoods.org](http://www.covingtonwoods.org)).

Thank you and if you have any questions or issues contact Sandy Mason at 518-452-0606 or Taryn Sipperly at 518-250-4456.

## Landscape Committee

By Brian Sipperly, Chair

This winter the Board contracted, after receiving bids, with a new landscaping contract, NVS Landscape Services. NVS performed spring cleanup and is providing ongoing maintenance of the four cul de sacs and two entrances. Brian Sipperly is monitoring their work to ensure it meets the Boards ‘standards. Please help the Landscape Committee and the Association maintain the *single point of contact*

communication model with the contractor by providing your comments/ concerns directly to Brian at 545-8737.

NVS Landscape services has informed the Board that dog feces is being left in the cul-de-sacs by dog owners. All pet owners are responsible for removing their pet's feces from the cul-de-sac. For the health and safety of the residents, pets and the landscapers, pet owners must pick up their pet's feces. Remember, residents sit on the benches in the cul-de-sacs and children play in them.

### **Newsletter Committee**

By Cheryl Wood, Chair

The Association will be distributing future issues of the Newsletter by email to residents with known email addresses.

### **Social Committee**

By Marie Creighton, Chair

The annual community garage sale will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2015, from 9:00 to 1:00 pm. Notice of the garage sale will be posted in the print and online versions of the Times Union.

Save the Date: The annual Labor Day picnic will be held again this year on Labor Day, September 7, 2015.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the Garage Sale, Picnic or Halloween Parade, please call me at 466-6418.

### **Treasurer's Report**

By Jeffrey Rothman

This year all homeowners paid their dues before March 31, 2015. Only 11 homeowners

did not pay by January 31, 2015, and received Past Due Notices and only one received a Final Notice. Thank you.

Please remember when selling your house that a statement from the Association is needed at the closing to show that a seller is current with all financial obligations to the Association. To avoid any delays, please contact me (Jeffrey Rothman), the Association treasurer, at least two weeks before the closing, so paperwork can be completed on a timely basis.

### **Website Committee**

By Cheryl Wood, Chair

As previously reported, the new Covington Woods Homeowners Association website is up and running. Information about the community garage sale was posted on the website. Each page has the Association's contact information and a form for residents and visitors to contact the Association. The Association's email address is [covingtonwoodshoa@gmail.com](mailto:covingtonwoodshoa@gmail.com). Please visit the website at <http://www.covingtonwoods.org/> and let us know what you think.

### **Welcome Committee**

By Nancy Streeter, Chair

We give a warm welcome to our newest Covington Woods residents. Please give them a warm "Hello" when you meet them on the street.