

FOREST LAKE NEWS

Forest Lake Homeowners Association - P.O. Box 12284 - Florence, SC 29504

website: www.forestlakesc.com

To Our Friends & Neighbors

September, 2008

In our continuing effort to keep everyone informed, the FLHA Board is presenting here an update of our activities. We also take this opportunity to welcome anyone new to the community. If you are aware of a new neighbor, please let them know how to contact us.

Membership information can be obtained from the association website at www.forestlakesc.com



Helicopter Spraying in June

Please refer to the discussion of each that follows.

This newsletter topics:

1. **WEED CONTROL**
2. **CORMORANT CONTROL**
3. **BEAVER CONTROL**
4. **THE DAM**
5. **VANDALISM**
6. **MEMBERSHIP**
7. **NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY**

WEED CONTROL

Floating Islands - On occasion, lake front property owners will see an "island" in their backyard. When this happens, a Board member is usually called and a group of volunteers will come out to push it back where it came from. It will usually be tied down and staked in an inconspicuous place.

We may also spray the surface. Call us if you spot one.

Helicopter Spraying - In June, the area near the Route 76 bridge was sprayed in an effort to clear a path through what has become a marsh.. The area adjacent to Forest Lake Pointe will be scheduled again for spraying in early spring.

Cormorant Control - the cormorants appear to have taken a vacation for the summer months. We have renewed our depredation permit and are ready to take a stand again when and if they return. They migrate to Forest Lake at specific times of the year. We will continue with the non-lethal means as well.

Beaver Control - Hopefully the recent thinning of the beaver population will be successful in eliminating further damage to our property. A DNR official has informed us that 3 pairs of mating beavers will grow to a population of 608 over a period of three years if left alone. Please report any further damage.

THE DAM

An annual inspection of the dam is required by DHEC and we expect that to happen again this coming November. We have recently cut the surface of the dam by a professional contractor who is licensed and insured.

VANDALISM

Specific instances have been reported as follows:

Battery stolen – Helms/Lakeshore
Boat Stickers – LeVine/Lakeshore
Boat Trailer – Galloway/Lakeshore
Home Break-in – Luhrs/Forest Lake Dr.
(stolen items)

Calling the Police is advisable in each case and has been done by most. We would appreciate hearing from others who have been victimized. We can again ask for more police patrols.

We refer people to our website for more information.

MEMBERSHIP

Total memberships received thus far for 2008 are **272**. This is a slight decrease over last year's total. Despite numerous reminders, many resident's who typically join the association have not chosen to do so this year, or, perhaps have forgotten. Application forms are available from our website, and we certainly would appreciate your support.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

At last year's annual homeowner meeting we discussed **traffic** and **safety** in the community. A newsletter was distributed suggesting actions we could take, however, we are still having problems.

Illegal parking is becoming a growing problem as well. Lawn care services and other contractors who park their trucks and trailers on the street are blocking traffic lanes and creating very hazardous driving conditions. This is a violation of Sec. 56-5-2510 (Article 19) of the Florence County traffic laws. Residents who use contractors are urged to remind them to make arrangements for off street parking. The Sheriff's Office has agreed to ticket in these situations.

Requesting the assistance of the Florence Sheriff's Department is encouraged. Please call the Sheriff's office at **665-2121**; ask for the front desk at extension 300 or 400. This applies to **speeding** incidents as well. Give the details of the violation you have observed, time of day, the street

location, and any thing else that would be helpful.

We have also been looking into the possibility of various 3-way stop signs. This requires lots of coordination with the Department of Transportation and we are in the process of finding out everything we need to know. Donnie Carter is taking the lead on this project.

More information is posted on our website as well at

www.forestlakesc.com

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Greenburg's "Colony at Forest Lake"

What we currently know, is that streets are in and lots cleared. An attractive brick entry off Stanley Drive has also been installed.



Lowe's "Forest Lake Shores", Phase III

Phillip Lowe has informed us that lots are now available in Phase III which is behind Drakeshore Drive on the Alligator Road side.

OTHER NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS

Abandoned Home - 3556 Forest Lake Drive

Our complaint with Code Enforcement for Florence County is being followed up and a second stern certified letter to the owner was sent by them. Another clean up has just begun. This is a continuing eyesore to the community and we sincerely hope the end result is the sale of the property to someone who will maintain the property.

Alligator Spotted in Lake

A resident has reported seeing a small alligator in the Forest Lake Shores portion of the lake. We have discussed this with a DNR official who believes there is no danger unless the alligator is seen on land. They will not come out unless there is a specific incident to report. Please contact a Board member if you are aware of any harm done.

Public Bird Shoot?

We were surprised to read in the local newspaper that a bird shoot was to have occurred in the Forest Lake area recently. We remind people that Forest Lake and the area surrounding it (up to 1,000 feet) is an official **Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary**. The discharge of any firearms is strictly prohibited.

Construction Approval Procedures

This is a reminder to all residents that our covenants and restrictions call for approval by the board for any additions to your property. Please refer to our "Agreement and Restrictive Covenants" paragraphs 5-10. A copy is available on our website.

Members of our current Board of Directors are listed below. If you have any interest in joining the Board, please contact us.

We meet monthly and will have our full annual meeting in late January 2009. Any interested resident may attend.

In the meantime please call a board member with any concerns or suggestions.

Thank you.

**FOREST LAKE
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

Your 2008 Board of Directors:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------|
| 1. Frank McIntyre | 629-9955 |
| 2. Will Carter | 319-6370 |
| 3. Bill Pearson | 662-0188 |
| 4. Red Hodge | 665-2871 |
| 5. Donnie Carter | 665-5337 |
| 6. Rick Luhrs | 662-0170 |
| 7. Jerry Langston | 669-5664 |
| 8. Larry Norris | 669-1258 |
| 9. Patricia Blackmon | 669-0497 |
| 10. Norman Gause | 661-1086 |

WANTED

We are again accepting bids for maintenance of our causeway.

Anyone interested in submitting a bid should contact Frank McIntyre at 843-629-9955

Details:

*Cut Grass Weekly in Summer Months
Weed-eat around crepe myrtles
Weed-eat along shoreline
Cut and trim in Boat Ramp
Prune Crepe Myrtles in winter
Mulch trees as needed
Special projects as needed*

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