

#### Board of Directors

President Ann Newman Vice-President John B. Brown Secretary Richard A. Pullen Treasurer Elke Cardinal Member Jean Jenkins

#### Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to be held on Thursday, September 5, 2019 at 1661 Sally Lou Lane in the community, beginning at 7:00 P.M. As usual, all homeowners are welcome to attend.



<u>Management Company</u> Austin Realty Management, Inc. **ARMI** Box 3413 Warrenton, VA 20188 540-347-1901 Account Information ext. 111 Fax: 540-347-1900 Email: <u>hoa@ARMIVA.com</u> Website: www.ARMI-HOA.com

# **Willow Warbler**

# The Willow Shade Homeowners' Association Newsletter

#### Summer 2019

## **Grounds Maintenance at Homes**

Sometimes an issue with an infestation of insects in plant materials at homes, can become evident through the presence of related items. For example, spider mites in bushes may be noticed because there are spider webs there. This is logical since the spiders attract the mites. The mites can eventually kill the bushes with their activity and so attempts should be make to get rid of them. There are commercial products that have been developed for this purpose. Also, for homeowners who prefer to use a minimum of chemical treatments on their properties, it has been noted that spraying a dish washing detergent that is known to be especially useful in cutting grease, will help to get rid of the mites.

Another problem that is very prevalent on properties, is the constant growth of weeds, both in planting beds and along fence lines. Weeds need to be cut back from fence lines and pulled from planting beds on a regular periodic basis, to keep them from overwhelming the area. Overgrown properties detract very much from the "curb appeal" of home and properties, which can cause property values to decline.

In addition, so that the Association's lawn maintenance contractor can properly cut the grass on homeowners' lots, please be sure to keep the grass areas free of items such as young residents' toys, sports equipment, gardening implements such as hoses, and anything else which would impede mowing. Should the contractor come to cut the grass and there are items in the way, the grass will not be cut. And keeping the yard clear will add to the pleasant appearance of the home.

## **Keeping of Pets**

Many homeowners have pets of which they are very fond, and some are almost like members of their families. But not everyone feels that close to your pet, and no one wants to have to deal with the chores caused by other residents' pets.

Pets must be leashed when out in the community, and no pet should be permitted to enter another homeowner's property without permission. Any waste that is left must be removed and disposed of properly, including being removed from the owner's property. Waste which is not removed, is not only unsightly and smelly, it can become a health hazard. Also, do not leave your dog unattended outdoors for long periods. The barking which may result can be very annoying.

Now that warm weather is here, pet owners should be aware that the heat's impact can really affect pets. They do not know to take it easy in the heat, and continue to play as usual. Be sure to watch your pet for signs of overheating. These may include noisy, rapid breathing, the pet's tongue turning red, and vomiting. If they start to look overheated, a rest in the shade and a drink of water should cool them down long enough to get them home. If they continue to exhibit symptoms, cool them further by wetting them down or using ice packs, and contact your veterinarian.

With consideration for fellow residents and their properties, and pet owners being aware of their pet's condition, pet owners and those who prefer to keep their distance from pets, and the pets, can all enjoy living in Willow Shade.

### Lights on for Safety and Security

If you are able to, please keep any exterior lights in the front of your home, such as lights at the front door, or a pole light in front of the home, lit between dusk and dawn. It has been shown that a well-lit neighborhood has fewer incidents of crime and is safer for pedestrians and motorists travelling in it. Should you notice any street lights that are not working, please contact the Town of Culpeper Light and Power office at 540-825-8165.

# Celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Culpeper

Celebrate the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday with friends and family in Culpeper, beginning at 9:00 A.M. with the start of a 5K race. There will be the annual parade down Main Street, a patriotic presentation at the court house, and craft and food vendors in the downtown area, as well as moon bounces and hayrides, various entertainment, and the spectacular fireworks display to be set off at 9:15 P.M., all at Yowell Meadow Park. Remember our country's history and wish it well in the coming year!