



# Chickahominy Oaks Neighborhood News



January 2010

<http://dvhoa.home.comcast.net>

## Common Area Tree Maintenance

Our common area in the front of our development is one of our best amenities providing a uniformly landscaped appearance as well as visual and acoustic screening from the traffic on Atlee Station road.

You may be surprised, but we have hundreds of trees lining the several acres bordering the front of our community.



Trees lining the front of our community

In all, we've got a couple of oaks, over 25 Bradford Pears, and over 175 Leyland Cypress trees all in the front common area.

We've contracted services that have performed trimming of the Bradford Pears to reduce the chances of these trees splitting or falling in moderate to high winds. Sadly, one of these trees lost a major portion of its limbs during a storm this past Fall.

There have also been some concerns about the Leyland Cypress trees that line the front of our property behind the Bradford Pears. These trees form the majority of our screening from Atlee Station road and have grown to impressive heights. However, it is apparent that these trees were planted far to close together.

Some neighbors have noted that areas of the trees that are shielded against the sunlight by adjacent trees have lost their foliage.

## *tree maintenance cont'd*

Corrective action options include contracting services to have every other tree removed. But this approach has two major disadvantages:

- **Expense:** Since we have over 175 Leyland Cypress trees, we are talking about removing over 80 full grown trees. This cost could exceed tens of thousands of dollars. Our budget would be stretched at best to cover this expense and we would certainly benefit from a community-wide vote on this service since it could financially affect every resident through possible increases in dues and/or special assessments.
- **Appearance Degradation:** If every other tree were removed, dead foliage areas of remaining trees would be exposed until they eventually filled in. It is hoped that the trees would eventually improve their appearance, but it is unlikely to happen within a single growing season.

Another option is to simply maintain the current trees and simply contract service to have fully dead or dangerous trees removed. We've already done this with several trees that were broken during December's record snow fall.

As of right now, the current sitting board is opting for the latter option until further measures are justified. The board can always readdress this issue at any time.

## ***In this issue....***

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### **Vandalism in the Common Areas**

This year we have had problems with minors vandalizing or property down by the pavilion. They have been in the woods digging holes, cutting down trees and making fires.

Hanover Deputies apprehended half a dozen minors at various times trespassing back there. The Chief Deputy Commonwealth Attorney has been unwilling to prosecute. They have encouraged us to pursue it in civil court. I am pursuing the matter with her superior Trip Chalkley.

Our goal is to first to discourage other kids from doing this, and second to get some kind of restitution. Let me know your feelings on the matter or if you have any other facts in the case.

Thanks

Matt Stone

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### **Curbside Recycling Now In Effect**

The recycling pick-up occurs every other Thursday and these dates are marked on our community calendar on our website. (<http://dvhoa.home.comcast.net>)

You do not have to sort your recyclables and you can buy your own bin. Information regarding this program is available on Hanover County's Government Website.

(<http://www.co.hanover.va.us/works/curbside-recycling.htm>)

### **We Need Neighborhood Watch Captains**

We are calling on our community members to volunteer as Neighborhood Watch Captains for their block or streets. Anyone who's willing to volunteer as a Neighborhood Watch Captain; please contact the DVHOA board through the "Contacts" page on our website.

(<http://dvhoa.home.comcast.net>)

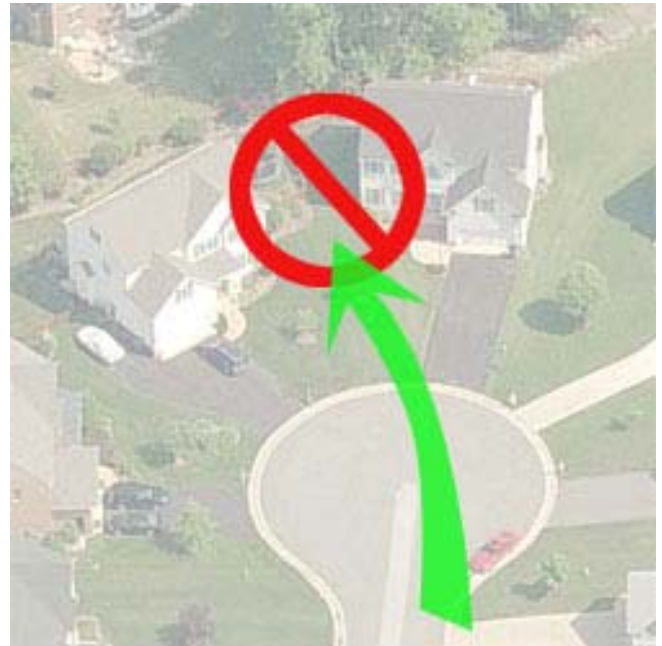
### **Trespassing in Doe Run Place**

A resident in the north cul-de-sac of Doe Run Place has alerted the DVHOA Board of

*trespassing cont'd*

Directors that they have observed folks trespassing across their yard to access the neighboring development of Madison Springs.

This resident has asked that we remind everyone that there is no legal public access to Madison Springs other than the street entrance on Atlee Station Road and the rear entrance at Stags Leap Drive.



No Access to Madison Springs from Doe Run Place

### **New ARC Guidelines Amendments**

Attached to this newsletter are formal copies of amendments that each of you should detach and store with your copy of Deer Valley Home Owner's Association Architectural Design Guidelines. Alternatively, you can download a complete copy of the ARC Guidelines including the latest amendment in the "Documents" section of the DVHOA Web Site (<http://dvhoa.home.comcast.net>)

### **New Community Directory**

We have the latest edition of the Community Directory attached to this newsletter. Please forward any corrections to this directory to the DVHOA Secretary through the "Contacts" page of our website.