

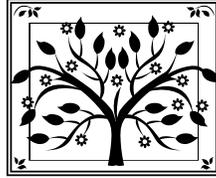


Fleetwood Focus

SPRING 2012

Homeowners' Board of Directors

Nancy Haag: *President*
Judie Cottrell: *Vice President*
Deborah Harris: *Secretary*
Deborah Stroud: *Treasurer*
Tim Weeks: *Member & DHNA Liaison*

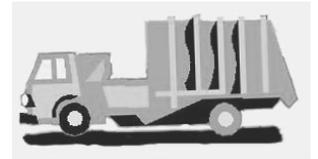


Management Company

Association Management Services
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Brentwood, TN 37024
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BRUSH AND LEAF COLLECTIONS

Metro Nashville Public Works will begin brush and leaf collections in our area on May 16th. Hopefully, this will give you enough time to get most of your spring yard clean up work done. Metro reminds us that to ensure that your brush will be collected, you should have limbs and all other yard waste out and ready for pick-up on the specified beginning dates. Place only limbs, branches and true yard waste by the curb for brush crews. (Note that the pick-up for our area begins on May 16th; it can take several days before they actually get to Fleetwood.)



Metro will not pick up your brush if lumber, household trash or other types of debris are found in your brush pile. *Brush piles should not be placed close to mailboxes, utility poles, fences, trees or other stationary objects.* The mechanical arm of the knuckle boom truck needs enough room to lift the brush pile up and into the trailer pulled behind the truck. Only the driver travels with each truck; no other crew members are there to move piles or separate items that don't belong in a brush pile.

Place leaves in biodegradable paper bags only. Paper biodegradable bags can be purchased at most hardware stores, Wal-Mart's, Target, Home Depot, etc. Public Works also has a supply of these bags available for purchase at the Omohundro Convenience Center: 5 bags for \$3.00 and 10 bags for \$6.00. *Plastic bags will not be picked up!*

If you need more detailed information on the pick-ups, visit the following Metro website:
<http://www.nashville.gov/pw/recycle/yard/brush.asp>

- * *Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet??*
- * *Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.*
- * *The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese!*
- * *To steal ideas from one person is called plagiarism. To steal from many is called research.*



YARD OF THE MONTH



It's Spring and our 2012 Yard of the Month competition will begin in April. Once again, the YOM committee will be cruising the development, looking for one home each month (from April through October) to name the Fleetwood Yard of the Month. Winners will have a picture of their home posted on our website (FleetwoodHOA.com) and get to have our coveted YOM sign posted in their front yard for that month.

This past Christmas season, several Board members noticed the rise in holiday decorations around Fleetwood - and some were quite exceptional. Therefore this year, we have decided to add a December Yard of the Month to the award list. This award will most likely be given out around December 15th or so, since most exterior decorating is up by then. More specifics on the timing of this will be forthcoming later in the year.

SPRING YARD SALE

Just in time for spring cleaning is our annual Spring Fleetwood Yard Sale. This year, the sale will be held on Saturday, April 21st, beginning at 8AM. Rain date is the following Saturday, April 28th. Ads will be placed in several local publications.

It's the perfect opportunity to make room in your garage or attic by recycling items you no longer want or use - and make a couple of extra dollars in the process!



DONELSON-HERMITAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

As mentioned in the past, Fleetwood is a member of the Donelson-Hermitage Neighborhood Association (DHNA). Board member Tim Weeks is our liaison with this group.

Throughout the year, DHNA organizes community functions and meetings to keep area residents up to date and aware of goings on in the Metro area that directly affect our area. We strongly encourage our Fleetwood residents to attend and participate when they can. Being involved and staying informed is the best way to help keep our little piece of Nashville the desirable place it is to live in.

Following is a list of some of the upcoming meetings. Please be sure to mark your calendars and attend:

April 9th – Council members will be available to review appropriate Metro Council Budget items and revenues, and review tax questions.

May 14th – Sgt. Jeff White of the Metro police department will discuss crime and crime prevention in our area.

July 9th – An Election Forum will be held

All of these meetings are held at the Hermitage Police Precinct; there are refreshments at 6:30PM, and the meetings begin at 7:00 PM.

PET TRACKS

On behalf of all of Fleetwood, we want to thank our dog-walking neighbors for their increased vigilance in picking up after their pets. Our common areas are much “safer” for all to walk through and play in. Now that spring is here and we all are getting out more, please be sure to keep up the good work and pick up after Fido!

The Board has gotten a couple of requests for the following reminder: to our neighbors with cats...please do NOT let them roam freely through the neighborhood. While it is true that there is no particular ordinance regarding loose cats as there is for dogs, cats can still be a huge problem when left to wander at will. Unlike a dog, cats do not find fences an issue, merely a mild hindrance. Kitty delights in freshly tended gardens - they make wonderful outdoor litter boxes! It doesn't matter to Kitty that her new toilet is your neighbor's prized rose bush or tomato plant. Your neighbors, however, have a *very* different opinion!

Numerous studies by the ASPCA have proven that cats are quite content to spend their lives indoors. In fact, they live longer and are healthier when not left to deal with the dangers of the great outdoors, particularly vehicles, stray dogs, and other cats. Hermitage is not a rural area; pets left to wander outside all too often wind up dead or seriously hurt. If you care about your pet, their welfare should be number one on your list. Consider too, that pets wandering through a neighborhood are fair game for Animal Control pick-up, whether or not they have a collar.

Please don't think the Board is anti-pet. In fact, all of us have at least one dog or cat, or both. And because we do have pets, and love and care for them, we urge all of our neighbors to take this matter seriously - for the sake of your pet, and in consideration of your neighbors. And remember to spay/neuter your pets. There are way too many homeless and unwanted dogs and cats euthanized every day. Their numbers do not need to be increased by the random breeding of household pets.

SPRING CLEANING

While everyone is in spring cleaning mode, please don't forget your yard. In the winter months, it's easy to ignore the old yard tools, wheel barrows, old bicycles, etc., that have been left lying around. Please think about getting all that miscellaneous yard clutter organized and/or disposed of.



Also please remember, with the wonderful spring weather finally making its appearance, more and more people are leaving windows open to let in the fresh air. When you are working out in your yard or on your car, consider that the jazz/blues/R&B/country/rap music you like to work to may not exactly be your neighbor's first love. Keep the volume reasonable - or better yet, use earphones. That way, you can enjoy your music, your neighbors can enjoy theirs, and babies and night-shift workers can sleep. Everyone is happy!



EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR BOARD MEMBERS



Judie Cottrell: judiebell@comcast.net
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Deborah Stroud: deborah.stroud@wallerlaw.com
Tim Weeks: timweeks@att.net

Should you decide to email a Board member, please be sure to put “FLEETWOOD” in the subject line so even if we do not recognize the sender, we will know that the email isn't spam and just delete it. And unless the email is of a personal nature, it's also a good idea to copy at least one other Board member and/or the management company, just in case your main email gets lost in cyberspace.

WHY WE ALL PAY ASSOCIATION DUES

With the economy as tight as it is (and has been), there are times when everyone wonders why we have HOA dues...just *what* do they pay for, anyhow?? Outside of the obvious - landscaping/mowing of common areas, pond maintenance, front lighting, electrical bills, etc. - there are other things that need looking after around our development. Following is a sample of work done - and paid for - by our HOA dues in 2011:

- The brick wall that borders along Dodson Chapel was completely pressure washed.
- The wood fencing along Dodson Chapel by the front pond needed a number of boards replaced, and overgrown brush was cut back.
- A *major* overhaul of the rear pond area was done. This included removing years of undergrowth, overgrowth, and removal of fallen brush/limbs from in the pond. If you haven't gone back there, please take the time to do so. It looks amazing!
- In addition, new drainage rock was added in several of the run-off areas, including at the back pond and in a major culvert that runs behind the homes at the playground end of Parkwood Court.
- New flags were purchased for the flag poles at the front entrance.
- The lighting fixtures at our front entrance are constantly being repaired or replaced.
- Within the next year or so, it will again be time to re-surface our tennis court. This costs several thousand dollars which we need to have in our reserve fund to pay when the work is done.

A financial statement was sent out to all homeowners the end of last year. In case you missed it, following is a short list of our regular maintenance items: Electricity & Water (front irrigation & lighting) - \$5,550.00; Pond Maintenance (periodic cleanings) - \$950.00; Landscaping/Irrigation Maintenance - \$17,232.00. And that's just a partial picture of what it takes to keep Fleetwood looking like the development we are all so proud of.

But as you can see, none of this happens for free!! And that is why it is **SO** critical that you take paying these dues seriously. Some 85% of our residents do pay on time - and it is sincerely appreciated. If, on the other hand, you are in arrears, please contact the management company and make arrangements to get current. Don't freeload off your neighbors, because if you are not paying your HOA dues, that's exactly what you are doing - reaping the benefits from those who are responsible, make the effort, and support Fleetwood.

Ultimately, our Homeowners' Association can only keep Fleetwood as attractive and welcoming as we, the homeowners, permit. No, not everyone uses the tennis court; not everyone notices the rear pond; not everyone pays attention to, or is even aware of, all the little things done around our development to make it look so nice. *But Fleetwood is a package deal* - ponds, tennis court, green spaces, and all. It's probably why most of us moved here to begin with. So please keep that in mind when writing your check for the HOA dues - we are all in this together!

