

JUNE 2012

Volume 3, Issue 3



Inside this issue:

Tree Pruning Requirements 2

4th of July & Fireworks 3

Littering 4

Pine Straw Mulch Warning 6

Kudzu bugs invade Carolina Forest 7

Covington Lake Cryer

Published by the Board of Directors quarterly
So that we can all stay in touch with what is
happening in our development. Tell us what
you think: opinion@covingtonlakepoa.com



COVINGTON LAKE ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Our garage sale was May 12th. The weather was perfect and we hope that everybody participating had a successful and profitable day.

Please take a moment and give us your opinion regarding the annual garage sale

opinion@covingtonlakepoa.com

Ice Cream Social
coming up on
May 26, 2012
at the pool.
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Mosey on down for a bowl after dinner.



For more information contact the Social Committee through the Covington Lake website.



ALMOST

Please Be Careful This Summer



ALMOST



url:2010/02/09 fotosearch.com



TREE PRUNING REQUIREMENTS FOR SIDEWALKS AND STREETS

If you have a tree planted in your landscape and the tree branches overhang the front sidewalk and/or the street, there are certain ordinance requirements by the State of South Carolina and Horry County regarding public access under that tree.

You may have noticed that not all lots in Covington Lake have a tree planted in the area between the sidewalk and the street. Early in the development of Covington Lake you were allowed to plant a tree along the street. Horry County restricted these plantings for later home permits because county ordinances changed and these trees were going to cause future damage to the street, curbing and the sidewalks.

If you have a tree that is

planted in the space between the sidewalk and the street curb and it dies, you will not be allowed to replant a tree in that area again. If you do not have a tree planted between your sidewalk and the street, **DO NOT** plant a tree now. You will be in violation of Horry County restrictions. Our streets are dedicated to the County and we must abide by their requirements.

Here are the specifics of the pruning requirements for sidewalks and streets:

Tree Ordinances In South Carolina

South Carolina Forestry Commission

October 2003

12.2.1. Pruning

Tree pruning shall be done in accordance with current professional standards (ANSI A300).

The following clearances shall be maintained through routine pruning:



**Seven (7) feet above
sidewalks and walkways.**

**Twelve (12) feet above
residential streets.**

Please keep your trees pruned to these clearances so that your neighbors do not get their eyes poked out walking on the sidewalk (especially after dark) and vehicles do not receive damage from low hanging branches in the street.

Are you planning to purchase fireworks for July 4th ?

As long as you are taking the fireworks someplace other than Covington Lake, go ahead and make your purchase.

DO NOT plan to use fireworks in Covington Lake for the 4th or any other occasion now and in the



future. This is also how fires get started.

We are a fireworks free development registered in Horry County subject to County fines.

COVENANTS—Article 2, Section 20. Firearms and

Fireworks.

No firearms or fireworks of any variety shall be discharged upon the Lots or Common Areas. The Covington Lake fines are:

1st occurrence = \$100

2nd occurrence = \$200

3rd occurrence = \$300

4th of July Celebrations on the Grand Strand

North Myrtle Beach

July Fourth Celebration

The Annual Fireworks display at The Cherry Grove Fishing Pier is scheduled for **9:30 pm** on Wednesday, July 4th. The pier is located at 3500 N. Ocean Blvd. in the Cherry Grove section of North Myrtle Beach. This makes for a beautiful display and along with the other activities, this event is certainly a memorable evening for the entire family.

This event is free and open to the public, so come out, bring a beach chair and en-

joy July 4th at the beach!

For more info call the North Myrtle Beach Chamber toll free 866-805-5642 .

City of Myrtle Beach Independence Day Celebrations:

Broadway at the Beach, between 21st and 29th avenues North on U.S. 17 Bypass, fireworks start at 10 p.m.

Second Avenue Pier, 110 N. Ocean Blvd., fireworks start at 9:30 p.m.

BB&T Coastal Field, 1251 21st Avenue North, fireworks following the Pelicans baseball game

The Market Common, Valor Park on Farrow Parkway, 9 p.m. fireworks as part of the Italian Festival

Town of Surfside Beach

Surfside Beach pier, Surfside Drive and Ocean Boulevard, 9:15 p.m. fireworks

with live entertainment from 6 to 9 p.m. and free ice cream



LITTERING IS WRONG

Is litter really a big problem?

Unfortunately, yes. Here are some facts:

- Litter invites more litter. Once litter has accumulated along a road or in a community, people are more likely to keep littering.
- Over 51 billion pieces of litter land on U.S. roadways each year. Most of it, 46.6 billion pieces, is less than four inches. That's 6,729 items per mile.
- Litter cleanup costs the U.S. almost \$11.5 billion each year, with businesses paying \$9.1 billion. Governments, schools, and other organizations pick up the remainder.
- Community economy and quality of life suffer. The presence of litter in a community takes a toll on quality of life, property values, and housing prices. A 2009 National Visible Litter Survey and Litter Cost Study found that litter in a community decreases property values 7 percent.
- Litter has environmental consequences. Wind and weather, traffic, and animals move litter into gutters, lawns and landscaped areas, alleyways, and parking structures. Debris may be carried by storm drains into local waterways and ponds, with potential for serious environmental contamination.
- The types of litter found most often include bottles, cans and fast food packaging, plastic shopping bags and cigarette butts.
- Eighty percent of our waterways are littered with trash that was dropped on land.
- Litter is not only morally wrong; it's illegal in all 50 states. Punishment can include a fine as well as jail time for littering and illegal dumping.

Who litters?

Unfortunately many people litter. And they may be members of your family, your friends... even you. Research shows that individuals under 40 are more likely to litter than those who are older. In fact, age, and not gender, is a significant

predictor of littering behavior.

This article is meant to shine a light on the act of littering and to help us all see that it's an unaccepted and wrong behavior, just like buying sushi at a gas station. Gross!

Why do people litter?

That's a complicated question with no easy answer. Research shows that people often litter because they have no sense of ownership, even though Common areas, parks, and waterfronts are really owned by us all.

Another common reason for littering is the belief that "someone else will pick it up for me." Some REAL jerks even use the excuse that they're creating jobs for people who clean up. Well, that couldn't be farther from the truth. Those "cleaner-uppers" are often paid for by your tax dollars or the extra money you pay for products and services at local businesses.

Most of the time litter invites more litter. Once litter has accumulated along a road or in a community, people are more likely to keep littering in that location. Sometimes it's simply a matter of laziness. If there is no garbage or recycling container nearby, some people will just throw their garbage in a spot that is convenient to them (which can be anywhere from a parking lot to a public park). In other cases, people don't want to cross a street or walk a few feet to where a garbage receptacle is located.

Also, sometimes people litter and don't realize it. Unintentional litter, such as litter that flies out of the window of your car, from an uncovered container, or the back of a pick-up truck, is still litter.

If some of the littering is unintentional, what's the big deal?

Because unintentionally littering is still littering and it actually contributes to a

large portion of the litter found across the country. So take a few extra moments to secure your garbage to keep it from becoming litter.

What can I do to stop litter?

Here are a few ideas:

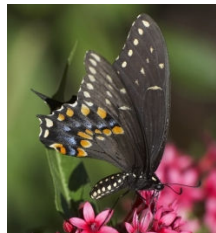
- First, don't litter. Set a good example for your friends, kids and neighbors. Even an apple core is considered litter.
- **If you are walking in the neighborhood or down at the pool area and you see litter, don't be afraid to pick it up and put it in a trash container - set the example.**
- Never throw trash out of your car window. Also, be aware when driving with your windows open. Loose items like paper or candy wrappers can fly out easily.
- Place a bag in your car to collect personal trash (or recyclables) instead of tossing them.
- At home, secure the lids on your trash and recycling containers, especially when you set them out on collection day.
- When recycling at the curb, secure or bundle loose papers and other light objects tightly so they won't get carried away with the wind.
- Secure loads and remove trash from the back of your pickup truck. Even larger items can fly out when you are traveling at high speeds. This is also very dangerous.
- If you smoke, never throw your cigarette butts on the ground. Cigarette butts, while small, actually constitute a large part of existing litter.
- **Get involved in a community clean up. Covington Lake has sponsored regular clean-up programs in the past and we can do it again with some volunteers. It's an easy way to see the problem first-hand and to do something about it.**
- If you see litter, pick it up. Even if it's one chip bag or straw wrapper – that's one less piece of litter on the street.
- Clean up after your dog. Yes, that's litter too!

MYRTLE BEACH AREA EVENTS COMING UP THIS QUARTER



May 26:
Come out to
the Myrtle
Beach Memo-
rial Day Parade
from 10 a.m. to

12 p.m. Saturday, down
Ocean Boulevard. Major
General Robert E.
Livingston will serve as
Grand Marshal for the event.
The parade will begin at 27th
Avenue North and continue
down Ocean Boulevard to
9th Avenue North in Myrtle
Beach



June 2 & 3:
The Butterfly
and Art Festi-
val: Colorful
Wings and
Pretty Things

is new to Brookgreen Gar-
dens this year. The two-day
event from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00
p.m. will offer art from tal-
ented artists from around our
region and a wide array of
activities for any age. Kids
can make butterfly crafts and
chalk art. Participate in a
walking tour, demonstration

or workshop to learn about
these beautiful creatures. The
festival is free with garden
admission.



June 29 & 30: Riverfest, Con-
way: It's a pre-Independence
Day festival downtown, along
the Waccamaw River. Live
entertainment, fireworks.

How to Control Mosquitoes in Your Yard and Home

Keep your gutters
clean and free of de-
bris and water. The
Culex mosquito (known for
carrying the West Nile virus)
is attracted to moist decaying
leaves.

Empty all containers includ-
ing container lids, dog
bowls, plant dishes, or any-
thing that holds even small
amounts of water. Get in the
habit of turning any con-
tainer that can hold water up-
side down or tilt it so the wa-
ter drains off.

Wear loose fitting and light
colored clothing that covers

your skin. Any clothing that
is tight (such as lycra bike
shorts) can be bitten through
by mosquitoes. If you will be
wearing tight clothing apply
a fabric repellent spray to the
clothing and skin repellent
spray to your exposed skin.
Do not wear perfume, hair-
sprays, aftershave or other
aromatic type products when
spending time outside. It will
attract mosquitoes and other
bugs.

Dump anything that holds
water twice per week if it has
rained. Birdbaths, non-
chlorinated wading pools,

footbaths, garbage can lids,
and pottery will all attract
breeding mosquitoes. Re-
member to empty the saucers
under your flower pots, and
don't leave water in pet
bowls for more than two
days.

Keep this from happening to you.
CDC/Robert S. Craig



Posted on Fri, Mar. 30, 2012

Fireworks & Pine Straw ruled cause of Myrtle Beach area fire

By Kurt Knappek
kknapek@thesunnews.com

Investigators with Myrtle Beach Fire Rescue confirmed that improper handling of fireworks caused a blaze Thursday at an ocean front home, said Fire Marshall Bruce Arnel.

Neighbors said Thursday that they saw teenagers playing with fireworks on a third floor balcony of the house on 4803 South Ocean Blvd. and that **the pine straw at the base of the home caught fire** as a result.

No charges are expected to be filed by Horry County Police, said Sgt. Robert Kegler, police spokesman. The firefighter who was injured during the blaze was released from Grand Strand Regional Medical Center, Arnel said.

Arnel would not comment on the nature of the injury, only to say "He's fine."

All occupants inside the rental property were safely out of the house, said Lt. Christian Sliker with Myrtle Beach Fire Rescue.

Contact KURT KNAPEK at 626-0258.

© 2012 The Sun News and MyrtleBeachOnline.com and wire service sources.

All Rights Reserved. <http://www.MyrtleBeachOnline.com>

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2012/03/30/v-print/2747191/fireworks-ruled-cause-of->



A 2009 wildfire scorched 20,000 acres in the area of Carolina Forest, South Carolina and destroyed 76 homes. Losses were estimated at \$16 million. Investigators determined that the homes were lost due to **flames igniting pine straw around foundations and burning through soffets into attic areas.**

If you are using pine straw up against your foundation, you may want to reconsider the use of this product so close to your home.

**Covington Lake
Property Owner
Association**

We're on the Web!
covingtonlakepoa.com



Covington Lake @ Carolina Forest
Myrtle Beach, SC. 29579

Phone: 843-293-7447

Fax: 843-293-7670

Email: pmgrp@sccoast.net



Trailers are not authorized to be stored in drive-ways, streets or vacant lots within Covington Lake. ARTICLE 2—SECTION 15 of the Covenants.

Kudzu bugs invade South Carolina

By: Brie Jackson | SCNow

Published: May 10, 2012 Updated: May 10, 2012

Thousands of tiny insects are invading South Carolina. The pests look like lady bugs but they are called Kudzu bugs. Researchers said there are swarms of them appearing throughout the state. Over the past two weeks, natural resources agents said they have received more than 120 calls about the Kudzu bugs. South Carolina natural resources agents first noticed the Kudzu bugs last year. Since then, the population has grown.



CAROLINA FOREST, SC - Thousands of tiny insects are invading South Carolina. The pests look like lady bugs but they are called Kudzu bugs.

Landscapers said the warmer winter temperatures brought insects out earlier this year.

"I've seen the Kudzu bugs all over the place," said Brad Cobane, B'Unique Landscaping. Kudzu bugs are attracted to fig trees, wisteria vines and light objects. They are an invasion species and experts said they are not dangerous to humans or plants.

"The bugs are just really a nuisance because they are in such large quantities" said Cobane.

Researchers continue to look for ways to control the growing Kudzu population. Experts said the bugs are mainly in the coastal area including Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle, Surfside and Garden City.