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## Covington Lake Cryer

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So that we can all stay in touch with what is  
happening in our development. Tell us what  
you think: [opinion@covingtonlakepoa.com](mailto:opinion@covingtonlakepoa.com)

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### St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival coming to North Myrtle Beach



**SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2012**

**9am Parade**

**11am - 4pm Festival**

**Over 100 parade entries**

**Over 125 vendors**

Bring the "wee" ones to enjoy the children's  
area that is chocked full of rides and games.

## Upcoming Myrtle Beach Festivals



**Canadian-American  
Days Festival®  
March 10 - 18, 2012**



**Beach Blast! Christian Music  
Festival  
May 19, 2012  
Downtown Myrtle Beach, be-  
tween 8th & 9th Ave. N. on  
Ocean Blvd.**



**4th annual Beer Fest sponsored  
by Piggly Wiggly will be held  
March 30-31, 2012 in Valor  
Park at The Market Common.  
Starts at 11:00 AM**

**For more information visit**

**<http://www.myrtlebeach.com/myrtle-beach-events/>**

## **CHICKWEED IS GROWING OUT OF CONTROL IN COVINGTON LAKE**

**Scotts® Bonus® S Max  
Southern Weed And  
Feed & Fire Ant Killer  
will kill this weed and  
will not destroy your  
Centipede and St.  
Augustine grasses. You  
have to kill this weed  
while the weather is**

**cool. This is a granular  
product for rotary or  
broadcast spreaders.**

**This weed will continue  
to overrun your grass  
and your neighbor's  
grass if you do not  
eradicate it this spring  
before the heat comes.**



**Keep your Eyes and Ears open to what's happening around you.**



**E**veryday activities like dog-walking, staying-at-home, and taking out the trash become organizing tools for increasing the number of citizens on the alert. A "Window Watcher" project is yet another way to increase community surveillance. Utilize the time and energy of seniors and ask them to keep a watch from their windows at various times. Report anything suspicious to the Horry County Police - Non-emergency 918-1300 days and 918-1382 after hours.

# Reduce Your Speed in Covington Lake

**N**ationally, more than 13,000 lives were lost in speeding-related traffic crashes during 2005 making speed a contributing factor in 30 percent of all fatal crashes.

The goal is to save lives. Drivers need to remember that there is a reason for posted speed limits. Speed limits are designed to protect everyone – drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists. The next time you get behind the wheel, please remember to Stop Speeding Before It Stops You. Maintaining a safe speed at all times is a serious responsibility shared by all motorists.

## Reduce Your Speed

The faster you drive ...

... the less reaction time you have to brake,

... the more distance you need to stop,

... the harder it is to control your vehicle,

... the harder your impact in an accident, and

... the greater the chance of serious bodily injury or being killed in an accident.



## Statistics

A crash on a road with a speed limit of 65 mph or greater is more than twice as likely to result in a fatality than a crash on a road with a speed limit of 45 or 50 mph and nearly five times as likely as a crash on a road with a speed limit of 40 mph or below.

Only 14 percent of the nation's speeding-related fatalities occurred on Interstate highways in 2005.

Speed is often a factor in incidents involving pedestrians.

**If a pedestrian is hit at 40 mph, there's an 80% chance they will die. If hit at 20 mph, there's a 95% they will live.**

## Did You Know?

**Speeding is a major part of aggressive driving and a factor in 31 percent of all fatal crashes, killing nearly 1,000 people in the U.S. every month.**

If you have concerns about speeding on your street, call the Horry County Police non-emergency 918-1300 days and 918-1382 after hours.



## WHAT DO THE THREE PICTURES BELOW HAVE IN COMMON ?

**None of these three vehicles or other similar vehicles are permitted to be parked in your driveway. If they do not fit inside of a closed garage, they must be parked outside of Covington Lake Development. You can read all of the covenants, by-laws, and guidelines on our website [www.covingtonlakepoa.com](http://www.covingtonlakepoa.com)**



## ARC = Architectural Review Committee

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) has been established to oversee our development and insure achievement of the objectives of Covington Lake Property Owners Association, Inc.

If you are proposing to build a new home or do any structure change to your existing home or make any

changes or additions to your yard in Covington Lake, including fences, the approved ARC Review Form **must** accompany all projects.

You can view the design guidelines (that you need to see) if you plan on building or renovating in Covington Lake. They are on the Cov-

ington Lake website.

[www.covingtonlakepoa.com](http://www.covingtonlakepoa.com)

Prior to any construction start "ALL" construction plans must be submitted for approval to the ARC whether you are doing the work or hiring a contractor.

**Construction cannot commence without written approval from the ARC.**



## POWER OUTAGES / STORMS

### What to do first:

If you experience a power outage at your home or business, follow the steps below:

Check your circuit panel or fuse box. If you have circuit breakers, flip the main breaker switch to the "off" position, then back to the "on" position. If you have fuses, check your fuse box and replace

any fuses that have blown.

Check the outside disconnect below your meter (not all buildings have an outside disconnect).

Check with your neighbors to see if they have power.

**Call 1-888-769-7688 to report the outage.**

Be prepared to give the following information:

Account name and location

Telephone number

Nature of problem (power outage, partial power, dim or flickering lights, etc.)

Any additional information (line down, loud noises, etc.)

When an outage is reported, our employees will respond as soon as possible to restore power to your home or business.

## WATER METER OBSTRUCTION



### Help Us Avoid Obstructions

Please limit your landscape area around your water meter location. There needs to be an easy access to your water meter box, to allow GSWSA to effectively make repairs or readings. Items such as bushes, trees, shrubs, and other materials that are placed over and/or around water meters can hinder GSWSA staff from performing their job. These items also can attract

snakes, spiders, rodents, wasp and fire ants that can potentially pose a threat to you as a customer or to GSWSA's employees.

**Grand Strand Water & Sewer Authority requires a three-foot area around each water meter box for clear access.**

**IMPORTANT:** *Never use kerosene, gasoline, or other petroleum based products to get rid of fire ants in your water meter box.*





## DO YOU REMEMBER THE APRIL 2009 HORRY COUNTY FIRE

Approximately 20,000 acres burned, approximately 69 homes destroyed and 100 with damage, eight automobiles were destroyed.

How could this have happened here?

An abundance of flammable plants and a flood of new residents are turning parts of Horry County into some of the most vulnerable spots in South Carolina for property damage from forest fires.

High winds, densely built homes, peaty soil and long-burning, waxy vegetation make fire fighting difficult.



What can we do to prevent a fire in Covington Lake? No outdoor burning and removal of noxious weeds and hazardous conditions will help prevent wild fires. A nuisance occurs when there are overgrown, dead, dry, decayed, diseased or hazardous trees, weeds, and other vegetation, brush or weeds likely to harbor vectors or cause a fire hazard to adjacent or nearby property. Lets all make an effort to get our property's cleaned up this spring—remember no burning.

## COVENANTS—ARTICLE II / GARBAGE DISPOSAL & RECEPTACLES

**SECTION 13. Each Lot Owner shall provide garbage receptacles or similar facilities in accordance**

**with reasonable standards established by the Association which shall be visible-from the streets on garbage pickup days only.**

**SECTION 16. All garbage receptacles must be stored and maintained in an area which is screened from public view. A trash receptacle may be taken to the street for trash pickup no more than 24 hours before the pickup date and returned no more than**

**24 hours after the pickup date.**

### **SIMPLE DEFINITION**

- 1. You need to have a receptacle for your garbage when it is taken to the street. Putting plastic bags at the street for animals to rip open is not acceptable.**
- 2. You must not store garbage receptacles where they are visible to the public. Either store in the garage or use an enclosure on the side or rear of your property.**



## DO NOT PUT PINE STRAW MULCH AGAINST YOUR HOUSE



**F**ires throughout the U.S. have caused many state and local fire marshals to re-evaluate building codes and restrict the use or storage of pine straw in proximity to buildings because of its risk as a fire hazard.

The southern U.S. has had particularly large issues with wildfires due to pine use. Wildfires burn an average of 30,000 acres annually in South Carolina and about 5.3 million acres nationwide. In the largest single blaze in South Carolina, 30,000 acres burned in 1976.

A 2009 wildfire scorched 20,000 acres in the area of North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and destroyed 69 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 roof soffets into attic areas.*

Pine straw is a traditional and very popular ground cover in the southeastern U.S., particularly in the Carolinas. It's attractive and helps soil retain moisture. One of its drawbacks, however, is flammability.

**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.**



## *When Your Covington Lake Street Light Is On the Blink*

Street lights are vital to our everyday lives, lighting the way for drivers and pedestrians. With approximately 58,000 streetlights across the Santee Cooper system, we appreciate your help in identifying lights that are malfunctioning or in need of repair.

The sooner we know they are out, the sooner we can get them fixed! Our commitment is to have them repaired in three days or less.

You can help us in identifying street lights that are out by first giving us a call at 1-888-769-7688 . Please have the following information ready when you call:

- The pole number of the light. Every light on the Santee Cooper system has a tag that identifies the pole as a Santee Cooper pole. You will find a four or five character sequence — such as L1234 — that will identify the location in our system. If there is no Santee Cooper nameplate on the pole, the light is privately owned and must be repaired by the property owner. Some local businesses provide their own parking lot lighting that is not maintained by Santee Cooper.

- The condition of the light. Is it completely out, flashing or stay on all the time? All of Santee Cooper's lights have photocells that turn them off in the daytime. If the light is burning during the day, Santee Cooper would like to know so that we can repair it to save the electricity used during the day.

- The location or approximate address. Please be ready to provide an approximate address or description of the location just in case we can't find the light in our mapping system. Be as descriptive as you can. A good example would be, "On Ocean Boulevard at the corner of 21st Avenue North, across from the coffee shop."

- Your name and telephone number. If we are unable to locate the light, we will want to contact you to verify the directions so that we can be sure to get the light repaired.

**For Hazardous Situations:** If the outage presents a hazardous situation like broken glass, a fixture in danger of falling, exposed wires or if the pole is leaning or knocked down, please stay clear of the street light and report the location immediately.

In all situations, don't forget to put safety first! We appreciate your help, but it is important that you do not put yourself in harm's way when noting streetlight outages.

Thanks for your help in keeping the lights on!

**Call us at 1-888-769-7688**



**Covington Lake  
Property Owner  
Association**

**We're on the Web!**  
**covingtonlakepoa.com**

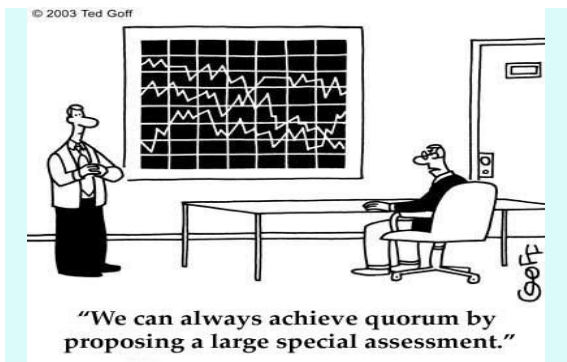


Covington Lake Management Co.  
is Premier Management @

Phone: 843-357-4515

Fax: 843-357-4535

Email: pmgrp@sccoast.net



Residents of Covington Lake can publish personal classified advertisements online for free. The Board of Directors has provided this service free of charge for anyone who is interested in taking advantage of it. Please be aware that classified advertisements are subject to screening by a member of the Property Owners Association and may not be immediately posted once you have submitted it. Most classifieds will be posted within a week of approval. The Property Owners Association does not endorse any specific product or service offered on the page and is not responsible for the accuracy of the advertisement described. Only Covington Lake residents are allowed to take advantage of this free service.

**GO TO:**

<http://www.covingtonlakepoa.com/classifieds/>

**List of things people can do to help protect their families from intruders.**

- Always lock all doors and windows.
- Keep hedges trimmed. Tall hedges can be a hiding place for criminals.
- A home security system or Life Alert are good safety tools to have.
- Lock screen and storm doors while at home.
- Always verify a person's identity before opening the door to him or her.
- When hiring subcontractors, get referrals from friends or neighbors.
- Keep your home well lit at

- night.
- Never leave garage doors open.
- Never leave purses or any valuable items in view of doors or windows.
- Many seniors may have trouble with memory, so it is a good idea to have numbers and names of family or friends nearby.
- Do not put your name on mailbox.
- Do not allow your trash to sit near the road on days that are not pickup days.
- If you are unsure or uneasy

- about a situation, call the police. It is better to be safe than sorry.
- If you have any suspicious encounters, let your neighborhood watch team or homeowners association know so they can alert other residents.
- Never be afraid to ask for an ID from strangers, but do not open the door to look at it. If you are not expecting someone, then it may not be safe to open the door at all.