

# The Reflection Homes Association Community Newsletter

September 2021



## RHA Board & Committee News:

### Architectural Control Committee:

by Georgette Nuss, ACC Chair

### Upcoming Meetings:

Board	Sep 13
<b>Town Hall</b>	<b>Sep 22</b>
	Sep 27
ACC	Sep 7
(tentative)	Oct 5
REC	Sep 15
(in-person & online)	
Parking	Sep 15
SA	Sep 1

Until further notice, all meetings will be **online** at 7pm & are subject to change.

The RHA website has instructions on attending online meetings.

[www.rha-homes.org](http://www.rha-homes.org)

### Board:

by Willie Jimenez Elias, RHA Board President

Key items addressed in August by the RHA Board:

- Post cards are being sent out to homeowner on new policies regarding **Parking Regulations** and **Due Process**. Please review and send your comments to the Board by their stated deadlines.
- Look for letters on **TH Trash Toter and Recycle Bin locations**, on **Asbestos**, and **legal comments on how to separate RHA into two HOAs**
- Save the date - Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm for a **Town Hall Meeting** – possible separation into two HOAs?
- **2022 Budget** review is underway, provide your suggestions before the final budget is approved.
- **Erosion and Drainage Proposals** have been received for the TH area. The Board will review and determine the best way to approach issues.
- **TH Light Project** – Proposals due Sept 1, 2021.

At the last regularly scheduled meeting of the ACC, there were 2 applications for change. One application for siding and windows was denied due to lack of information. The committee is working with the homeowner to help him resubmit an application with all the needed information. The other application was for windows and that one was approved. The Committee changed the September meeting date to **TUESDAY**, September 7 at 7:00pm.

**DID YOU KNOW...**The ACC has repeatedly asked that homeowners supply details when they submit an application. However, we are still denying applications because there aren't enough details. Last month we had to deny another one. You also can't tell us "it's like your neighbor's". Your neighbor's might not be approved. Also, it's alright to submit brochures or photos to supplement your application, but it is supplemental documentation.

*(continued on page 2)*

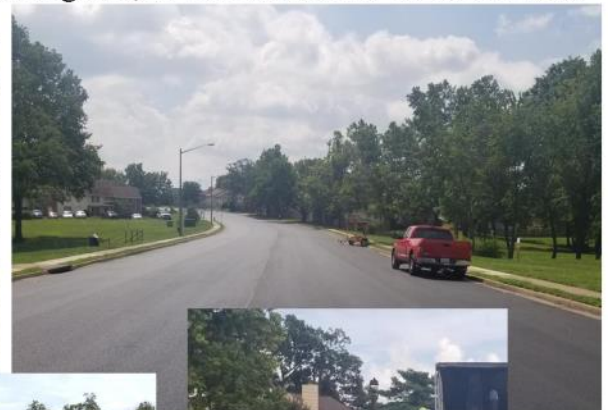
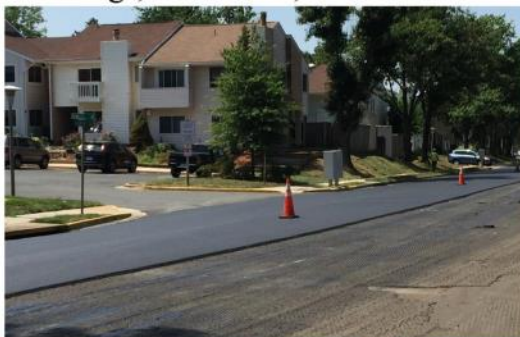
### Important Dates:

Sept 3-6	FCPS Labor Day Break
Sept 6	Labor Day Holiday
Sept 6	Rosh Hashanah starts
Sept 11	Patriot (9-11) Day
Sept 12	Grandparents' Day
Sept 17	FfxCo early voting begins
Sept 18-Oct 3	Octoberfest
Sept 22	1st Day of Autumn



## **From July 26th to late August, our neighborhood was a construction zone!**

All VDOT roads had more than two inches of old blacktop milled off, making for attentive driving as manhole, water & sewer covers were left exposed, and requiring some "creative" parking. Workers endured high humidity, high temperatures, pouring rain, snarled traffic, and opening day of school at Hutchison Elementary. But -- we now have glistening new pavement throughout, as well as soon-to-come new lane markings, crosswalks, and bike lanes!



### **RHA Board**

*President:*

Willie Jimenez Elias

*Vice President:*

Don Nuss

*Treasurer:*

Charlie Marts

*At Large:*

Mike Olson

*Secretary:*

Colleen Ward

\*\*\*\*\*

*L&N Property Manager:*  
Karen Sine 703-970-8856



**ACC** (cont'd from page 1)

You first have to put a description in the application. If you have any questions, feel free to question the ACC beforehand.

**DID YOU KNOW...** The next ACC meeting is scheduled for **TUESDAY**, September 7, 7:00, via Zoom. Use this link, <https://zoom.us/join> to join the meeting. The Meeting ID is 857 6479 2628, and the Passcode is RHAACC. To join the meeting by phone, please call 301-715-8592. The Meeting ID is 865 4474 6564, and the Passcode is 446550.

**Recreation Committee, Inc. (RCI):**

- RHA has a **vacancy** on the joint RHA/LHA Recreation Committee. If you are interested in volunteering to step into the spot, please contact the RHA board, or any RCI current member for information on how to apply. (Members serve one-year terms, December-December).

- Our neighborhood **National Night Out Party** on August 3rd was an outstanding success!



... ice cream, popcorn, SnoKones, sprinklers, basketball hoops, dunk tank, jump ropes, toy footballs, stickers, giant Connect Four game...



**Guidance on Paint (and other things you shouldn't put out for trash collection...)**

by an anonymous Hungerford Pl Resident

- Don't put paint in the trash can (English)
- No tires pintura a la basura (Spanish)
- 페인트를 쓰레기통에 넣지 마세요 (Korean)
- Ne mettez pas de peinture à la poubelle (French)



Also, this doesn't mean put it in the toilet, down the drain, or the creek...

"Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), includes products used in & around the home that are flammable, corrosive, reactive or toxic."

quoted from HHW online brochure, by Fairfax Co.: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/sites/publicworks/files/assets/documents/household-hazardous-waste.pdf>

"Latex Paint may be recycled in quantities that are greater than 1/4 of a can at the I-95 Landfill Complex or the I-66 Transfer Station any day of the week. Cans that are less than 1/4 full should be left open to dry out. Once dry, they can be placed in a bag with household trash and set at the curb on your normal collection day. As a last resort, bring it to the county's HHW sites. Usable paint (cans 90% full) may be donated to Habitat for Humanity through HHW's program."

Call FfxCo HHW 703-324-5068 with questions.

A toter on Hungerford Pl on August 23rd had paint mixed with the trash. The Bates truck driver stopped and was able to contain the spill.





**Parking Committee**

by Brenda Brown, Parking Committee Chair

**TH Parking Regulations Update:** The Parking Committee is awaiting a response from the Board on new parking regulations updates. As of right now please continue to use

**Purple Bins:  
A Glass Act**

by Gene Harper, RCI Treasurer

Did you know that all that asphalt in our community repaving project probably contained recycled glass? And that glass could have come from a program led by our county.



Fairfax County officials call their two-year-old glass recycling program a “smashing success” and encourage residents to drop off their bottles and jars 24/7 at community-wide sites. The closest one to RHA is only 5 minutes away in the Town of Herndon where Sterling and Rock Hill roads intersect.

You pull right up to the big purple bin and toss in your glass containers. Collected glass gets hauled to a county facility where it’s crushed into gravel-sized pieces that are used in construction projects, such as paving, pipe bedding and backfill. A portion is trucked to commercial plants in the state to be made into new glass products.

The program started two years ago after the county stopped trash haulers from picking up glass as part of weekly recyclables. Part of the reason reportedly was China enforcing very strict rules on the quality of U.S. recycled material it would buy. Local glass for

your reserved space as assigned. 10 pm curfew is still in effect for parking on all streets except Oram/Berger: valid RHA parking stickers are still required 24 hours a day for ALL vehicles for these two streets.

recycling was contaminating other recyclable material and ruining sorting equipment. So that meant that glass, a heavy, dense product that doesn’t degrade, was dumped in county landfills.

As leader of the effort, the Fairfax program takes in the glass products from its cities and towns and from neighbors, including Arlington and Loudoun counties and the city of Alexandria.

County officials applaud the extra effort that residents are taking to repurpose as much glass as possible, rather than stuffing them into regular trash. What started off as a handful of sites has expanded to nearly 40 Northern Virginia locations, mostly in Fairfax County. Besides the Herndon facility, nearby purple bins can be found at Reston South Park and Ride (Fox Mill Rd. and Reston Parkway) and at Baron Cameron Park (Wiehle Ave. and Baron Cameron Ave.).

Glass products you bring to the bins should:

- Be empty, rinsed out bottles and jars, but can have lids and packaging attached
- Not be in plastic bags
- Not be lamps or light bulbs, ceramics or porcelain
- Not be mirrors, windows and glass sheets.

The Northern Virginia Solid Waste Management Board reported 1,993 tons of glass collected and recycled across the region in 2019. That number jumped to 5,526 tons of regional glass collected and recycled in 2020. Fairfax asks you to do your part to “crush it” with more tons!

**Pets, Pandemic & Back to Work/School**

by Charlie Marts, RHA Board Treasurer

The pandemic continues to be challenging, but one of the biggest upsides of the stay-at-home orders was the wave of people and families who adopted pets.

Pet-related issues can be challenging for owners in the best of times, & for some HOA communities, the growing number of pets—especially dogs—has brought complaints, while many say the influx of animals is creating more of a sense of community because owners who are walking dogs more make the neighborhood feel more outgoing and sociable.



As more people return to work and school, canine separation anxiety and the barking that comes with it are very real concerns, particularly for townhomes with shared walls. Dogs love routine and it can affect dogs who have gotten used to their owners/ playmates at home all day. Canine separation anxiety manifests through incessant barking or howling, scratching at walls and doors, and having accidents even if they are house-trained.

According to the Humane Society of the United States, for minor separation anxiety, it’s important to not make a big deal when you come home or leave home. Owners should ignore the dog for a few minutes when they get home, then calmly pet the animal. They also might consider an over-the-counter calming product.

For more severe problems, the Humane Society recommends taking the following steps:

- **Don’t punish** the dog; it will only make things worse.
- **Use positive reinforcement.** Teach your dog to sit and stay, then walk to another room. When you return, and if the dog is still calm, give him or her a treat.
- **Create a safe place** that will limit your dog’s ability to be destructive. A room with a window and “busy” toys is better than total isolation.
- Consider asking your veterinarian about **drugs that might reduce your dog’s anxiety**, or consult a professional animal behavior specialist.
- If you can’t take the dog to work or leave it with a friend or family member, consider dropping it off at **doggie daycare** or a kennel when you’re at work & kids are at school.



**Update: RPPD in Detached Homes**

by Don Nuss, RHA Board Vice President

As of August 31, the Board of Directors completed its effort to collect signatures for the Residential Permit Parking District (RPPD). As of that date, residents from 52 of the 60 homes in the RPPD signed the petition, which was sent to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The county will determine whether the petition meets their requirement for

an RPPD. If they determine it’s OK, they will schedule a hearing to allow residents the chance to voice their opinions, negative or positive, of the proposed RPPD. Following the public hearing, the County’s Board of Supervisors will vote to approve or deny the petition. Stay tuned.





\*\*\*\*NOTES\*\*\*\*

VDOT Repaving by the Numbers:

The VDOT paving contractor spread over 7,000 tons of asphalt on approximately 8.5 lane miles in our neighborhood. The asphalt was delivered 20 tons at a time which required 350 truckloads.



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VDOT Paints the Final Touches:

The project is almost finished (!!!). Expect "No Parking" signs to reappear on Parcher Ave from Centreville Rd to Maleady Dr after Labor Day. Some lane lines, thankfully, have already been painted. Beginning Thursday, Sept 9, crews will be adding bicycle lanes and crosswalk markings. There will be two crosswalks on Parcher near Hutchison ES, one on Saunders (at Parcher intersection), one on Parcher (at the pool), one on Parcher (at Maleady intersection) and one on Maleady (at Parcher intersection).



Expected completion is September 15th.

Photo credits: Many, many, thanks to Gene Harper, Georgette Nuss, Bates Trucking, and Mike Olson for the variety of photos in this month's newsletter.

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New Streetlight Locations marked: Residents along Farougi Ct and Maleady Dr (from Farougi to Parcher) might have noticed 13 small stakes tied with a strip of blue & white plastic in the grass next to the roads.

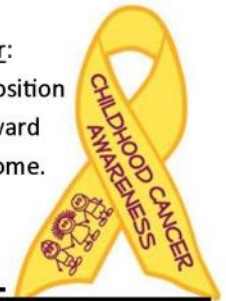
These stakes mark the locations of street lights that will soon be installed as part of a project to provide safe access to Metrorail. The light project was announced last October by Dranesville Supervisor John Foust, and was written up in our November Newsletter. The lights will lead to the pedestrian and bicycle path, currently in the design phase, that will connect RHA to the Innovation Station Metrorail entrance.



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Board Position and Good Neighbor of the Year:

Candidate nominations for one 2022 Board position and the annual Good Neighbor of the Year Award will be requested next month. More info to come.



# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 (August)	30	31	1 7:00-9:00pm SA online meeting	2 V-J DAY 76 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY - SEPTEMBER 2	3 COLLEGE COLORS DAY FCPS Labor Day Break	4 Sapphire Sept Birthstone
5 International Day of Charity	6 Labor Day Pool Closes at 7pm	7 7:00-9:00pm ACC online meeting Rosh Hashana Jewish New Year 5782	8	9	10	11 9/11 PATRIOT DAY
12 Grandparents' Day	13 7:00-9:00pm RHA Board online meeting	14 THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER written in 1814	15 7:00-9:00pm Parking online meeting 7:00-9:00pm online + in-person meeting Recreation	16	17 Constitution Day 1787	18 Oktoberfest Sept 18 - Oct 3
19 Emmy Awards INTERNATIONAL TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY	20	21 International Day of Peace	22 7:00-9:00pm RHA Town Hall Fall begins	23 Saint Padre Pio	24	25
26 Gold Star Mother's Day	27 7:00-9:00pm RHA Board online meeting	28 National Voter Registration Day	29 NATIONAL COFFEE DAY	30 INTERNATIONAL PODCAST DAY	1 (October) International Coffee Day	2

This newsletter is created by the Board of Directors of Reflection Homes Association in order to inform you about its work, and to keep you updated on things important to our neighborhood. If you have any questions, suggestions, or contributions to this newsletter, please email them to: [RHAbord@RHA-Homes.org](mailto:RHAbord@RHA-Homes.org) and/or [newsletter@RHA-Homes.org](mailto:newsletter@RHA-Homes.org) Visit: <http://rha-homes.org> to read past newsletters, or to request email newsletter delivery.