



The Reflection Homes Association Community Newsletter

May 2022



RHA Board & Committee News:

Upcoming Meetings:

Board	May 9
ACC	May 2
Recreation	May 11
SA	May 4

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

Important Dates:

May 1	Virginia Tax Day 2022 May Day
May 5	Cinco de Mayo
May 8	Mother's Day
May 14	Bulk Item Pick-up Day
May 20	Bike-to-Work Day
May 21	Creek Cleanup
May 21	Armed Forces Day
May 26	Ascension Thursday
May 27	National Poppy Day
May 28	Pool Opening Day
May 30	Memorial Day

Board:

by Don Nuss, RHA Board President

At the Board of Directors meeting on April 11, the Directors discussed the following:



-- A new company, **Haulin' Trash**, will be responsible for trash and recycling in the townhomes. Why are we changing companies? The current trash pickup contract was ending, so RHA evaluated 5 companies, including the present one, to determine the best value for the community. Haulin' Trash, a local company, was selected. A flyer was delivered to every townhome on April 22. Please refer to the Property Manager's article on page 3 or www.rha-homes.org for details on pick-up days and the phone number to call if you wish to schedule a large item pick up.

-- There will be **new parking stickers** in the townhomes. The stickers you currently have are good through June 30, 2022. Please refer to the article on page 3 for more details.

-- The recently damaged mailboxes on Fones Pl have been replaced with new ones and mail delivery has resumed. The old locks have been installed in the new mailboxes so there is no need to obtain new keys.

-- There will be a community-wide bulk item

pickup on Saturday, May 14. Please refer to the article on page 3.

-- The **annual creek cleanup** will be on May 21, from 8-12. Pizza will be provided after the event. Volunteers are needed. You do not have to volunteer for the entire 4 hours. Dress to get dirty.

Supplies provided by (see page 3 for more info)



Architectural Control Committee:

by Georgette Nuss, ACC Chair

At the last regularly scheduled meeting of the ACC, the Committee denied three applications—two for lack of information, and one that was against the guidelines. The Committee meets once a month on the first Monday (May 2 this month). If you wish to submit an application for change, please do so two to three weeks prior to the meeting so that any questions can be answered before the meeting.

DID YOU KNOW...When submitting a change application, **ALL** details should be included in the application's description. Please do not submit an application stating that you want to install windows like the ones in the brochure and that's all you write. If you want to change your windows, in the description you should state the material, the style, the color, and whether there are mullions (grids). For example, in the application's description, it should state: *(continued on page 2)*

Looking for a Fun Way to Meet Your Neighbors & Make a Difference in the Community? Volunteer!

by Colleen Ward,
RHA Secretary

1st is to volunteer for the Street Ambassadors. The Street Ambassadors (SA) are a fun group of volunteers who are wanting to make a positive difference in the community by getting to know and help their neighbors. The group meets monthly and shares ideas on how to increase the sense of community within Reflection Homes. Currently, they are looking at options to welcome new owners! When you moved in, how would you have liked to have been greeted by the association? Join the Street Ambassadors and provide any ideas you have for the community! SAs do not need to be owners! Renters are welcome to volunteer for this important committee!

Another great opportunity is to volunteer for the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). The ACC reviews architecture requests against the established guidelines. Currently, the committee is revising the standards, so now is a perfect opportunity to join this important committee and help guide the future architecture standards of the community! Townhome owners are particularly needed as there are only two townhome volunteers on the committee. Don't just complain about ACC rules/regulations, help make them better!!

Finally, start thinking about if you would like to volunteer as a member of the Board. There will be two seats open this November. *(continued on page 3)*

RHA Board

President:

Don Nuss

Vice President:

Charlie Marts

Treasurer:

John Hanchulak

Secretary:

Colleen Ward

At Large:

Mike Olson

FirstService Residential:

800-927-4599

ACC (continued from page 1)

"I want to install vinyl, double hung, white windows with mullions." That tells the ACC the material (vinyl), the style (double hung), the color (white), and whether there are mullions. If you also wish to include a brochure, you may do that **in addition** to the application.

DID YOU KNOW...The ACC had to deny approval of two change applications last month because all of the information for the requested changes was not included in the applications' descriptions. Please refer to the appropriate guidelines and include the information required for the change you're making.

DID YOU KNOW...Last month we wrote that the Board approved a change to the guidelines. You are now able to plant vegetables and herbs in your front yard **WITH THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS:**

- Each vegetable or herb has a maximum height of 4 feet
- No part of any plant shall extend beyond the owner's yard
- After the growing season, plants must be removed.
- Failure to comply may result in an ACC violation/fine.

DID YOU KNOW...The next ACC meeting is scheduled for **MONDAY**, May 2, at 7:00 PM, via Zoom. If you are using a computer, use this link, <https://rha-homes.org/>, and scroll to the paragraph **Architectural Control Committee (ACC) Meeting** to join the meeting with one click. No ID or passcode needed. Just click on the word **HERE**. To join by phone, call (301) 715-8592. The Meeting ID is 880 5015 0929, and the Passcode is 491674.

SUMMER

2022

REFLECTION RIPTIDES

Swim Team

by Lourdes Umana,
Recreation Committee Member

Our community's swim team was established in 1982 and is **celebrating 40 years** this year! We are proud to say the Riptides were one of the original teams in the **Herndon Swim League**. We have had the pleasure of training thousands of swimmers in our community through the years and we are looking to continue that training with more amazing kids for many more years to come.

We are a developmental swim team and we are looking for swimmers with any skill level ages 5-18 who are interested to join for a summer of fun, learning and developing a love swimming and competing!

Schedule: Practices are Monday to Friday evenings beginning May 31-June 10th. Morning practices will be June 13-July 22. (Coaches will assess swimmers and arrange them in different swim practices according to skill)

Competitions: (Swim Meets) home and away - Wednesday evenings (5:30 pm) and Saturday mornings (8:00 am) June 11 through the last Championship All-League Meet and End-of-Swim-Season July 23. The End-of-Season Banquet is Sunday, July 24th.

Invitational Herndon Olympics will be Tuesday, July 12th (more info to come). No Practice that day.

Register at: <https://reflectionriptides/swimtopia.com/>

Recreation Committee, Inc. (RCI):

by Gene Harper, RCI Treasurer

The April 13 meeting was canceled. The committee will resume its business at its scheduled **May 11** virtual meeting at 7 p.m. For sign-in information, go to rha-homes.org or refer to the sign-in instructions on the March postcard mailing announcing the April and May meetings.

New pool furniture has arrived and will be in place on opening day, **May 28**, the start of the Memorial Day weekend.

Homeowners should have received the early April mailing from Sequoia Management containing three important items:

- The first is the new **bright green hangtag** for RCI members to place on rearview mirrors of vehicles parked in the pool parking lot starting **May 1**.
- The second is the cover letter and comprehensive **Parking Resolution 2022-1** that contains all the rules, regulations and conditions for parking vehicles in the pool parking lot. This document replaces the previous trial period resolution and instructions that were in place December 2021 through April 2022.
- The third item is the **2022 Swimming Pool Application**. According to the application's cover letter, for quick action, applicants can go online by accessing the listed website URL or scan the QR code on their cell phones. They can also fill out by hand and mail the completed application. Once applications are received and processed, pool passes, required to gain access to the pool, will be mailed. Start the application process early to ensure you have those pool passes in hand by opening day.



SCAN ME

New Townhome Trash and Recycle Days!

IMPORTANT!

by Colleen Ward, RHA Secretary

RHA has selected a new company, Haulin' Trash, to service the townhomes. Below are some frequently asked questions:



When will trash be collected?

Trash will be collected *two times per week* on MONDAY and THURSDAY. Our weekly trash service is for household trash only. Trash is recommended to be bagged, tied, and neatly placed in the designated trash container. Larger (bulk) items, hazardous materials, construction debris, inert waste (asphalt, sand, concrete, gravel, brick, etc.), tires, appliances, and items not accepted at the landfill will not be collected by the garbage trucks.

Please set your trash container out the night before collection, and stow your container as soon as possible after collection.

When will recycling be collected?

Recycling will be collected *one time each week* on THURSDAY.

We use a single stream recycling system. Recyclables are collected and taken to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to be sorted into various commodity streams. All acceptable recyclables should be mixed loosely and freely in the same container. Please "know your no's"! **No Plastic Bags. No Glass. No Food Waste.**

Please see the picture below of what is/is not accepted as recycling. When in doubt, place items in the trash container. Placing something in your trash does not mean it is destined to a landfill or dumped in an ocean. Fairfax county uses a Waste-to-Energy



program that burns all waste to reduce the amount of trash headed to a landfill, converts the resulting steam into electricity, and processes the ash to recover metal!

When is bulk trash pick up?

Bulk collection is included in our weekly service but on an on-call and limited basis. All bulk items must be approved by Haulin' Trash prior to collection. All approved bulk items must be placed curbside and clear of any obstacles.

Bulk items must be called, texted, or emailed into Haulin' Trash office and scheduled for collection. Drivers are not responsible for scheduling bulk pickup when/if they see large items set out for collection. This is the responsibility of the individual residents.

What is considered "Bulk trash"?

"Bulk" items are items that are too large for the trash container, are less than 50-lbs, and are not considered construction debris, inert waste, hazardous materials, tires, or appliances. Bulk items should be standard oversized household items such as a chair, couch, loveseat, mattress, desk, dresser, etc. Items such as pool tables, exercise equipment, hot tubs, basketball hoops, and trampolines are not included in bulk collection. Bulk items are limited to 1-2 items per collection. Move-outs, evictions, demolitions, etc., are not approved items. Haulin' Trash has the right to refuse any item(s).

What if I have an item to dispose of that does not meet the rules for bulk collection?

Items not included in our weekly collection service can be collected by the junk removal department for an additional fee. Please contact Haulin' Trash at (703) 559-8558 or email sales@haulintrash.co (not .com) for a free, no-obligation quote.

All appliances will incur a \$60 per-appliance fee.

When is the yard waste pickup?

Because the townhome yards are so small, Fairfax County does not require a separate pickup for yard waste. Your yard waste can simply be placed in your trash toter. Branches and limbs should be bundled together in lengths no longer than 4 feet and placed next to your trash toter.

Why are we changing companies?

The current trash pickup contract was ending, so RHA evaluated 5 companies, including the current company, to determine the best value for the community. Haulin' Trash, a local company was selected.

Why are we changing the number of days of pickup?

Many owners reported trash and recycle containers were constantly visible, and trucks were driving through the community 4 days a week. By observation, very few owners were taking advantage of the increased frequency of pickups. With the current schedule, trucks and trash/recycle containers will only be out twice a week.

Will I get a new trash/recycle toter?

Yes! All townhomes will get a new 64 gallon trash toter and a 32 gallon recycle bin. Trash bins have already been distributed. Recycle bins will be distributed later this month.

What about the RHA marked trash toters and recycling bins?

You can continue to use these toters/bins. *(continued on page 2b)*

New Trash & Recycling Days (continued from page 2a)

If you do not need them, you can repurpose, give to another neighbor, or discard with your other trash.

The 64 Gallon toter is too big/bulky for my home. Can I get a smaller container?

Smaller containers will not be provided by the association; however, you can use your own container as long as it has a hinged lid that closes to prevent trash from escaping or critters from getting in. If you opt to use your own container, please store your provided container in your backyard - perhaps use it for storage. The next owner/renter will need the container. Owners are responsible for the replacement cost of any lost/stolen containers.

If I move can I take the trash/recycle toter with me?

No. The toters remain the property of Haulin' Trash. If a toter is taken, you will be responsible for the full replacement cost.

Can I get an additional container?

Yes! Additional containers can be rented from Haulin' Trash for a one-time, non-refundable **\$60** fee. All containers are owned by Haulin' Trash and must be returned at the end of service in a reasonable, used condition.

How can I contact Haulin' Trash to schedule a bulk pickup, report a missed pickup, or for more information?

You can reach Haulin' Trash at (703) 559-8558 or email sales@haulintrash.co (not .com)

You can also find them at the following:

Facebook: @HaulinTrashLLC

Instagram: haulintrashllc

Twitter: @trash_haulin



VDOT Installs New Curb Cuts in RHA Townhomes by Mike Olson, RHA Board Member at Large

If you use a wheelchair, or push a baby carriage, you'll appreciate the newly installed ADA compliant curb cuts at the Springer/Christy intersection as much as Samantha does while riding her scooter. And, VDOT has an easy way you can tell them: go online to my.vdot.virginia.gov and click on "I want to submit a compliment".



New (12-month) Townhome Parking Stickers coming in May

by Colleen Ward, RHA Secretary



Parking sticker expiration is changing from 6 months to one year ... no more trying to resolve parking sticker issues during the holidays!

Please watch your mailboxes for the July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 parking sticker. We are mailing these out early enough to take into consideration the postal delays occurring lately.

Stickers may be affixed to a clear glass window (rear, front, side) of your vehicle upon receipt; however, do not remove the current sticker until it expires on July 1, 2022.

Owners are responsible for making sure their tenants have the new parking stickers in place prior to July 1, 2022. Owners, not tenants, are responsible to follow up with the management company with any parking sticker issues.

The association gives 30 days for owners to notify non-receipt of stickers. If you have not received the stickers by June 1, please email parking.dcmetro@fsresidential.com to notify the parking team at the management company, so alternate arrangements can be made for delivery of stickers.

If we do not hear from you by June 30 2022, we assume that owners/tenants have received the parking stickers.

The Association will not be held responsible for vehicles towed due to non-receipt of stickers, missing sticker, sticker not affixed in the appropriate manner, or if the sticker was not clearly visible on the window.

After June 30, 2022 the only way to receive a sticker is by filing a sticker re-issue form and paying a fee of \$25/sticker.

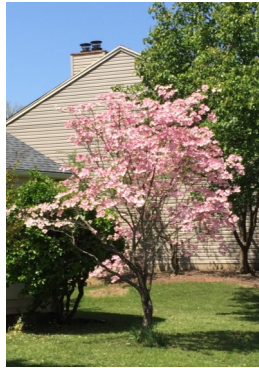
With the exception of Berger Place and Oram Place, all vehicles parked in our lots require parking stickers between 10:00 PM (evening) and 6:00 AM (morning). All vehicles parked on Berger Place or Oram Place require stickers 24 hours a day. As a reminder, please do not park along the yellow fire lines. Vehicles parked in the fire lane may be ticketed or towed.

For additional information or to download the current Townhome Parking Regulations, please visit <https://rha-homes.org> and under "RESIDENTS" at the top, select "PARKING INFO". This information can also be found on the Connect resident portal - <https://reflectionhomesassociation.connectresident.com/>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our FSR Customer Service Team at 703-385-1133.

Volunteer! (continued from page 1)

As a member of the Board, you do not inspect homes for ACC violations nor do you have cars towed. The property management company performs all inspections, and the tow company patrols and tows. Instead you help make important decisions for the community. If you are interested in joining the Board, please start attending Board meetings now, so you can see the work the Board does perform and get information on the open issues.



The Board and committees each meet once a month. To volunteer, or just get more information, send an email to Board@rha-homes.org or call FirstService Residential at (703) 385-1133. and let them know you live in Reflection Homes and want to make a difference!

Community-Wide

Bulk Item Pickup — May 14



We want to make sure you all have **Saturday, May 14** on your calendar! This is the day of the community-wide bulk item pickup provided by **Haulin' Trash** as part of RHA's trash collection contract! Let them take

away your **unwanted large furniture, appliances, rugs/carpets, tables/chairs, desks, etc.**

We encourage you to place your bulky items out for collection no earlier than Friday afternoon.



HT will start pickups approximately 7:00 a.m., Saturday morning. **BUT**, there are some things HT will **NOT** pick up:

- liquids; combustible materials;
- tires; batteries
- dead animals;
- dirt; rocks;
- items identified as hazardous
- Construction materials including drywall, concrete, bricks

Street Ambassadors Committee: Are you new in the neighborhood? Welcome!! Let us know so we can properly welcome you and provide a small "Welcome Package". Email us your name and address to ambassadors@rha-homes.org so we can stop by with a quick hello. 😊

Property Manager Corner: by Swati Krishnamoorthy, FSR Prop. Mgr

Starting May 1, there's a new Home trash company **Haulin' Trash**, servicing the THs. The pickup days are Monday and Thursday (2 times a week), and the recycle pickup is Thursday (1 time a week). All townhome residents will receive one 64 gallon trash container and one 32 gallon recycle container. Contact Haulin' Trash customer service to schedule bulk trash pickup - phone/text: (703) 559-8558



The new TH parking stickers for July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 are expected to arrive in mailboxes by the end of May. Unlike previous stickers, these stickers will be valid for 1 year. (Do not remove your current stickers until July 1.)

Voided Parking Stickers: The following parking stickers have been voided and any vehicle displaying the stickers in any RHA parking lot is subject to immediate towing. If you see a vehicle displaying a parking sticker with one of these numbers, please contact Battlefield Towing at (703) 378-0059 and give the location of the vehicle. You do not need to provide your name to report these vehicles.

- 4, 37, 38, 125, 126, 223, 224, 327, 328, 371, 372, 465, 466, 467, 468, 471, 472, 611, 612, 707, 708, 583, 584, 785, 786, 797, 798, 935, 936.

RHA/LHA CREEK CLEANUP SATURDAY, May 21, 8-12



Photos from 2019



YOU are needed to help clean up the Potomac Watershed

Sponsored by Charlie Marts & Clean Fairfax Council

- Students: can earn
- Community Service hours
- Scouts: can earn
- Environmental Badge hours

Come one, come all.

Pizza provided after the event.

Water and bathrooms available during event.

Dress to get dirty & wear boots.

Gloves & bags & some rakes, etc will be provided.

Come when you can; leave when you need to.

****NOTES****

Lighting Update: RHA is installing a few new lighting fixtures on Christy Place to help determine the best long term solution. The lighting fixtures will look different than the current lighting fixture, but will be brighter, last longer, and be more economical than the current solution.

“Big Truck Day”: Kids -- come & see Herndon’s big trucks & heavy equipment on display May 5, 9am-3pm. Public Works Maintenance Complex, 1479 Sterling Rd, Herndon. Free, but donations of non-perishable food are encouraged. *Info:* <https://bit.ly/3ko8qRf>

National Poppy Day: May 27. The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since WW1 to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. Wear a poppy to honor those who have worn our nation’s uniform. Herndon Memorial Day Observance: will be held at 10 am, May 30, at Chestnut Grove Cemetery.

What is the 9 o’clock routine? (aka: Crime Prevention Starts With YOU!)

1. Lock your car doors, take the valuables out of your car.
2. Turn on your outside lights, put all your things away for the night.
3. Close your garage door, lock all your doors.
4. Make sure you are paying attention to your surroundings.



Photos: The neighborhood pictures in this issue are by Mike Olson. Thanks!

RHA Newsletter submissions: Inputs/comments/suggestions for the June 2022 RHA newsletter are due by May 20. Send inputs to:

newsletter@rha-homes.org



May 2022



May 1 - 31

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 May Day	2 7:00-9:00pm ACC ★ online meeting Eid-al-Fitr	3 1953 National Teacher Day	4 7:00-9:00pm ★ SA online meeting	5 CINCO DE MAYO	6 MILITARY SPOUSE APPRECIATION DAY	7 1875 Kentucky Derby
8 Happy Mother's Day	9 7:00-9:00pm ★ RHA Board online meeting ★ VE Day 1945	10	11 7:00-9:00pm Recreation ★ online meeting	12	13	14 ★ Bulk Item Pickup Day ★
15 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES 1993 	16 Vesak (Buddha's Birthday, 623)	17	18	19 Lag B'Omer	20 Bike To Work Day	21 ARMED FORCES DAY ★ Creek Cleanup 8 am-noon ★
22	23	24 National Brother Day	25 National Wine Day	26 Ascension	27 THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NATIONAL POPPY DAY*	28 ★ Pool Opening Day ★
29	30 fcps holiday MEMORIAL DAY	31	1 (June) GLOBAL RUNNING DAY	2	3 NATIONAL EGG DAY	4 Shavuot

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: RHAboard@RHA-Homes.org and/or newsletter@RHA-Homes.org Visit: <http://rha-homes.org> to read past newsletters, or to request email newsletter delivery.