



FOUNTAIN HILLS BULLETIN



A Newsletter for the Fountain Hills Community Association
Germantown, Maryland

www.fountainhillscommunity.com

SPRING 2006

2006 SWIM SEASON ARRIVING SHORTLY!

If you are like most people, the opening of the swimming pool marks the



beginning of summer. This year the Fountain Hills Aquatic Center opens for the 2006 season on Saturday, May 27th.

In early April, all Fountain Hills homeowners will be mailed the 2006 pool pass application package. Be sure to review the rules, regulations, and operating hours included in this mailing. Mail your completed pool pass application to:

Fountain Hills Swimming Pool Passes
c/o Vanguard Management Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 39
Germantown, MD 20875-0039

Applications will be processed and pool passes distributed by US mail as quickly as possible.

Pool Committee Needs Your Help!

Consider joining the Pool Committee and serving your community. You are needed to observe pool activity, either directly or through other residents, and pass your observations on to Vanguard Management who will interact directly with the pool management company.

Contact the chairperson, Alice Kalamar, at poolcomm@fountainhillscommunity.com or get more information at 301-540-8600.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The normal meeting date is the 1st Thursday of the month. Join us in the Up-County Government Services Center located at 12900 Middlebrook Road in Germantown.

Thursday, April 6 th , 7:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting & Budget Review
Thursday, May 4 th , 7:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting & Final Budget Approval
Thursday, June 1 st , 7:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 6 th , 7:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 3 rd , 7:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, September 7 th , 7:30 PM	Regular Board Meeting

Chapel Valley Landscape Company

New Landscape Company Employed for the 2006 Season!!!

The Fountain Hills Community Association (Association) has employed Chapel Valley Landscape Company (Chapel Valley) to provide the grounds maintenance services to the community - common areas and townhouse lots - for the 2006 season. Chapel Valley will provide mowing services for all townhouse lots within the community. Under the contract with Chapel Valley, the schedule for mowing should be as follows:

Start of mowing season through June 30th: *No less frequently than seven (7) days apart.*

July 1st through September 15th: *On a schedule of not less than seven (7) days nor more than fourteen (14) days apart.*

September 16th through the end of the mowing season: *On a schedule of not less than seven (7) days nor more than ten (10) days apart.*

As Chapel Valley is new to Fountain Hills there may be a 'learning curve' period as they become acclimated with the Community. Should you observe any ways in which their service requires adjustment, please contact Management.



GET INVOLVED!

Swim Team Formation



Your neighbor, Nicholas Duncan, has expressed interest in initiating the formation of a swim team for the Fountain Hills community. Of course, many details need to be worked out, but volunteers are needed to work with Mr. Duncan to begin the effort. You may communicate to him by e-mail at nduncan20874@yahoo.com or by telephone at (240) 485-6753.

Lawn & Landscape Maintenance



The most visible maintenance need, for most homes, is the landscaping.

Regular mowing, trimming and weed control are essential to a beautiful community.

Your lawn is mowed by the Association as a part of the services covered by your dues if you live in a townhouse. The Association's contractor, Chapel Valley Landscaping, will mow the grass in both front and rear yards and trim ("weedeating"), **EXCEPT** around HVAC equipment or where the siding on your home is closer than eight inches (8") to the ground.

Please, however, do not dump your yard waste in the common areas or place grass clippings (such as "mulch") around the trees.

Regularly trim shrubs and trees in order to maintain their size, their shape and their health as well as your safety.

So, take advantage of the warmer weather arriving by spending a little time maintaining your lawn and landscape. You and your neighbors will appreciate it!

Pet "Etiquette"

Be a kind and courteous neighbor by following the rules and laws regarding pet ownership.

Here are some helpful reminders:

- Walk your pet(s) away from neighbors' homes, playground areas and high traffic areas.
- Keep your pet on a leash.
- "Pick-up" after your pet.
- Failure to comply to the county laws and Association rules could result in your pet being removed from the community.

And, what if you observe a pet owner disregarding these rules and/or laws?

For more expeditious and effective action, complaints should be referred to:

**The Montgomery County
Department of Animal Control**
240-773-5960 (phone)
301-279-1063 (fax)

To file a complaint concerning a pet owner with the Association, **WRITE** to:

Fountain Hills
c/o Vanguard Management
P.O. Box 39
Germantown, MD 20875-0039



Each complaint should include:

- the date and time of the incident,
- a description of the pet, and
- the address (street #) of the owner to whom the pet belongs.



Develop and Practice a Home Fire Escape Plan

(from Montgomery County, MD's website)

In light of the recent fires in our county, you and your family may benefit from reviewing some of these guidelines for developing and practicing a home fire escape plan.

Please visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov for more details.

Tip 1: Have at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home and in or near each sleeping area.

Tip 2: Test the alarms every month by pushing the test button, and replace the batteries twice a year (when you change your clock in the spring & fall).

Tip 3: Review the plan with each member of your family or household.

Tip 4: Choose a meeting place a safe distance from your home. gather at the meeting place so that all will know that everyone is OK – or someone is missing.

Tip 5: Call **911** once you are safely outside.

Tip 6: NEVER go back inside a burning building!

"Together We Can Save Lives And Prevent Injuries"

HELP STOP CRIME – GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

Crime and fear of crime threatens a community's social fabric - people become afraid to use streets and public areas, suspicion erupts between young and old, and people gradually leave. Crime, in turn, then feeds on the social isolation it creates.

Neighbors help strengthen a community. Use the warmer weather as an excuse to build relationships with your neighbors. In addition, try these strategies to keep crime away from Fountain Hills:

- Keep an eye on your neighbors' children and ask them to keep an eye on yours.
- If your neighbor is out of town or late coming home, pick up the paper, cut the grass, shovel their steps.
- Keep each other **ALERT** and **INFORMED**.
- Become involved with the community association - help on a committee, pick-up litter around the community, submit suggestions, etc.



If you see ANYTHING suspicious, **CALL 9-1-1!** Don't think that someone else will call. The police will not mind getting multiple calls but, **if no one calls, a criminal may get away with something.**



VANGUARD MANAGEMENT

Main Line	301-540-8600
Community Information	x3052
Manager: William Whitney	x3314
Accounting	x3302
Fax	301-540-3752
Website	www.vanguardmgt.com

FOUNTAIN HILLS COMMUNITY MANAGER:

WILLIAM WHITNEY

If you haven't attended an Association Meeting in awhile then you haven't had a chance to meet your Community Manager, William Whitney.

William lives in Frederick, MD with his wife and two children. He's been a part of the Vanguard Management Team since 2003. When not managing communities, you can find William changing diapers, eating brownies, and playing his guitar at church events.

HELPFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Potomac Disposal	301-294-9700
MISS Utility (Call before digging)	301-294-9700
PEPCO	202-833-7500
Allegheny Power	800-654-3317
WSSC Billing	301-206-4001
Emergencies	301-206-4002
Washington Gas	703-750-1000
Cable TV Montgomery	301-294-7600
Montgomery County	
Animal Control	240-773-5000
Trash/Recycling	240-777-6410
Police (Non-emergency)	301-279-8000
Public Street Light Out	240-777-2190

SUGGESTIONS?

There are four ways you can send your questions, comments, or suggestions to the Association.

1. Write to:

Fountain Hills
c/o Vanguard Management
P.O. Box 39
Germantown, MD 20875-0039

2. Email:

wwhitney@vanguardmgt.com

3. Phone: 301-540-8600, x3314

4. Place your suggestions in the Suggestion Box located by the front door of the pool house.