

The Quaker Hill Quill

November 2023



Visitor Parking Update

New mandatory registration for visitor parking went into effect on November 1. All homeowners should have received a letter from SFMC with instructions on how to register guest vehicles. If you have not received this information, please contact SFMC at 703-392-6006 x 285 or jlee@sfmcinfo.com.

Mandatory parking registration primarily affects townhomes on Ellsworth Street, Yale Drive, Quaker Hill Court, and Quaker Hill Drive. All guest vehicles must be registered while parked in visitor spaces; vehicles not registered may be subject to immediate towing. Guest vehicles may be registered by either the homeowner or visitor. To register your guest vehicles, go to qhca.parkingattendant.com (or use the QR code included in the information packet) and input your private passcode. Visitors also may register their vehicles by going to the parking attendant website or by scanning the QR code on signs posted in several areas of our community and inputting the passcode provided by the homeowner. The make, model, and license plate of the visiting vehicle and other pertinent information must be provided.

We can all agree that parking is a valuable amenity in our community. Guest parking registration will help to ensure that visitor spaces are reserved for guest use rather than for residents' vehicles. The Board urges all residents to familiarize themselves with Quaker Hill policies relating to vehicle use, parking, and storage.

New 2024 HOA Assessment Fees

Monthly homeowner association fees will rise in 2024. The proposed 2024 budget was adjusted to maintain our reserve funds at recommended levels (per the 2022 Reserve Study) and to meet current contractual obligations and anticipated community repairs. The 2024 monthly assessments are as follows:

- Condominiums: \$75.54
- Townhomes: \$126.86
- Single-family homes: \$118.73

HOA assessment fees may be paid by using direct debit or by using the coupons mailed to homeowners. Step-by-step instructions are posted on the SFMC website by checking the FAQ section. If you do not receive confirmation of enrollment, contact SFMC. Direct debits are processed on the second business day of the month and are deducted from the participant's bank account on or about the fourth business day of the month.

Please monitor your bank account to ensure payments are being processed. *Mailed payments are sent to SFMC in Phoenix, AZ, not the local SFMC office in Manassas, VA. Payments received by the Manassas office are forwarded to Phoenix, which may delay credit to your account and generate a late fee.*

Police Liaison

Officer Matthew O'Malley, Alexandria Police liaison to Quaker Hill, faithfully attends our monthly community meetings where he provides pertinent neighborhood crime data, answers residents' questions, offers safety tips, and encourages residents to contact the police with their concerns. Officer O'Malley can be reached at matthew.omalley@alexandriava.gov or 703-298-4487. The Board and our community are very appreciative of his interest in Quaker Hill and thank him for his service.





Trash Disposal

Residents of single-family detached homes and townhomes are reminded that trash containers may not be placed outside earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the evening before collection and must be returned to storage not later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of collection. Please put your trash can out of view on non-pick up days.

The regular trash collection day is Tuesday. During a week when Monday or Tuesday is a holiday, you may call the City's Resource Recovery Division, 703-746-4311 or check the city of Alexandria website at www.alexandriava.gov/RefuseCollection for information on trash collection.

TMP

Quaker Hill participates in the city-wide Transportation Management Program (TMP) that promotes mass transit usage.

Part of our monthly assessment fee funds this program. As a bona fide Quaker Hill resident, you are eligible to add benefits to your SmarTrip cards at a 50% discount. SmarTrip cards are good for use on Metro rail, bus, and parking facilities as well as for use on other participating transit agencies.



ITEM	COST TO YOU
Transit benefit: \$250 maximum benefit per household per month (specified by resident per SmarTrip card)	\$125.00

How to Set Up a TMP Account:

1. Purchase a SmarTrip card(s) at any Metrorail station or commuter store (the nearest one is located in Shirlington). A SmarTrip card costs \$10 (\$2 for card and \$8 in stored value).
2. Send the card(s) serial number and resident's name to SFMC to set up an account. The card MUST be registered with SFMC to add transit benefits.
3. A maximum of four cards may be registered with SFMC.

How to Add Fare to your SmarTrip card:

1. After your card(s) have been registered with SFMC, send a check to SFMC requesting the amount to be added to each card.
2. Memo on check must note "FOR TMP BENEFITS".
3. Mail check to Quaker Hill Community Association, c/o SFMC, Inc., 9464 Innovation Dr., Manassas, VA 20110.
4. The outside of the envelope should include "Attn.: TMP Benefits".

All orders must be paid in full in advance before SFMC will add benefits. TMP benefits are added electronically between the 1st and 21st of each month and will be available the 1st of the following month. You cannot register cards issued by an employer through an employee benefits program.

Cards/benefits may not be sold or transferred to others. Misuse may result in the temporary or permanent loss of TMP benefits.

Quaker Hill Community Association Information

Board of Directors

Mary Beth Cockerham, President, mbcockerham@comcast.net
 Marjorie Stein, Vice President
 Lennin Lopez, Secretary
 Rose Gillespie, Treasurer & Newsletter
 Marci Greenberger, Director

Clubhouse Telephone

703-823-1911/1912

Service First Management and Consulting

(703) 392-6006 x285, sfmcinfo@sfmcinc.com
www.sfmcinc.com
 9464 Innovation Drive
 Manassas, Virginia 20110

The Quaker Hill Community Association Board of Directors meets via teleconference at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month except for November and December. The November

meeting is held a week earlier due to Thanksgiving. If you wish to participate, email SFMC at sfmcinfo@sfmcinc.com before 5 p.m. on the day of the meeting or subscribe to the email notification list at the above address to get call-in information. Questions, concerns, and comments may be emailed to SFMC by noon on the day before the meeting.

Quaker Hill Condominium Association

Management Company: First Service Residential, 703-385-1133
 Association President: John Sesler, jsesler@comcast.net

Important Numbers to Remember

Police—Fire—Medical Emergency*	911
Police Non-Emergency	703-746-4444
Police Non-Emergency TDD line	703-838-4896
Online Crime Reporting	www.alexandriava.gov/police
National Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
Animal Control	703-746-4774

*The Alexandria Police Department is located at 3600 Wheeler Ave.; the closest fire station (#207) is located at 3301 Duke Street.

www.QHCA.org



Leaf and Snow Removal

Marquez Landscaping, LLC will remove leaves from townhome front yards and common areas in November, December, and January. As part of the contract, Marquez Landscaping also will mulch mow Quaker Hill common areas in December to enhance the health and growth of turf by reducing moisture evaporation, adding nutrients to the soil, and keeping grass clippings out of landfills. EPA reports that yard clippings make up about 13 percent, or 28 million tons, of the national waste stream, and grass clippings account for roughly two-thirds of all yard waste. Please consider using leaves to mulch your flowerbeds and shrubs. Leaves replenish soil nutrients and provide protection from cold temperatures.

The Board is currently reviewing snow removal contracts for the 2023-2024 winter season and expects to select a contractor by the November 16 annual meeting. Contracts under review specify snow removal when two or more inches have fallen on private streets in Quaker Hill: Quaker Hill Court, Quaker Hill Drive, west of the community center, and Dartmouth Court. The City of Alexandria is responsible for snow removal on Ellsworth Street, Dartmouth Road, and Quaker Hill Drive in front of the condominiums.

The snow removal company also will remove snow from sidewalks on the west side of the pond and on the north side of Quaker Hill Drive from the community center to the intersection with Yale Drive. Homeowners are responsible (and liable) for removing snow from sidewalks in front of their home. Be a good neighbor and clear areas around fire hydrants, mailboxes, and stormwater curb inlets.



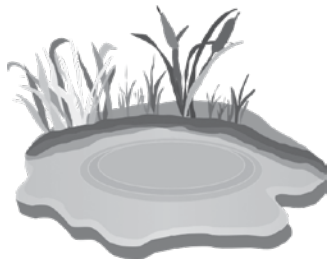
City Enforcing Pet Ordinances

Sadly, the Board continues to receive complaints about dog owners not picking up after their pets and allowing their pets to do their business on private property. Alexandria City Code, Sec. 5.7 details pet ownership requirements and penalties for non-compliance. Specifically, failure to pick up after your pet may be subject to a \$100 fine (City Code Sec 5-7-46). When pet waste is left on the ground or disposed of improperly, water quality suffers and your health may be at risk. Children playing outside are at the highest risk of infection from bacteria and parasites found in pet waste.

Because of recent complaints, Animal Control will patrol our area to lookout for offenders and write citations on the spot. Office Breuer of Animal Control indicates that this behavior has become a health hazard throughout the City and encourages residents to take pictures of the offenders and text this information to her so patrols are alerted to a particular offender and area. Office Breuer welcomes calls and texts on this subject at 703-946-1081.

Please note that all single-family and townhome front yards and large portions of townhome side yards (generally 6 to 10 feet out, depending on plat lines) are private property and should be respected. Pet owners, as well as pedestrians should know that these areas are maintained at a cost to the homeowner and are not common areas.

**Want to view past issues of our newsletter? You can find them at www.QHCA.org.
Sign up for Quaker Hill notification list by contacting SFMC at sfmcinfo@sfmccinc.com.**



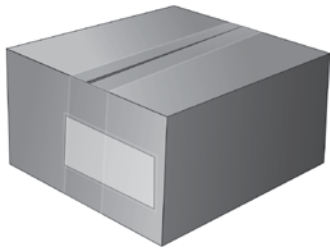
Update on Trickle Stream Repairs

Due to the delayed arrival of the custom-made pump, trickle stream repair work will begin in November. It will be a pleasure to see the trickle stream working again!



Stay Off the Pond Ice

As the weather turns colder, it's worth reminding residents, particularly children, to stay off the pond ice. While ice may form around the edge of the pond after a few days of frigid weather, please do not assume the pond is safe to walk on. Three aerators keep the water moving, and moving water takes longer to freeze. Tragedies involving people falling through the ice are all too common in the winter months. **Be safe. Stay Off the Ice.**



Holiday Packages

The Board reminds residents that package thefts tend to increase during the holiday season. Alexandria police note that citizen reports are the most effective way to deter these incidents. Call 911 if you witness a theft and provide as much information as possible. Residents are encouraged not to touch anything left behind by the thieves; fingerprints can be lifted from boxes that have been opened and left behind. If concerned about the security of your deliveries, all Quaker Hill residents are encouraged to use alternate shipping sites, such as a work address, Amazon locker, the FedEx office on Eisenhower Avenue, or ask a neighbor who works from home to be on the lookout for packages.



USPS Mailbox

As many of you know, the common mailbox includes a "package locker" that the mail carrier may use to deliver packages too big to place in a resident's letter box. A key left in your personal mailbox indicates that you have an item in the package locker. After you open the package locker, the key will lock in-place and cannot be removed. The next day, the postal carrier will remove the "locked" key from the package locker door and secure it in a designated box for safekeeping until the next time an item needs to be placed in the package locker. The door to the package locker should always be closed whether a key is in the lock. Please be aware that the QHCA is responsible for the care and maintenance of all USPS boxes in the community. Please report any damage to USPS boxes to SFMC.

Recycling and Trash Service Guidelines

Alexandria continually updates its recycling collection programs due to changes in markets, sorting technologies, and packaging designs. Acceptable/unacceptable recyclable items include:



Recyclables

YES

- ✓ Empty and flattened cardboard boxes (remove air pillows, styrofoam and plastic wrap); newspapers, paperback books, and phone books
- ✓ Plastic containers made of #1 and #2 plastics. Put caps back on containers after emptied and rinsed.
- ✓ Milk and juice cartons
- ✓ Aluminum, steel and tin cans; aluminum foil and trays; empty aerosol cans

NO

- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Plastic cups, trays and take out containers; plastic fruit and vegetable containers
- ✗ Glass
- ✗ Styrofoam
- ✗ Batteries and electronics
- ✗ Shredded paper
- ✗ Clothing and textiles
- ✗ Pet waste
- ✗ Cords, hoses, or wires

DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES! Plastic bags can be recycled at participating grocery stores and retailers.

Bulk Trash

Bulk items may be placed next to your trash container on collection day any time of year. Bulk metal items require a service request through Alex311 (fees apply for appliances). Items unacceptable for trash pickup include rocks and soil, bathroom fixtures, and bricks and building materials.

Yard Waste

Place grass, leaves, brush, branches and dead plants in rigid/reusable containers or paper yard-waste bags (purchased at grocery and hardware stores). Collection occurs on the same day as trash. Rocks, soil, tree stumps, and sod are not acceptable.

Brush, branches, and logs too bulky or heavy to fit into a container are collected at curbside by request. City staff will collect up to two felled trees at curbside. Logs/branches must be less than 18 inches in diameter and less than 10 feet long. No tree stumps.

Quaker Hill Community Association

c/o SFMC

9464 Innovation Drive

Manassas, VA 20110

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

