

The Quaker Hill Quill

August 2009

Northern Virginia Management (NVM) Gets New Email Address

Please email your requests, comments, and/or questions to NVM at nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com effective July 31. NVM's phone number, 703-941-9002, remains the same.

Email Notification List

NVM has offered to maintain an email notification list for Quaker Hill community residents. Possible notifications may include time-sensitive information and announcements, such as alerts from our community police liaison. Please email NVM at nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com if you would like to be added to this list.

Clubhouse Repairs

NVM will be meeting with contractors to solicit bids for repairing the clubhouse foundation. Once the foundation issues are addressed, the Board will move forward with other needed repairs.

Autumn Home Maintenance Tips

Use these tips to prepare your home for winter weather. They will help to keep you comfortable, save energy, and prevent damage.

- **Weather stripping and Caulking**

To keep drafty air out and the warmth in, weather-stripping and caulking are two projects worth their weight in gold because they stretch the amount of energy needed to heat the house. Worn and torn weather stripping should be replaced. Caulking also helps prevent the loss of heat and keeps the insects out. Old caulking should be removed before adding any new material in order for it to be effective. These products are relatively cheap and are easy to apply.

- **Heating System**

Other than changing furnace filters and vacuuming forced air registers, work on your heating system should be done by a professional. Cleaning all ducts in the home will remove dust that has built up during the hot and dry months and can irritate those living in the house, especially those who have respiratory or sinus problems.

If you use a fireplace as a source of heat, then you will need to hire a professional to ensure that it is clean, clear, and in good working order. And remember to open the damper when it is in use so that the smoke and ash can escape up through the chimney.

- **Roof**

Before winter arrives, roof vents should be cleaned and checked to ensure that they are fully operational. Make sure that roof gutters and downspouts are clear of leaves, branches, and other debris that can decrease their effectiveness when they are most needed. Debris can damage gutters and downspouts, causing them to give way or do harm to the home because they cannot lead the water away.

Any signs of loose or damaged shingles should be addressed immediately because the problem will only worsen when the bad weather starts. If you're not experienced in roofing matters or have height phobias, then it's best to call a professional.

- **Critter Patrol**

Birds, chipmunks, squirrels or bats also are getting ready for the winter months. Make sure that they do not set up housekeeping in your attic during the winter by sealing all entry points. They may require a visit from your local pest control company.





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 Office of Solid Waste at (703) 751-5872 or check the city of Alexandria Web site at <http://ci.alexandria.va.us> for information on trash collection.

TMP

Ever wonder what the Transportation Management Program (TMP) is? As a condition of approval for a multifamily development project, the City of Alexandria requires most communities



to participate in a city-wide program that promotes the use of mass transit. Part of our monthly assessment fee funds this program. As a bonafide resident of Quaker Hill, you are eligible to purchase certain mass transit media at a reduced price. The type of media, the pricing and how to obtain them are published in this newsletter. It is an excellent benefit of living in this beautiful community!

Transit media are available for half-price through the Quaker Hill TMP. The Program offers:

ITEM	COST TO YOU
\$20.00 Metrorail farecards (limit 3 per household per week)	\$10.00
Metrobus tokens (20)	\$13.50
Alexandria DASH pass (1 month unlimited rides)	\$15.00

You can place an order for these items in one of the following ways:

1. Call Northern Virginia Management at (703) 941-9002
2. Email Northern Virginia Management — NVManagement@erols.com
3. Send your order by mail to:
Northern Virginia Management
4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
Annandale, VA 22003

Northern Virginia Management will send out your media, along with an invoice and stamped, return addressed envelope. Northern Virginia Management will honor resident's requests to mail media on a scheduled basis. For example, if a resident uses the Metrorail passes on a regular basis, then we can arrange to send the passes each week or every other week. Please note that all orders must be paid before subsequent orders can be processed.

Quaker Hill Community Association People You Should Know

Board of Directors

Sam Hayes, President
Marjorie Stein, Vice President
Susan Thomas, Secretary
Rose Gillespie, Treasurer
Ed Lacy, Director

Committee Chairpersons

Covenants: Sharon Crosby
Landscape: Vacant
Newsletter/Web site: Rose Gillespie

Clubhouse Telephone

(703) 823-1911/1912

Northern Virginia Management

(703) 941-9002
nvm@northernvirginia.com
4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
Annandale, Virginia 22003
Effective March 1, 2006

The Quaker Hill Community Association Board of Directors meets at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month at the Quaker Hill clubhouse. Association members who wish to bring an issue before the Board should write to the Board in advance c/o NVM, 4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101, Annandale, Virginia 22003, or call any Board member. Meeting date changes will be posted on the clubhouse bulletin board.

Romeo—Our North American Bullfrog



Source: Fairfax County Public Schools

Romeo is what your neighbors who live around the pond like to call our resident bullfrog. You've probably heard his deep resonant bellow especially at night. According to National Geographic, the North American Bullfrog is found in freshwater ponds, lakes and marshes throughout the United States. The largest of all North American frogs, it can grow to a length of eight or more inches and weigh about 1.5 pounds. They are typically gray-brown with brown spots. The North American Bullfrog lives 7 to 9 years.

They are nocturnal predators and eat insects, fish, birds, and snakes—just about anything they can fit in their mouths. The male bullfrog is very territorial and guards its area aggressively. Bullfrogs hibernate in winter, usually burying themselves in mud.

Please Keep Our Pond Clean

The Association requests that residents and guests refrain from throwing anything down the street curb inlets in our neighborhood or in the pond. Please put your plastic bottles, cans, fast food wrappers/containers, pet waste, and other items in the community trash receptacles that are available at both ends of the pond, on Yale Drive, and on Quaker Hill Drive. Please remind your children to do the same.

Pond Maintenance

Tymatt Industries, Inc. has been treating the pond to reduce algae growth, which has been exacerbated by the lack of rain during July. It will take several weeks to clear the algae. Tymatt will provide a monthly report on their activity at Quaker Hill, including information on treatments that have been administered.



Tree Maintenance

The Board is soliciting maintenance proposals for common-area trees. The Quaker Hill community trees have matured greatly over the last 20 years and are in need of regular trimming, pest control, and fertilization.

Want to view past issues of our newsletter? You can find them at www.QHCA.org.

Did you Know?

Mosquitoes and other blood-feeding flies such as black flies and deer flies are attracted to people by their skin odor and carbon dioxide from their breath. When a mosquito gets close to a host, repellents jam the insect's sensors, making it more difficult for mosquitoes to find us. Repellents are effective only at short distances from the treated surface.

Fall Garden Cleanup

Fall is a great time to clean up your yard and garden. Here are a few ideas to prepare your garden for winter and to get a jump start in the spring.

✓ *Remove fallen leaves from your yard.*

Leaves are a valuable renewable resource. Rake them off your lawn (particularly where they prevent the sunlight from reaching the grass blades, causing yellow or brown patches) and onto your garden beds. By next summer, they will have all but disappeared thanks to earthworms that pull the leaves down into the soil for feeding. The leaves help to produce nitrogen-rich soil.

✓ *Fertilize the lawn.*

Springtime isn't the only time to fertilize. Studies have indicated that the application of a fertilizer rich in phosphorus and potassium in late fall (i.e. any time during the four weeks prior to the first freeze) will strengthen the lawn for a fast green-up in spring and make the turf more resistant to disease.

✓ *Cut the grass.*

Grass that is allowed to grow in excess of 2½ inches long and stay that way through the winter months is prone to disease and "snow mold" (a white, powdery mildew). Long grass blades can mat together and lay horizontally under the weight of snow or ice until spring, when excess moisture causes problems. Cut your lawn down to 2 inches high after it has finished growing for the season.

✓ *Put your perennials to bed.*

Perennials are so named because they come back from their roots each spring. Perennials benefit greatly from a 4-to-5 inch layer of fallen leaves mounded over the plant before the ground freezes. This prevents the root mass from heaving from the soil due to freezing and thawing in late spring.

✓ *Extend your flower season.*

If you enjoy the color that annual and perennial flowers bring to your yard through the warmer months, then try adding some autumnal color with hardy flowering kale or flowering cabbage.

✓ *Clean up.*

Prune branches or tree limbs that appear to be getting too close to the roof or power lines. They are accidents waiting to happen during high winds or a storm.



Happenings in Alexandria

Alexandria Festival of the Arts

When: September 12-13, 10 am-7 pm Saturday/10 am-5 pm Sunday

Where: King Street, from Union to Washington Streets

Admission: Free

Contact: Alexandria Visitors Center, 703-746-3301 or www.artfestival.com

More than 200 artists from around the country display and sell their paintings, sculpture, prints, photography, jewelry, pottery, and ceramics. This well-known juried art festival transforms Kings Street into an open-air art gallery for two days. Christ Church provides a rest area, refreshments, and a moon bounce for children during the festival. And, the Torpedo Factory hosts interactive activities and entertainment.

Mount Vernon's Wine Festival and Sunset Tour

When: October 2-4, 6-9 pm

Where: Mount Vernon, George Washington's Estate and Gardens

Admission: \$30

Contact: 703-780-2000 or www.mountvernon.org and click on "Calendar of Events"

Visit George Washington's wine cellar, sample wines from 16 Virginia wineries, and enjoy live jazz on the east lawn overlooking the Potomac River.

Art on the Avenue

When: October 3, 10 am-6 pm

Where: Mount Vernon Avenue, the main business district in the heart of Del Ray

Admission: Free

Contact: 703-683-3100 or www.artontheavenue.org

The festival features more than 300 artists, entertainment, activities, and food from local restaurants.

Old Town Alexandria Food and Wine Festival

When: October 10-11, 10 am-6 pm

Where: Old Town Alexandria

Admission: \$35 in advance (online)/\$45 at the door for wine tasting

\$15 general admission to attend seminars (no wine tasting)

Contact: 703-746-3301 or www.oldtownwinefestival.com

Enjoy tasting wines from participating wineries, meet the winemakers, sample good food, and learn about culinary trends in the Tasting Rooms at the Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn hotels in Old Town. The general admission fee allows participants to attend seminars and visit exhibits.



Quaker Hill Community Association

c/o Northern Virginia Management

4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101

Annandale, Virginia 22003

SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 8!

**PLEASE DRIVE
CAREFULLY.**

