HICKORY FARMS

ORY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

June 2023 Edition



<u>HICKORYFARMS.ORG</u> P.O. BOX 2239, FAIRFAX VA 22031

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President: VACANT

Vice President: Telah Jackson

Secretary: Ben Noviello

Treasurer: TBA

Assistant Treasurer: Tad Weed Common Areas: Melissa Stark Webmaster: Bryan Crabtree

Neighborhood Watch Coordinators: Allie

Shaw and Steve Kubrak

At Large: Pam Barrett

Architectural Reviews: Donna Garfield,

Justin Mensen, and Bob Sottile

Common Areas Committee: Bob and Judy Cosgriff, Rich Dudley, Larry Rogers, Melissa

and Jarrett Stark

Neighborhood Block Reps: Jim Bever, Alyssa Eswood, Ellen Head, Justin Mensen, Meredith Perkins, Lee Sottile, Jen Spencer

Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Maloney

Social Committee: VACANT

HAPPY SUMMER!

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HOW TO CONTACT ...

Board of Directors: hfca@hickoryfarms.org

President: VACANT

Architectural Control Committee: acc@hickoryfarms.org

Treasurer: treasurer@hickoryfarms.org

Common Areas: commonareas@hickoryfarms.org
Webmaster: webmaster@hickoryfarms.org
Newsletter: newsletter@hickoryfarms.org

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Thank you, Hickory Farms Neighbors! We have a small, but mighty team for our summer schedule. Your neighborhood volunteers are:

Allie S

Bob Sottile

Carlie M

Chad P

David T

Jim & Barbara Bever

Justin M

Pete S

Sarah T

Steve K

You'll soon see us walking or driving around on weekends. Each shift is minimally 45 minutes every couple of months.

If you're interested in joining, please contact Allie Shaw at <u>allieshaw@gmail.com</u> for information and to be added to our roster.

Thank you in advance!





If your child is entering kindergarten this year, let's find time to connect and meet fellow rising kindergarteners and their families in the neighborhood. If you're interested in setting up a time to meet and play this summer please contact Alyssa Eswood at koehn.alyssa@gmail.com or 210-269-2660.

HFCA BOARD MEETING NOTICE

HFCA Board Meetings continue to be held via Zoom. Unless otherwise notified or due to an unforeseen change, HFCA Board Meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm.

To join a Board meeting, contact any HFCA Board Member or send a request to join to hfca@hickoryfarms.org. You will be provided with the Zoom meeting URL, meeting number and passcode.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE UPDATE: UPCOMING PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

By Justin Mensen (as posted to the listserv May 25, 2023)

Greetings, Hickory Farms Neighbors. I have lived in Hickory Farms since 2019 when my family and I moved to the area. In February I joined the Architectural Control Committee (ACC).

The reason I am sending this message is to inform everyone that in the coming weeks myself and other ACC members will be performing property inspections using the Hickory Farms Property Evaluation Checklist (published on the following pages and also available on the top right corner of the ACC Operating Procedures page: https://hickoryfarms.org/acc-operating-procedures).

After discussing with other longer-term members of the ACC we would like to offer to any interested homeowners the opportunity to schedule the date and time of your property inspection. This will allow you an opportunity to meet your neighbors on the ACC, and in real time give you a chance to bring any anticipated property changes, questions or concerns you have to their attention, especially those items that they may not otherwise notice from the sidewalk of your property.

If you would like to schedule a timeframe for your inspection, please reach out to the ACC at acc@hickoryfarms.org or you can send an email to just me at the ACC Chair email account ArchitecturalControl@hickoryfarms.org.

You can find the ACC Operating Procedures at:

https://hickoryfarms.org/acc-operating-procedures (https://hickoryfarms.org/acc-operating-procedures

You can find detailed instructions on submitting applications that require approval per our Governing Documents at:

https://hickoryfarms.org/acc-approval-process (https://hickoryfarms.org/acc-approval-process

GRASS HEIGHT REMINDER



With warm weather upon us, HFCA residents are reminded that excessive grass growth is a deficiency/violation of the Hickory Farms Property Evaluation Checklist, which is posted in the Architectural Control Committee section of the Hickory Farms website.

Also, per Fairfax County Code, Chapter 119, Grass or Lawn Area, grass height cannot exceed twelve inches (12"). Violations may be reported to the County, which may take action, including cutting the grass for the owner and then billing the owner. Unpaid bills can become a County lien against the property.

Thank you for doing your part in maintaining our community, which has resulted in excellent, ever increasing resale values and keeping Hickory Farms an outstanding community to live in!

HICKORY FARMS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PROPERTY EVALUATION CHECKLIST

PROPERTY INFORMATION						
PROPERTY ADDRESS:						
		IDENCE EVALUATI (<i>RC #4; R&R 1.4</i>)				
COMPONENT	NOTED DEFICIENCIES/VIOLATIONS				SEVERITY	
	☐ Missing	☐ Damaged	☐ Faded	☐ Peeling paint		
SIDING	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained				
SOFFITS	☐ Missing/ damaged	☐ Peeling paint	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained	\perp	
RAKE BOARDS/ FASCIA	☐ Missing/ damaged	☐ Peeling paint	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained		
GUTTERS/ DOWNSPOUTS	☐ Damaged/ disfigured	☐ Missing components	☐ Uncleaned (pine needles, leaves, etc.)	☐ Dirty/stained		
SHUTTERS	☐ Missing/ detached	☐ Faded color/ peeling paint	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained		
WINDOWS/TRIM	☐ Damaged	☐ Broken glass	☐ Faded/peeling paint	☐ Dirty/stained		
ENTRY DOORS/TRIM	☐ Damaged	☐ Faded color/ peeling paint	☐ Dirty/stained			
LOUVERS/GRILLS	☐ Missing/ damaged gable vents	☐ Missing/ damaged, other vent types	☐ Dirty/stained		8	
Roof	☐ Missing shingles	☐ Buckled/ damaged shingles	☐ Mismatched shingle colors	☐ Extensive algae stains		
	☐ Lichen growth	☐ Vegetation debris (e.g., pine needles, limbs)				
CARPORT	☐ Cluttered/excessive storage ☐ Unauthorized enclosure (note for ACC validation)		losure (note for ACC			
GARAGE DOOR	☐ Damaged/ broken	☐ Faded color/ peeling paint	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained		
CHIMNEY	☐ Damaged/ broken bricks	☐ Missing mortar	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained		
BRICK FAÇADE	☐ Damaged/ broken bricks	☐ Missing mortar	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained		
EXPOSED FOUNDATION	☐ Cracked/ damaged	☐ Peeling paint	☐ Algae/mold growth	☐ Dirty/stained		
NOTES/COMMENTS/OTHER						

FORM: V2.0, 4/25/18 PAGE 1 OF 2

HICKORY FARMS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PROPERTY EVALUATION CHECKLIST

YARD EVALUATION						
COMPONENT/ITEM	NOTED DEFICIENCIES/VIOLATIONS			SEVERITY		
FENCE (RC #3; R&R 1.3)	☐ Damaged Components	☐ Sagging, warped or buckling	☐ Unauthorized materials*	☐ Located forward of house		
50 min 1 45 00 m 1 5 00 m 1	☐ Dirty/stained				_	
GATES (RC #3; R&R 1.3)	☐ Damaged Components	☐ Sagging or unsupported	☐ Compatible with fence material			
LAWN (RC #4; R&R 1.4)	☐ Excessive grass growth	☐ Leaves/ needles not removed	☐ Fallen limbs/ sticks not removed			
SHRUBS/TREES (RC #4; R&R 1.4)	☐ Untrimmed/ Unmaintained	☐ Obstructing sidewalk	☐ Dead or large portions dead	☐ Tree stumps not removed or cut flush		
FLOWER BEDS (RC #4; R&R 1.4)	□ Unmaintained	☐ Weeds/ overgrowth				
DRIVEWAYS, SIDEWALKS & CURBS (RC #4; R&R 1.4)	☐ Unedged/ unmaintained	☐ Weed growth around mail boxes or road signs	☐ Debris collecting along curbs (e.g., leaves, pine needles, limbs or trash)	☐ Driveway concrete cracked, broken or spalling		
NOTES/COMMENTS/OTHER N	OTED VIOLATIONS:	4.0	*			
	От	HER EVALUATION IT	EMS			
İTEM		ARCHITECTURE CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	DEFICIENCIES/VIOLATIONS			
SATELLITE DISH	☐ Not located on	□ Not located on roof**				
TRASH/RUBBISH/DEBRIS (RC #13, R&R 1.13)	☐ Trash/rubbish collected/stored on lot (not in a sanitary container) ☐ Large piles of yard debris kept on lot					
TRASH/RECYCLE RECEPTACLES (R&R 1.13)	☐ Stored in front of house					
VEHICLE PARKING (RC #11; R&R 1.4)	☐ Boat, trailer, RV parked in front of residence >7 days ☐ Vehicles parked on lawn					
UNAUTHORIZED STRUCTURES (RC #1,2,8 & 10)	☐ Unauthorized structures or locations (e.g., trash receptacle enclosures, garden furniture or gazebo forward of residence)** ☐ Temporary structure in front of residence >7 days					
NOTES/COMMENTS/OTHER N	OTED VIOLATIONS:		anomore and all all all all all all all all all al			
	-	9			_	
EVALUATION/EVALUATOR INFORMATION						
DATE OF EVALUATION:		60				
Francisco Nance.		Cicni				

RC: HICKORY FARMS DEED OF DEDICATION & DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS, ARTICLE VII RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS R&R: HICKORY FARMS RULES & REGULATIONS (EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 2013)

FORM: V2.0, 4/25/18

[†]NOTE SEVERITY OF VIOLATION/CONDITION: H: HIGH, M: MODERATE OR L: LOW

^{*}MATERIALS MUST BE WOOD, BRICK OR OTHER HIGH QUALITY SPECIALTY MATERIALS (E.G., VINYL OR PVC) THAT RESEMBLE WOOD OR BRICK

^{**}OTHER LOCATIONS OR STRUCTURE INSTALLATIONS TO BE VALIDATED BY HICKORY FARMS ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE (ACC); NOTE LOCATION/STRUCTURE ON FORM

TRAFFIC ADVISORY: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS AT EAGLEBANK ARENA

Through Monday June 12, heavy traffic is expected on George Mason University's Fairfax Campus for local high school graduation ceremonies at EagleBank Arena. EagleBank will host up to three ceremonies on many days, so traffic will be entering and exiting campus (e.g., via Braddock Road, Route 123, Roberts Road) from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m.

	<u>'</u>
 Monday, June 5 at 9:30 a.m. 	Westfield High School
 Monday, June 5 at 2 p.m. 	Centreville High School
 Monday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m. 	Lake Braddock Secondary School
 Tuesday, June 6 at 9:30 a.m. 	Edison High School
 Tuesday, June 6 at 2 p.m. 	West Springfield High School
 Tuesday, June 6 at 7:30 p.m. 	Woodson High School
 Wednesday, June 7 at 9:30 a.m. 	Justice High School
 Wednesday, June 7 at 2 p.m. 	Chantilly High School
 Wednesday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. 	Herndon High School
Thursday, June 8 at 9:30 a.m.	Falls Church High School
Thursday, June 8 at 2 p.m.	South Lakes High School
 Thursday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. 	Robinson Secondary School
•	
 Friday, June 9 at 9:30 a.m. 	South County High School
 Friday, June 9 at 2 p.m. 	Oakton High School
 Friday, June 9 at 7:30 p.m. 	Hayfield Secondary School
Saturday, June 10 at 7:30 p.m.	Thomas Jefferson High School for
	Science and Technology
 Monday, June 12 at 9:30 a.m. 	 Mount Vernon High School
 Monday, June 12 at 2 p.m. 	Lewis High School

Source: https://www.fcps.edu/graduation

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR HICKORY FARMS GRADUATES!



LOCAL TRAIL LIFE TROOP CLEANS UP COMMON AREA

By Melissa Stark

Thank you for your Volunteerism Trail Life Troop VA-1115!

A huge thank you goes out to Trail Life Troop VA 1115! On May 20th, the boys helped remove stilt grass, vines and bonset from part of the new wooded area of the main island in the Upper Commons. This 2-hour service project not only helped clean up our commons, but helped Kellan earn his Worthy Life award and Elias earn his Timberline Award.

In the group photo, their names from left to right: Caiden, Joseph, Benjamin, Oliver, John, Luke, Elias, Kellan, and Caleb.







THE BIRDS OF HICKORY FARMS

By Bob Cosgriff

The May migration was plagued with unseasonably cool, rainy weather, with periods of wind thrown in for good measure. Last year was much the same. All this conspired to dampen the migration and led to disappointing results overall. However there were some nice sightings: a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak showed up on 25 April, and a pair of Brown Thrashers appeared on 28 April. During the month of April, we tallied ten new backyard birds to reach 40 species for the year. Typically, May is the big month. However, this year, we counted only 47 species before shutting down the daily count on 15 May. It was as though there was no migration this year. The obvious question is "Why?" There are many possible reasons. I lean toward weather patterns, with possible changes in winds that might have driven birds to our east or west or caused them to just fly right on over us in their sun-driven schedule to get to their breeding grounds farther north. The weather was also cooler than usual in late April/early May, which might have been a factor. Another possibility is some unexplained sharp decline in bird populations from last year to this year. This seems less likely despite reports of avian flu outbreaks in parts of the United States. This disease seems to affect larger birds (ducks, geese, herons, etc.) but can spread to smaller birds as well.

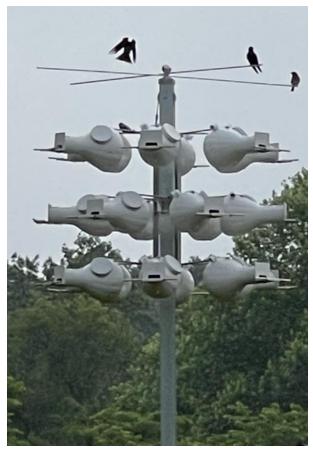
As for the bluebird trail, we had five birds fledge out of one box in the lower commons, with four more scheduled to fledge at press time. In the upper commons, we found an adult male bluebird pecked to death by a House Sparrow in one box, a House Wren nest with six eggs in another box. As of press time, we had a Tree Swallow nest in a box in the upper commons. If they can successfully defend this box against House Sparrow predation, this would be the first swallow nesting in a few years. Stay tuned.

One May 18, I received two reports of Purple Martins being sighted flying around our colony. Judy and I went up to confirm the news. The martins were seen and photographed by other neighbors as well. The birds were spotted daily up until May 25, which is a positive sign that they will probably take up residence here.



Photo by Roger Basl

In order to maximize the success of the martin colony, we ask everyone not to approach closer than 50 feet from the pole. Even at that distance, you might notice defensive behavior by the male martins. We also ask that you do not approach too closely to the bluebird boxes, and in particular, do not open them.





Photos by Roger Basl

The annual HFCA spring migration bird outing drew only one taker this year, former HFCA president Jim Bever. The trip to Lake Mercer turned out to be a great outing on a perfect day for birding, with 27 species counted. Highlights included Louisiana Waterthrush (despite the name, a warbler), Black-and-White Warbler, Swainson's Thrush, Pileated Woodpecker, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Greater Yellowlegs (a large sandpiper), Spotted Sandpiper, and Green Heron.

With the dearth of migration news to report, we can resume our Bird of the Month feature. For June, I have picked the American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*). Often mistakenly called a canary, the familiar goldfinch fills the summer with color and song. These birds are seed specialists, favoring the small compound seeds of many perennials such as black-eyed Susan, coneflowers, and thistle. They are easily attracted to backyard feeders by offering nyjer (thistle by another name) in tube feeders with small feeding ports. Goldfinches also eat sunflower seeds, either from sunflowers themselves or at feeders. However, thistle seems to be their favorite food. The breeding male bird is bright yellow with black wings and a black cap; the female is a drab yellow in color. The non-breeding male resembles the female. They are year-

round birds here, but can be somewhat nomadic, disappearing for several days at a time before returning to their favorite feeder. Additional information and photographs can be found here: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/American Goldfinch/id#

One key to bird identification is to know in which species the male and female birds differ in plumage. The scientific term for this is 'sexual dimorphism.' Many familiar birds are not sexually dimorphic, for example, Mourning Dove, Blue Jay, European Starling, White-breasted Nuthatch, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, and Gray Catbird. Some birds, like American Robin and Eastern Bluebird, do exhibit subtle differences between male and female birds, but in both species both sexes look essentially alike. In addition to the American Goldfinch, the Eastern Towhee, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, and Baltimore Oriole show very pronounced sexual dimorphism. It is very easy to tell the difference between the male and female birds of these species. One reason male birds are more colorful has to do with survival: the female needs to be inconspicuous on the nest, so most female birds are very drab in color to blend in with their nests and surrounding vegetation.

The summer months are typically slower for new bird sightings. Breeding birds can be observed feeding their fledglings. Many species produce more than one clutch per season, so we are hopeful that our bluebirds will keep on nesting into July.

STUDENT YELLOW PAGES



Shannon Turner

Nathan Turner

Lily Bucher

Kiera Stark

Greysen Berg

Cedar Batz

Angmturn@hotmail.com
Angmturn@hotmail.com
Angmturn@hotmail.com
Lrbucher4@gmail.com
Commonareas@hickoryfarms.org
Pet sitting
Yard work,
Dog walkir

Babysitting, pet sitting
Dog walking, yard work, leaf removal
Babysitting/mother's helper, pet sitting
Pet sitting
Yard work, leaf raking
Dog walking, dog sitting

If you offer services such as those listed above, or others such as tutoring, etc., and wish to be included in future listings, please email the Newsletter Editor at newsletter@hickoryfarms.org.

RESIDENT INFORMATION NEEDED FOR RENTAL PROPERTIES

The HFCA Board of Directors is making sure our records are up to date for all Hickory Farms properties. For those properties who are renting out their homes, please email your renters contact information (name, phone number and email) to hfca@hickoryfarms.org.

DON'T MISS ANY NEWS! JOIN OUR LISTSERV!

All are encouraged to connect with Hickory Farms by joining the Hickory Farms Listserv! Hickory Farms utilizes Google Groups to manage our listserv. We chose this platform because it's simple, easy to use and free. If you don't have a Gmail account, you can sign up for one at http://www.gmail.com.

Once you have an account, visit https://groups.google.com/my-groups to sign into Google Groups. From there, you can go straight to https://groups.google.com/g/hickory-farms-hoa/ and click the "Ask to Join." In the Reason for Joining, please include your address, phone number, and own/rent status to include in the neighborhood directory.

Once your membership is approved, you'll receive emails when they are sent to the listserv. You can adjust your membership settings - like changing single emails to a weekly digest - in your Google Groups Settings.

Please don't forget to review the guidelines on the Hickory Farms website here: https://hickoryfarms.org/ hickory-farms-listserv. There's also information on how to post to the listserv, manage your account and more.

Finally, if you need basic Google Groups help, visit: https://support.google.com/groups/answer/1067205? hl=en.

You can always contact the admins of the listserv for help or questions by emailing hickory-farms- hoa+managers@googlegroups.com.



NEWSLETTER ITEM DEADLINE AND DISTRIBUTION NOTICE

Newsletter items are due the 25th of the month, for the next month's issue. Please send submissions to newsletter@hickoryfarms.org. **Note:** There will be no newsletter for July 2023.

Newsletters are distributed via the HFCA listserv and posted on the HFCA website. Paper versions of the newsletters are no longer delivered to households. All are encouraged to access the digital newsletter via the listsery or the HFCA website.





- Mowing
- Landscaping
- Snow Removal
- Stone Work

(703) 899-5683(703) 715-0285