

Farmington Civic Association

FARMINGTONVA.COM SPRING EDITION 2023

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The President's Letter

Hello, Farmington Neighbors!

To quote Amanda Gorman, "The first bud of spring sings the other seeds into joining her uprising." The singing uprising of spring buds is evident throughout the neighborhood, and I look forward to the song continuing on through the season.

We had an unfortunate incident in our neighborhood back in February in which a vehicle chase entered our neighborhood and the chase ended in a shooting. Our Neighborhood Watch Captain, James, was able to speak to Police Chief Talbot about the incident and the FCA (Farmington Civic Association) provided footage from our security camera. None of those involved lived in or had any known connections to Farmington. HPD has stressed the most important thing we can do to keep crime low in our neighborhood is ensure our vehicles are locked, that no valuables are visible in parked vehicles, and that we don't leave cars running unattended and unlocked. We, fortunately, have had no similar further incidents.

The FCA has been hard at work planning for the upcoming year. We expect to do high school graduate recognitions, have a summer picnic, and continue to have insightful guest speakers at our general membership meetings. Our general membership meeting in February with Codes and Compliance was well-attended, and we hope to continue this trend.

It's not too late to pay 2023 membership dues if you have not yet done so. We appreciate your support with a payment mailed to the P.O. box or Paypal-ed from our website. Your support is essential to all the FCA does to make Farmington a beautiful and desirable community. Membership is only \$50/year, so we hope you will consider joining. Thank you to all who have paid your dues and are doing the work of making this a wonderful place to live.

Stay safe and see you around the neighborhood,

Connie Vatsa, President

General Membership Meeting with Codes Official

We had a well-attended general membership meeting on February 27th featuring special guest Kim Mikel from the Codes office. It was so well-attended we had to keep bringing in more chairs (thanks to Mayor Tuck for his assistance with that). Ms. Mikel reviewed codes that would apply to properties in our neighborhood. Below are highlights from her presentation:

1. On properties of less than 5 acres, there is a limit of 2 motorhomes and recreational equipment (boats, trailers, etc) but only 1 of the 2 can be a motorhome.
2. Vehicles, motorhomes, and towed recreational vehicles on street frontage must be parked on an impervious surface that extends beneath the entirety of the vehicle and extends to the right of way (road). If the impervious surface is a loose material (e.g., gravel) it must be enclosed by a border.
3. Those whose homes are on a corner lot have 2 street frontages, so the above requirement applies to the side with street frontage as well as the front of the house.
4. The definition of inoperable vehicles includes tags out of date, expired inspection (more than 60 days), flat tires, or major components missing.
5. There is now an ordinance that allows the city to restrict items not considered debris (trash, broken items, etc.) but that are stored outside and may be detrimental to the well-being of a community (otherwise known as clutter).
6. Grass can't exceed 8 inches in height.
7. Overgrowth of bushes, etc. is considered unlawful if it could cause health and safety issues (obstructs view of the address, growing into the structure, obstructs access to escape and rescue opening points, etc.).
8. Residents are encouraged to communicate any concerns regarding codes violations via 311.
9. Codes officials will need to be able to see the violation from the road or have owner permission to come onto the property. If they have permission from an owner of an adjoining property to access the adjoining property that would give a better vantage point than the road please include contact information in the 311 report.

Handouts were provided at the general membership meeting and were sent out to the email distribution list. If you did not receive a copy and would like one, please send your email address to farmingtonhptva@gmail.com.

In some instances, the Farmington subdivision covenants are stricter than the city code. I would encourage residents to review the covenants under the Community Information tab at our website, farmingtonva.com.

Connie Vatsa, President

Attention High School Graduates and Parents

Students graduating from high school this year who reside in active Farmington Civic Association households are eligible for recognition on the Farmington Blvd median. If you would like recognition, please send the student's name, address, high school, and senior photo (or another similar photo) to farmingtonhptva@gmail.com. To ensure the signs are ready in a timely manner, we kindly ask for all emails to be sent by May 10th. Feel free to include a couple of sentences noting extracurricular activities, notable accomplishments, and post-graduation plans as we plan to highlight the students in the next newsletter.

PUT LITTER IN ITS PLACE!

The FCA (Farmington Civic Association) continues to work diligently to keep our community litter-free. To accomplish this goal, the FCA has formed an anti-litter team which patrols Farmington Boulevard, Whetstone Drive, Diamond Hill, and Estate Drive. The team consists of dedicated members of the community who patrol daily throughout the year. The current team is: Rodney Ellis, Raymond Chambers, Michael Chapman, Charles Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Christer, Elroy and Alex Norwood. The team could use additional members to expand their efforts to include side streets and common areas. We also realize that much of the litter is from visitors who leave fast food wrappers, cups, etc. on our streets. These items are unsightly and do not represent the Farmington that we admire and love.



Now that spring is here, it is paramount we showcase the beauty of Farmington, with its manicured yards and warm, friendly hospitality.

Should you be interested in joining this elite group of neighbors, please contact Alex Norwood at aswood68@verizon.net to obtain additional information. We need your support in keeping Farmington as one of the premier neighborhoods in Hampton. The only thing missing is your support in keeping Farmington litter free. If you've ever asked what you can do to help the neighborhood, now you know!

Prevent Neighborhood Flooding



Please collect all yard waste, including pine needles, in bags for weekly pickup. When waste is left unbagged on the curb, it ends up washing down the storm drain, resulting in flooding. Farmington is elevated higher than many areas of Hampton, but if our storm drains are backed up then heavy rains will make areas of the neighborhood undriveable in inclement weather. Please help yourselves and your neighbors by helping keep our storm drains free of blockages.

2023 YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST BEGINS

Nominations for the June Yard of the Month due May 25, 2023

The Farmington Garden Club strives to enhance the beauty of our Farmington neighborhood by maintaining the Farmington entrance flowerbed, medians, end caps and flagpole garden by constantly updating seasonal flowers, weeding, and watering.

The Garden Club also sponsors the highly anticipated Yard of the Month program.

This coveted designation is awarded May - Sep. We are excited to announce the 2023 Yard of the Month schedule and how residents may nominate the many beautiful yards belonging to FCA (Farmington Civic Association) Members.

- Information and nomination forms can be found at <http://farmingtonva.com/garden-club/> by clicking on Yard of the Month.
- The Farmington Garden Club invites you to nominate a yard belonging to an FCA member, be it yourself or a neighbor. To nominate a yard, include your name; a reason the yard was nominated; nominee's name, address, phone number and email address (if possible). Send info to: awl1949@yahoo.com.

YARD OF THE MONTH CRITERIA

- Nominees must be current members of the FCA.
- Nominations must be submitted by the 25th of Apr, May, Jun, Jul and Aug.
- The selection process will be held between the 28-30th of Apr (for the May winner), 28-30th of May (for the Jun winner) etc.
- Only the front/side yards, as viewed from the street, will be judged by the Farmington Garden Club Yard of the Month Committee members.
- The Farmington Yard of the Month sign will be placed in the winning yard for an entire month.
- Previous winners may participate after 2 years.

Thank you neighbors for your support and participation in making the Yard of the Month Contest a success.

Pamela Kelly and Betty Koonce-Johnson
Farmington Garden Club Leadership Team



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