

The Lakes POA

Communicator

Welcome to the Lakes Office!

The Lakes Office is in the building adjacent to the front entrance of the Lakes/park area!

Office Hours/Days are listed on the attached monthly calendar

THE ANNUAL LAKES POA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS ARE AROUND THE CORNER

The Lakes Homeowners will be asked to elect 3 Board Members at the annual meeting in October! There are several dates to keep in mind over the coming weeks. Please remember the date for the outgoing mailings are approximate and receipt of the documents are dependent on the postal service.

- **On or about August 22, 2022** - Board of Director Nomination Application packets will be mailed to all Lakes homeowners.
- **September 9, 2022** - Completed Nomination Applications need to be **mailed and received** at the address provided on the Nomination Application form to be considered for the proxy/ballot. Please use only the form provided for your information.
- **On or about September 15, 2022** - Residents will be mailed Proxy forms listing the candidates for the Board. A copy of each candidates' application will be transcribed for readability and included with the proxy form. Additionally, the applications will be available for viewing on the Lakes website.
- **Monday, September 26, 2022** - Meet the Candidate Night - Inlet Square Mall - 6pm
- **October 17, 2022** – Proxy forms need to be **mailed and received** at the address on the proxy.

Residents who wish to change their previously mailed proxy can do so at the Lakes POA Annual Meeting, Saturday, **October 22, 2022**, 10:30am, Inlet Square Mall Meeting Room.

MEET THE CANDIDATE NIGHT

In advance of the annual meeting and the Board of Director election, the Lakes POA will be hosting a "Meet the Candidate" event. Any homeowner interested in running for the Board should complete the Board Nomination Application and return it to LITUS in the envelope provided.

The event will give each candidate an opportunity to introduce themselves to the community and answer questions about their qualifications. Meet the Candidate Night is scheduled for **Monday, September 26, 2022**, 6pm at the Inlet Square Mall meeting room.

The Lakes Office is now OPEN for Homeowner Events!

The Lakes Office is open and available for Homeowners to host small events such as game parties, book clubs, get togethers and more. Gambling, fund raising, and/or drinking events are prohibited. The POA is a non-profit organization and cannot allow or facilitate these types of events. Homeowners interested in reserving the Lakes Office should complete and submit a reservation request form. The forms will be available at the office and on the Lakes website – Frontsteps – in a folder titled 2022 Office Reservation Form. The completed reservation form can be returned to the ACC Dropbox located outside the office or emailed to POALAKES@gmail.com . (Inquiries about date/time availability can also be sent to POALAKES@gmail.com prior to submitting a reservation). Reservation requests should be submitted for consideration at least 1 week prior to the requested event date. Reservations will be approved on a first come, first serve basis, availability of the room and availability of the Office Coordinators who will need to open and close the space.

Additional Details:

- Homeowner that reserved the facility must be present at the event.
- Reservations are for 4 or 9 hour increments (NOTE: 2 joining sessions may be selected for 9 hrs.)
- Morning Session: 8 am-Noon; Afternoon Session: 1-5 pm, or Evening Session: 6-10 pm
- Maximum capacity: 20 people or less.
- The space includes use of three 6 foot tables and 20 folding chairs.
- Food and Non-alcoholic beverages are allowed; however, there is NO kitchen or refrigeration available.
- There is a restroom (wheelchair accessible) with basic toiletries (hand soap, paper towels, toilet paper, and cleaning supplies).
- Parking is available around the Lakes Park (across the street); 3 spots in front of office.
- It is the homeowner's responsibility to ensure the space is restored to its original condition. A \$50.00 refundable deposit (via check) is required to reserve the space. The deposit will be returned as long as the office is not damaged and is cleaned after use.

WELCOME NIGHT September 14, 2022 – 6-8pm

The Lakes Board would like to invite any current and new homeowners to a Welcome Night for Lakes homeowners on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. This is an opportunity for new and current homeowners to meet the Board and community members who are interested in helping their new neighbors become acclimated to the Lakes. Information will be shared about current Lakes Events, the Architectural Control Committee, open volunteer opportunities, and more!

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Welcome Nights, please send your name and contact information to POALAKES@gmail.com and put Welcome Night in the subject line. No sign up or reservation is required to attend a Welcome Night!

Quarterly Topics - Update

SECOND QUARTER LAKES POA MEETING – HOT TOPICS

1. Board and POA Transparency – Several members of the community requested more information about the activities occurring in and around the Lakes Community. To help with this effort the Lakes Communication Committee is drafting a formal proposal to officially organize the Lakes Communication Committees purpose, mission, and responsibilities. The Communication Committee will be meeting with the Board over the next couple of months to formalize the approach. More details to come.
2. Road Maintenance – Further investigation will be done on the issues with the road surface on Hatteras River Road. More information as it becomes available.
3. Street lights – Work/repair requests have been filed with Santee Cooper regarding street lights being out on Waccamaw River Road and Saluda River Road. Homeowners are reminded that If a streetlight is burned out/not working, the homeowner may call Santee Cooper directly to report it. The homeowner will need to provide the pole number, which can be found on a metal plate, at eye level, located on the side of the pole facing the street. This does not need to be handled by the board or LITUS. The Santee Cooper phone number is 800-804-7424 or 843-761-8000.
4. View Financial Reports – Some residents indicated they were unable to access the monthly financials reports.

Below you will find step by step instructions on how to locate Board Financials for Owners.
You will need to have or set up an account with Front Steps.

*Go to <http://Thelakes.frontsteps.com>

*Login or set up an account

*Click on Documents & FAQs (left side of your Dashboard)

*Click on the folder that is labeled Documents

*At the bottom of this Internal Documents page, click on the folder labeled Financial Reports for Owners.

*Note: If you access your account by a cell phone, the first page after signing in, might look a bit different than if you access by PC or tablet. You may have to click on the three lines on the top left to display categories of information (i.e. documents). Please contact LITUS (Ktucker@litustolet.com if you're having any difficulty.

Beautification Committee
July Yard of the Month
Bill Vesely – Committee Chair



July Winner

William Roth
216 Ashley River Road

Runner Up

Robert Wlodkowski
3734 Atwood Place

CONGRATULATIONS !!!!

Projects Around the Lakes

UPDATES:

Road Maintenance –

- Revisiting road condition on Hatteras River Road. Improve the road surface.
- Continuing to search for organizations willing/qualified/available to provide a further road survey/engineering study.

Drainage -

- The board is waiting for an estimate to clean out the pipe that runs under Saluda River Road

Landscaping -

- 7 dead Palm trees have been replaced (Gillham Loop). Clean up and mulching in this area will take place over the upcoming weeks. (Replacement cost billed to the developer.)

Projects Around the Lakes (cont'd)

Landscaping (cont'd) –

- Missing fence panel (across from Gillham Loop entrance) – New high wind rated panels have been ordered. Due to supply and shipping issues the best estimate (subject to change), 3-4 weeks for delivery and completion of the work.
- Broad River Road Island – cleanup is underway (the island was destroyed by a tractor trailer). The island will be styled with Tennessee River Rock and new evergreen plants (plantings in the fall.)
- Dog stations/benches – additional dog station to be installed along Waccamaw River Road near Cooper River Road swale. Dog station and bench to be installed near the tree/shrubs near Rainbow Lake (additional shrubs will be added to provide privacy for nearby residents). Bench to be installed near the lake at Gillham Loop.
- Swan Lake Drive – estimates to be provided for removal of dead trees/shrubs and replacements. Pending approval, work would be done in late fall/early winter.

Looking for Volunteers

Volunteers Needed: Below is a list of committees that are in need and would love to welcome volunteers. Please consider joining or asking about any of these committees.

Communications Committee: The CC Committee is looking for volunteers who have experience in corporate communications, a background in communications, an aptitude for writing and or has experience creating or writing Request for Proposals or Information (RFP/RFI - used to solicit bids for POA Contracts).

Engineering: The POA has a need for volunteers who understand structural engineering, construction, or similar experience or skills.

Drainage: The Drainage Committee is looking for volunteers who can help with understanding and addressing needs relative to the Lake levels, flows and stormwater rules.

TRAFFIC REPORT

The speed trailer has recently been put back into service to remind residents and visitors to the Lakes community of their speed and to observe the posted speed limits. The speed trailer will be placed in a variety of locations throughout the community on random days.

Here are the statistics for the 2-week period beginning July 18, 2022 ending July 29, 2022 (3 locations):

PLACEMENTS

Swan Lake Drive (7-20-2022):

Leaving the Lakes: Number of vehicles – 925
 Number of speeders – 872
 Maximum speed – 57 mph
 Average speed – 29 mph

Entering the Lakes: Number of vehicles – 927
 Number of speeders – 864
 Maximum speed – 52 mph
 Average speed – 28 mph

Waccamaw River Road at Beaufort River Road (7-23-2022)

Leaving the Lakes: Number of vehicles – 761
 Number of speeders – 176
 Maximum speed – 31 mph
 Average speed – 16 mph

Entering the Lakes: Number of vehicles – 835
 Number of speeders – 235
 Maximum speed – 34 mph
 Average speed – 16 mph

Waccamaw River Road at Rainbow Lake (7-26-2022)

Leaving the Lakes: Number of vehicles – 536
 Number of speeders – 229
 Maximum speed – 33 mph
 Average speed – 18 mph

Entering the Lakes: Number of vehicles – 520
 Number of speeders – 170
 Maximum speed – 37 mph
 Average speed – 18 mph

Neighborly Reminders

The Communication Committee has received requests to share ideas, questions, concerns, and reminders from the community. Here are some recent reminders.

- **School Busses** – Horry County schools will open for the 2022-2023 school year the week of August 15, 2022. This will undoubtedly cause an increase in traffic in the Lakes community with school busses and additional drivers being on the roads at the common travel times. Please remember to stop for school busses picking up and dropping off our students, watch for walkers, observe the speed limits, and obey the stop signs.
- **Fishing!!** Fishing was discussed, at length, at the quarterly meeting. In summary, please remember that the 10' pond easement is not a public fishing pathway. Going through and stopping to fish on a homeowner's yard is trespassing.
The Board has NOT provided "special permission" to anyone to be walking through homeowners' yards for fishing.
As previously published (July 12, 2021 -Summer 2021 edition of the Lakes POA Newsletter):
"Fishing for ALL RESIDENTS is only permitted in two common areas – Lake Murray (along Waccamaw River [coming in from Swan Lake] near the power lines) and Lake Occatee (located on the right side of Waccamaw River Road coming in from the Meadowood Community). Additionally, homeowners with lake property, can fish on their own property with their guests. Fishing on lake properties, other than these two common areas, without permission of the homeowner, is TRESPASSING."
- **Alligators** - Information about Alligators was shared at the recent quarterly POA Meeting around what is considered a "nuisance" alligator. We may not all agree but we must abide by the laws. A "nuisance" alligator is defined as an alligator more than 4 feet in length that threatens pets, livestock, or humans. There are strict rules about how to handle the alligator and what can be done about it. Please visit DNR.SC.GOV (Wildlife/ Nuisance Wildlife) for more details.
- **Landscaping** - Remember to trim shrubs, bushes or trees that hang into the street, over your neighbor's property or that may block any area that could prevent neighbors from seeing around corners or at stop signs while walking or driving. Overhanging trees/shrubs also create an issue for emergency vehicles needing to access residences.
- **Contractors** – Remind contractors providing services at your residence and who park on the road, to place cones around their vehicles to ensure their safety and the safety of our residents as they travel through the community. This is especially important when vehicles/equipment are parked on a curve. Drivers are asked to be considerate and alternate opportunities to move through a reduced access area.
- **Golf Cart Operation** - Please remember Golf carts must be driven by a licensed driver, must be driven during day light hours and must obey all speed and traffic laws. There have been several recent concerns about children driving golf carts at high rates of speed with loud music. We want to protect the community and our residents and ask that you do not let underage children drive golf carts.

- **Overnight Parking** – Lakes residents are reminded that on street parking **IS NOT** permitted between the hours of 2am and 5am in the Lakes community.
- **Pick Up after Your Dogs!** – A number of “dog stations” supplied with bags and disposal containers have been installed throughout the Lakes community for the convenience of our canine owners/walkers. (These stations are regularly emptied and resupplied by our landscaping contractor.) Sadly, there are still some dog walkers that choose to **NOT PICK UP** after their pet, leaving unsightly and unhealthy “deposits” along their routes. This is especially the case along Waccamaw River Road near the fence and Cooper River Road. Violation warning signs have been posted in that area.

Going forward, our landscaping contractor will be mowing around any waste not picked up and deposited in the provided containers.

If you have something you would like to see in the Lakes Communicator Neighborly Reminders, please email us at POALakes@gmail.com.

~~~~~ **New Common Areas** by Jackie DiVincent ~~~~~

Hello neighbors! My name is Jackie and I have been volunteering for our community for a few months now. I’m happy to be able to donate my time to help complete tasks for the association. It has been a rewarding experience to work with the Board and to meet the awesome people in our community who give of themselves and work so hard to keep our community a great place to live.

Recently, I have been working on the parcels of land turned over by RS Parker, the land developer. Most of these parcels are in the new sections where the Lennar and DR Horton homes are being built.

Previously, our community didn’t have many common areas. The lakes in the older sections are owned by the homeowners. Each homeowner owns halfway into the lake they live on. Although we were gifted these parcels, they do come with costs to our community. When I was researching the tax burdens, I took a trip to the assessor’s office. There I learned that to get a reduction in taxes, we must submit a HOA Application for special valuation for each property. This will lower the value of the common area property, therefore, lowering the tax amount. The forms are being completed and submitted to the county for their review. Once approved, we should see significant savings to the taxes on our common areas.

### On the Funny Side of the Lake...

Q. Which are the strongest creatures in the ocean?

A. Mussels!



The Lakes Communicator will be prepared and distributed 8 months of the year. In those months where a newsletter is distributed (January, April, July and October), the Communicator will not be distributed. The Communications Committee is working with the Board of Directors to include information on upcoming projects and events in future issues.

## Horry County Community Information

### LOCAL HOSPITALS

|                      |                                  |                |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Tidelands Waccamaw   | 4070 US 17 Bypass Murrells Inlet | (843) 652-1000 |
| Conway Medical Ctr   | Singleton Ridge Rd Conway        | (843) 347-7111 |
| South Strand Med Ctr | 5050 US 17 Bypass Myrtle Beach   | (843) 839-1000 |
| Grand Strand Med Ctr | 809 82nd Pkwy Myrtle Beach       | (843) 692-1000 |

|                                 |                               |                |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| MB VA Outpatient Clinic         | 1800 Airport Dr               | (843) 477-0177 |
| MB VA Outpatient & Primary Care | 1101 Johnson Ave Myrtle Beach | (843) 577-5011 |
| Market Commons VA Clinic        | 1101 Johnson Ave Suite R2A    | (843) 477-0177 |

### POLICE AND FIRE

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Horry County Police Non-emergency | (843) 915-5350 |
| Horry County Fire & Rescue        | (843) 915-5190 |

### REC CENTERS

|                                |                                         |                |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Horry County Parks & Rec       | 2830 Oak St Conway                      | (843) 915-5330 |
| Pepper Geddings Rec Ctr        | 3205 N Oak St Myrtle Beach              | (843) 918-2280 |
| Claire Chapin Epps Family YMCA | 5000 Claire Chapin EPPS Dr Myrtle Beach | (843) 449-9622 |
| South Strand Rec Ctr           | 9650 Scipio Ln Myrtle Beach             | (843) 915-5333 |
| Burgess Community Ctr          | 10299 SC 707 Myrtle Beach               | (843) 650-2796 |

### COUNTY OFFICES

|                             |                               |                |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Horry County Treasurer      | 9630 Scipio Ln Myrtle Beach   | (843) 915-5470 |
| Horry County Auditor        | 9630 Scipio Ln Myrtle Beach   | (843) 915-5052 |
| Horry County Clerk of Court | 9630 Scipio Ln Myrtle Beach   | (843) 915-5080 |
| Horry County Probate Court  | 1301 2nd Ave<br>Conway        | (843) 915-5370 |
| Myrtle Beach DMV            | 1330 Howard Pkwy Myrtle Beach | (843) 839-8003 |
| SC DMV                      | 1200 21st Ave N Myrtle Beach  | (843) 448-9957 |

### RECYCLE CENTERS

|  |                                            |                |
|--|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
|  | 9610 Scipio Ln Myrtle Beach (closed Thurs) | (843) 347-1651 |
|  | McDowell Shortcut (closed Tues)            | (843) 347-1651 |
|  | 4670 Jones Rd                              | (843) 347-1651 |

# AUGUST 2022

| SUN | MON                                         | TUE | WED                                       | THU                                       | FRI                                       | SAT |
|-----|---------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----|
|     | 01                                          | 02  | 03<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm | 04<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 9am -<br>12pm | 05                                        | 06  |
| 07  | 08<br>The Lakes<br>Board<br>Meeting<br>6 pm | 09  | 10<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm | 11<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 9am -<br>12pm | 12                                        | 13  |
| 14  | 15                                          | 16  | 17<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm | 18<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 9am -<br>12pm | 19<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm | 20  |
| 21  | 22<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm   | 23  | 24<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm | 25<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 9am -<br>12pm | 26<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm | 27  |
| 28  | 29<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm   | 30  | 31<br>Lakes Office<br>Hours 12pm -<br>3pm |                                           |                                           |     |