



# NEWSLETTER



Lake Audubon Homeowners Association Newsletter Reston, VA  
Website: [LakeAudubon.org](http://LakeAudubon.org) Email: [management@LakeAudubon.org](mailto:management@LakeAudubon.org)

## Letter from the Board

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide homeowners of Lake Audubon with information that affects the community. Our goal is to publish this newsletter once a quarter.

### Key Actions taken by the board that will improve our community include:

Completion of a Reserve Study which tells us which parts of our community's infrastructure need to be repaired or replaced and when. For example, the paving of our parking lots is recommended to take place in 2004.

Formation of the Landscaping Committee, chaired by Fran Bastress. See page 2 for the wonderful improvements that are being made in our community. A committee has also been formed to study the bylaws under which our HOA is governed. This committee is ably chaired by Mark Getis.

A return to self-management was made in order to save and free up money for needed maintenance and

## Important Information for Homeowners

"The Board voted to move from having TWC Management Association taking care of our community to self-management in order to free up budget dollars for needed maintenance and improvements."

This move to self management necessitates that current board members take on the additional responsibilities of running the HOA.

Highlights of the changes are listed below:

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improvements. Your Board members have agreed to take responsibility for the tasks formerly handled by TWC Management. See the article below for changes that affect you.

The Board also wishes to recognize and thank Fran Bastress for her work on the landscaping committee, Jim Binkley for our new lighting designs and Paul Davis for his help on the web site. Please thank these neighbors for all their hard work when you see them out and about.

Homeowner ideas, volunteers and recommendations are always welcome. Please write us at any time at [management@LakeAudubon.org](mailto:management@LakeAudubon.org).

1. **HOME OWNERS DUES**- Home owners will receive regular dues invoices and envelopes every quarter. Frank Pitts
2. Capital Reserve Analysis and Long Range Planning. Board
3. Legal Records and minutes file. Mark Getis
4. Central Point of Contact for homeowner property owner transfers. Frank Pitts
5. Newsletters. Anita Creasi

## You've got committees!

That's right; at least two committees have been filled. They are a Landscape Committee and a By-Laws Committee; the committee chairpersons are Frances Bastress and Mark Getis, respectively. Residents should check the [LakeAudubon.org](http://LakeAudubon.org) website for the most recently published information coming out of all committees. Suggestions are also welcome. Please send your suggestions to [management@lakeaudubon.org](mailto:management@lakeaudubon.org) or contact a member belonging to the committee of your subject interest.



## Landscape improvements coming soon!

**Lake Audubon sign missing!** Don't be surprised to soon find our Lake Audubon sign missing for about a week. No, it will not have been stolen; the Lake Audubon entry sign is to be repaired and repainted by the sign's original artist. The repair and painting may involve temporary removal of the sign.

**Light the way!** Light may soon be shed upon the corners of our main entry. Funding and a go forward plan for adding low-voltage, high output, lighting have been approved by the LATWC Board.

**National Park "No Parking" Signs.** The red and white no parking signs along the sides and end of our main entry are slated to soon be replaced with more attractive and appropriately worded signs. The posts will remain, but the signs will be replaced with more attractive nature-colors.

**Landscaping maintenance and improvements.** For additional and recent information on landscaping maintenance and improvements, please visit our website at [www.LakeAudubon.org](http://www.LakeAudubon.org).

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Light may soon be shed upon the corners of our main entry



*A new light in Lake Audubon.*

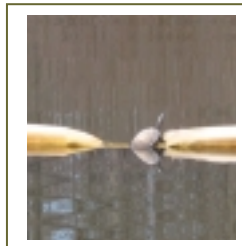
## Helpful Information

By Paul Davis

### Deck protection – New Options Coming Your Way.

Check before you buy and apply any external paints or stains! There are specific LATWC Association and Reston Association restrictions on what colors and products may be used to paint or stain the sides of your house and your deck(s). Costly repairs can be enforced where violations occur. While currently only clear and non-pigmented sealers (stains) may be used to treat and protect your decks, the LATWC Board has submitted a Design Review Board request to expand the options available. Please check the website for updated information or send email to [management@lakeaudubon.org](mailto:management@lakeaudubon.org). Requested options include highly-translucent stains of a few specific natural colors from three popular name brands.

**Tree Etiquette.** During a recent walkthrough, with a certified arborist, it was brought to the Landscape Committee's attention that we should avoid tying-off boats to trees. Both wrapping of rope around trees and insertion of fasteners into trees can and do have negative consequences. The resultant damage directly harms the tree and can increase proneness to diseases, which can then spread to neighboring trees.



*Spring is Coming to Lake Audubon*

Residents should discontinue using ropes around trees to tie their boats, as this harms the trees. If bulk heading is available and sturdy, then cleats should be added to the bulk heading. One source for purchasing cleats is [Boaters World](http://www.boatersworld.com), which can be found on the internet at <http://www.boatersworld.com>. An alternative is to install 4" x 4" poles in concrete, and tie the boats to these.

Obtain approval from the Lake Audubon Terrace West Cluster Board prior to making any changes to or affecting Cluster common areas. You may send an email to [management@lakeaudubon.org](mailto:management@lakeaudubon.org) or contact a respective board member. For contact information, please see the [Contacts](#) webpage at [www.lakeaudubon.org](http://www.lakeaudubon.org).

## Your Board

President	Frank Pitts	<a href="mailto:fpitts@cais.com">fpitts@cais.com</a>	703-391-0447
Vice President	Bob Shea	<a href="mailto:Ltgrjs@aol.com">Ltgrjs@aol.com</a>	703-860-1124<
Treasurer	David Dyer	<a href="mailto:dyerhouse@comcast.net">dyerhouse@comcast.net</a>	703-476-5750
Secretary	Mark Getis	<a href="mailto:mark@getis.com">mark@getis.com</a>	703-476-1687<
Communications	Anita Creasi	<a href="mailto:anita@opwatch.net">anita@opwatch.net</a>	703-295-0627

## SAVE OUR DOGWOODS

Dogwoods in Northern Virginia are being wiped out due to diseases. If spraying is started, it must be continued on a regular basis and is very expensive. One way for residents to protect their dogwoods is to prevent them from becoming stressed: water and mulch well and promptly remove diseased tree debris (PUT INTO TRASH). Residents should consider this approach to trees on their property to avoid losing them.

### Man, nature, and unwanted rodents

Contrary to popular belief, rats in our area do not live in and around natural areas such as those containing bushes. Rats are attracted to the food and shelter that we, through our behavior, provide them. To keep rats away and from returning, merely remove shelter and secure trash, pet food, bird seed and the likes. Birdfeeders should prevent falling seed, and birdfeed should be debris free (e.g. - sunflower seeds without the shells). 'No vacancies' for rats can be accomplished by raising wood piles off the ground, maintaining siding and landscape, and making sure that lower decks do not have any open access holes. Lower wood decks should generally have wood trim from deck to ground and along all exposed sides of the deck.

## Preventing Soil Erosion

Here are a few suggestions on how to minimize erosion. The erosion we are referring to here is that which is caused by rain. Other factors may include any type of traffic and anything that hampers the growth of groundcovers. The amount, speed and surface that water travels all contribute to erosion. One of the most common sources of erosion is water from your roof and gutters. It is important to move that water away from your home to protect the footings and the foundation. Gutters should spill out on or into splash stones, rocks or drain pipes which lead the water away from homes. It is also important to preserve the land around our homes, including Cluster common areas. Where water causes ground erosion due to volume, speed or lack of ground cover, consider buried drain pipes, broadening the path that water takes, or adding ground cover or edging to slow the movement of water. Ground covers consist of plantings or river rocks such as those in a dry-creek bed.

For additional information or suggestions, please contact any Cluster Landscape Committee member or send an email to [management@lakeaudubon.org](mailto:management@lakeaudubon.org). As always, be sure to obtain approval from the Lake Audubon Terrace West Cluster Board prior to implementing any changes on or affecting Cluster common areas.

## NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

### Attention DOG LOVERS!

The board has received complaints about dogs leaving messes around sidewalks and mail boxes.

Please be courteous and clean up after your pets. Get a pooper scooper and plastic bags. Recycled newspaper bags are good for this purpose. Also, please note that the Reston Association provides bags, free of charge, for use on their dog walking trails and parks.

**Digital Photographs wanted. Please share the beauty of Lake Audubon by emailing favorite photos of our community to [anita@opwatch.net](mailto:anita@opwatch.net).**

### SPRING CLEANING HELP

Our garbage service will remove old unwanted furniture and household items even mattresses. Simply call Triple AAA for a pick up. Details are on the website at [lakeaudabon.org](http://lakeaudabon.org).

### New Community Directory

The association is compiling a new community directory for distribution this summer. If you would like to be included in this directory either complete the form below or email [anita@opwatch.net](mailto:anita@opwatch.net) with your information. With the increased attention to security and emergency preparedness we thought it would be helpful to compile this information. Participation is strictly voluntary.

### A new Light in Lake Audubon

Jim Binkley

Your cluster Board plans to install lighting at the entry at Glade Drive and Thrush Ridge Rd

On the left, the sign and trees and plants behind the sign will be illuminated. On the opposite corner, approximately three light fixtures will light trees and plants giving symmetry to our entry.

The lighting on both sides of the entry will be on timers that turn them on about sunset and off about 11:00pm. The fixtures

will be virtually hidden among the plants, rocks and mulch. Lamps will be professionally selected to enhance the natural colors of the trees and plants.

A proposal regarding this lighting will be submitted to the Reston Association Design and Review Board for approval.

Jim Binkley, a licensed architect who teaches lighting at a Washington DC university is handling this for our community. Jim lives in our community at 11058 Thrush Ridge. If there are any questions please call Jim at home at 703-758-0258

*"The lighting on both sides of the entry will be on timers that turn them on about sunset and off about 11:00pm. "*

Community Directory Listing Form

Residents Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Owners Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:**

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax:**

Fax number \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please email this information to Anita @opwatch.net or tear off and return to 11048 Thrush Ridge Rd.

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

LakeAudubon.org

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Lake Audubon Terrace  
West Cluster Association



**Attn: Association Directory Administration**

**Lake Audubon Terrace West Cluster Association  
P.O. Box 8662  
Reston, VA 20195**