

SAPPHIRE SHORES RECREATION ASSOCIATION

March 2009 NEWSLETTER

A meeting of the Sapphire Shores Recreation Association was held on February 17. A number of issues were discussed.

Here is a summary:

SECURITY

At the start of 2009, the Silver Lakes Master Board replaced Miramar police with Kent Security Services for private security purposes because:

- 1) Miramar police was unable to patrol as often as requested, particularly on weekends.
- 2) Miramar police could only enforce city ordinances, not the community by-laws.
- 3) The cost of contracting with a private security service to enforce the by-laws and provide 24/7 service was less than contracting with Miramar police.

For community concerns, contact Kent Security directly at 954-205-1872. Note that Kent Security does not have the authority to arrest.

If you see any emergency, call 911. For non-emergency situations, contact Miramar police directly at 954-765-4321. Note that Miramar police will still be patrolling the Sapphire Shores community.

TRASH COLLECTION

All trash bags MUST be in placed inside a container with a lid. (This is in the by-laws). Why? Leaving the garbage bags on the curb attracts critters, especially the ducks and geese, which rip the bags open. Turkey vultures actually lift the bags out of the open container. It is unsightly, unsanitary and unnecessary.

Make sure you place have a trash container (or two) with lids. Let's keep our community safe and clean.

Trash pickup days are Wednesday and Saturday. Bulk pick-up is the 4th Thursday of the month.

GUEST/OVERFLOW PARKING AREAS

A site survey of vehicles parked in the guest/overflow parking areas finds that many residents abuse this privilege.

It is an abuse of the guest/overflow parking areas to park your vehicles there when spaces are available in your own driveway. Wanting to keep your driveway clean or not wanting to be inconvenienced to move your cars around in the driveway are not acceptable reasons to use the guest/overflow parking areas. Your vehicle will be tagged and towed.

There are many families, particularly in the four and five bedroom homes with three or more children of driving age, who have multiple vehicles. Even though they utilize the space in the garage, driveway and the apron, they still need additional space. That is what the guest/overflow parking areas were intended.

We all can park at least three cars in our driveways: two in the actual driveway and one in the apron. PLEASE DO SO OUT OF CONSIDERATION TO YOUR NEIGHBORS. THEY ARE GETTING TICKETS FROM POLICE AND THE ASSOCIATION.

VEHICLES PARKED ON SIDEWALKS

It is against city law to park your vehicle on the sidewalk. It is a safety hazard, particularly to those children walking to school or waiting for the bus, who now forced onto the road because the vehicle is blocking the sidewalk. You will receive an expensive ticket from Miramar police if you park on the sidewalk.

VEHICLES PARKED ON THE SWALE AND STREET

Similarly, it is unlawful to park your vehicle on the swale. Parking is only allowed in your garage, driveway, driveway apron or, when necessary, the overflow parking.

No vehicles are permitted to be parked overnight on the street. This is to allow rapid access by emergency vehicles. You will receive an expensive ticket from Miramar police if you do so.

OPEN GARAGE DOORS

There are a number of garage doors that are constantly open throughout the day with no one working in or near them. This invites theft (or worse), and is very unsightly. Garage doors are to remain closed unless you are working in the garage or the yard.

DRAINAGE GRATES

Homeowners that have drainage grates in their swale are responsible for keeping the grate clear of grass and debris. Grass must be clear for the length of the grate, not just a small opening. This prevents water from backing up into the street and creating a flood, a big problem during the rainy season.

SPEED HUMPS INSTALLED

Nine speed humps have been placed in Sapphire Shores. Please drive carefully.

PET RULES

At all times, pets must be on a leash or in a carrier when outdoors. This is a city law for the protection of residents and visitors. Remember, you must pick up after your pet. No homeowner appreciates having to clean up excrements because a pet owner was too lazy to do so. Violations will result in a citation.

WATERING RESTRICTIONS

It's the dry season in South Florida.

Phase II watering restrictions remain in place. Violators will receive a costly citation.

ODD-number address:

Wednesday & Saturday – 12 am to 10 am AND/OR 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

EVEN-number address:

Thursday & Sunday – 12 am to 10 am AND/OR 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

For the most efficient use of water, avoid watering during both time periods on the same day. Most lawns need only 3/4 to 1 inch of water per week.

No watering is allowed between 10 am and 4 pm. Low-volume systems such as drip, bubble and micro-jet systems that apply water directly to root plant zones may be used any time.

OUR WEBSITE

There is a wealth of information regarding your Sapphire Shore community on the Sapphire Shores Web site: <http://www.sapphireshores.org>

Click onto the Police link to see where any crimes have occurred in our neighborhood. There is also a link to the Silver Lakes Community Association Web site, including the Homeowner's manual.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Sapphire Shores Recreation Board meetings take place on the last Tuesday of January, April, July and October. The next meeting is scheduled for April 28. All meetings begin promptly at 6:30 pm at the Southwest Regional Library, second floor. It is your community and you are strongly encouraged to attend.

Your Board of Directors for Sapphire Shores:

Avelina Damonte, President

George Infante, Vice President

Dennis Feltgen, Secretary

Richard Vera, Treasurer

Anna Rueger, Director of Community Affairs

You may contact the Board at: bod@sapphireshores.org