

# **SAPPHIRE SHORES RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

<http://www.sapphireshores.org>

## **July 2010 NEWSLETTER**

### HOMES AND THE ECONOMY

Sapphire Shores continues to suffer some of the same problems that other communities have due to the economy. Of the 327 homes in our community, there are currently 45 homes in foreclosure and/or default.

A number of homes are being rented out by its owners at a significantly low payment. However, the Sapphire Shores by-laws currently have no screening process in place for renters.

A proposal was made at the June 2010 community meeting to amend the by-laws to require prospective renters to have, and pay for, a background and credit check performed by an outside agency. The Pines Property Manager would provide the results to the Sapphire Shores Board of Directors for consideration. If the prospective renters move in without written approval by the Board, the homeowner would be sent to the Fine Committee Meeting to resolve the issue. If it is not resolved, the issue would be sent to the attorney. The Board would have the right to begin an eviction process through the attorney.

This amendment to the by-laws requires a two-thirds majority vote by all homeowners in the community in order to pass. A proxy will be developed and mailed out.

### COMMUNITY CRIME

At the December 2009 community meeting, there was great concern by residents regarding the rising incident of crime and vandalism in our community. In March 2010, the SSRA Board of Directors contracted with the Miramar Police Department to add extra patrols of our community several times a week. Crime statistics for April-June 2010 show the overall crime was reduced while incidents of vandalism showed no major change. However, the drain on the community cash reserves has forced the cancellation of the added patrols, effective August 1st.

Kent Security, contracted in January 2009 by Silver Lakes to replace the overnight and weekend patrols by Miramar Police department, continues under contract. Remember, Kent Security has no authority to arrest and its patrols are limited. Several hours may pass before there is a patrol down any one street.

If you see any suspicious activity, do not hesitate to call 9-1-1.

### THE POOL

The pool is open from dawn to dusk. Several cameras have been installed, providing a continuous recording of activity in and around the pool area. The fence has been

reinforced with two horizontal bars to reduce vandalism by making it extremely difficult to break the fence and enter the pool area.

If you see any suspicious activity, you are strongly urged to call the Miramar police immediately. Do not call Kent Security, as it has no arresting authority.

### STREET PARKING

Miramar police will continue to issue tickets to those vehicles parked on the street overnight. Take advantage of the overflow parking or your driveway apron.

### CURB APPEAL

It is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain the exterior of the home. This includes trimming the trees on the swale, keeping the lawn cut and free of debris, and having the sidewalk, driveway and roof pressure cleaned. Failure to do so will result in fines from the Pines Management Office.

### 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. Pet owners are also responsible for immediately picking up after their pet. Violations will result in a citation.

### SUMMER AND STORM DRAINS

Now that the summer rainy season is here, remember to keep the storm drain in front of your home free of debris and grass. Otherwise, water backs up into the streets resulting in flooding of the street and the surrounding property.

### TRASH COLLECTION DAYS

Trash is picked up in Sapphire Shores weekly on Wednesday and Saturday.

Bulk pick-up takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month (which is not always the last Thursday of the month).

All trash containers must be put out for pick up no earlier than the night before or the morning of pick up. All empty trash containers must be retrieved by the owner on the same day as pick up. Failure to do so will result in fines from the Pines Management Office. It is your neighborhood. Let's keep it clean and green.

### WATERING RESTRICTIONS

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 Website: <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. You can also send an e-mail to the Board.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Sapphire Shores Recreational Association board meeting will take place in October. This meeting will include the budget and elections. Additional meetings may be called to address important issues that may arise. Meeting notices are posted on the website and displayed on a sign near the entrance to our community.

Your 2010 Board of Directors for Sapphire Shores is:

*Ana Rueger, President*

*Steve Damman, Vice President*

*Dennis Feltgen, Secretary*

*Will Scott, Treasurer*

*Nelson Crespo, Director of Community Affairs*