

OLD MILL COMMUNITY NEWS

Burke, Virginia | Summer 2021

GROWING PAINS (AND ERRORS)

It has come to our attention that previous issues of this publication have some errors and omissions. Also we are having some difficulty delivering via mail to all residents. We apologize if you were left out before, or if previous errors caused any inconvenience. If you know of a neighbor that did not receive this or a previous newsletter, please encourage them to contact the Old Mill Community Council. Renters should contact their landlord, and the landlord can contact the Council for them. Contact information is provided at the end of this News.

WASTE DISPOSAL PROCEDURES (CORRECTED)

Trash, recyclables and yard waste disposal is a service provided by the Old Mill Community Association, and contracted to Republic Services (703-818-8222).

Trash pickup is Monday and Thursday, except on Thanksgiving and when Christmas or New Year's Day fall on a Monday or Thursday. On the week of Thanksgiving, pickup day is Friday. For other holidays, pickup day is the next business day (Tuesday or Friday).

Recyclables are picked up on Monday; a previous News wrongly said they were picked up on Thursdays. The following are recycled by Republic Services at this moment: aluminum cans, plastics jugs and containers except plastic #6, cardboard, paperboard, phonebooks, magazines and paper except clear window envelopes.

Glass should be disposed of at the purple bin behind the West Springfield Government Center (6140 Rolling Rd). While Republic Services also recycles glass bottles, it is not a good idea to put glass bottles in the general recycling, for safety and environmental

reasons. It is safer to dispose of glass at the West Springfield Governmental Center.

Yard waste pickup is on Wednesdays. This includes grass clippings, leaves, straw, brush, small branches, vines, and flowers. Tree and brush limbs or wood must be cut to 4 feet or less in length and tied in bundles. Other yard waste must be placed in paper bags or reusable containers. On February 23, 2021, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to prohibit the use of plastic bags for yard waste.



Containers with bagged trash, recycling bins and other items for disposal must be put at the designated trash areas after dusk the day before pickup day. Large household items may need a special pickup and may not incur a fee. However construction debris will incur a fee. For special pickups, call Republic Services.

After pickup, containers must be removed from the common area before midnight and must not be stored in the front or side of the house, or outside the privacy fence.

PET BEST PRACTICES AND REGULATIONS

This topic was covered in the Spring News, which unfortunately did not reach many residents.

Keeping your pooch safe will also keep our neighborhood safe. In fact, many best practices of dog ownership are also regulations of Fairfax County, and not following them may incur in fees.

Fairfax County regulations and Old Mill Community Bylaws require that dogs in public spaces must be leashed at all times. This is a good practice because it protects the dog from dangers, for example cars. It also protects our human neighbors from accidental dog bites or allergies. Any dog can bite especially when scared or nervous.



The OMC Bylaws indicate that the owner of a dog is responsible for removing excrement deposited by their dog in common areas, sidewalks, streets, playgrounds, and grass areas adjacent to a lot or sidewalk. Cleaning up after your dog helps to keep the environment clean and reduces the risk of diseases spreading to people and other animals. The Center for Disease Control recommends always picking up dog poop and disposing of it in the trash. Dog poop should be picked up, even in your own yard, and especially in areas where children may play.

County regulations pertaining to dogs are enforced by the Animal Protection Police. All dogs 4 months and older must be licensed by the County and have a current rabies vaccination. Licenses are good for one year and must be renewed by January 31. An unlicensed dog is a class IV misdemeanor and may incur a fine up to \$250. County regulations also limit the number of dogs that may live on a property based on square

footage. In our neighborhood, that translates to a maximum of two dogs per home.

COVID-19 UPDATE

People 12 years and older are now eligible to receive a free COVID-19 vaccine. Appointments are available at Fairfax County Health Department clinics. You can make an appointment at the Fairfax County Health Department website or by calling 703-324-7404.

Mask and distancing requirements have changed in Virginia. Fully vaccinated people do not have to wear masks or practice physical distancing in most indoor or outdoor areas (see exceptions below). Fully vaccinated means 2 weeks after your final dose.

Unvaccinated and partially vaccinated people aged 2 years and older should continue to wear masks and practice physical distancing in most indoor and outdoor settings.

Regardless of vaccination status, masks must be worn by all age 2 years or older in the following situations:

- When using public transportation
- In public and private K-12 indoor school and childcare settings
- In healthcare settings (hospitals, doctor's offices, long-term care facilities, etc.)
- In correctional or detention facilities
- In homeless shelters

What is herd immunity?

- Herd immunity happens when **most people** are immune to an infectious disease.



- People become immune by having the disease or by **getting vaccinated**.
Virginia's goal is to vaccinate at least **75% of people 16 and older**.

- Herd immunity will make it **harder for the virus** to find people to make sick.

Sign up for your **free** COVID-19 vaccine.
Vaccinate.Virginia.gov or call **877-VAX-IN-VA**.



VDH VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

Old Mill Community Council, Inc.,
P.O. Box 114, Burke, Virginia 22009
<http://www.oldmillcommunity.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/OldMillCommunity/>