

Tollgate News

To: All Tollgate Homeowners
From: Tollgate Board
Re: Association Update

We are pleased to report that the Tollgate Board is finally complete. The five members are:

Matt Kahn (123)	President
Richard Kenney (125)	Vice President
Tony D'Erme (103)	Treasurer
Joe Romer (116)	Secretary
Ray Wilkins (129)	At Large

We were particularly pleased that Tony agreed to join the Board again. He has certainly "paid his dues" through prior service and we believe that his willingness to serve again is an expression of his commitment to our community and the ideals which make Tollgate such a nice place to live.

THANKS TO LAST YEAR'S BOARD

First, the Board would like to extend to the previous Board a vote of appreciation for its fine efforts in maintaining our community. Many long hours and much energy went into keeping the Association running smoothly. We and the rest of the Tollgate community thank you.

MOVING FORWARD

We believe that the current Board, as currently constituted, consists of individuals with a diversity of expertise and experiences which should ensure competent management of our small community's affairs for the foreseeable future.

Admittedly, the Board got off to a very slow start this year. There were three resignations earlier in the year and there were some delicate issues relating to the transition from 1998 which caused some angst among us. The new Board has met four times in the past two months, however, and is now well along in the development of a sense of collegiality and a work plan for the months ahead.

We do want to share with you very briefly some of the issues being considered by the Board. But before doing that there are some important matters which we want to call to your attention.

- The third quarter Tollgate Association assessments are due. The dues are \$900 per year, or \$225 a quarter, the quarters being January-March, April-June, July-September and October-December. Please make your checks payable to *Tollgate*

Association and remit to Tony D'Erme (103).

- If you want to make modifications to the exterior of your home (including landscaping work), please submit a request to the Board before doing so. Your Board is striving for voluntary compliance with both the letter and spirit of the required restrictive covenants. We have a strong aversion to becoming the Tollgate "police." By the same token, the group is resolved to maintain the aesthetics which make Tollgate such a beautiful neighborhood and to protect our considerable investment in our homes. The best rule of thumb is, if in doubt about anything you wish to do outside the four walls of your own home, ASK.
- All expenditures on behalf of the Association must have the explicit approval of the Board. The Association will not assume responsibility for any costs which were not authorized by the Board.

The Board is in the process of reorganizing the three standing Association committees with a goal of adding additional volunteers. The three committees are: Architectural Review, Landscaping, and Social.

Any resident who desires to serve, or to continue to serve, on a committee should contact Matt Kahn as soon as possible.

The Board has a very full plate of work for the months ahead. For example, we will be developing specific criteria and guidance standards for making decisions regarding architectural changes and landscaping. We will be developing guidelines for the disposition of homeowner requests that are fair, deliberative, and expeditious.

It is apparent that we have a considerable amount of work to do in the foreseeable future. We need residents to actively involve themselves in the care and maintenance of Tollgate and we need your support as we move ahead.

RECYCLING TIPS FOR THE NEWBIES

For those of you who are relatively new to the Tollgate Community (this includes a couple of board members!) we thought we'd pass on a few pointers on how the recycling/trash system works. We don't want you to fall prey to the errors we made when we first moved in.

First, an impressive statistic: Falls Church is a national leader in

recycling with one of the highest recycling rates in the nation (67%), with two-thirds of our waste either mulched, composted, or recycled into useful new products.

Trash – As you are undoubtedly aware, trash pick-up is on Wednesday morning. We try to place the trash out after dusk on Tuesday and bring in the barrels as soon as possible after trash pick-up.

Yard debris – Collection is on Mondays, from January through October. The following materials must be placed in special 30-gallon paper waste bags:

- Grass trimmings
- Leaves
- Small trimmings
- Garden remains
- Twigs

Collection stickers must be affixed to bags to qualify for collection. Bags and stickers may be purchased at Brown's Hardware or Giant Food stores.

A more detailed description of the recycling program can be obtained from the Office of Recycling, Dept. of Public Works at City Hall or by calling 248-5176.

FALLS CHURCH CITY TAX DEADLINES

- 1/1 - Dog tags
- 1/15 - Fourth quarter state estimated income tax
- 3/1 - Business license taxes
- 4/14 - Federal income tax returns
- 5/1 - State income tax returns
 - Personal property tax returns
 - First quarter state estimated income tax
 - Business tangible property tax returns
- 6/5 - First half real estate tax
- 6/15 - Second quarter state estimated income tax
- 9/15 - Third quarter state estimated income tax
- 10/5 - Personal property tax and decal fees
- 11/15 - New city vehicle decal must be displayed
- 12/5 - Second half real estate tax

IDEAS PLEASE

If you have a suggestion for information to be placed in the newsletter, please contact Richard Kenney (125) at 241-1304 or any Board member. Any and all topics will be entertained.



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