



# River Reader

July 2019

**THE RIVER OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION IS A SC REGISTERED 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, HAS MANDATORY REGIME FEES AND IS GOVERNED BY COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS**

## Management Company Information

Dorchester Real Estate Services (DRES) is our Management Company.

You may contact DRES for any questions regarding violations, Covenant and Restrictions (C&R) questions, dues information, or payment information.

Dorchester Real Estate Services – Contact Info:

Phone: 843-563-5005

Fax: 843-563-5095

Email: [HOA1@dorchestersold.net](mailto:HOA1@dorchestersold.net) (Julie Eargle)

Mailing Address:

PO Box 116

St George SC 29477

For ARB Requests, please go to

<https://www.riveroaksnorthcharleston.com/arb-requests.html> and

follow the instructions for filling out the form.

**Every homeowner is invited to their board's monthly meeting. The ROHA Board currently meets on the second Monday of each month at Faith Assembly Church Youth Trailer at 7 pm.**

## Where can you find us?

<http://www.riveroaksnorthcharleston.com/>

Sign up to receive the newsletter via email!

[www.riveroaksnorthcharleston.com/e-newsletter-sign-up.html](http://www.riveroaksnorthcharleston.com/e-newsletter-sign-up.html)

Sign up for Next Door to help build a safer community.

<https://riveroakscharleston.nextdoor.com/login>

Log on to Facebook Page to interact with neighbors.

[River Oaks HOA North Charleston](#)

## *Always Looking for Volunteers!*

**Homeowners – YOUR HOA needs you to step up. Only 16 of the 22 positions are currently filled. If you like the lights on and the green space maintained, step up. Without the HOA, the lights go out and the greenspace becomes overgrown and your property values could plummet. I know that sounds like doom and gloom, but if the neighborhood does not look good, then buyers will look at other neighborhoods.**

## ANOTHER REMINDER

Burning in your yard is allowable with Fire Department APPROVAL; however, be respectable of your neighbors. Some neighbors may have breathing problems and smoking them out of using their backyards is not neighborly.

## REMINDER

Common areas belong to the association. Homeowners that violate C&R's by disposing of landscaping or other debris, or in any way destroying or damaging common property will be held liable. This includes tree removal and/or damage to signs.

LexisNexis® **Community Crime Map** is a public crime map that allows law enforcement to share selected crime data with the public. Dorchester County does not currently share information with the website; however, North Charleston does. Logon to <https://communitycrimemap.com/> for additional

2019 Board of Directors				
Subdivision	Name	Committee	Phone	Email
Ansley Pointe	Matt Jones	Maintenance	843-494-0069	<a href="mailto:mattswoodworking@gmail.com">mattswoodworking@gmail.com</a>
	Vacant			
Appian Landing I	Robin McKeown	Communications	843-991-4302	<a href="mailto:Rmckeown1960@gmail.com">Rmckeown1960@gmail.com</a>
	Vacant			
Appian Landing II	Paul Amarendran	Maintenance	843-552-2601	<a href="mailto:Amarendran@knology.net">Amarendran@knology.net</a>
	Vacant			
Appian Landing III	Karlean Williams			<a href="mailto:riveroakshoa@aol.com">riveroakshoa@aol.com</a>
	Vacant			
Marsh Hall	Dean Hinson	ARB	843-760-6850	<a href="mailto:Dhinson1@sc.rr.com">Dhinson1@sc.rr.com</a>
	Vacant			
Marsh Side (only neighborhood in the City of North Charleston)	Jimmy Cooper	Maintenance	843-343-2514	<a href="mailto:jamesfcooper2@outlook.com">jamesfcooper2@outlook.com</a>
	Vacant			
Palmetto Plantation	Darrel McKeown	Webpage	843-303-9068	<a href="mailto:darrel@ctelc.com">darrel@ctelc.com</a>
	Bill Summer	ARB	843-209-2200	<a href="mailto:wsummer@dorchester2.k12.sc.us">wsummer@dorchester2.k12.sc.us</a>
River Chase	Sean Patrum	Secretary/ARB	843-727-5226	<a href="mailto:spatrum@gmail.com">spatrum@gmail.com</a>
	Ed Nead		843-872-6802	<a href="mailto:ednead1958@gmail.com">ednead1958@gmail.com</a>
Woodington I	Maya Allen	Treasurer	843-696-4621	<a href="mailto:maya.outlaw@gmail.com">maya.outlaw@gmail.com</a>
	Vacant			
Woodington II	Ellen Sapp	Vice President	843-810-4737	<a href="mailto:Emhawaii1@yahoo.com">Emhawaii1@yahoo.com</a>
	Cheryl Cannon	Community Advocacy	843-552-9092	<a href="mailto:Ckcannon50@yahoo.com">Ckcannon50@yahoo.com</a>
Woodington III	Jeff Morey	President	843-552-9012	<a href="mailto:jmorey1@sc.rr.com">jmorey1@sc.rr.com</a>
	Kevin Bruch		843-767-8299	<a href="mailto:kbruch@sc.rr.com">kbruch@sc.rr.com</a>



## RIVER OAKS Fall Community Yard Sale

### Start Planning Yard Sale

Saturday, October 12, 2019

8:00 am To 1:00 pm

#### ROHA Committees

We have established the committees below and, beginning January 2019, are meeting the **second Monday of the month at Faith Assembly Youth Trailer at 6:30 pm**. We are ALWAYS looking for folks to help! Come join us to help with one of the committees!!! You do NOT have to be on the board to be on a committee ☺

- **Community Advocacy** – Community wellness concerns (sewer plant, speed bumps, road resurfacing) – Ellen Sapp ([Emhawaii1@yahoo.com](mailto:Emhawaii1@yahoo.com))
- **Community Maintenance** - Lighting, neighborhood signs – Paul Amarendran ([amarendran@knology.net](mailto:amarendran@knology.net)) and Jimmy Cooper ([jamesfcooper2@outlook.com](mailto:jamesfcooper2@outlook.com))
- **Community Outreach** – Community yard sales, parades, get-togethers – **Looking for Volunteer!**
- **Communications Committee** – Newsletter, Social Media including Facebook, Twitter, etc. – Jeff Morey ([jmorey1@sc.rr.com](mailto:jmorey1@sc.rr.com))
- **Community ARB and CCRs** – Review ARB requests, CCR reports. Sean Patrum – ([spatrum@gmail.com](mailto:spatrum@gmail.com))

***We need your talents and willingness to serve and learn!***

For more information, contact [riveroaksassoc@gmail.com](mailto:riveroaksassoc@gmail.com).

## **From Our Friends At The North Charleston Police Department**

### **Be Aware**

- Always be aware of your surroundings, vigilant of activity around you and attentive to individuals approaching, walking with a purpose and with confidence.
- Do not allow yourself to be distracted by activity such as talking on your cell phone, listening to music or reading.
- Try to travel with others, walk in well-traveled areas, and at night in well-lit areas.
- Do not display large amounts of cash when paying for items, and do not display excessive jewelry.
- If you see a person or group that makes you feel uncomfortable, attempt to distance yourself from them; cross the street, walk in another direction, go in to a business or residence.

### **Protect Your property**

- Don't carry large amounts of cash. Carry your valuables safely. Don't display valuable items (e.g., iPods, iPhones, cash), when walking to and from your destination.
- Enable GPS locator features on your cell phone.
- Write down the make, model & serial # of the phone and keep that info in a safe place.

### **If You Are Robbed**

- If someone demands your property and displays or implies in any way that they have a weapon, don't resist. Your physical property isn't worth getting injured over.
- Do not pursue the thief. Put distance between you and the thief.
- Report any robberies or suspicious activity to the Police.

## **ARE YOU READY?** **2019 Hurricane Season Is Here...**

Dominion Energy SC [info@email.dominionenergysc.com](mailto:info@email.dominionenergysc.com)

With hurricane season upon us, let's prepare for this year's storm season together and keep you and your family safe and connected.

### **Things you can do to make outage reporting quick & easy:**

If you lose power, please report it so we can mobilize our restoration efforts. Updating your contact information in our system ahead of time helps make the reporting process quick & easy.

You may also wish to register your mobile phone in advance, so you can text us your outage.

### **Tools for Reporting & Checking Outages**

Consider saving this e-mail or visiting/bookmarking the following web pages:

You can also report outages 24/7 by calling **1-888-333-4465**.

Always call in case of:

**Downed / sparking lines** - [1-888-333-4465](tel:1-888-333-4465) *Never touch downed or sparking lines.*

**Gas Leaks / Emergencies** - [1-800-815-0083](tel:1-800-815-0083) *You cannot report gas leaks or emergencies online.*

**Report Street / Outdoor Lights Out?** [Report Online](#) or call **1-800-251-7234**

***If you are told you are part of a mandatory evacuation, don't wait get out of the way of the storm. Make sure you know your evacuation routes! As someone who has been through Hugo and several other close calls and a couple of minor hits, it only takes one to kill you.***

## Safety is everyone's responsibility!!!

Our first responders are the best and do all they can to keep us safe and out of harm's way. Thank you to all of you which live in a community as well as the many that do not. We have had little problems here at Rivers Oaks and pray to have less as time moves on. Our fire, police and medical personal come when we ask, do what is needed all in a day's work but they cannot be here all the time as North Charleston is a large area and most would say they are somewhat understaffed. How can we make this place we call home even safer? Is more police and fire people the answer? I know that most are now thinking "up go the taxes" and I would agree. If only we could do something without more boots on the streets. I believe we can with little impact to all of us with just a few changes.

Most of us come and go in and out of Rivers Oaks at least once a day, many of us more. Some folks work daylight some overnight, we have neighbors that work 2<sup>nd</sup> shift and some that work from home. We have many that are retired. We have the "boots on the street" if we would only use them, them being all of us. All of us means ALL not some. We cannot think someone else will or is doing it for me.

If, just if everyone would learn and know what is normal in his or her four or five house radius this would help in identifying what maybe a problem, see something say something.

To learn what is going on in the hood all we have to do is pay attention. I know this maybe hard at first but should you not be "paying attention" anyways? Some of us are driving, some walking or riding a bike etc. I find that most of the time coming in or going out I am on auto-pilot. I too see people every day that must be doing the same.

Here is what I think may help. Drive the speed limit which is 25 miles per hour not 45.

Put your phone down for the five minutes it takes to get in or out of our community, just till you get to Dorchester Road.

Look around and see what you may have been missing in the past. If you see something that looks out of place or just not right, say something or call someone like the Police.

House alarms, car alarms, fire or smoke alarms. We hear them all the time wereever we go we hear alarms. We have become immune to the sound of danger, this is not good. Let's all try and change this. Next time you hear a car alarm or any alarms take a few seconds to look and listen. Don't just say "I wish they would turn that off. If it was your car or house would you not want someone to make sure it's a false alarm and not your house burning?"

## **Is your House an Extended stay?**

I see them all the time on the other end of Ashley Phosphate People coming and going but they are staying somewhere. The hotels down by the interstate charge an incredible rate for people to stay there. The people come and go and rarely talk with those staying in the next room. I am sure they have reasons, "Too busy," "Don't have time," and "I do not want to associate with those people," are just a few that come to mind. Being paying guests in a hotel I would say that those may be fair positions to take. I will also be among the first to say that I take some of those same positions when I am out of town myself. I am there for work or family after all right? But I do say "Hello" and often wish well to those strangers. I will bet you do too. I ask; Who does it in the neighborhood? How many people wave at or talk to our morning walking group that walks Park Forest almost every morning between 6:30 and 7:30? I myself always wave and the slim gentleman with the hat always acknowledges my effort. There are others out there that walk and perhaps I should be more assertive to acknowledge them maybe roll the window down and say "Good morning," as I drive by on my way to work in the mornings. Some days it is just the simple things that cost us nothing we do to recognize each other in our daily lives that makes our neighborhood a great place for a home instead of just a long-term Extended Stay.

From Officer Paiam Etminan - City of North Charleston Police Department

### **Why is it important to keep a personal record of serial numbers on personal items?**

If you become the victim of a burglary, many times the only way that the personal property stolen from your residence can be tracked, located and returned to you is through a record of the serial numbers on the property. Serial numbers on stolen property are entered into state and national computer databases that can be accessed by officers and detectives who are investigating recovered property to determine if the property is stolen and can be returned to the owner. In addition, pawn shops, a possible destination for burglary suspects with stolen property, are mandated by law to record the serial numbers on property being pawned. The serial numbers on pawned property is regularly compared to the serial numbers on stolen property. If a piece of your personal property does not have a serial number, you should attempt to engrave a personal identification number somewhere on the property that is not easily visible and does not damage the property, but at a location on the personal property that can still be accessed by an officer or detective.

Do not use your Social Security number as your personal identification number. Using a Social Security number as a personal identification number on your property only increases the chance that you will become the victim of identity theft.

In addition to recording serial numbers or personal identification numbers on your personal property, you should consider taking photographs of the personal property and/or video recording the interior of your residence. In the unfortunate event that your residence is burglarized, the photographs and/or video recording can be extremely useful in providing a description of personal items that are unique or difficult to describe in words, e.g. pieces of jewelry, or in verifying insurance claims.

Remember to maintain the records of your personal property, including lists of serial numbers, photographs or video recordings, in a secure location that may not be at your residence. This is especially important in the event that your residence is seriously damaged or destroyed by fire and you need verification of ownership of personal property damaged or destroyed.

## **Raising Dues**

It is not too early to talk about this and I believe me it is not a subject which the board, who are also home owners, want to talk about. As you are aware, our current dues are \$105.00 a year, the lowest of any community in our area. If everyone pays their dues, we would have an income of \$70,770.00. As of June 3, 2019, the ROHA has spent over \$45,000.00. The rest of this year's expenditures match the first half and we will remain solvent. Having said that, in order for us to maintain services and appearances we have to raise dues. Also, we have another problem. The insurance costs that covers the ROHA property and board has been drastically raised. The cost went from \$4,100.00 to over \$8,300.00 and the deductible went from \$3,000.00 to \$25,000.00. In the past we have utilized the Emergency Fund to cover any deductible. So we need to raise the emergency fund to be able to cover any misstep.

In order to cover emergencies and meet operating costs as they stand today, the dues need to be raised from the current \$105.00 to \$175.00. This is what will be needed to cover the ROHA operating cost (Approximately \$94,000.00) and boost our emergency fund from the current \$10,000.00 to \$25,000.00.

Remember these numbers really only work if all 674 home owners pay their share and unfortunately approximately 10% of our home owners do not. The board will continue to be as frugal as possible while maintaining the appearances of our neighborhoods.

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<b>North Charleston Fire Department</b>	<b>911</b>
North Charleston Fire Department (Ashley River Location non-emergency)	1-843-552-2425
<b>Emergency Medical Services</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>Dorchester County Sheriff</b>	<b>911</b>
Dorchester County Sheriff (non-emergency)	1-843-873-5111
<b>Poison Control Center</b>	<b>1-800-222-1212</b>
Dominion Energy South Carolina Gas and Electric (emergency outage reporting)	<b>1-888-333-4465</b>
Public Works (responsible for street signs, roads & ditch main)	1-843-832-0070
Department of Transportation (medians and road conditions/Dorchester rd)	1-800-657-0330
Dorchester County Animal Control	1-843-832-0015
Red Cross	1-843-744-8021
Charleston County Emergency Preparedness Department	1-843-202-7400
<b>Missing Persons:</b>	
Child Help USA	1-800-422-4453
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children	1-800-848-5678
National Runaway Switchboard	1-800-621-4000
United Way Hotline for Locating Services	211

### **POTHOLE REPORTING**

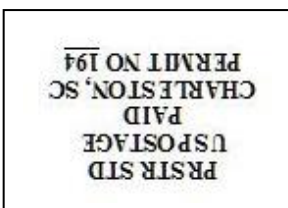
North Charleston Roads – 745-1026  
 Dorchester County Roads – 832-0070

### **STREET LIGHT OUT?**

1-800-251-7234  
 Will need the number on the pole

### [National Night Out 2019 at 4800 Park Cir, North Charleston ...](#)

The 36th Annual **National Night Out** is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2019 from 4pm to 9pm at **Park Circle**. Free food, games, and LOTS of fun! **National Night Out** is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.



ROHA  
 C/O Dorchester Real Estate Services, Inc  
 PO Box 116  
 St George SC 29477

