

Marsh Side

Hilton Head Island

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2023-2024

Property Manager- Jeff Schirmer
propertymanager@marshsidehhi.com

Assistant Manager- Sobie Zuniga
assistantpropertymanager@marshsidehhi.com

Maintenance Staff
Robert Zuniga
Jerry Dempsey

HOA OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Wednesday-Friday 9-5
Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 -5
(Someone is in office at 8:30 a.m.)
Lunch break 12-1:30

AFTER OFFICE HOURS

Please use our email address when requesting parking passes or reporting non-emergency maintenance requests. For all HOA maintenance related emergencies, contact the answering service. For all other emergencies i.e. health, fire suspicious activity call 911.

Office Number: 843-681-7301

Answering Service-Available after hours for HOA emergencies

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 22551

Hilton Head Island, SC 29925

(Please use this address when mailing regime payments)

Holiday Schedule

The office will be closed at noon on Thursday, December 21st through Monday the 25th. Additionally, we will also be closed on Monday Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

A Holiday Message From The Manager

To Our Homeowners and Residents:

Overall, 2023 was a very good year. The real estate market saw Marsh Side values increase again over the last year. Additionally, once again, we saw record selling prices for a third consecutive year. As we wind down the year, the staff and Board realize what an asset the homeowners we work with every day of year are. We want to make sure those residents that interact with our staff are set up to receive the attention required to meet all of their needs regardless of how small. As the holidays approach, the board would like to extend best wishes for a joyful season, and good health and prosperity in the year ahead. We hope you all enjoyed the community events we hosted this past summer and fall as they were well attended and we look forward to hosting more as we move into the new year!

To our Board and Committee Members:

Thank you for the time and service you've spent away from your careers, family, friends, and life in general. This particular board has been very active over the last year and with your strong commitments, we continue to strive to make Marsh Side a community we can all be proud of. We would also like to send out a special thank you to board member Bill Schemerhorn. After serving 8 years on the board, Bill has elected to step away to spend more time with family and friends. Bill has been an invaluable asset to this community for nearly 20 years and he will be missed dearly. All the best moving forward Bill, and thank you again for all your time and efforts.

To our Staff:

I want you to know that all of us are aware of your conscientiousness and hard work. All of you play a vital role in the success of Marsh Side and we wish you and your families a magical Holiday Season!

Jeff Schirmer, PMIC

2023 Annual Meeting

The Marsh Side Annual Meeting will be held at the Hilton Head Library (11 Beach City Rd.) on Saturday, December 2nd at 9:30 a.m. The address and directions were included with the Owner's letter that was mailed out in November. We will be limited to approximately 40 owners and staff

total. If you plan to attend at this late date, you must contact the office to see if space is still available.

Items on the agenda for discussion include the election of new Board members, review of the 2023 financials, 2024 approved budget and future Capital projects. Also note that the Board approved budget for 2024 does not reflect an increase in the regime fees. A schedule of current fees was emailed out in November.

Important Reminder: If you have not already done so, please return the ballot for the Annual Meeting to insure that we have a quorum for the meeting. At this late date, we ask that you drop off at office.

All payments should be mailed to the address below:

Marsh Side HOA
P.O. Box 22551
Hilton Head Is. SC 29925

Christmas Decorations

Santa is on his way!! Nothing stirs up the Christmas holiday memories like the evergreen scent of a Christmas tree. With that being said, we again remind everyone to keep safety in mind. Included in this Newsletter is a flyer with some safety tips. If you do happen to prefer a real tree over an artificial tree, we ask that you check the tree for freshness and make sure the tree is not shedding needles. Place your tree in a proper

stand that will allow you to water properly, and be sure to carefully check all wiring on your Christmas lights and extension cords. Lastly, after the holiday season be sure to dispose of your tree properly before it becomes a fire hazard.

Pets and Holidays

The holidays can be very stressful for you and your pets, especially during these uncertain times! If you are expecting company and your pet is easily excited, it may be a good time to put him or her in a quiet part of your home. You may also want to watch more carefully for open doors as your guests come and go.

Holiday Garbage

With the holidays comes holiday trash and a lot of it! We are asking that homeowners to please make sure all trash is bagged, tied properly and put into the appropriate can with the lid secured properly. Trash pick up is every Friday and they begin pick up around 7 a.m. If your unit is missed, please contact the office so that we can contact the refuse company directly before they leave the island. You can also contact Coastal Waste directly at 843-681-8900. They will attempt to come out on Saturday if they miss any units.

Leaving Town for the Holiday?

If you are leaving town for the holidays, let the office know so that our Code Enforcement Officer can be alerted. You may also leave a phone number in the event of an emergency.

Capital Project Updates

Additional Security Cameras

As part of the last phase of the paving project, the staff and Board are now working with a security company who are currently installing additional security cameras at the front of the property and at the office.

There have also been on-going discussions with regards to the tennis courts and other ways this space can be utilized. Much more in the way of details will be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting.

Code Enforcement

Our Code Enforcement Officer makes unscheduled patrols through the property from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. If you observe someone not adhering to our rules and regulations after hours, please contact Coastal Security at (843) 247-0788. Give the dispatch officer your unit number and as much information as possible concerning the violation or emergency.

Pest Control Update

Please be advised that effective Jan. 1, 2024, Marsh Side has entered into a new agreement with Massy Services (Island Pest Control). Periodically, we send our vendor contracts out to bid. The board has reviewed and approved Island Pest Control's proposal for the coming year. They are a very well established and reliable pest control company here on the island and we look forward to working with them in the coming

year. Please also note that service days will remain the same.

Maintenance Reminder:

Now is a good time to change out your HVAC filters as we move into cooler weather and begin to turn on the heat. It is recommended that it is changed every four to six weeks. Just a reminder that we do have filters at the office. (\$3.00)

Website Update

Our website committee continues to update and improve our communication to all of our residents here at Marsh Side. Please note that recently we added a community calendar to keep residents apprised of upcoming island events.

Board of Directors Meeting

Owners are encouraged to express any new ideas or concerns to the Board in writing. Each item will be addressed at the next scheduled Board meeting. The next scheduled meeting is Jan. 16th.

CHRISTMAS TREES, CANDLES & LIGHTS

As you decorate your home this holiday season with trees, candles, and lights, be sure to take some safety precautions.

When using a live tree, check to make sure the needles are fresh and green. If the needles fall off easily, that means the tree is drying out and a dry tree is a fire hazard. Location of the tree is important ~ do not place it near any heat source like a fireplace. Water your tree daily.

Make sure all candles are in non-tip candle holders. Trim wicks before use. Long wicks can cause uneven burning, dripping or flaring. Don't burn a candle all the way down ~ stop using it when about 2 inches of wax remain. Keep candles away from curtains, windows, or exits. Candles on a low coffee table can be a danger for small children or pets. Never leave candles unattended.

Be sure all indoor and outdoor holiday lights have a label from an independent testing lab. Don't keep any lights with frayed or cracked cords or damaged sockets. As a general rule never connect more than 3 strands of lights together but it's best to check the manufacturer's recommendation. Don't overload your outlets or run extension cords under carpets.

Are your lights approved for outdoor use? Indoor lights can catch fire if used outside. Do not over load your lights by connecting more than is recommended. Not only will you short out circuits but you could also cause a fire. Make sure all exterior lights are plugged into a ground fault interrupter circuit.

When putting up lights outside, try to pick a day when the weather is good. Wind can increase the chance of you losing your balance and in the case of rain, no one wants to be working with electricity!

Test all your lights before you get up on the roof. It's easier to replace bulbs on the ground! Make sure your ladder is on stable even ground before you use it.

Use clips made for hanging lights such as gutter clips and trim clips. Do not use a staple gun to hang your lights. A staple gun can crush the light strand and cause it to short out or catch fire.

Keep in mind that decorative lights are made for temporary use ~ take them down within 90 days to prevent them being damaged by the weather.

Happy and safe decorating!

Cinda Seamon, Fire & Life Safety Educator, Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue

HOLIDAY PARTIES

Holiday celebrations and parties can put your home at risk for fire. Preparing for guests can be a challenge. While decorations and great food may seem like the most important aspects of holiday entertaining, don't overlook the safety of your guests! Follow some simple safety tips and make it a safe party.

If you plan on having smokers at your party, use large, deep, non-tip ashtrays. Empty ashtrays often and wet the contents before disposing of them.

Always have non-alcoholic beverages available for party guests and serve something to eat before serving alcoholic beverages. High protein foods stay in the stomach longer and slow the absorption of alcohol into the system. Don't let your guests drink and drive.

Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.

Keep fireplaces clean and never burn trash or paper, especially wrapping paper.

Remember that two of every five home decoration fires are started by candles and nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source (NFPA.org).

At many parties, outdoor fireplaces and chimineas on the patio are a favorite. They can add ambiance as well as heat to a cool evening.

When it comes to starting these fires, there are a few things to keep in mind. Keep the fire small. The bigger the fire, the bigger the chance for disaster.

Your pit or chiminea should be at least 10 feet away from any structure or combustible surface. Before lighting, check the weather forecast. Windy conditions can blow embers. Also be aware of burn bans or ordinances in your town or county.

Clear the area around your pit or chiminea – leaves or other dry materials can lead to a fire accidentally spreading. Always have a water container nearby and a garden hose before starting the fire.

You can use a crumpled piece of paper or a store-bought fire starter in the pit. As the fire begins to burn, you can add sticks or a log or two.

Never use an accelerant like gasoline as it can increase the chances of your clothes catching on fire or the fire spreading rapidly.

When extinguishing the fire, take the ashes, spread them over a large surface area and let them cool for a bit. Then take water and pour it over the ashes, but still monitor it. Remember, the fire can still flare up in the night and even up to 3 days.

CHRISTMAS CLEAN UP

Start with small goals for clean up and tackle one item at a time. Start with ornaments and keep only those that are in good shape for next year. It might be helpful to store them in clear bags sorted by color or style in the same container.

When you take down your lights, this is the time to check for broken bulbs or frayed cords. Don't keep anything that has cracked or frayed cords - this will be a fire hazard next time you go to use them. The same goes for extension cords. When putting your lights away, don't just throw them in a heap - organize them and label the box or wrap them in masking tape and mark the tape. You can also wrap them around cardboard and they will be less likely to tangle. Be sure to label whether they are indoor or outdoor lights. Remember if you are storing your lights in the attic, summer temperatures can get very hot and plastic lights can melt. If you store in the attic, check your lights thoroughly when you get them out for the next Christmas.

If you store your artificial tree in the garage, consider shrink wrapping it. This will keep it clean and protected. If you used a real tree this year, you will want to recycle that tree and help the environment. Please remember to remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights, etc.

As you put away gifts you have received, throw away the old version. New pajamas? Maybe it's time to throw the old ones out. Remember the more cluttered your home gets, the greater your fuel load becomes for a fire.

Since your stove and oven most likely had lots of use over the holidays, this is a good time to really get your oven clean. It will make a difference for future cooking.

Make sure your fireplace is kept in good working condition. If you will be using it over the holidays and throughout the winter season, be sure to have it inspected for cracking or deterioration and make any necessary repairs.

Cinda Seamon
Fire & Life Safety Educator, Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Orkin Pest Control will service sections A-F	12 Orkin Pest Control will service sections J-M	13	14 Orkin Pest Control will service sections G-I	15 Trash pick-up	16
17	18	19	20	21 HOA Office Closed at noon. NOON	22 Trash pick-up HOA Office Closed.	23
24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS! HOA Office Closed.	26	27	28	29 Trash pick-up	30
31					1 Trash pick-up	2 Annual Meeting at Hilton Head Library at 9:30

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR'S! HOA Office Closed.	2	3	4	5 Trash pick-up	6
7	8 Island Pest Control will service sections A-F	9 Island Pest Control will service sections J-M	10	11 Island Pest Control will service sections G-I	12 Trash pick-up	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day HOA Office Closed	16	17	18	19 Trash pick-up	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Trash pick-up	27
28	29	30	31			