

# Pickett's Reserve HOA Monthly News

## December 1, 2019

**Winter Tips:** City crews pretreat roads as appropriate and plowing begins with 3 or more inches of accumulation. Primary roads are cleared first, then our community streets are plowed. Park off-street, in driveways, when snow is forecast, to give plow drivers quick and easy access to our streets. Clear and treat sidewalks promptly for safe pedestrian access. When clearing driveways, pile snow off the street, to the left of the driveway (facing the driveway), and consider waiting until after plows clear the road adjacent to your driveway.

**Exterior Lighting:** It's important, especially during the dark winter months, for homeowners, to keep their exterior house lights illuminated. Regularly replace any expired light bulbs, especially those in the yard lamp posts. Doing so will enhance personal and community safety and security, and help compensate for the lack of streetlights in our neighborhood.

**Security Tips for the Holiday Season:** According to the FBI, Dec is a peak month for burglaries, which isn't surprising, since it's also the month when many people leave their homes unattended while enjoying holiday events. The holiday season is a merry and busy time. Unfortunately, burglars and thieves try to cash in on the spoils of the season by burglarizing homes. For this reason, you should take proper steps to ensure that your home is secure from all possible threats. By taking these steps, you can effectively reduce the chances of becoming a victim. Here are holiday home security tips.

- Keep your travel plans offline.
- Notify a neighbor to keep an eye on your home.
- Ship packages to a secure location instead of the front porch.
- Make sure gifts aren't visible through a window from the outside.
- Be careful about disposing of packaging; it tips off valuable items in your home.
- Make sure your home is well-lit.
- Make sure your house looks lived-in when away.
- Be wary of door to door donation seekers.
- Secure your home.

**Beneficial Pricing:** Several members of the community have already contacted Jenny. Please consider how great an idea this is for our community. Perhaps we can get a "Group Rate" for certain home services. For instance, 2019 mosquito season is over, but who wants to be itchy next year? If you would like to help drive down prices and acquire a cheaper rate with a mosquito company, email Jenny Sylvester at [jennifermichellesylvester@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermichellesylvester@gmail.com). Perhaps there's more: mowing, painting, roofing, etc. She has offered to search and coordinate a group discount rate for homeowners interested in home services. Contracts would be individualized and separate to all participating homeowners. All inquiries should be submitted to Jenny.

**Keypad Batteries:** One more reminder. Replace the batteries in your exterior garage keypad. You may be susceptible to battery failure and lock-out in cold weather.

**Members Always Needed:** Volunteer for the HOA Board, Architectural Review, Grounds & Maintenance, Social, or Communications Committees. Care to host a Meet & Greet or organize a community event – contact [HOABoard@pickettsreserve.org](mailto:HOABoard@pickettsreserve.org)

**Common Area Issue Reporting System:** The Grounds & Maintenance Committee has a system to provide a way for residents to report Common Area problems and for the committee to better track issues and keep residents informed of progress. Use the following link to input the details of an issue with photos: [Pickett's Reserve Issue Intake Form](#) or paste into browser <https://airtable.com/shreVMUFATibSwSfC>

## City of Fairfax

**Police, Non-Emergency:** The City of Fairfax Police phone number for non-emergency situations is (703) 385-7924.

**Fairfax Water Public Hearing:** At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec 12, 2019, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its Proposed Budget and Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at: 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

**Refuse & Recycling:** Pickett's Reserve is normally picked up on Wednesdays; therefore, the holiday schedule will not impact us.

- Tuesday, Dec 24: Refuse and recycling collected Wednesday, Dec 25
- No refuse and recycling collection Thursday, Dec 26
- Wednesday and Thursday routes collected Wednesday, Jan 1, 2020
- No refuse and recycling collection Thursday, Jan 2, 2020:

**Be a Good Neighbor:** Check on those around you and give them a hand when you can. Pay special attention to neighbors who may have disabilities. Think also of folks new to the community who may be unfamiliar with neighborhood practices and local resources.

**Senior Center:** Fairfax City Senior Center is a recreational center with numerous and varied activities for all active adults 55+. Speakers and classes are an important part of the Center, and local trips are offered at additional cost. The fitness rooms are open during regular Senior Center hours as well as extended weekend (Sat – Sun 9:00 am – 2:00 pm) and evening hours (Mon – Thur 5:00 – 9:00 pm) and is free to all Senior Center members. Info: 703-273-6090

**Leaf Collection through Dec. 27:** Leaves should be raked to the curb. The city picks up leaves at the curb. It's part of the package of service provided to city residents and businesses that receive the city's refuse / recycling service. There's actually a map and schedule for the collection service. Visit [fairfaxva.gov](http://fairfaxva.gov), search for "Leaf Collection," and

scroll down to the link for the city's leaf color-coded collection map, which has six routes. Please do not bag leaves during curbside leaf collection. City crews will not collect bagged leaves, and landfills won't accept them during this period. Light yard debris, such as grass clippings and weeds, may be included in leaf piles — but not stones, branches and other large items, which may cause injury to workers and damage equipment. Crews circulate through neighborhoods at least once every two weeks, often more frequently. Heavy leaf fall or inclement weather may affect leaf collection

**Refuse and Recycling Tips:** Empty liquid from all containers, both refuse and recycling. This prevents liquid from spilling on workers and leaking onto the road from collection trucks. Latex paint cans are accepted curbside for disposal, but only if the paint is dried. Oil-based paint is not accepted curbside; please take it to the Fairfax County Household Hazardous Waste Disposal site, 4618 West Ox Rd. Information: on the city website, search “refuse”

**Small Area Plans:** Nearby residents and other interested parties are invited to provide input on the future of Old Town Fairfax and Northfax at the City's upcoming Community Meetings. At these meetings, the City's Small Area Plans consultant will have several questions for neighborhood residents to gather insights on the current conditions of these areas, as well as visions for the future. The meeting schedule as follows:

- Old Town South (south of Main Street), Dec 4, 6:30-8:00 PM, Old Town Hall (3999 University Drive)
- Northfax (area around the intersection of Chain Bridge Road and Fairfax Boulevard), Dec 5, 6:30-8:00 PM, Fairfax United Methodist Church (10300 Stratford Avenue)
- Old Town North (north of Main Street), Dec 12, 6:30-8:00 PM, Sherwood Center (3740 Old Lee Highway)

**Refugee Donations:** Donate new or clean, gently used coats and blankets of all sizes to refugees in Jordan. Please take items to the City Hall Atrium through December 9 (8:30 am to 5:00 pm weekdays). This program is in partnership with NOVA Relief Center and other regional government and non-profit organizations. Financial contributions are accepted online. Information: [novareliefcenter.org](http://novareliefcenter.org). Watch the Cityscreen-12 program Syrian Refugee Relief Discussion. Information: on the city website, under Services, click on “Cityscreen-12.”

**Lunch with Santa:** Dec. 14, 11:00 am, noon, 1:00 pm, Old Town Hall. Children up to age 10 can enjoy lunch filled with crafts, music, activities, and a visit by Santa himself. Bring your cameras to capture the holiday excitement. Info: [fairfaxva.gov/specialevent](http://fairfaxva.gov/specialevent)

**Holiday Market:** Dec. 6-8, Dec.13-15, Dec. 20-22 Old Town Square. Peruse the goods sold by local vendors — jewelry, textiles, food, and more in heated tents. Sip hot chocolate and finish your holiday shopping. Info: [fairfaxva.gov/specialevents](http://fairfaxva.gov/specialevents)

**Festival of Lights and Carols:** Dec. 7, noon-6:00 pm, Old Town Square. The holiday season kicks off in Fairfax City in this day-long event in Old Town Square and Old Town

Hall, with music, choirs, hot cider and s'mores, and much more. The day is capped by carols and a community tree-lighting ceremony. Info: [fairfaxva.gov/specialevents](http://fairfaxva.gov/specialevents)

**Christmas in Camp:** Dec. 8, noon to 4:00 pm, Historic Blenheim. Travel back in time to learn how Civil War soldiers and the folks back home celebrated Christmas. Meet the soldiers in camp; drill with soldiers; join in with a cease-fire exchange of gifts; tour the house; make Handmade Victorian ornaments; write letter to soldiers; sew a "housewife"; pack a food crate for soldiers. Info: [fairfaxva.gov](http://fairfaxva.gov), search "Christmas in Camp"

**Animal Adoptions:** On Dec 21, find a new animal friend with the help of the City of Fairfax Animal Control and Animal Shelter. The office holds animal adoption events on the third Saturday of the month. To see who's available for adoption at any time, visit the city home page, click How Do I, and choose "Adopt a Pet." Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Hwy, 1:00 am-2:00 pm

**E-Cycling:** Dispose of electronics and household hazardous waste safely for free at the I-66 Transfer Station at 4618 West Ox Road (across from Costco), Fairfax; Monday – Saturday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Info (703) 324-5230

**Recycling Center Hours:** Got recycling that can't wait for pickup day? Take it to the City of Fairfax Recycling Center, 3410 Pickett Road. The center is open from 7:00 am -- 3:00 pm daily, and is closed on city-observed holidays, including Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Info: (703) 385-7837.

## Board and Committee Announcements

**Social:** The Board is seeking volunteers for the 2020 season to host Meet & Greet events in their neighborhood. Dates are flexible and may be adjusted by the host. Contact a Board member or email [HOA-Board@pickettsreserve.org](mailto:HOA-Board@pickettsreserve.org).

- May 1            Need Host
- Jun 5            Need Host
- Jul 10           Need Host
- Aug 3            Need Host "*National Night Out*"
- Aug 14           Need Host
- Sep 11           Need Host
- Oct 2            Need Host

**Board Meeting:** There is no December Board Meeting. The next regular Board Meeting is Thursday January 30, 7:00 pm, at Army-Navy Country Club (ANCC), 3315 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030. Meeting will begin at 6:00 pm. For further information: [HOABoard@pickettsreserve.org](mailto:HOABoard@pickettsreserve.org). The 2020 Board meeting schedule follows:

Date	Location and Time
Thursday, 30 January	ANCC, 6:00 PM
Thursday, 27 February	ANCC, 6:00 PM
Thursday, 26 March	ANCC, 6:30 PM Social; 7:00 PM Annual Meeting

Thursday, 30 April	ANCC, 7:00 PM
Thursday, 28 May	ANCC, 7:00 PM
Thursday, 25 June	ANCC, 7:00 PM
Thursday, 30 July	ANCC, 7:00 PM
Thursday, 27 August	ANCC, 7:00 PM
Thursday, 24 September	ANCC, 7:00 PM
Thursday, 29 October	ANCC, 7:00 PM
Thursday, 19 November	ANCC, 7:00 PM
December	Traditionally no Regular Board Meeting

**Architectural Review Committee (ARC):** The ARC conducts nearly all of its day-to-day business throughout the year via email exchange among the committee's members. The proposed schedule for the ARC's quarterly meetings in 2020 are Tuesdays at 7:00 pm: 3 Mar, 12 May, 18 Aug, and 20 Oct. The meetings address ARC policies and procedures for Residential Maintenance and Repair Inspections (conducted by the Community Manager, Patriot Properties Inc.), the Application Process, Resale Inspections, and needed modifications to the ARC Guidelines, etc. Any changes to the ARC's quarterly meeting schedule, or any ad hoc meetings of the committee needed during the year, will be announced in advance on the Pickett's Reserve website. Residents who wish to attend any of the ARC's meetings must contact the HOA Board in advance at [HOA-Board@pickettsreserve.org](mailto:HOA-Board@pickettsreserve.org)