



President's Report – May 2016

Heavy rains can cause flooding in Martin's Point as it does in many Outer Banks communities. To prevent road flooding our roads are designed to drain into the swales in our common areas which were established to hold water runoff. At the front entry and in the chipping area we have drains to reduce or prevent flooding. These drains get clogged frequently with leaves and other debris and have to be flushed out on a regular basis in order to function properly.

Many thanks to resident and Fire Chief, Ed Limbacher and members of the Southern Shores Fire Department who flushed these drains earlier this month. For the past four years they have been doing this twice a year, or more frequently if there is a problem. Without their volunteer service this would be another regular HOA expense.

Now that warmer weather is here and schools will be closing for the summer, expect our youngest residents to be playing ball, biking and skateboarding on our streets. More people are walking and mothers can often be seen pushing strollers. *A reminder to all that our speed limit is 30 miles per hour.* This speed limit is already 5 mph above that in most Outer Banks communities. Please be alert for children and all pedestrians on our streets. *Do not speed, and slow down if you are approaching someone in the road.*

Assume a vehicle is travelling 30 miles per hour, and a pedestrian enters the roadway. If it takes two seconds for the driver to see the pedestrian, decide to stop the vehicle, and then press the brake, the vehicle has moved 88 feet before the brake is even applied. If the vehicle has an average stopping distance at 30 mph of 48 feet the car will have moved a total of 109 feet down the roadway before it comes to a stop, under perfect road conditions. Driving just 5 mph above the 30 mph speed limit increases this distance to 136 feet. Speed limits help keep us safe, please abide by them.

In last months' report I implored residents not to leave any garbage or recyclable materials on the ground next to the dumpsters, and to crush all cardboard boxes before placing them in the recycle bins. To this I need to add, do not dispose of non-recyclables in the recycling bins. While well intentioned, the placement of materials such as hoses, Styrofoam, aluminum chairs, and the like in the recycling dumpsters can drive up our recycling costs or lead to our recycling company refusing pickups in Martins Point. When recycling companies have to sort out and dispose of non-recyclable materials mixed in with the recyclables they collect it adds significantly to their costs. Remember, hoses, plastic bags, plastic tableware, plastic bottle caps, Styrofoam and metal other than food and beverage cans are not recyclable and should not be placed in the recycling dumpsters.

Dog owners, for your pet's and neighbors' safety, please keep your dogs on a leash at all times. Our governing documents prohibit dogs from running free. Remember, not all dogs are friendly to strangers and not all people are comfortable with unfamiliar dogs. Recently, a resident walking down the street was bitten, and in another instance, a woman was almost knocked over by an unleashed dog. All residents have the right to enjoy Martins Point without fear of being approached by a dog running loose. If you happen to see one, please contact Dare County Animal Control/ Outer Banks SPCA, at 475-5620 for more information or dial 911 to dispatch an officer.

Another reminder to dog owners is that you are responsible for picking up after your pets. Pedestrians shouldn't have to watch where they walk to avoid stepping in dog waste. Moreover, dog waste contributes to bacteria in our ponds, the creek and the sound, since some of our ponds drain into the creek and sound during overflow conditions. It only takes a few seconds (and a plastic bag) to clean up after your pet. Please be considerate and dispose of dog waste with your garbage. Landfills are designed to safely handle substances such as dog waste, cat litter, and dirty diapers. Thanks for your cooperation!

Enjoy spring – summer is around the corner!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aug." in a cursive, stylized font.