

WESTMINSTER CRIER

Some pictures from the
July 4th cart parade



FGUA NOTICE

SYSTEM FLUSHING AND TEMPORARY MODIFICATIONS OF DISINFECTION TREATMENT PROCESS

Beginning Wednesday, August 1st, 2018, the Florida Governmental Utility Authority (FGUA) will be conducting system flushing and temporarily change the disinfection process for the drinking water supply_ in your community.

The FGUA conducts system flushing as part of its prudent utility practice. Flushing will remove sediment from the system that has been in the pipes for a long time. Sediment left in the pipes has led to odor and discoloration in some communities, which occurs as chlorine that is used to treat the water subsides.

When the FGUA temporarily changes the disinfection process, your water will be disinfected with free chlorine rather than combined chlorine/ammonia (chloramines). This conversion to free chlorine (which is a stronger, faster-acting disinfectant) from chloramines (which is a longer-lasting disinfectant) allows the FGUA to perform a water distribution

Notice Continued

system purge as recommended by the Department of Environmental Protection for water utilities using chloramines as their primary disinfectant. This temporary change in disinfection is expected to end Tuesday, August 21st, 2018.

This process will not cause adverse health effects. However, during this period, you may notice some discoloration and or cloudiness in your water. You may also find air pockets in the system. The discoloration and air are harmless. If you do come across this, you may want to run water through the tap until it runs clear. Some areas may also experience a temporary fluctuation in water pressure or slight increase in the taste and odor of chlorine.

Discoloration in laundry can occur. You may wish to purchase and use a cleaning additive available at local grocery or home improvement stores. Including this while washing should prevent (or remove) discoloration that may otherwise occur.

Customers who use tap water for kidney dialysis at home should properly monitor their process for complete neutralization of disinfectant residual and should contact their doctor for more information.

Notice Continued

To condition tap water for use in an aquarium, de-chlorinating products should be used that neutralize both combined and free chlorine. The water should be tested with a kit that can measure both combined and free chlorine.

Please call the FGUA at (239) 368-1615 with any questions, or visit the FGUA website at www.FGUA.com for additional information on this process. The FGUA appreciates your patience as we work to maintain clean and clear water in your system.

Community Center Committee Members Needed

The Community Center Committee needs 3 or 4 new members that are here full time to coordinate Social Events during the summer months. We would like to have a Social Event each month from June through September. The duties would include purchasing any required supplies, setting up tables and chairs, hosting the event, putting away chairs and tables and clean up. The Committee meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Community Center at 9:30 AM. Please contact Tim Baranek at email Tjbaranek@yahoo.com for more details.

Congratulations to our new board member- Rick Bidwell

ARC is looking for an alternate non voting member to serve on our committee. If you are interested, please contact Barbara Waldman at

waldmanb@me.com.

A Note from Lee County Sheriff's Office

A recent spike in thefts from unlocked vehicles is prompting this reminder.

Lock your car! Remove all valuables!

The Lee County Sheriff's Office has seen an increase in the report of stolen valuables from unlocked cars.

Rain Sensors on Pumps

Each pump that runs our irrigation system has a rain sensor. The rain sensor shuts down the pump (and irrigation) once it is wet enough (1/2 inch of rain is what it takes to do this). When the rain sensor activates due to sufficient rainfall, the sprinkler system will remain inactive until the disc inside the sensor dries out. This dry-out rate will be about the same as your soil's drying rate and allow for sprinkler activation once the soil is dry enough to be watered again. This is usually about 24 hours.

**NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL ARC
MEETING JULY 25, 2018 AT
10:00 AM**

ARC is planning a field trip to Punta Gorda to view metal simulated tile roofs. The first address we will view is 3852 St. Girons Drive with subsequent addresses after that.

The condo association is considering this type of roof covering for the roofs of some of their buildings.

Anyone who wishes to join us should meet us outside the Community Center at 10:00 Wednesday, July 25th.

Barbara Waldman, ARC Chair

Here are pictures of the iguanas that have decided to hang out in Westminster, and need to be captured. They are an invasive species that lay up to 70 eggs at a time.

They are not something we want in our community. IF you see them, please contact Paul Braid, property manager ASAP. We also have had reports of rats and sickly raccoons. It is the homeowner's responsibility to contact animal/ pest control to eradicate the problem.



Lee County Sheriff Safety and Security Tip

10 Home Security Tips for Vacationers

Tis' the season for bathing suits, beaches, and summertime road trips with family and friends.

But did you know that while you are planning to take advantage of some much needed time away, burglars are doing a little planning of their own?

An empty house and a lack of preparation to properly secure your residence can make your home an easy target for thieves who recognize the clues of an absentee homeowner.

Before you hit the road, sail the seas, or rack up your sky miles, the Lee County Sheriff's Office encourages you to add this home security checklist to your pre-vacation "things-to-do":

1). **Ask the post office to hold your mail.** You can sign up for the USPS Hold Mail Service by visiting <https://holdmail.usps.com/holdmail>.

2). **Request a temporary stop of your newspaper.** Nothing screams no one is home as do papers piled in your driveway or front porch.

3). **Place timers on lights and televisions** to make it look like someone is home.

4). **Stay away from posting your absence online.**

Make an agreement with family members not to post vacation plans and locations on social media.

5). **Let them know before you go.** Let a friend, neighbor or relative know when you are leaving and when to expect you back.

6). **Lock it up.** Make sure all doors and windows are locked and properly secured.

7). **Safe and sound.** Put away valuable jewelry, cash or anything that is easy for a burglar to quickly grab and stuff in their clothes.

8). **Virtual eyes.** Consider installing security cameras near vulnerable entrances to your home. There are many reasonably priced, easy to use systems on the market.

9). Remember to **set your home alarm** before leaving.

10). **Register online** at www.sheriffleefl.org to request increased police patrols in your area while

you are away. Our V.O.I.C.E. volunteers will periodically check your home for up to two weeks.

For more information about this safety and security tip, or to report a fraud or scam, contact the

Lee County Sheriff's Office fraud line at 258-3292

Message From ARC:

As many of you know, ARC has been working on revising some of our guidelines. We had posted them in the last issue of the Crier and had verbally presented them at several board meetings but it has come to our attention that we didn't give homeowners enough time to review all the documents and to be able to comment on them at the monthly member meeting if they wish to do so. Therefore, "ARC will keep posting these in the Crier for the next few months.

We have also posted them in the Community Center under the ARC sign and on the Westminster website. In addition, we sent a copy to each Neighborhood Association President for them to share with their homeowners. Even though the board approved all the revisions, we are going to ask for another vote after the community has had a chance to review all the changes and make comments. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact ARC., Our emails are on the website.

Thank You.

Barbara Waldman, Chair

Note- you will find the pertinent guidelines with the revisions in **bold, red and underlined**. or in the case of the Driveway Stain/Seal Form in **blue**.

Lawn Furnishings

f. ARC approval is required before installing any lawn furnishings. The ARC will evaluate all proposed or installed exterior decorative objects solely in terms of design, execution, and general appropriateness in order to prevent such objects from having a significant negative impact on adjoining homes, the neighborhood setting, and the Westminster Community at large. The ARC will not judge the individual artistic merits of any object, but rather will make its evaluation solely on the object's impact.

All approved lawn furnishings must be placed in an existing planting bed contiguous to the house or garage. No lawn furnishings may be placed on the grass in the front yard, with the exception of holiday decorations and approved For Sale or For Rent signs.

Planting beds should include not less than two feet and not more than four feet adjacent to the foundation of each side, front and rear of the home. This should apply to homes with rear lanais. Front Landscape beds may exceed this distance from the Foundation, but must be completed in good taste and with the approval of the ARC.

ARC revisions continued- lawn furnishings

Decorative items may not exceed 18" by 36" and should be aesthetically pleasing and must be placed in existing planting beds contiguous to the house.

Decorative flags may be no larger than 24" by 40" and should also be aesthetically pleasing.

American flags are exempt and are included in existing covenants and ARC guidelines

Game day flags may be erected in existing planting beds contiguous to the house or on flagpoles attached to the house. They may be displayed on game day and must be removed within 48 hours afterwards. (This is in our guidelines already, p 15, (h).)

Political signs are not permitted under any circumstances.

No bird feeders of any kind are allowed on the property.

g) All hedges, shrubs, and trees must be properly trimmed and maintained as determined by the ARC

h) Trees and branches must be trimmed with a clearance of **seven (7) feet over sidewalks and fourteen (14) feet over streets.**

i) All non-native, invasive plants must be removed. See Addendum B.

j) Shrubs which obstruct vision sight lines at driveways, street intersections and on corner lots are dangerous for vehicular traffic and are prohibited.

ARC Revisions Continued- Lawn Furnishings

k) Any tree or plant may be used in landscaping except those on the list of unapproved Landscape? Plant materials in Addendum "B".

m) Removal of any tree with a trunk diameter greater than 3 inches must have the approval of the ARC, unless it is diseased, dead or replaced by an identical specimen. The ARC may require the Owner to replace the removed tree or trees.

n) Vegetable Gardens: The ARC views this as a landscaping issue and should be considered on an individual basis.

ARC Guideline Revisions Continued

Air Conditioners

- a) Wall or window air conditioning or heating units are not permitted.
- b) Compressors and fans for central air conditioning or heat pump systems which are located outside the exterior of the building shall be adequately walled or landscaped with natural landscaping that maintains its green year round to prevent being viewed from any street.

Westminster Community Association Approved For Rent / For Sale Sign Guidelines

Signs. No sign may be erected or displayed in or on any Lot, Living Unit, or structure, except a "For Sale" or "For Rent" sign no larger than ten (10) inches in height and no more than eighteen (18) inches in width is permitted. For Rent signs may be erected only for rentals of 12 months or more. Once the lease is signed, the sign must come down within 7 days. It may be erected again 30 days before the lease expires. The sign shall conform to the drawing depicted on the attached sheet. The party seeking to erect or

place a sign on their property shall be required to purchase the sign and sign post from a vendor designated by the Association. The vendor so designated by the Association shall be the only party authorized to place or install the sign on the owner's property. Owner's rights to install a sign shall be further subject to the following restrictions and those which may be later promulgated by the Architectural Review Committee:

A. The sign shall contain only the telephone number and the name of either the homeowner or the real estate company listing the property, if any;

B. Telephone number letters shall not exceed four (4) inches in height and the lettering indicating the homeowner or real estate company shall not exceed two (2)

Sign Guidelines Continued

inches in height;

C. Coloring of the lettering shall be white with a Dark Green Background;

D. For single-family homes and villas, one (1) sign may be located in the front of the property, no closer than Fifteen (15) feet from the street pavement and another sign may be located along the rear of the house, no farther than (3) feet from the house;

E. For condominiums, two (2) signs are permitted. One (1) sign may be located in the rear window of the unit;

F. Note: Notwithstanding the foregoing, the individual neighborhood associations may prevent, prohibit, or impose additional restrictions on the placement of signs in their respective neighborhoods;

G. The Architectural Review Committee requires that all signs installed or placed within the Community be constructed or installed by a vendor designated and approved by the Association, to insure conformity with these restrictions.

This is intended for ARC use, not as an amendment to the Doc's.

Garages, Driveways and Walkways

a) Conversions of garages to living space or other uses are prohibited, even though some are not readily apparent from the exteriors of applicable Units.

b) Materials used for driveways and walkways must be concrete, brick or paver blocks. Any changes from the original installation **MUST be approved by the ARC.**

(This includes the painting of any driveway or walkway.) Delete previous sentence.

Add: **Stamped concrete driveways may not be painted a solid color.**

An appropriate sealer must be used to restore the original color.

Pavers may not be painted a solid color, but must be cleaned and sealed according to paver manufacturer's directions.

c) Walkways and driveways

DELETE: (should be compatible with each other and the home, as determined by ARC.)

ADD: **Walkways from the driveway to the front door must be the same color as the driveway.**

The Driveway/ Stain/ Paint request form seen following has some changes that are indicated in blue on the form.



PLEASE NOTE: YOU MAY NOT PROCEED WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE ARC COMMITTEE.

DRIVEWAY STAIN/PAINT REQUEST FORM

Submit to: ARC Chairperson/ Property Manager
2001 Oxford Ridge Circle
Lehigh Acres, FL 33973

Date: _____ Phone: 239. 491. 2767

Homeowner: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

*Where would you like your approved/denied copy sent? _____

Please select one: (E-MAIL, MAIL, FAX, OR PERSONAL PICK UP)

The driveway color must conform to a color in the ARC approved driveway stain color palette. Driveways must be prepared according to the directions below, driveway must be properly maintained with no chipping, bubbling or peeling.

Stamped concrete driveways may not be painted a solid color. An appropriate sealer must be used to restore the original colors.

Pavers may not be painted a solid color, but must be cleaned and sealed according to paver manufacturer's directions.

Please read the following and be advised that Staining/ Sealing your driveway is a very involved process and must be completed properly to bond to the concrete surface.

❖ SURFACE PREPARATION IS CRITICAL.

- All oil, grease spots, and stains must be removed with a commercial or industrial cleaner/ greaser.
- Bare concrete requires a commercial/ industrial etching solution as part of the preparation process.

If your concrete surface is not prepared properly the concrete stain/ sealer that you apply will not adhere properly and will bubble and peel. If this happens the normal Compliance procedure will be followed.

Please sign and date acknowledging that you have read these conditions:

Homeowner signature

Date

Approved Stains:

H&C Concrete Inspired (Can be found at any Sherwin Williams store)
Color top Stain & Sealer are:

HC156 - Hint of Gray

HC135- White- Washed Terracotta

HC 140- Gray Horizons

HC125- Neutral Balance Tan

HC141- Cemented Deal

**Ultra-paver clear sealer /
Clear stain sealer**

Walkways from the driveway to the front door, must be the same color as the driveway. These properties will be regularly checked. Painted/ stained /sealed concrete surfaces must be maintained. Painted/ stained / sealed concrete driveway or walkway surfaces will be re-visited and reviewed by the ARC among other Westminster Committees.

Neighborhood Association (if applicable):

Date: _____ Approved: _____ Denied: _____ Tabled _____

Signature: _____

Architectural Review Committee

Date: _____ Approved: _____ Denied: _____ Tabled _____

ARC Response/Comments:

Signature of ARC Chairperson

or Signature of acting Chairperson

Please send pictures of all of the events to share in the following crier.

The Crier is your newsletter. IF you have a new neighbor, please have them e mail the crier so they can be added to our listing. IF you have moved and no longer wish to receive the Crier, please e mail the Crier to be taken off the list.

Please forward items or pictures to westminstercrier@gmail.com **at least 2 weeks ahead of time for publication.** This address is just for submitting items to the crier. Concerns about information appearing in the crier should be addressed at the office.

The next regular crier will be published the week of August 1.

Message from Compliance Committee

Please be aware that as we near the end of summer the Compliance Committee will be evaluating the following items.

Roof, Driveway and Sidewalk

Annual cleaning of your roof and sidewalk are required to keep them algae and mold free.

Lawn Care

During the summer season lawns should be mowed regularly due to the almost daily rain we receive here in Southwestern Florida. Additionally edging should be performed to show a nice sharp finish.

Mulch

Annual refresh of mulch promotes conservation of soil moisture, improving fertility and health of the soil, reducing weed growth and enhancing the visual appeal of the area.

Tree Maintenance

Trees that hang over the sidewalk and/or street must have a 7 foot clearance over sidewalks and 14 foot clearance over streets for emergency vehicles to pass cleanly.

Water Staining

Irrigation water can sometimes leave stains on the exterior of our homes. CLR or similar products can be used to clean these stains.

Over Night Parking

Please remember that overnight parking in the streets between 12:00 Midnight to 6:00AM will be enforced as of July 1, 2018 with the potential of fines for violation.

Please take a look at your property and spruce up any areas described above. I will be visiting with many of you over the next few months to discuss anything the Team feels attention. If no one is at home I may leave a note indicating I stopped by and a short description of the reason for the visit. I will be sharing the results each month during the Board Meeting.

Also, we're looking for neighbors interested in joining our committee. Contact me at predator_42@outlook.com. We'd love some new vision on the team!

Let's work together to make Westminster shine!

Steve McKinnon, Compliance Committee Chair