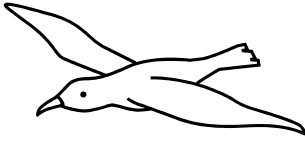


PO Box 57 8306 Swallow Lane Lusby, MD 20657
410-586-8201 FAX 240-235-2781



Special Interest Articles:

- Barking Dogs – know the rules.
- National Night Out – Volunteers needed.



- Vandalism in White Sands.

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Barking Dogs

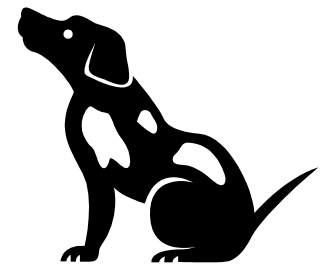
Dogs left alone all day get bored and restless, and many find relief in barking. Some respond noisily to any and all activity. But, nothing is as annoying as incessant barking—even for dog lovers. If your dog is a *yapper* or a *yowler*, please consider some of these bark-abatement ideas to keep the noise down in your area. Your neighbors will thank you!

- **Training.** Always the first recommendation for any behavioral problem! Help is as close as the Yellow Pages. Training not only helps your dog, you'll be surprised how much it helps you, too. You may get some insight into *why* your dog barks so much, or what it is trying to communicate.
- **Citronella collars.** A humane alternative to the electric-shock, anti-barking collar and costs about the same. Available on the web and in pet stores.
- **Confinement.** Sometimes simply bringing an outspoken dog indoors or confining it to a crate can cut down on the disturbance to neighbors.
- **Reduce stimulus.** Close drapes to help muffle street noise, or leave a radio on to mask it. Disconnect telephones and doorbells before leaving your home if they upset your dog or make it bark.
- **Companionship.** Dogs are pack animals; they need companionship—a cat, bird, or another dog. Consider a mid-day visit from a pet-sitting service, or drop your pooch off at a friend's place or a day-care facility once or twice a week.

And remember the regulations here in Calvert County:

SECTION VIII – PUBLIC NUISANCE

- A. Any dog or cat that barks or makes other harsh excessive noises so as to disturb the quiet, comfort, and repose of a member or members of the community as reflected by persons with normal sensitivities to noise, molests or bites passerby, runs at large, chases vehicles, attacks other domestic animals, deposits excretory matter on property other than that of the owner, shall be deemed a public nuisance.
- B. It shall be unlawful for anyone to own or harbor a public nuisance dog or cat as herein before described.
 1. The Animal Control Officer is authorized to impound any dog or cat that barks or makes other harsh or excessive noises so as to disturb the quiet, comfort, and repose of a member of the community as reflected by persons with normal sensitivities to noise if:
 1. The Animal Control Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the offensive behavior of the dog or cat has disturbed the peace for two or more consecutive days; and
 2. The owner of the dog or cat has been convicted on at least two (2) occasions within the preceding twelve months of owning or harboring a public nuisance dog or cat.
 2. Any dog or cat impounded by the Animal Control Officer, pursuant to Paragraph 1 above, shall be maintained at the Animal Shelter until the citation issued to the owner of the impounded dog or cat is brought to trial and the Court orders the return of the dog or cat to its owner. If the owner is found guilty, the Court shall order the defendant to reimburse the Board of County Commissioners for the expense of housing the dog or cat.
 3. In addition to imposing the fines provided for in this ordinance, the court may order such equitable relief that it deems necessary to require the owner of the offending dog or cat to abate that activity making the dog or cat a public nuisance.
- A. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, hunting dogs barking while in the supervised pursuit of game shall not be considered a public nuisance.



Architectural Control & Covenants Enforcement

The Architectural Control & Covenants Enforcement Committee is charged with reviewing applications for any new structure on your property; as well as enforcing the covenants, rules & regulations of the association. This is a multiple step process handled through a series of letters, a hearing with the ACC committee and finally fines and/or court for those that do not comply. It is through the enforcement of these regulations that we are able to help maintain

property values and improve the quality of living here in the White Sands Community. Having said this, please know that we make every effort to work with individuals before it gets to the stage where fines are issued and court dates are scheduled. We are not trying to make your life more difficult, and we are not picking on any one individual. If you receive a letter from us concerning a violation on your property, please do not

ignore it. If you feel the violation is in error, contact the office to discuss it, and if you know the violation is valid, please correct it right away, to avoid the harsher and potentially more costly notices.



	OPEN	RESOLVED	COURT	TOTALS
ACC Approval	5	7	1	13
Property Upkeep	15	13		28
Trash & Other Materials	25	7	1 (1)	33
House Numbers		1		1
Trees				0
Vehicles	24	12	3 (1)	39
Traffic View		2		2
Weapons	0			0
Farm Animals				0
Signage				0
Holiday Decorations				0
TOTALS	69	42	5	116

Message from Mattie

Volunteers are not paid -- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.



The holidays are over . . . the decorations are put away (or at least taken out of the front yard I hope), the resolutions to: lose the “holiday weight”, take more time for yourself, save money, or finally finish that novel you started 20 years ago, have all been made . . . and the gloomy days of winter are officially here, or would be if the weather wasn’t so crazy these days. It’s the same thing every year, the let down that sets in after the merriment of the holiday season has passed. Let’s make this year different! Let’s not give in to the doldrums of winter, but rather, take this opportunity to continue the “joy of the season” all through the year. Say hello to a neighbor, wave to the kid passing by on his bicycle, or best of all . . . volunteer for your community! Knowing that you are doing something to better your neighborhood and make your community a great place to be can warm your heart and bring a smile to your face. There are many committees that could use your help; and lots of activities coming up in the spring and summer months that desperately need volunteers to plan and run them. So, why not take a few hours each month and give a little back to your neighborhood, it’ll go a long way towards chasing those winter blues away! For volunteer opportunities within White Sands please contact the office at 410-586-8201.

Have a Safe and Healthy Winter!

Mattie

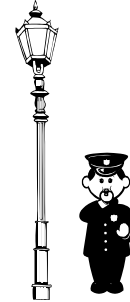
A Special Reminder: It has recently come to my attention that someone is photo copying letters from the association and placing them on vehicles throughout the neighborhood. Please know that any letter sent from the Association will come through the Post Office. We will never place notes or letters on your vehicles or doors. If you have received a letter like this it was not an official notice from the association. If you are the one placing these letters, please refrain from doing so in the future. If someone is not following the rules, contact the office and let the notification be given through the official procedures. If its an emergency (parked cards blocking traffic) call the police at 410-535-2800, Thank you.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The Neighborhood Watch Committee would like to thank the Board of Directors for authorizing the hiring of an off-duty officer to patrol our streets several hours each week. His presence in the community has really made an impact, and the improvement is already noticeable. Also, the addition of street lights to Laurel Drive, Balsom Road and Cedar Lane, have gone a long way towards discouraging negative behavior in those areas. We know we still have work to do, and the road isn't going to be easy, but seeing progress helps to motivate our volunteers and residents to work even harder towards making White Sands the great community we know it can be.

In January, we attended the county wide Neighborhood Watch meeting at the Holiday Inn in Prince Frederick. This meeting is held every other month and is a great way to share our concerns with representatives from both the Sheriff's Office and the State Police, and to learn about things going on in other communities. It helps to know we're not alone in this fight! We also learned a great deal about how to recognize gang signs in our community and with our youth. It was great to hear that Southern Maryland is taking a proactive stand against gangs and working together to prevent gang activity from becoming a problem here in Southern

Maryland like it has in several counties to our north. If you have questions about recognizing gang signs, or concerns about children in your family or neighborhood, feel free to contact the Southern Maryland Information Center (SMIC) at smic@smictf.com. They can give you some great information and help guide you in the right direction.



OFF – DUTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY ACTIVITY REPORT OCTOBER 2007 – DECEMBER 2007

- Drug Arrests – 2
- Misdemeanor Arrests – 2
- Traffic Stops – 55
- Traffic Citations – 1
- Traffic Warnings – 38
- Verbal Warnings – 16
- Traffic / Parking Complaints – 5
- Loitering – 8

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – AUGUST 5, 2008

National Night Out is held the first Tuesday of every August through out the country. With the exception of 2007 when circumstances prevented us from participating; White Sands has always taken great pleasure in hosting this event, and this year we are proud to return to the tradition. We are currently in the planning stages, working on securing demonstrations from our local emergency personal and government representatives, and

deciding what activities and games the community would like to see. Of course we'll still have hot dogs and sno-cones, and we're hoping to add some other special treats this year as well. But none of this can happen if we don't have the volunteers to handle it. We need help at all stages of the event, from planning and organizing, to promoting, obtaining donations, securing attendees, and of course working the various stations on August 5th.

If you are interested in lending a hand to this worth while event, please contact our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, Bob Williams at bwilliams@wsainc.com or 410-231-0985.



JANUARY 2008						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 Happy New Year	2 ACC/CRRRC Mtg 7:00 PM	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Open Board Mtg 7:00 PM	11	12
13	14	15	16 ACC Mtg 6:00 PM Neigh Watch 7:00 PM	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Jr's Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY 2008						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6 ACC/CRRRC Mtg 7:00 PM	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Open Board Mtg 7:00 PM	15	16
17	18 President's Day	19	20 ACC Mtg 6:00 PM Neigh Watch 7:00 PM	21	22	23
24	26	27	27	28	29	

MARCH 2008						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5 ACC/CRRRC Mtg 7:00 PM	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Open Board Mtg 7:00 PM	14	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 ACC Mtg 6:00 PM Neigh Watch 7:00 PM	20	21	22
23 Easter	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Vandalism in White Sands

Over the past several months, vandalism in this community has seemed to be on the rise. This is a senseless, useless crime which benefits no one and only works to damage the appearance of the wonderful community we are trying to build. Spray painting electrical boxes, trees, telephone poles, mailboxes and even roads does not impress people. Smashing mailboxes or the community sign with baseball bats does not make you “cool”. These are crimes! In Calvert County, malicious destruction of property (including graffiti) totaling \$500 or less in damages carries a sentence of imprisonment of up to 60 days or a fine of \$500 or both, and damages totaling more than \$500 carries a sentence of imprisonment up to 3 years or a fine of \$2500 or both. Additionally, the responsible party can be forced to make restitution to the owner of the damaged property either monetarily or through community service. This is not a joke or a prank, it is a crime, and if we find the perpetrators of these crimes, we will prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law! If you have any information that could lead to the arrest of those individuals causing this damage in our community, please contact the administrative office at 410-586-8201 or the Calvert County Sheriff’s department at 410-535-2800. We can only stop things like this if we all work together! Please do your part and help us stop this type of behavior in our community.



Resources to Avoid Foreclosure

The continuing home foreclosure crisis continues to reverberate throughout the housing market and other sectors of the economy. But the real tragedy is what foreclosure—or even the threat of default—does to families and individuals who face this kind of financial upheaval. And, it’s happening everywhere.

High foreclosure rates are largely the result of lenders offering mortgage loans below the prime lending rate. These “sub-prime” loans are most often provided to those with poor credit or buyers who need adjustable-rate loans to purchase homes. Mortgage defaults also can be the unfortunate result of a lost job or even a serious injury or long-term sickness that prevents breadwinners from working.

We hope none of our neighbors ever face a financial crisis leading to foreclosure, but that is wishful thinking. It can and does happen. If you or someone you know faces this kind of personal crisis, advice and information are available.

Source: <http://usasearch.gov/search?v%3aproject=firstgov-web&v:project=firstgov-web&query=foreclosure&>

For more information on foreclosure and mortgage lending, check out these websites:

- Americans for Fairness in Lending: www.affil.org
- Consumer Federation of America: www.consumerfed.org
- ADORN Housing: www.acornhousing.org
- Center for Responsible Lending: www.responsiblelending.org
- FTC Fact Sheet, “Mortgage Payments Sending You Reeling? Here’s What to Do”:
www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/homes/rea04.shtm
- Neighbor Works America’s Center for foreclosure Solutions:
www.nw.org/network/neighborworksProgs/foreclosuresolutions/default.asp

**White Sands Civic
Association, Inc.**

8306 Swallow Lane
PO Box 57
Lusby, MD 20657

PHONE:
(410) 586-8201

FAX:
(240) 235-2781

E-MAIL:
wsca@wscainc.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.wscainc.com

MEETINGS

WSCA Open Board Meeting – 2nd Thursday of each month
7:00 PM Administrative Office at 8306 Swallow Lane

WSCA Neighborhood Watch – 3rd Wednesday of each month
7:00 PM Administrative Office at 8306 Swallow Lane

WSCA Architectural Control / Covenants Enforcement

1st Wednesday of each month 7:00 PM

3rd Wednesday of each month 6:00 PM

Administrative Office at 8306 Swallow Lane

(These are closed meetings due to confidentiality issues – if you would like to participate with this committee or submit an application for review, please contact the administrative office at 410-586-8201)

Please see enclosed calendar for additional meetings & events.

Administrative Office Hours: Tues & Thurs – 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**WHITE SANDS CIVIC
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

PO Box 57
Lusby, MD 20657

Presorted
Standard
Postage Paid
Lusby, MD
20657 Permit
No. 20

**WHITE SANDS RESIDENT
LUSBY, MD 20657**