

# The Gazebo

A Publication for the  
Afton Glen  
Homeowners Association



## 2022 Annual Meeting and Other News

### Highlights of Afton Glen 2022 Annual Meeting

The 2022 annual meeting of the Afton Glen Homeowners Association took place Dec. 5, 2022, at St. Raymond's church. The Board presented the association budget for 2023. HOA fees in 2023 will be \$163 per quarter, an increase due mostly to higher county dump fees for trash removal.

For more meeting notes, see our web site at [https://www.aftonglenhoa.com/whats\\_new-new.htm](https://www.aftonglenhoa.com/whats_new-new.htm).

### Board Officers Elected for 2023

At its January meeting, the HOA Board elected its officers for 2023:

- Robert Siebens, President
- Jane Markowitz, Vice President
- Geoff Clopton, Treasurer
- Linda Mossey, Secretary

### Annual Afton Glen Cleanup Scheduled for Saturday May 5

The annual Afton Glen neighborhood cleanup will take place Saturday May 5. This effort focuses on sprucing

up common areas by trimming back bushes, picking up litter, and making the walking paths safe and attractive.

Meet up on Green Garland Drive at the beginning of the path to the tot lot around 9 a.m. Bring gloves and plastic bags. Cordless equipment such as leaf-blowers and tree trimmers will come in handy.

### Now's the Time to Get Ready for the Annual ARB Walkthrough

Every year in May, the Architectural Review Board and property manager perform an annual walk-through inspection of the neighborhood. The main purpose is to keep the neighborhood looking good, which preserves the value of our investment in our houses and makes Afton Glen a pleasant place to live.

The ARB looks for obvious problems visible from the street that need to be addressed, such as broken shutters, moldy or dirty siding, rotting woodwork, yard junk, peeling paint, and other such issues.

For some common and easy-to-fix items, such as storing trash cans and waste containers out of sight, a simple reminder may be left on the door. For other issues, the ARB will mail a formal notice to the

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homeowner requiring a resolution of the problem within 30 days, subject to reinspection.

Now is a good time to start thinking about this inspection. Give your house and yard a good, hard look and identify things that should be repaired or improved.

### It Should Go Without Saying: Clean Up After Your Dog

Judging from what can be found around the neighborhood lately, it's time for a reminder: Please remember to be a responsible dog owner and remove your pet's droppings. It's pretty simple. If we see you out walking a dog, we should also see that you are carrying a bag for doggy-doo.

Pet waste can carry disease-causing organisms, and you know it's ugly and messy. Caring and thoughtful pet owners will not leave an unsightly, unhealthy surprise lying around on the sidewalk or the neighbor's lawn.

County law requires pet owners to remove any droppings, subject to a \$250 fine. But also, if your pet poops and you don't pick it up, you're leaving it there as an annoying hazard for the next people who come along, which can ruin their experience of the neighborhood—not to mention kids' shoes, and the wheels on scooters, bicycles, and baby strollers.

Picking up after your pets will help keep Afton Glen looking clean, make life easier for your neighbors, and preserve a pleasant and inviting environment. Thank you for your help and care!

### Defeating the Green Invaders

With spring around the corner, we'll soon be seeing the return of seasonal plants and foliage. At the same time, though, comes the annual resurgence of invasive plants that can choke out more desirable native species.

Our neighborhood backyards and common areas are host to numerous invasive plants, including English ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, and wisteria. Many of these and other ornamental plants sold at nurseries are attractive but in fact can become invasive and must be closely controlled to keep them from spreading into dense thickets and displacing other plants.

Here's how you can help contain or eliminate these invaders:

- Learn to identify them and understand the best methods of control. The Fairfax County Park Authority has published a guide to these non-native invasive plants, which you can [download at https://www.aftonglenhoa.com/non-native-invasive-id-control-booklet.pdf](https://www.aftonglenhoa.com/non-native-invasive-id-control-booklet.pdf).
- Offer your assistance to organizations that work to remove infestations of invasive plants, such as the Fairfax County [Invasive Management Area \(IMA\) Volunteer Program](#), and support efforts such as the [Plant NOVA Natives](#) campaign.

### As Always, Be Careful Around School Buses

Drivers, please use caution and a safe speed in the neighborhood, especially when school buses are making their morning or afternoon routes at the school bus stops.

Children are not always mindful of cars or attentive to other hazards, especially when their attention is focused on fun and conversation with their friends. They may cross into in the street suddenly, or unexpectedly walk in front of you when you're turning a corner or entering a driveway.

So please watch for kids, and watch your speed. Thanks for keeping Afton Glen a safe place to live.

## AGHOA Board of Directors, ARB, and Community Management Company

<b>President</b>	Robert Siebens
<b>Vice President</b>	Jane Markowitz
<b>Secretary</b>	Linda Mossey
<b>Treasurer</b>	Geoff Clopton
<b>Board Member</b>	Carolyn Eng
<b>Board Member</b>	Matt Herman
<b>Board Member</b>	Halex Watson

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