

# Afton Downs Community News



July 2007

A publication for the homeowners and renters of the  
Afton Downs subdivision

## Contact the Board

President  
Sean Tintle

Vice President  
Allison Hill

Secretary  
Sandra Kuchno

Treasurer  
Faye First

If you have a suggestion  
for the board, send an  
e-mail to  
aftondowns@gmail.com.

## Movies by Moonlight

Sat., July 28  
The Wizard of Oz  
Free Admission  
Tolleson Park  
3515 McCauley Road

Sat., August 25  
Open Season  
Free Admission  
Tolleson Park  
3515 McCauley Road

Movie begins at dark.  
Contact Smyrna Parks and  
Recreation (770-431-2842)  
for movie details.

## Association Meeting - August 14th @ 7:00pm

WE CANNOT AFFORD NOT TO HAVE A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE. This year's annual meeting will be very important. It will be held on August 14th, at 7:00pm at the Smyrna Library. There will be many Board and Committee positions opening. Please call Sean Tintle at 404/433-1514 to let us know about your willingness to serve. Don't count on someone else to step up. It is everyone's responsibility. Your home is presumably your biggest investment. Get involved, please. We hope to see everyone at the August Meeting.

## Association Dues

Afton Downs Homeowners Association dues are \$25 a year, a fee that has not been increased in 25 years! We highly encourage homeowners to join and consider adding another \$25-100 to help with the upkeep of the entrance. Membership is optional but necessary to have a voice in the activities of the association. Please send your dues to: Faye First, Treasurer, 5028 Bell Drive.

## 2007 Home Improvement Surveys

The Afton Downs Homeowners Association along with the Afton Downs Architectural Committee will begin conducting the annual home inspection surveys. For those of you who are not aware of this, every year, the association surveys the exterior condition of each town home and advises the homeowner of areas that require attention. Guidelines for these recommendations are provided to us by the City of Smyrna Housing Codes and the Afton Downs Restrictive Covenants. If we all pitch in, do our part, and take pride in our homes, I know we together can make 2007 the year that Afton Downs is presented as the desirable, charming, and unique community it once was and help to increase our property values. For those who are already doing their part, the association thanks you!

## Yard of the Month

Yard-Of-The-Month is awarded to 5106 Afton Way. Kim is relatively new to Afton Downs and has done much to improve the front of her property with new grass and lovely flowers. She keeps it well maintained. Thank you, Kim.



*Agatha's Mystery  
Dinner Theater*

<http://www.agathas.com/>

From its website: Agatha's is a comedy murder mystery dinner theater with audience participation. All shows are original comedy murder mystery plays that take place in the dining room between the courses of the meal. There is no stage, the actors move all around you so you can see and hear from all seats.

Two professional actors carry the show and the rest is up to the audience. Participation is encouraged, but not required.

*Help Keep  
Smyrna Beautiful  
by Recycling  
Your Old  
Cell Phones!*

The Smyrna Recycling Center is now accepting cell phones, pagers, chargers and other mobile phone components for recycling by a reputable company. Keep Smyrna Beautiful will receive a rebate based on the value of the phone. Please bring us any old phones that you need to dispose of. Call 770-431-2863 if you have any questions.

*Curb Appeal*

Please remember to pick up those newspapers that have been collecting in your driveways. So many of us just pass by them on our way to and from our cars. It only takes a quick moment to drop them into your recycle bin. Also, you can call the paper and ask them to stop delivering them to your address.

*July Garden Tips*

- During dry weather, continue to keep the garden adequately watered. Remember, a weekly deep, thorough soaking is more beneficial than a daily light sprinkling. If restrictions on outside water usage are in place throughout the state, plan your watering schedule accordingly.
- Mulch and water Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Camellias.
- Brighten shady garden spots with Impatiens, Hostas and Variegated Solomon's Seal.
- Plant Zinnia seeds and enjoy cut flowers in a few weeks.
- Fertilize flower beds every 14-28 days.
- Lay Bermuda, Zoysia or Centipede sod. Be sure to keep sod watered while roots are getting established.
- Apply Ironite to Fescue and Centipede lawns to keep them green without forcing new growth.
- Fertilize Crape Myrtles, Butterfly Bushes and Hydrangeas with Nursery and Landscape Fertilizer.
- Watch for Lacebugs. Use Advanced Tree and Shrub Insect Control.
- Be sure that all tall annuals and perennials are securely staked so that they will remain upright during the afternoon thunderstorms that are so common for this time of year.
- Keep unwanted dead blooms picked off of all plants. This will encourage many plant species to produce new flowers.
- Allow roses to rest in July and August. Do not fertilize, but continue spraying, and give them a light pruning in July to encourage new fall growth.
- Plant Bearded Iris, and if you didn't get the chance to divide old clumps in June, July is a good time.
- Continue to pinch Chrysanthemums and Dahlias through the month of July.
- Cut back Wisteria to encourage next year's bloom.
- Remove Tomato Suckers and root them for new plants. Dig Irish potatoes when the leaves yellow.
- Start seed of: Broccoli, Brussel Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Collards, Onions and other cool season vegetables for your September 1 planting.
- July is your last chance to fertilize Azaleas.

*Water Restrictions*

We have been getting much needed rain recently, but remember that we are still at a level two drought. Please remember to follow all water restrictions. To report violations of the water use restrictions in Smyrna call 770-319-5338 during normal business hours and 770-434-6666 after hours and on weekends.

*Keep Smyrna Beautiful has new Pocket Ashtrays!*

Pocket Ashtrays are hand-held portable ashtrays which give smokers the opportunity to properly dispose of their cigarettes.

The ashtrays are small, attractive, and made to last.

Keep Smyrna Beautiful has them available at their office at the Smyrna Community Center for \$1 (their replacement cost). Many smokers may not realize the harmful effects of dropping cigarette butts. The butts do not decompose, and carry harmful toxins into the environment. Cigarette butts are also a fire hazard, as they can re-ignite and cause fires.

*Birthday Celebration*

Sat., Aug. 4

6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Free Admission

Village Green is where the fun and fireworks happen!

Smyrna celebrates 135 years, so bring the entire family and celebrate the birth of our city. Be there early or be there late, just be there!

Village Green

200 Village Green Circle

Smyrna, 30080

Concert info 770-434-6600

*Selling Prices*

Homes for sale in Afton Downs are being priced at \$175,000 and \$200,000. We are trying to raise the selling price for everyone. Comments from buyers' agents indicate that many people looking to buy are turned off by overgrown, messy, outdated landscaping in Afton Downs. There are still too many homeowners and renters who have not done anything to improve and update their yards. Too many plants in pots in the front look cluttered. Keep it clean, simple, and small. Renters are responsible for maintaining the house and yard. You owe it to everyone in Afton Downs to do your part in improving. Call 678/778-2389 for help.

*Trash Cans*

Call 770/434-6600 (public works) to get a new trash can or lid.

*Mailboxes*

Must be black (ONLY) with a 4X4 wooden, unpainted post. Your home numbers must be in white, reflective, and 3" tall on both sides of your mailbox for fire and other emergency vehicles to identify. If your mailbox is broken or falling over please replace it. Damaged mailboxes have a negative impact on Afton Downs curb appeal.

*Vehicles*

No vehicles with commercial advertising on them (1 ton or greater weight), motorcycles, campers, vans, motor homes, etc. may be parked in Afton Downs overnight except inside a closed garage out of sight from the street. If you have magnetic advertising signs on the sides please remove them any time your vehicle is parked in Afton Downs.

*Furniture in the Front Yards*

We have noticed an increased number of homeowners/renters placing and leaving furniture pieces (ex. tables, chairs, benches, etc.) in their front yards as decorative items. This is a violation of the Afton Downs Restrictive Covenants. Please remove it to the back yard. Also, please refrain from using indoor furniture, inexpensive stackable plastic chairs, metal folding chairs, and deteriorating furniture on your front porch. Any furniture on the front porch must be concealed behind a railing.

*Garbage Pick-up*

Garbage is ONLY picked up from the driveway of each home from the in-ground receptacle or rolling canister. Please do not put garbage in any other area. Some neighbors are putting large garbage items at the drain on Oakley. Items WILL NOT be picked up from this location.

*New Neighbors*

If you are a newcomer to the neighborhood and have not yet received a welcome package, please contact Chris Reynolds at 770-437-1429.