

# The Shoreline

*Sylvan Shores Community News and Events*

*Autumn 2022*



## CALENDAR

### Upcoming Board Meetings:

- November 28<sup>th</sup> – **All-Community Budget Meeting**
- December 19<sup>th</sup>
- January 16<sup>th</sup>

All meetings are 7:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse and are open to all Sylvan Shores Residents.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

President: Kim Hewitt  
Vice President: Rachel Kline  
Secretary: Liz Stark  
Treasurer: Cathy Izzi

### Directors

Kristin Buser  
Chris Mocella  
Judy Moody  
Will Parraga  
Larisa Santis  
Stephen Winter

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT for AUTUMN 2022

**J**ust like that, another summer has come and gone in Sylvan Shores!

This year was a tough year for those nasty jelly fish, but in between the scorching sun and pouring rain many residents managed to enjoy our swim pier and boat launches and water access community. The swim club was out there making me tired just watching them and lots of kayaks, paddle boards and power boats having fun.

With COVID slowly becoming a bad memory, the use of the clubhouse has increased, the playground was full of laughter and fun. I am constantly reflecting on how lucky we are to be a part of this small little community. Now we begin to enjoy the spectacular fall sunrises and sunsets, crisp air with no humidity and soon enough the changing of the leaves in all of its beauty. Halloween is coming soon, so be on the lookout for those trick-or-treaters.

As always, the Sylvan Shores Board of Directors has been working hard giving their time and efforts into keeping things moving smoothly. There have been lots of great projects going on which will be covered in separate articles in this issue of the Shoreline, so keep reading. And remember we welcome volunteers! 😊

As usual, here are a few housekeeping items:

- Telephone Number: You may have noticed, if you have tried to call the Sylvan Shores telephone number recently, it does not work! Apparently, Google assumed we did not need the number any longer since we do not

use it often so they disconnected us. We now have a **new Sylvan Shores voicemail box** and the number is **443-781-4453**. Also, you can always email: [SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com](mailto:SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com);

- Parks and Piers: Just a reminder, all parks and piers are closed at dusk and please take your trash with you and any chairs, etc. With extreme high and low tides, anything left on the piers will most likely end up in the water;

- Parkway Courtesy: All parkways should be kept clear of personal belongings so they are open to all and PLEASE do not dump yard waste (leaves, tree limbs, etc.) from your yards onto community property. The cleanup becomes an expense to the entire community; and

- Leaf Cleanup: To any new neighbors: Anne Arundel County does NOT pick up leaves from the street. It is our responsibility to dispose of leaves from and around our yards. Please do not blow your leaves into the street or onto the parkways.

I will close by sending, in advance, best wishes for happy holidays to come and a great winter season in Sylvan Shores; and thank you for your support and allowing me the opportunity to serve this community.

Respectfully submitted, *Kim Hewitt*



### **CLUBHOUSE UPDATES**

It's been a great year for clubhouse rentals and we hope to continue this trend. We are going to be planning more updates in the coming months. The process has begun to contract for a new roof and repair the stairs on both sides of the clubhouse. We are also looking into replacing the drop ceiling with a drywall ceiling along with new lights and fans. After all of this, the inside will need a new coat of paint and new curtains. None of this will happen immediately, but the process has begun. The Sylvan Shores Clubhouse is a huge asset to the community, so caring for this property is a priority.

### **BOAT RAMP KEYS**

Do you currently have a boat ramp key or do you think you will want a key next season, then this information is for you! During COVID, we made the decision NOT to have new keys made for 2 seasons. In 2022, we replaced the locks at both the South River and Hardestys Cove boat ramp area. This will return to being a yearly process, each year new keys will be necessary. BUT, don't toss those old keys because: turning in this year's key, when you purchase a new key for the 2023-2024 season, will get you a \$5.00 credit towards the \$30.00 seasonal fee. If you have any questions, please email: [SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com](mailto:SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com) and someone will get back to you as quickly as possible.

### **COMMITTEE NEEDS: ROADS & DRAINAGE**

A committee chair is still needed for the Roads & Drainage committee that manages roadwork and interacts with the County to ensure proper maintenance and safety of our roads. Management includes working with contractors to affect road maintenance, serving as the liaison with the County, developing and executing an annual budget, and recommending future road improvement projects.

If you have interest and are available to support, please contact [SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com](mailto:SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com).

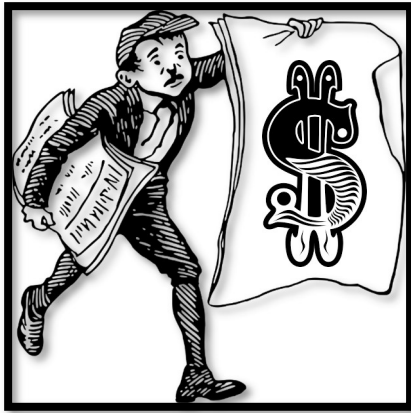
### **FUTURE PROJECT PLANNING**

The Sylvan Shores Board of Directors is forward looking to numerous new projects to maintain and improve our community. While many of these still require budget approval by the membership, the Board is current assessing the feasibility of:

- Playground at Forest Park;
- Finger Piers at the South River Boat Pier;
- New Community Signs at both South River and Forest entrances;
- New benches at Central Park;
- Kayak Rack expansion at Forest Park;
- Additional steps at the Swim Pier;
- Restoring the sheds at the Ballfield;
- Replacement of the Shorewalk Rd. bollards;
- New basketball court;
- Clubhouse: new ceiling, interior lighting, fixing the front steps, a new roof, and rain gutters.

### **BUDGET MAILING FOR APPROVAL**

It is time again for the community to review and approve the budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which will run July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Keep a watch in your mail for this important community vote: it is your community and your funding! Sylvan Shores cannot operate and improve without resources or the continued volunteer support of our community.



## FINANCE AND BUDGET

SSSC operates under two budgets: SCBD (Special Community Benefit District) and a Non-SCBD (SSSC) budget. The SCBD budget is funded by tax assessments for established purposes, and the SSSC budget is funded by fees from amenity rentals/leases for those expenses not allowed to be paid from tax assessments (such as tax preparation and audits, some legal expenses). Please visit [www.sylvanshoresriva.com](http://www.sylvanshoresriva.com) for more information on the purposes of the district.

Below you can see how we did with the 2022 Fiscal Year, which ended June 30, 2022:

SCBD FY2022 (ended 6/30/2022)	Budget	Actual
General maintenance and improvement*	76,020.80	75,863.42
Administrative expenses (incl. County Admin Fee)	25,800.00	25,958.66
Replacement Reserves (for future use)	30,074.00	30,074.00
Capital Reserves (for future use)	7,500.00	7,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>139,394.80</b>	<b>139,396.08</b>

As of July 1, 2022:		
Capital Reserves SCBD		13,499.92
Replacement Reserves SCBD		55,768.90
Replacement Reserves SSSC		59,161.52

SSSC FY2022 (ended 6/30/2022)	Budget	Actual
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,625.00</b>	<b>9,706.06</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Legal	1,000.00	0
Tax Return/Audit	2,000.00	0
Misc. Admin / Office	650.00	1,087.98
Newsletter	1,000.00	762.80
Donations RVFD	50.00	50.00
Replacement Reserves ** (for future use)	1,925.00	7,805.28
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>6,625.00</b>	<b>9,706.06</b>

\*Includes \$12,810 funded from replacement reserves

\*\*Excess income transferred to Replacement Reserves fund

Here are the budgets for the current Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023), approved by the Board and Community in November 2021:

SCBD FY2023	Budget
General maintenance and improvement*	97,685.80
Administrative expenses (Incl. County Admin Fee)	28,265.00
Replacement Reserves (for future use)	28,714.00
Capital Reserves (for future use)	7,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>162,164.80</b>

SSSC FY2023	Budget
<b>Income**</b>	<b>6,875.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Legal	1,000.00
Tax Return/Audit	2,000.00
Donations RVFD	50.00
Replacement Reserves (for future use)	3,775.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,875.00</b>

\*Includes \$30,000 funded from capital and replacement reserves

\*\*The SSSC Budget is funded by amenity rentals (clubhouse, boat slips, kayak rack, boat trailer parking etc.).

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## MAJOR REPLACEMENTS, REPAIRS, AND NEW PROJECTS COMPLETED IN FY2022 INCLUDED:

- New gravel at the Clubhouse, Forest Park parking area, and lane to Hardestys Cove boat launch;
- Paving at Central Park boat ramp area;
- Installation of water utility at Forest pier;
- Replacement of Clubhouse HVAC;
- Replacement of fence and repair of ground area at Clubhouse (portion paid by insurance);
- Parkway D erosion control swale and adjustment to inlet grate of bioretention area;
- Stone steps to the swim pier path; and
- Lots of tree work – with more to come!

→These are all successful only because of community funding, community volunteers, and your support!

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## REPOLINATE SYLVAN SHORES

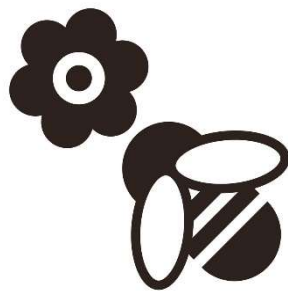
Hummingbird, butterflies, bees, oh my! Sylvan Shores received about 48 established pollinator plants through a grant by RePollinate Anne Arundel along with the University of Maryland Extension Master Gardeners and Anne Arundel County Watershed Stewards Academy. Those volunteers assist in propagating and growing valuable and difficult-to-obtain native plants. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/U.S. Geological Survey, Native Bee Inventory and Monitoring Lab, Native Plant Nursery provided access and expertise; along with plant materials, hoop houses, and irrigated pens to enable the growth of these straight species herbaceous

perennials. The plants were put in at the Central Park boat ramp area – extending the Unity Garden grant from 2020 – and at the parking area at the Forest Park Hardestys Cove area.

Thanks to several volunteers who came out to put them in the ground: Ray Moody, Rachel Kline, Clare Allard, Lily Walther, Bill Bartolotta, Robin Cobb, Kathleen and Stephen Carney, Liz Stark, and Cathy Izzi.

### Some of the plants included:

- Golden Alexanders
- Purple Giant Hyssop
- Common Sneezeweed
- Rose Mallow
- Spotted Beebalm
- Black-eyed Susan
- Meadowsweet
- Pearly Everlasting
- Rattlesnake Master
- Wild Blue Indigo



We can't wait to see them in bloom from May to October!

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## STEPS TO THE SWIM PIER



Finally! A beautiful solution to a thorny problem. Sylvan Shores owns a set of stairs accessed from Shore Walk which leads to the South River and provide access to our South River community pier. The shoreline at the base of the stairs was *severely* eroded, completely undermining the stairs, and eliminating access to the beach and pier (other than by creeping along a community member's property...). After a series of false starts, we finally arrived at this solution involving riprap and a set of stone stairs leading from the wooden stairs directly to the beach. Thanks to Maguire Marine Construction and our waterfront committee for working together to solve this issue. While not perfect, it's certainly a dramatic improvement over the prior situation. We request that you please access the beach via the new stone stairs, and NOT across the neighbor's hillside.

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## SWIM AND PADDLE SOUTH RIVER:

Outdoor recreation on the South River was in full swing this Spring and Summer from Sylvan Shores! Neighborhood resident, Traci McNeil and her team hosted training swims for triathletes and both competitive and non-competitive swimmers of all ages. This 5th Annual Swim & Paddle the South River event in October helped to raise money and awareness for the Arundel Rivers Federation and the restoration and protection efforts they execute. Executive Director, Matthew Johnston helped to cheer the participants on!



If you'd like to learn about cold water swimming and experience the benefits of it as therapy, JOIN US this Fall! Message Traci for more details: 443-994-4275 or [channelswim@verizon.net](mailto:channelswim@verizon.net).

Thanks to Sylvan Shores for welcoming swimmers to your shores to enjoy the bounty of our River!

### PROGRAMMING NOTE:

Hardesty the Heron is out fishing before the cold sets in and is unable to provide his regular "Hardesty's View" column for this newsletter. He expects to be back to writing this winter after he is well fed!

### **Contact Sylvan Shores**

For questions, comments, suggestions, and other community or membership needs:

- <http://SylvanShoresRiva.com>
- <https://www.facebook.com/SylvanShoresRiva>
- [SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com](mailto:SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com)
- **NEW** Google Voice Mailbox: 443-781-4453
- Mail: P.O. Box 208, Riva, MD 21140

### **COUNTY CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Emergency: 9-1-1

Suicide Hotline: 9-8-8

Non-Emergency Police: 410-222-8610

Animal Control: 410-222-8900

Government Services: 3-1-1

Non-Profit/Human Services: 2-1-1

<https://aacounty.org/>

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**Sylvan Shores Services Company, Inc.** (SSSC) is a Maryland Corporation operating as a non-profit, which owns and maintains amenities for the benefit of the owners and residents of the Sylvan Shores community. SSSC also administers the Sylvan Shores Special Community Benefit District (SCBD), an Anne Arundel County special taxing district. SSSC is managed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors who are community members.

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**The Shoreline** is the periodic publication sent to all Sylvan Shores owners and residents for the good and the benefit of the community. The Shoreline is written by community members and edited by the Communications Committee. For questions, comments, or to add content to The Shoreline, please contact us at [SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com](mailto:SylvanShoresBOD@gmail.com). We welcome your thoughts and input!

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### **Sylvan Shores Services Company**

P.O. Box 208

Riva, MD 21140