

Observations from the Architecture Review Board (ARB)

The Refuge is a uniquely designed and aesthetically appealing community, which we all want to maintain in the same wonderful manner as the day we all moved in. Our covenants are written with the intent to help each of us preserve this community and our individual property values. As property owners or residents of The Refuge you are asked to follow the guidelines in the covenants.

A few observations have been forwarded to the ARB and in turn, we would like to gently remind everyone of the upkeep that is required:

- There are a few homes that have over grown landscape hedges and lawn edging that requires immediate attention. This includes overhang/encroachment on the sidewalk.
- Upkeep on lawns is necessary, even in this dreadful heat.
- Several flower beds require immediate attention (trimming, mulch/pine straw), and some beds have an excessive over growth of weeds.
- All garbage cans need to be properly stored (not visible from the street), additionally, place all trash cans and lawn debris out Wednesday evening, no sooner than 5 p.m., and promptly return your trash can after trash pickup on Thursday (NLT Thursday evening for those with busy schedules).
- Vehicles should not be parked on the street overnight. Further, RV's, Motor Homes, Bus, ATV, and/or Motorcycles are not to be parked in driveway or street overnight. If temporary parking is required for visiting guests, simply notify the HOA Board to obtain pre-approval. Safety is important and allowing emergency vehicles access is crucial.

Welcome to all of the new residents of The Refuge and please take note that school is in session and some of our community students will be traveling to and from a bus stop that is just outside our entrance. Their safety is important to all of us.

At the end of August, Middleton Place representatives conducted a walkthrough with members of our Board to ensure river and creek front houses are following applicable bylaws. A few observations were noted regarding potential violations with the buffers. The Board is waiting for the final report and will address these concerns with the individual owners.

Additionally, to those new to the Lowcountry, hurricane season began June 1st and runs to November 30th. If you have questions or concerns on how to prepare, should this be your first season, feel free to reach out to the board or your neighbors for guidance.

Forms and information can be found at RefugeatWhitehall.org.