



# BAYNARD PARK

## NEWSLETTER

March 15, 2021

### News From Your Boards & Committees

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#### " A Note From Your Board President"

##### Board Meeting Changes

Happy March Baynard Park!

Spring is just around the corner and clocks moved forward this past weekend. The weather is becoming nicer, the days are getting longer, and we would like to announce two exciting changes to our monthly board meetings. Beginning in April we will be starting our board meetings at 7 PM. We know the 6 o'clock time is difficult for many of our residents to attend. We want to see all residents there so we are adding the extra hour for convenience. The board will also be available for one-on-one meetings with any resident beginning at 6:30.

In addition to this, our April board meeting will be held at the pool pavilion and will be an in-person meeting. We believe this can be done safely and it is important that the community is involved in these meetings. The meeting will also be online for those that cannot attend in person and are still feeling uncomfortable.

More information will be made available prior to the meeting. It is our hope that by making these two changes these meetings will become more convenient and allow us to take a step toward normalcy.



## REC BOARD NEWS

Our pool resurfacing  
project is  
**COMPLETE!!!**



Here is the last set of work activities completed to meet our April time frame:

- Saw, cut and remove plaster 1" below existing tile and around all fittings - **complete**
- Prep interior surfaces to receive "Bond Kote" coating to bond the pool plaster - **complete**
- Apply "Bond Kote" to interior surfaces - **complete**
- Resurface kiddy/main pool interior using Pebble Sheen White Satin finish - **complete**
- Install new drain covers, directional eyeballs and lights - **complete**
- Refill pool, start equipment and balance water - **complete**
- Add start up chemicals - **complete**

As you know for our updates there have been a lot of moving pieces to prepare for our summer season and we are right on schedule.

There has also been work underway related to our irrigation system. Here are the activities pending/completed related to irrigation:

- Repair all irrigation issues at the pool and Pleasant Point - **complete**
- Install new RainBird controller for the pool area - **complete**
- Install new irrigation meter from BJWSA - **pending**

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## WELCOME COMMITTEE

New families in our community are receiving an email introducing our Welcome Committee - who we are and what we do. As we meet with new

home owners we will inquire where they moved from (if they are comfortable sharing), as we may have people in our community from that area too. It is nice to remember, and talk about, where you came from with folks who have lived there too. This all makes moving to a new community that much easier, which is our main objective as the Welcome Committee.



Our welcome committee will be dropping off a gift bag with a personalized wooden tray and great information on our little town of Bluffton♥. Please take a peek at everything included in the welcome bag above.

Our committee is working hard to make our community the best it can be! We're all looking forward to warmer spring weather ahead of us!

Liza Ryan, Mari Notley, Teresa Knoll, Kristine Aiello

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## Around Baynard Park

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### CLUBS & GROUPS UPDATE

As you can imagine the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted many of the activities of our neighbors in Baynard Park. We thought it might be a good time to check in with our clubs and groups to see what they've been up to:

**The Bunco Groups** - there are three Bunco groups in the neighborhood. They normally meet monthly, rotating between members' homes (or some in the pool pavilion until the weather became too chilly to play outside). They have not been meeting due to COVID restrictions. Play will start up soon. Watch for updates for start-up dates. If you are interested in learning more about the game of Bunco, please contact Debbie Fejes at 770-769-8389, Rosalind Kelly at 313-729-9977, or Susan Bonner at [susanbonner88@gmail.com](mailto:susanbonner88@gmail.com)

**Ladies Luncheon Group** usually meets monthly visiting area restaurants. They have not met recently. Once spring arrives and the weather is warmer for outside dining, they hope to get together again. Linda Wolff is the contact for this group. She can be reached at 630-667-1033.

**Mah Jongg** is a fun game enjoyed by players in our community on Thursday afternoons. Instruction is provided for new players to the game and play is organized so that it is enjoyed by those at all levels. Unfortunately, their meetings have been suspended due to COVID restrictions. Carolyn Adelman chairs this group and can be reached at 843-929-0700.

**Men's Golf** - this group has disbanded for various reasons. If anyone is interested in re-starting the group please let us know.

**Pickleball** - this group is led by neighbors Cindy Binkley and Kathleen Wilson. They would love to have more folks join them in learning the fun game of pickleball on our Baynard Park courts. Please contact Cindy by phone at 618-789-2015 or by e-mail at [yobink@sbcglobal.net](mailto:yobink@sbcglobal.net). Kathleen can be reached by phone at 516-857-8753 or by e-mail at [kd72493@aol.com](mailto:kd72493@aol.com). Kathleen is able to play with those available during the day and Cindy is willing to start a couple of beginner classes once the time changes and there is more daylight available for play.

**Men's Luncheon** - this group is not currently meeting. Watch for information in the future about upcoming events.

Want to start a book club, bible study, gourmet group, fishing or card club once it is safe to meet in groups again? Any hobby you love is probably loved by others who might like to share it with you. Take a look at the Community Recreation tab on the Baynard Park website and you can click on the link for the Webmaster to get started.



## FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS!!!

(BP & PS)

We will start having Food Truck Fridays (usually twice a month beginning in March).

See the entry sign board or newsletter for information each month. We will have two food trucks and one dessert or sweets truck scheduled for each of the food

truck nights and have reserved the pool pavilion for each night. Hoping for great turnouts, since (at this time in our pandemic) we don't know if we will be able to have actual "social events".

**3/19/21 - 5-7:30 - Poolside**

Thai Truck  
Diced Pineapple (Jamaican)  
Lowcountry Snowballs

**4/19/21 - 5-7:30 - Poolside**

Big Dog Tacos  
Golden Sun (Phillipino)  
call or text orders ahead at 843-816-1729 or at website  
Kettle Corn

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO WEAR MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCE SO WE CAN CONTINUE OUR FOOD TRUCK NIGHTS.**

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## **Baynard Park Home Values**

Anna Dinatali, Associate Broker at Landmark 24 Realty Inc. shares with us some good news about home values in Baynard Park. Anna tells us that when looking at the real estate market with reference to our great Baynard Park, home values here, even with the Covid 19 impact on the economy, show a rise in both values and sales. Right now, inventory in Baynard Park is very low, and that along with inventory in Bluffton as a whole, has created a seller's market. With mortgage interest rates at 2.5% or less this has helped sales in 2020 and will continue to do so for the remainder of 2021. Realtors have seen a 6 percent increase in sales prices over the last 12 months with a real estate market trend projection for another 6 percent increase in prices for the remainder of 2021.

In Baynard Park a total of 25 homes sold in 2020. Homes ranged from 1866 Sq. Ft. up to 3499 Sq. Ft. This 25-home sales figure was up from 2019 with a total of 17 homes sold. Current prices for home sales range from \$300,000 to \$505,000 with a median price of \$417,000. This is a higher median price than all of Beaufort County which is at a median of \$383,775.

2021 is off to a good start with 2 pending sales in Baynard Park and, at the time of this writing, there were no current active listings. Statistical resources and data used were from compiled from Low Country Regional MLS, MLS of Hilton Head Island, [Zillow.com](https://www.zillow.com) and [Realtors.com](https://www.realtors.com).



# What To Do With Grass Clippings?

**Three options that help our lagoons and your wallet.**



On average, Americans spend roughly 65 hours per year on lawn and garden care. Great pride is taken to make homes look their best — and landscaping is part of that process.

Similarly, our community should be well-kept, especially features like our lagoons. When grass or lawn clippings are left in the street, rain can wash them into storm drains and the lagoon. Then, the decomposition process actually happens in the lagoon and contributes to the accumulation of muck. Muck causes algae and phytoplankton blooms, which then block sunlight to essential seagrasses — and even consumes oxygen fish need to survive.

What if you could take care of your lawn and our community at the same time — all while saving money? It's easier than you think.

**Find out what to do with your grass clippings below and become part of the change.**

## **1. BLOW GRASS CLIPPINGS & LEAVES BACK INTO YOUR LAWN.**

The easiest way to prevent grass clippings from becoming pollution is to let the mower leave them on the lawn. Just blow any clippings that land on pavement back into your lawn. Letting your grass clippings decompose on your lawn is like getting free fertilizer, according to the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension.

Grass clippings are made of 90 percent water and decompose quickly.

**After grass clippings decompose, they provide nitrogen to the soil that's equal to 1-2 fertilizer applications per year.**

You can reduce or even eliminate the need for traditional fertilizer, all the while enjoying a healthier lawn.

Who knew grass clippings were so useful?

## **2. ASK YOUR LAWN CARE COMPANY TO BLOW GRASS CLIPPINGS BACK INTO YOUR LAWN.**

Some of us gave up the lawn care game years ago. If you've hired a company to mow the lawn, the action to eliminate grass clippings from draining into the lagoon is even easier. Ask your lawn care company to blow the grass clippings back into your lawn.

At first, you might worry about inconveniencing the lawn care company with a special request, but this is the clean, professional look most of their

customers expect. When you talk with your lawn care company, you might share why it's important to blow grass clippings back into your lawn. Once in the lagoon, grass clippings begin to decay and contribute to the accumulation of muck. Studies show muck on the lagoon bottom is the largest source of nutrient loading. When excess nutrients are added to water, it can cause harmful algae blooms.

### **3. COLLECT GRASS CLIPPINGS & LEAVES.**

Keeping grass clippings out of the street doesn't have to be more work. A little planning goes a long way. Aim your chute away from the street and blow the clippings into a pile. You can then collect the clippings and repurpose them in a number of ways.

## **Cut Back on Waste: Repurpose Grass Clippings**

### **MAKE YOUR OWN PLANT FERTILIZER**

Steep grass clippings in water for about three days. After three days, remove the clippings and use the remaining liquid to naturally fertilize plants.

### **MULCH YOUR GARDEN BEDS**

Grass clippings are perfect for mulch, due to their ability to lock-in moisture. They also provide nutrients that your plants need to grow. Mix them into soil for gardening or raised garden beds.

## **WE HAVE MASTER GARDENERS!!!**

### **GARDENING TIPS**

Spring Inspection: Walk the yard and take note of needs.

Access and Repair: Check sprinkler heads for spray volume, angles, dripper lines and rotation. Check sprinkler lines for leaks.

Check out your garden for winter damage.

Clean out weeds, mulch and debris.

Water on sunny days. Give your flower beds a good soaking.

Prune

Fertilize- slow-release fertilizer for bushes, small trees and grasses.

Acid loving plants like azalea, gardenia, hydrangea, holly and camellias



require a special fertilizer like holly-tone or plant tone.  
Annuals prefer a monthly application.

Have basic gardening tools available - hoes, garden rakes, leaf rakes, shovels, shears and a good pair of gardening gloves.

When beginning to plant REMEMBER frost can occur here as late as March 19<sup>th</sup>.

It is always nice to add a moisture control potting soil to help your plants get started.

## **6 IDEAS FOR SPRING BLOOMS**

Tulips, Daffodils, Primroses, Hyacinths, Crocus and Glory of the Snow.

### **SHRUBS**

Forsythia, Pussy Willow, Flowering Almond, Japanese Camellia etc.  
DEER RESISTANT ( NOT DEER PROOF )

### **ANNUALS**

Marigolds, Celosia, Lantana, Coneflower, Indian Blanket Flower, Mealycup Sage

### **PERENNIALS**

Black-eyed Susan, Iris, Sunflower, Catmint and Purple Coneflower, Wild Ginger, Verbena, Yarrow

### **SHRUBS**

Barberry, Dogwood, Juniper, Yucca, Japanese Camellia, Viburnums

Please keep in mind that these are just some tips! Unfortunately, when deer are hungry, they will eat just about anything they can find.

For further in-depth information go to: [WWW.HGIC.Clemson/fact sheets/](http://WWW.HGIC.Clemson/fact%20sheets/)

For those of you concerned with Mole Crickets, go to fact sheet 2155  
If you are concerned with managing white flies go to fact sheet 2252

For plant enthusiasts, COASTAL DISCOVERY MUSEUM is having a  
"Native Plant Sale"  
Saturday 3/20 from 10:00am - 1:00p  
70 Honey Horn Drive, HHI.

Happy Planting in March!

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# Alligator Safety

*This picture was taken at one of our Baynard Park lagoons recently. Seeing an alligator always elicits some excitement and, sometimes, fears. We thought it might be helpful to include this article about staying safe around alligators.*



Alligators can grow up to 14 feet long and weigh up to 1,000 pounds. These reptiles are found in the Coastal Plain, including tidal marshes, swamps, rivers, and lakes. Alligators are often found in the ponds and lagoons in many of private communities in our area. As the warm weather picks up alligators are back on our Lowcountry radar. Alligators will soon be ready for mating season. You should not approach, antagonize, feed or really interact in any way with an alligator, should you spot one, as they can be especially dangerous during mating season. If you spot one, feel free to admire them from a distance (or go back inside and lock the doors).

## **Here are a few things to know as mating season approaches:**

- Gators will typically court throughout April and May before breeding at the end of May or the beginning of June and July, which will hatch usually in late August or early September.
- Alligators will use a variety of sounds, head-slapping on the water's surface, body posturing, snout and back rubbing, bubble blowing, and pheromone (scent) signals, to attract a mate during courting.
- For the first year or so of an alligator's life, its mother will defend and stay near her hatchlings. Gradually, the mother will teach her hatchlings how to care for themselves. You should never approach a mother alligator and her babies.
- When it starts to get hot enough outside for alligators to bask in the sun, they will sometimes lie with their mouths wide open when they get a bit too warm. This is similar to a dog panting to cool off on a hot day. Once it starts to get warm out, it's nearly time to start courting.
- The American alligator can keep reproducing into their 60s and 70s.

Nearly any water body in the coastal plain of South Carolina may contain alligators, and the mere presence of alligators in or adjacent to their natural habitat in South Carolina is a normal occurrence and not normally an emergency requiring the animal's removal, according to biologists with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources. Furthermore, alligators less than four feet are typically not large enough to be dangerous to people unless handled. Never approach an alligator of any size, keep your distance

and leave them alone!

**In addition, keep these safety tips in mind:**

- Never feed alligators. Not only is it illegal in South Carolina to feed alligators, it also teaches them to associate people with food. This can cause alligators to lose their natural fear of humans. In many cases, fed alligators will begin to approach at the sight of people and may become aggressive in seeking a handout. These animals will be euthanized to prevent unwanted alligator interactions. Also, don't dispose of fish scraps or crab bait in the water at boat ramps, docks, swimming, or camping areas. You can inadvertently be feeding alligators.
- If you see someone feeding alligators, contact the S.C. Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-922-5431.
- Avoid swimming in areas known to harbor large alligators. As the size of an alligator increases, so does the size of prey that it can consume. Don't swim or play in the water between dusk and dawn in areas with alligators. Alligators normally are more active during the night and can mistake splashing noises for prey. Only swim in areas designated for swimming. Higher levels of human activity found in designated swimming areas typically make alligators keep their distance. Other potential dangers include steep drop offs, stumps, rocks, and other underwater obstructions that you may not be able to see if the location is not a designated swimming area. Also, never swim alone, not just because of alligators, but also as a normal safety measure.
- Keep pets out of the water, even in designated swimming areas, if alligators are present. Pets are more susceptible to being attacked as they resemble normal prey items for alligators. Do not swim with your dog as it can attract the attention of alligators.
- Don't approach an alligator, keep your distance and leave them alone. Alligators can move in quick bursts over short distances but normally do not try to run after people. If an alligator hisses, it's a warning that you are too close.
- If an alligator is in a place where it cannot reasonably be expected to get back to the water without posing a risk to itself or to others, or is in a location that presents an immediate hazard, such as a road, school, pool, parking lot, etc., contact the DNR at 1- 800-922-5431. Never attempt to capture or move an alligator by yourself.
- If bitten seek immediate medical attention, regardless of how minor the injury. Alligator bites can result in serious infections.

Follow these guidelines and enjoy the beauty of our state's precious animal habitat.

Sources:

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources website-[www.dnr.sc.gov](http://www.dnr.sc.gov)  
Island Packet, February 16, 2018

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## NEW ADDITIONS TO THE BAYNARD PARK FAMILY

We would like to give a warm welcome to the following new residents who have moved in over the past month.



### Orsino family on Greatwood Drive

Please help us in welcoming them all to the neighborhood.

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## Neighborhood Reminders

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### *IT'S ABOUT YOU!!*

We would love to share and celebrate **YOUR** important events across the community. There are always a lot of good things going on related to birthdays, anniversaries, youth sports awards or even graduation events. We plan on starting a "community chatter" section featuring **YOUR** stories so please reach out to the Board at [board@baynardpark.org](mailto:board@baynardpark.org) if you have something for a future newsletter.

We are having great success with our new found committees, but need more volunteers. Have you been looking for a way to be more involved in the community? The Communications Committee is looking for interested residents to come onboard. Please reach out to the Board at [board@baynardpark.org](mailto:board@baynardpark.org) if this sounds like something you would like to hear more about.



### RESPONSE FROM BJWSA

We have received a response to our letter sent to BJWSA regarding the odor from the pump station on Hampton Parkway outside of our main entrance. BJWSA will be placing a device on the CP89 pump station to ascertain the cause of the odor emanating from the station. The device will collect data for approximately one week. Upon completion of the week, the data will be analyzed for an additional three days and we should be hearing from them soon after. This analysis will provide BJWSA with the

information needed to move forward on the steps to abate the odor causing condition. This odor has been causing grief to our neighbors and those driving by the community.

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## Dominion Gas Project Update



Reminder to the residents in phase 1B who have indicated their desire for gas through Dominion Energy. Please call Dominion Energy and set up your account. After this is completed, Dominion will proceed with the gas line. Please refer to the letter delivered to your home approximately two weeks ago for future reference.

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## Neighborhood Happenings

### Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 27 **CANCELLED**

### Food Truck Friday

Friday, March 19 - 5p.m. - 7:30p.m. Poolside

Friday, April 9 - 5p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Poolside

### Baynard Park and Parkside Garage Sale

Saturday, May 1, 2021 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

These updates, and **additional items of interest**, can be found on our website - [www.baynardpark.org](http://www.baynardpark.org)

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