

OCTOBER 2015



SWEETGRASS NEWSLETTER



FALL EDITION



When it rains it pours.....

Have you ever seen so much rain? As I sit here this Sunday afternoon, the rain continues to fall. Talk about CABIN FEVER!!

The kids can't get out of the house and run around and neither can mom and dad! I am very thankful that Sweetgrass has weathered this storm very well.

I, like many others, took the opportunity to get out and check things out during a small break in the weather this afternoon. Do you know where all of this water goes? For the most part our water flows into Hidden Lakes, over to Seaside Farms and out to the ocean. Honestly, there is

not a lot of distance between us and the ocean. Just think about this, all of that flooding that Columbia and other towns inland are experiencing will eventually make it into Charleston and other coastal communities.

If things had not gone the way they did with Pulte on the pond at the back of the neighborhood, I feel that those living on Falling Creek Circle would be dealing with something very different today. It will be a while before things get back to normal. There are a lot of people impacted by this storm, and we need to keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

Sweetgrass continues to be a great community in Mt. Pleasant. During epic events like this, neighbors who check on each other and stay connected are what make this a great place to a call home. As things get back to normal, make it a point to reach out to your neighbors and build relationships to continue to foster the sense of community that we all love about Sweetgrass.

See you around!

Michael Hunter

On the back.....

If you ask to join the Sweetgrass Neighbors or Sweetgrass Moms page on FACEBOOK, please be sure to reply to the administrator.

To protect your privacy and the privacy of the neighborhood, these are closed groups. Once you are verified as a member, you will be allowed to join !!! This prevents unwanted solicitors from being able to join it.

GET CONNECTED!!!

It's that time again!

It's October, and that means Halloween will soon be here!! Thanksgiving will not be that far behind. Prizes will be awarded on November 1st for houses participating in the seasonal

decorations. Once again, prizes will be awarded in two categories. The categories will be Ghost and Goblins and Fall Harvest. In December, we will be awarding prizes for

Christmas and Holiday decorations, as well. Keep an eye to the bill board at the front of the neighborhood for reminders!

Welcome to Sweetgrass:

Daniel Cislo, Falling Creek Circle

Matthew and Valerie Austell, Oak Tree Lane

Charles and Michele O'Dell, Oak Tree Lane

Stephen and Katie Nicholson, Horseshoe Bend

Rebecca Niess, Horseshoe Bend

Sweetgrass is professionally managed by:

A+ Property Management
1135 Bowman Road, #529A
PO Box 1903
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465
843-856-6556

Stay Connected!!!



Please join us!

www.nextdoor.com/join
Code: BNYBQY

We are on the web!
www.sweetgrasshoa.org

Check us out on Facebook

Sweetgrass Neighbors and Sweetgrass Moms



KEEPING THE PONDS LOOKING GOOD

As you may have noticed, thanks to the abundance of rainfall recently, our ponds have exceeded normal water levels. High levels help minimize the amount of light that makes its way to the bottom helping keep the growth of algae and other weeds under control. Last week I spoke to our ponds management company about the general condition of our ponds and was pleased to hear that our ponds are in great shape. That's good news when you hear about other neighborhoods struggling with uncontrolled algae and plant growth. The water quality also helps keep our fish population healthy.

This year, we have re-stocked our ponds with tilapia to help us control algae growth, but were unable to stock any Sterile Grass Carp. Due to a hatchery issue in Arkansas, the batch we were to get had to be destroyed because all of the fish were sterile. Hopefully, we can get some in the spring of 2016 if they are avail-



able. On a good note, I did notice tilapia hatchlings this summer. Our tilapia have hatched and have survived our numerous bass as they looked for a meal.

In other areas, our newest pond that was built by Pulte will be turned over to us to maintain in the fall of this year. Until then, Pulte is still responsible for cutting the grass and maintaining the health of that particular pond. We plan on doing a final walk through with Pulte to identify any issues that need to be corrected before it is turned over to us.

During the unprecedented rain event of October 2015, our ponds did exactly what they were supposed to do. Water made it's way to the ponds and eventually worked its way out of the neighborhood. Before the storm, the HOA has identified a few potential problem areas. In the upcoming months, we will be review-

Food Drive October 17

The Sweetgrass annual ECCO food drive will be Saturday, October 17th at 10 A.M. Please leave your bags at the curb near your mailbox by 9:45 A.M. for the pickup. Items especially needed at this time are Muffin mix, jelly, pasta, Mac and Cheese, fruit cocktail, dried beans, blackened peas, baked beans, canned salmon and energy bars. Thank you in advance for your donations.

ing the cost to do some dredging with contractors and coming up with a plan. Dredging has been a hot topic in the meetings I have attended with other developments throughout the area and in other counties. I have heard some horror stories about it. Gratefully, ours is not as bad as other developments but we must address it now before it does become a problem. Although the ponds are full today, we know they will not always stay that way. We are hoping that some of the dredging material may be used to firm up some of the eroded banks as well.

Our ponds will be re-inspected in the later part of October, so if any one of our 6 ponds borders your property, please make sure that there are no trees limbs in the water and that they are trimmed at the 3 feet height limit. Also, please make sure that there are no obstructions that prevent the pond from be inspected. There is a good possibility that the town will be participating with us as they will be inspecting the converts that may need to be cleaned out or repaired. Thanks to all the property owners that have kept their banks looking good.