



Woodwinds News



MARCH 2008

COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS

On Tuesday, 26 February, LMA replaced all of the incandescent light bulbs in the garden condo stairwells with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs).

According to the Energy Star website¹, some CFLs use about 75 percent less energy, produce 75 percent less heat, and last 10 times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs. This could save \$30 or more over the lifetime of **each bulb** which represents a significant savings for Woodwinds Association. It also represents a major step toward going "green" and reducing the energy footprint that our community makes on the environment.

Here are several issues regarding CFLs that you should be aware of:

Residential use – Common areas are not the only places where CFLs can be used. On 19 December 2007, President George W. Bush signed the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Among other provisions, that law sets efficiency standards for electric lights that will result in the incandescent light bulb being phased out of the US market beginning in 2012. You'll need CFLs for your home.

Mercury – CFLs contain very small amounts of mercury (about 5 milligrams – about the amount that would cover the tip of a ballpoint pen). However, manufacturers have taken significant steps to reduce the amounts of mercury used in these lamps. Special care should be taken if a CFL breaks.

Recycling – Woodwinds is currently investigating ways to "close the loop" with respect to CFL usage and finding a recycling program that will handle used bulbs from residents as well as from the common areas. Some CFL fact sheets have been posted on the Woodwinds website at <http://www.bluemarblewebs.com/www/>.

MORE ON TRASH RULES

Woodwinds rules about trash are well publicized throughout the community and are part of your disclosure packet that you received when you purchased your unit.

Trash pick-ups are Mondays and Thursdays. Trash may be set out no earlier than 8:00 pm the nights before and no later than 8:00 am on the mornings of pick-ups.

We have had several cases where trash is set out *after* trash pick-up has occurred. Trash must not be left at the curb between trash pick-ups. It is unsightly and it attracts raccoons, rats, and other animals.

If you see your trash sitting at the curb when you come home in the evening, please be responsible – do NOT let it sit out until the next scheduled trash pick-up. Please bring trash back to your unit. Violators can be assessed a \$50 penalty.

WOODWINDS COMMITTEES

The Board invites interested residents to participate in the care and improvement of the community by volunteering for one of the standing committees at the March Board Meeting.

Committees are integral to the running of the association. As service costs rise, the board seeks ways to minimize the expenses of association activities. Volunteers make this possible by patrolling our parking lots, distributing newsletters, noting burned out lights, and assisting with groundskeeping tasks such as mulching, planting, and watering.

If you have a talent or skill and a desire to help save the association some money, please consider donating time to one (or more) of our committees:

Covenants – ensure that the rules and regulations regarding the appearance of common elements are enforced.

¹ http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls



Landscape – work with grounds maintenance contractor and the Board to ensure a visually appealing landscape throughout the community.

Communications – contribute to and distribute newsletters and other non-official correspondence to the community.

Parking – ensure that vehicles parked at Woodwinds are appropriate and conform to Fairfax County regulations.

Maintenance – assist in maintenance of community common elements, by conducting periodic inspections of lights, faucets, utility closets, researching alternatives, and helping with simple, handyman tasks.

BOARD MEETING

The next Woodwinds board meeting will be held on Thursday, 20 March, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at **Langston Hughes Middle School Health Room**, located at 11401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston, VA. Details can be found on the Woodwinds Homeowners Yahoo Groups website: <http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/WoodwindsHomeowners/>

All owners and residents are encouraged to attend board meetings. Future meeting times and locations will be posted on the Yahoo Groups website.

PARKING AT WOODWINDS

To encourage owners and residents to comply with the vehicle registration requirement, notices will be placed on unregistered vehicles during the month of March. These are notices, not violations; no one is being singled out and this is an information gathering exercise only.

The Vehicle Registration form is available on the Woodwinds website or from any board member.

Virginia law requires that out-of-state vehicles be titled and registered in Virginia and display Virginia license plates within 30 days of moving to Virginia. For more information, visit the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles website at

<http://www.dmv.state.va.us/webdoc/moving/newva.asp>

RULES REMINDER

Water Shut-off – Water mains in the garden condos serve many units in addition to yours. For non-emergency plumbing tasks that necessitate turning off the water in your building, please remember the following guidelines:

- Inform LMA 72 hours in advance of the proposed shut-off time
- Post notices at the entrances of affected buildings 72 hours in advance (contact the board)
- Water may not be shut off before 9:30 am or after 4:30 pm
- Water may not be shut off on weekends or holidays
- Water may not be shut off for more than 3 hours. Work with your plumber to minimize the impact of shut-off time and length.

Please be courteous to your neighbors and follow these guidelines.

Landscaping – Changes to the landscape, including planting, removal, thinning, pruning, or trimming of trees, shrubs, and flowers and addition or modification of edging, terracing, stonework, or pavers requires written permission from the Board of Directors.

Pets – Remember Woodwinds and Fairfax County leash regulations and please clean up after your pet! Violations will result in a \$50 fine.

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
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