

DEVONSHIRE BULLETIN

Established: 1988

Newsletter Date: Winter 2017

The New Devonshire Newsletter



A safe and secured living environment in your condominium is a must.

With a few tips, everyone will be confident

1) Replace the batteries in your smoke alarm.

These nifty items are life savers.

2) For your safety, know the exit route out of your condo and away from your building to a safe area.

3) Check your locks and

ensure that they are secure. Tighten any screws so the lock doesn't wobble and then polish the knobs for a newly finished look.

- 4) Beef up your window security. Install a window covering to limit the view of valuables in your unit. Ensure that windows lock securely to inhibit intruder entry.
- 5) Turn the lights on when you are not home to give the appearance that someone is home. Plug up a lamp to a timer and let it work even when you aren't home.
- 6) Review your insurance policy. Ensure that your policy has enough coverage for your unit, assets and valuables.

Lynton Place is a mixed housing development of single family homes (Abbots Gate and Pritchard Place II), patio homes (Becton Park), and condominiums (Devonshire Court) in East Charlotte. Lynton Place has both landscaped and natural common areas, a clubhouse, and two swimming pools. The clubhouse can be rented for private parties to residents in good standing.

Lynton Place has mandatory quarterly assessments for all homeowners.

What To Do with those grocery bags?

Keeping the neighborhood clean and poop free is a priority when you live in a condominium. Besides, no one wants to step into dog excrement.

After visiting with the grocery store, Walmart and Target, you probably have collected a lot of plastic grocery bags. What do you do with all of those grocery bags? If you have a cat or a

dog, you certainly can use them on a daily basis.

Before going out to walk the dog, take a grocery bag with you to scoop your pooches poop. Since it is your dooty, you might as well use the plastic bags.



Your dog will be happy.

Your neighbors will appreciate it and the environment will love you. Keep in mind that dog excrement transmits disease which can infiltrate into our water system. Throw the filled bag in the garbage can at the clubhouse.

As homeowners in Devonshire Court, we are also members of the Lynton Place HOA.

The Lynton Place annual meeting and election is in May.

5 Tips to Spring Clean Your Condo

April showers mean it's time for a little spring-cleaning. Spring is a great time to get ready for warmer weather. Some cleaning and maintenance checks on your condominium unit will make the transition from winter to summer enjoyable and painless.

Check the A/C

It might not be warm enough to switch over to the air conditioning yet, but it is time to turn on your in-unit A/C unit and let it run for a bit. It's better to know now if you need repairs rather than in the heat of summer. Now is also a good time to replace your air filters if you haven't done so all winter.

Wash Windows

Let the sunshine in. Washing the inside of the windows and getting rid of any dust on the blinds will not only clear the air for allergy sensitivities, the brighter windows will make you feel better as well. Take down the window treatments and get them dry cleaned or wash them yourself to remove any dust buildup.

Change your Bedding

Time to remove the heavy woolen linens, thick comforters, and layers of blankets. Wash your bedding before putting it away or send it out for cleaning, as they can be heavy-duty loads and your washer may not be roomy enough. While you're at it, flip the mattress, or at the very least rotate it.

Dryer Vents

Now is a good time to get the dryer vent runs cleaned. We tend to do more laundry with heavier clothing in the winter and lint can accumulate more quickly. Getting the vents clean is an important fire safety item and an often-overlooked necessity.

Deep Clean Carpets

Vacuum and shampoo or steam-clean the carpets in your condo. Shake rugs and cushions outside to get rid of any dust and dirt buildup.

Change the Batteries in Safety Equipment

Spring cleaning can serve as a good reminder to check the batteries in your smoke detector and carbon monoxide detectors, and replace them if necessary.



Home Fire Safety

To protect yourself, it is important to understand the basic characteristics of fire. Fire spreads quickly; there is no time to gather valuables or make a phone call. In just two minutes, a fire can become life-threatening. In five minutes, a residence can be engulfed in flames.

- Install smoke alarms. Properly working smoke alarms decrease your chances of dying in a fire by half.
- Place smoke alarms on every level of your residence. Place them outside bedrooms on the ceiling or high on the wall (4 to 12 inches from ceiling), at the top of open stair-



ways, or at the bottom of enclosed stairs and near (but not in) the kitchen.

Test and clean smoke alarms once a month and replace batteries at least once a year. Replace smoke alarms once every 10 years.

- Review escape routes with your family. Practice escaping from each room.
- Make sure windows are not nailed or painted shut. Make sure security gratings on windows have a fire safety opening

feature so they can be easily opened from the inside.

- Consider escape ladders if your residence has more than one level, and ensure that burglar bars and other antitheft mechanisms that block outside window entry are easily opened from the inside.
- Teach family members to stay low to the floor (where the air is safer in a fire) when escaping from a fire.
- Clean out storage areas. Do not let trash, such as old newspapers and magazines, accumulate.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen

Parking Lot Safety

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, about 14 percent of all vehicle collisions that result in damage happen in parking lots

1. Stay Alert: Watch for cars cutting across parking lots and speeding through aisles. Take it slow and always use your turn signal. Avoid two-way lanes whenever possible.

2. Mind Your Manners: Don't take up two spots by parking over the lines.

3. Protect Your Car: Parking in congested areas increases the likelihood of scratches and dents from car doors or shopping carts. Park away from buildings during the day, but avoid secluded areas at night. If you can find a spot at the end of the row next to an island, take it

- this is the best place to park your car.

However, if there is no island, don't park in an end space because this will leave your car vulnerable to turning traffic. Park in front of a light pole, if possible. The pole



will protect your car from a driver who might pull too far forward and bash its front end, and the light will give you added security at night.

4. Walk Back Safely: When leaving or returning to your car, don't dart between parked cars. Listen for cars and look for the illuminated brake lights of cars backing up. Pedestrians can be just as guilty as drivers when it comes to dis-

obeying posted signs or not paying close enough attention to their surroundings. Protect yourself on foot, as well as when you're driving.

5. Be Observant: When backing out, make sure you scan a full 360 degrees - there may be shoppers to your left and right, or other cars backing out at the same time. If it's possible and legal in your area, pull through if there are two open nose-to-nose spaces. Being able to pull out head first instead of backing out of a

spot will keep you safe.

6. Mail With Caution: If you have packages to send, keep in mind that post office parking lots have the highest frequency of accidents.

Devonshire Court Covenant Review - Animals

No animal shall be kept in or on the condominium property, except for small household pets. Such pets may not be kept or bred for any commercial purpose and shall have such care and restraint as is necessary to prevent them from being or becoming obnoxious or offensive on account of noise, odor, unsanitary conditions or other nuisance. No savage or dangerous animal shall be kept or permitted in or on the condominium property. No more than two (2) household pets may be housed within a unit without written permission of the Board.

No pets may be permitted to run loose upon the commons areas and facilities, and any unit owner who causes or permits any animal to be brought or kept on condominium property shall indemnify and hold the condominium association harmless for



and from any loss, damage or liability which it sustains as a result of the presence of such animal on the condominium property. In the event any animal is permitted by a unit owner to be on the common area and

facilities without a leash, then such unit owner shall be subject to an additional assessment by action of a majority of the Board and up to \$100.00 for each such occurrence with such additional assessment to become a part of the next due assessment payable by the owner. After three (3) occurrences for which a unit owner

is assessed a fine on account of an unleashed pet on the common areas and facilities, the Board after motion by a majority of the Board may order the permanent removal of such pet from the condominium property.

Get Fresh, Local and Seasonal Vegetables in Charlotte

You can get your vegetables at the local grocery or you get support your local farmers by buying from the farmer's market. The Rosa Parks Farmers Market at 2845 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216. The farmers market is open every Tuesday from 10am - 2pm. From June through September. The farmers market will offer fruits, honey, jams, jellies, baked goods and vegetables.

If you wish to get more information or to find out the weekly produce offerings and upcoming events, you may go to the Rosa Parks Farmer's Market Facebook Page.



Next Door App

The Hickory Grove police department recommends the use of Next Door to keep up with community events. You can download the app onto your smart phone from the Apple Store or Google Play . Next Door is a free private social network for your neighborhood community.



Community Police Officer Contact

If you have questions for our community police officer, contact Officer Silcox or Lt. Brady who will be filling in until a replacement has been made. We are advised to contact 911 to report any suspicious activity. If you call 911 to make a report, please state that you are in the Hickory Grove Division, Response Area 2. The Hickory Grove division has a newsletter. To begin receiving the Hickory Grove Area 2 newsletter email ebrady@cmpd.org or click on this link [Hickory Grove CMPD Newsletter](#)



Devonshire Court Contacts

William Douglas Property Manager Representative

Victoria Burnette

William Douglas Management Co.

704-347-8900 extension 108

704-377-3408 (fax)

vburnette@wmdouglas.com

Contact the property management company for any community problems including parking issues, water line breaks, etc.

The property management company may be contacted 24 hours a day. In case of emergency call 704-347-8900 and follow the prompts to report an emergency.