

# TABB LAKES NEWSLETTER

2026 FIRST QUARTER

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FEBRUARY

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## UPCOMING YARD SALES—DANE ROYAL

The Spring Yard Sale is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup> and the Fall Yard Sale is set for September 19<sup>th</sup>. Now is the perfect time to start cleaning out the garage as the weather warms up or finding some good deals on gently used items. This year the HOA is looking to have a non-profit organization to pick up unwanted items curbside and take to a local donation center. More details will be coming.

**Saturday, May 16, 2026**  
**8 A.M.-Noon**



## Board of Directors

- President—Keith Ebert, 757-867-7133
- Vice President—Jennifer Kurr, 757-271-7864
- Members at Large—Tim Burke, 240-490-9302  
Dane Royal, 757-802-6624
- Anita Hensley, 757-867-8900

Secretary/Treasurer—  
Charles Rossi, 757-867-8322

## YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST—DANE ROYAL

The Yard of the Month contest by the HOA is set to begin this May and run through September. Now is the time to start preparing your yards, cleaning up any weeds in your flower

beds or driveway, power washing your siding, etc... to ensure your home is in great shape for the summer. Winners receive a \$25 gift card and display the Yard of the Month sign for all

the neighbors to envy. If you would like to nominate one of your neighbors, please email [tabblakes.dr@outlook.com](mailto:tabblakes.dr@outlook.com) so they may be considered for the contest.

## HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST WINNERS—DANE ROYAL



The Daytime and Nighttime Holiday Decoration Winners were 206 & 208 Tiger Run. Thank you to everyone who decorated to make Tabblakes look amazing this year.



## HISTORIC YORKTOWN'S 2026 EVENTS

Yorktown Market Days - St. Patrick's Day Winter Market  
Saturday, March 14 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing



Yorktown Market Days - Winter Market  
Saturday, March 28 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing

### SPRING

Yorktown Market Days - Go Green & Garden Market  
Saturday, April 11 | 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing

Yorktown Market Days - Sister Cities French Market  
Saturday, April 18 | 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing

Yorktown Market Days - Pirate Invasion Market  
Saturday, April 25 & Sunday, April 26 | 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing



Pirates Invade Yorktown Weekend  
Saturday, April 25 & Sunday, April 26 | 9 a.m. to 3

p.m. | Riverwalk Landing & the Watermen's Museum

Boots, Brews & BBQ Festival  
Saturday, May 2 | 12 to 6 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing | \$  
Rain Date: Sunday, May 17

Art at the River Juried Art Show  
Sunday, May 3 | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing

Yorktown Market Days - Vintage Market / Car Show on Main Street  
Saturday, May 9 | 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. | Riverwalk Landing



## POISONOUS PLANTS – LOU LAFRENAYE

We may all be familiar with poison ivy, but it is not the only poisonous plant in our neighborhood. There may be other toxic plants in our yards or homes that are potentially hazardous to adults, children, and pets.

First, I'll explain why certain plants are poisonous before providing examples. They are defending themselves from plant-eating insects, animals, and humans (herbivores). A plant's method of defense falls into two categories: mechanical and chemical. Their tactics can be amazingly sophisticated. Roses and cacti (thorns) are examples of a mechanical defense. Poison ivy uses a chemical defense. Stinging nettles has a combination, with thin needle-like hairs that "inject" chemicals into the skin causing a painful sting.

Their ability to mount a chemical defense is remarkable. The details of how they develop chemical defenses are beyond this article. However, below is a link to an eight-minute video that provides a great explanation of why and how plants defend themselves (courtesy of Megan Tierney, our local Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent). It explains how plants can produce phytochemicals such as Nitrogen Containing Compounds, Terpenoids, and Phenolics for their defense and what it does to you (around the four-minute mark of the video).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRxVjuVR4YM>

Yes, we do have poisonous plants that are native to Virginia. Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) lists eleven poisonous plants. They published a document called "The Socrates Project – Poisonous Plants in Virginia" to educate the public. It can be found at the following web site.

<https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/65bb3885-4ef6-4a3a-84f1-c23dc9674c5a/content>

Besides these listed plants, we sometimes introduce poisonous plants that are not "native" to Virginia. My next two examples fall into that category.

My first example is an indoor plant called the Pencil Cactus or "sticks on fire." I had one on my back porch for a few years before I realized the sap was toxic. If you break a branch, it oozes an irritating sap that is toxic to humans and pets. It was very important to protect your eyes, hands, and skin when pruning by wearing gloves and avoiding casual contact with the plant. I got rid of the plant once I found out how toxic it was.



Another toxic outdoor plant not native to Virginia is the Foxglove. I have some in my front yard. You can easily buy the seeds locally. This plant has

bright bell-shaped flowers and is quite pretty. It also has a chemical defense that uses a



Terpenoids compound. Please watch the video listed above for what that means. All parts of the plant are poisonous if eaten. It causes nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and an irregular heartbeat. Foxglove produces digitalin which affects the cardio system. They are commercially grown to synthesize the heart medicine digitalis. Caring for the foxglove plant should include keeping children and pets away. You will not see deer or rabbits eating this plant.

My final example is the Giant Hogweed which is listed on the eleven poisonous plants native to Virginia. Although extremely rare in Virginia, I highlight this plant because it is both dangerous and an amazing example of the level of toxicity a plant can develop as a defense. Fortunately, it is not currently found in our Yorktown area, but it has been found in the northern part of Virginia. It is listed as a Federal noxious weed and an invasive species that has spread mostly to northern states such as New York and Pennsylvania. Skin contact with its sap just from

(continued on page 4)

## RESIGNATION OF NEWSLETTER EDITOR—SHIRLEY FLANAGAN

I have been publishing our quarterly HOA newsletter since August 2006 and was happy to serve our community in this way; however, it's time now for someone else to do it. Effective immediately after this newsletter edition, I am resigning. I will be glad to pass along whatever is need-

ed from my files; however, all the newsletters are on the web page, and I have hard copies.

The process is simple. One only needs to know how to word process. Then the copy is approved by the Association President and sent to be printed. Only a few hard copies are printed for those who have re-

quested hard copy. These are hand delivered by another volunteer. Then a soft copy is sent to the Webmaster to be emailed to all other homeowners. Everything is done by volunteers.

If anyone is interested, please contact Keith Ebert. His phone number is on page 1.

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED—WEBMASTER

It's written that "All good things must come to an end..." and this has finally struck the Tabb Lakes volunteer Webmaster position. Our Webmaster, after 27 years of service, is retiring and leaving a large gap in our communications capability. To fill that gap, we need a

volunteer that enjoys working with web-based applications. Experience with basic HTML 5/XML 2.0 scripting and the Linux operating system will aid in the transition of Webmasters. Knowledge of Joomla portal and electronic document software is beneficial but can be acquired through self-study.

Questions on any aspect of the volunteer position can be directed to Clint Flanagan at 757-876-1155 or email [clint.flanagan@csflanagan.net](mailto:clint.flanagan@csflanagan.net).

(continued from page 3)

touching the stem or leaves in the presence of sunlight can result in severe burning and blistering. An individual in Northern Virginia had to be hospitalized after handling the plant. The VCE has two publications that explain how dangerous this plant is. They can be found at:

<https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/>

[pubs\\_ext\\_vt\\_edu/spes/spes-48/SPES-245.pdf](https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/pubs_ext_vt_edu/spes/spes-48/SPES-245.pdf)

<https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/SPES/SPES-48/SPES-48.html>

It is worth reading. VCE recommends the following:

### POISONOUS PLANTS



*Do Not touch the plant. If you think you have the plant in your yard, take a detailed picture*

*and send it to the local Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent. They will confirm if it is indeed the plant. They will also determine an eradication plan. Again, always avoid contact.*

Hopefully, this article gives you an appreciation for the defensive methods of plants and that it is worth looking up

any house plants you have to see if they could be toxic in some way. It also reminds us to keep a list of emergency phone numbers readily available in case of an emergency. In respect to poisons, the place to call for advice is the Virginia Poison Center 24/7 hotline [1-800-222-1222](tel:1-800-222-1222). Their trained staff can assess the situation and provide first-aid guidance. For more information, go to their website at <https://poison.vcu.edu/>

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Advertisements are not an endorsement by the Tabb Lakes Homes Association.

If you are a Tabb Lakes **homeowner who owns your own business**, you **must** fill out a homeowner's form **each year** from our web-site and **submit it** along with a business card-sized advertisement in order for your ad to appear in our newsletter.

If you are a **business in our community**, you **must** fill out the business form **each year** and **submit it with your check**.

All ads are subject to approval or disapproval by our Board of Directors.

Please see our web-site for instructions and forms.  
<https://tabblakes.org>.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING YOUR PROPERTY—JENNIFER KURR

Now that Spring is right around the corner, that means Covenants Compliance inspections will begin again. The Board has a legal duty to uphold the rules and restrictions of the HOA as one of the methods of maintaining property values in the neighborhood. Ensuring homes are well-maintained reflects pride of ownership which strengthens the entire neighborhood. Tabb Lakes is part of the larger York County community, known for its schools and well-maintained residential areas. Consistent upkeep ensures we preserve the high standards that make our neighborhood so attractive to homeowners and prospective buyers alike.

Additionally, your home is probably your biggest investment. Protecting it requires more than reacting to problems — it means staying proactive. Small issues like a loose shingle, peeling trim, or a clogged gutter can quickly turn into expensive repairs if left unchecked. Regular maintenance also:

- ◆ Reduces unexpected emergencies
- ◆ Avoids insurance claim issues
- ◆ Improves energy efficiency
- ◆ Commands higher resale values when it is time to sell your home
- ◆ Ensures safety for your family

Tabb Lakes is a community we're proud to call home. By staying proactive with maintenance and inspections, we protect not only our individual properties but the overall character and value of our neighborhood. If you haven't completed a seasonal inspection recently, it is recommended that you should. A little prevention today can save money and keep Tabb Lakes looking its very best.

If you have any questions about the Covenants Compliance Program, please do not hesitate to call or email 757-593-0166 or VictoryComMgt@gmail.com. Here's to continued pride in our homes and our community!

# Tabb Lakes Homes Association

## Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Request for Approval

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of request: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of modification:** (deck, patio, outbuilding, addition, fence, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Plans and specifications:** Please attach a copy of plat with a sketch of proposed modification. Show location, shape & all measurements. Provide a list colors, materials to be used, and any other construction details.

**Homeowner check list:**

- County permits: 890-3522. For room additions (including screened porches) a copy of the York County building permit must be attached to this application.
- Call Miss Utility before digging, to locate underground utilities: 1-800-552-7001
- York County Code 24.1-280, General Requirements for Home Occupations

**Estimated project completion date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Allow up to 3 weeks for the processing of ARC approval; projects may not be started until approval has been obtained.)*

In addition to any required county inspections, the Association reserves the right to review the completed project to determine whether or not the work was accomplished in accordance with the approved application. Please notify the Association when the work is finished. Projects found to have deviated from the specifications of the approved ARC request will be cited through the Association’s Covenants Compliance Inspection process.

***I have provided an accurate representation of the planned modification. I have contacted my immediate neighbors to inform them of my proposed project. I will notify the ARC of any deviation from the plans submitted or changed from using “like kind” building materials to those specified in this application.***

Homeowner’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions or to confirm project completion:** Contact Sarah Knaub at 757-593-0166 or VictoryComMgt@gmail.com.

**To Submit:**

- E-mail form and attachments to Victory Community Management: **VictoryComMgt@gmail.com**.
- Mail form and attachments to the following address: **TLHA ARC Committee, c/o Victory Community Management  
5007-C Victory Blvd. #240, Yorktown, VA 23693**

**NOTE: This form can be downloaded from our webpage: [www.tabblakes.org/arc.php](http://www.tabblakes.org/arc.php)**

**Committee Action**

Date of receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Approved as submitted

\_\_\_\_ Approved subject to modifications as required by covenants

\_\_\_\_ Disapproved for reason listed on reverse side

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUST SOME REMINDERS:**

- **Be kind to your neighbors and pick up your dog's poop.**
- **When walking or jogging, do so going against traffic, and PLEASE wear something reflective when there's no sunlight.**
- **Ride bikes flowing with traffic.**
- **Do not feed the geese or ducks.**
- **This newsletter is only produced in soft copy. If we don't have your email address, you can always find the newsletter (past and present) on our webpage. Those who don't have computer capabilities, may request a hard copy. Contact editor. Keep in mind these will be hand delivered, which is much slower, at the convenience of the deliverer. They will NOT be mailed. This saves us dollars!**
- **PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR LEAVES INTO THE LAKE OR THE DITCHES.**

**Check us out: <https://tabblakes.org>**

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND MANAGERS

COMMITTEE/MANAGER	CHAIR	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Activities Committee	Dane Royal	757-802-6624	<a href="mailto:Tabblakes.dr@outlook.com">Tabblakes.dr@outlook.com</a>
Architectural Review Manager	Sarah Knaub	757-593-0166	victorycommgt@gmail.com
Beautification Committee	Dane Royal	757-802-6624	<a href="mailto:Tabblakes.dr@outlook.com">Tabblakes.dr@outlook.com</a>
Emergency Response Committee	Lou Lafrenaye	757-867-8333	
Grounds Maintenance Manager	Sarah Knaub	757-593-0166	victorycommgt@gmail.com
Lake Maintenance (Lake 1) Manager	Timothy Burke	240-490-9302	
Lake Maintenance (Lake 2) Manager	Jeffery Payne	804-815-3140	
Neighborhood Watch Committee	Yousuf Mohammed	757-581-0579	
Newsletter Editor/Manager	Shirley Flanagan	757-876-1156	
Stormwater Committee	Lou Lafrenaye	757-867-8333	
Webmaster	Clint Flanagan	757-876-1155	<a href="mailto:Clint.flanagan@csflanagan.net">Clint.flanagan@csflanagan.net</a>
Welcome Committee	Keith Ebert	757-867-7133	