

The Sea Breeze



SEPTEMBER 2024

PUBLISHED BY HILLSMERE SHORES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



GAGA FOR GAGA BALL!

In late July, the field's newest addition was added to much fanfare from Hillsmere kids and pool-goers. The new Gaga Ball pit is a huge hit! Big thanks go to the Ripple family for installing it!

If you haven't played yet, the directions are on the side of the entrance wall. There are balls provided. Please leave them in the ball pit after use.

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HSIA Community News and Events

Jean Somers, HSIA Administrator



CALL FOR CANDIDATES

We are seeking candidates to fill the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for a two-year term (2025–2026). These leadership positions play an important part in the governance of our community. Nominations must be received by September 14. Please see info and instructions on page 4.

NEW PROPERTY MANAGER

Our Property Manager, Robin Clark, has taken a new job opportunity working with the County. We want to thank Robin for working diligently with HSIA to get the new Property Manager position up and running. RFPs new contracts were created and Hillsmere has current contracts in place. We want to wish Robin much success in her new position! We also want to welcome Cassie Heckman as our new HSIA Property Manager. Cassie is well qualified and has hit the ground running. Welcome Cassie! We look forward to working with you.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Please join us at our September General meeting on Thursday, September 12, at 7 p.m. at The Key School, Katharine Hall. We will have two guest speakers that evening—Eric Terry, the traffic engineer for the county and Sargeant Collier, the lead on the school speed camera program. They will be able to answer questions about the cameras and traffic issues in Hillsmere, and Eric can present solutions for us. Following any committee reports and guest speakers, Hillsmere resident Andrew Mullin will make a presentation on recyclables.

POLITICAL SIGNS

Please follow our HSIA General Rules for political signs on your property. Political signs are allowed on residential lots 30 days before or 7 days after a public election, per our HSIA General Rules as follows: #2.10. Political signs supporting or opposing candidates for public office or ballot questions may be placed on privately owned lots by the property owner or resident for up to 30 days before or 7 days after a public election. The signs must be no greater than 2 by 3 feet or equivalent area. Political signs may not be placed on HSIA Community Property.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF

The last two Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Days for 2024 will be September 14 and October 12 at the Heritage Office Complex, 2662 Riva Road, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a great way to discard hazardous waste. For more information, please visit [Household Hazardous Anne Arundel County Government](https://www.arundel.gov/waste) Waste Drop Off or call 410-222-6100.

SEPTEMBER HAPPY HOUR

Please join us for our September Happy Hour on Saturday, September 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. Please see the Events Report on page 5 for more information.

BEACH COMMITTEE SURVEY

If anyone needs a hard copy of the Beach Committee Survey, please contact the administrator at admin@hillsmershores.org or call 410-263-4456. We will get a hard copy to you. You can complete the Survey and place it in the community dropbox at 119 Great Lake Drive.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Our children have headed back to school! This means more children are walking our streets, lining up for school buses, and riding their bicycles to and from school. As the school year gets underway, please watch for our children and travel slowly through the neighborhood. Please obey speed limits, stop signs, and stop for school buses when their lights are flashing! A friendly reminder that the speed limit on Hillsmere Drive is 30 mph and the speed limit on our side streets is 25 mph.

ANNAPOLIS RUN FOR THE LIGHT HOUSE

The Annapolis Run For the Light House will take place on Sunday, September 15. This scenic run through the trails of Quiet Waters Park, and half marathon through Hillsmere Shores, supports the local Light House Shelter. The half marathon starts at 8 a.m. in Quiet Waters Park, with the first runner entering Hillsmere around 8:45 a.m. Half marathon runners will make a loop through our community and reenter the Park. Please allow a little extra time driving in and around our community that morning.

2024 BEACH RESERVATIONS

To reserve the large pavilion, please contact the Administrator at 410-263-4456 or send an email with the date and time requested to admin@hillsmershores.org. A refundable \$200 security deposit is required. You will need to provide the time and duration of your event. You can reserve the pavilion for the entire day or for as little as two hours. This allows more residents use of the space for parties. Please note that reservations are not final until you receive confirmation from the HSIA Administrator. If you are serving alcohol at your party, you will need to obtain an Anne Arundel County One-Day Liquor License. Further instructions on how to obtain a One Day Liquor License will be given at time of booking.



UNDER CONTRACT!

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This spacious Manor Home in Kingsport offers over 6,200 sq. ft. of living space, featuring 6 BR & 6.5 BA! The lower-level functions as a second home, complete with a gourmet kitchen, living room, primary suite, and outdoor patio access. Community amenities include community pool, playgrounds, and walking paths. **Contact me for a consultation about your home!**



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Call for Candidates for 2025–2026 Term

HSIA Positions up for election this year are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These leadership positions play an important part in setting the tone and trajectory of our community. Candidates must be current residents of Hillsmere and have membership in HSIA for 2024.

If you are interested in running for office, please email a “Statement of Intent to Run” to nominations@hillsmershores.org no later than September 14. The Statement needs to include:

- The Position you’re running for (President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary)
- Your current HSIA membership status and qualifications (bio). Your bio should include your volunteer history in Hillsmere, your goals and vision for the community. **Please limit your bio to 300 words.**
- Candidates will be announced on the official Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association website, the official HSIA Facebook page, and in the October *Sea Breeze*. Bios, ballots, and voting instructions will also be posted in the October *Sea Breeze*.

MEET THE CANDIDATE NIGHT

Thursday, October 10, 7 p.m.

The Barn Commons, Key School

This is an opportunity to meet candidates for the HSIA Executive Board (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary) and ask questions about their history of Hillsmere volunteerism, vision for the community, and commitment to serve for the next two years. Candidates must be residents of the Hillsmere Shores Community, confirmed to be in good standing, and current HSIA members. Ballots will be included in the November issue of the *Sea Breeze* and available on the HSIA website.

VOTING AND MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Current HSIA 2024 dues paying members can vote. Paying dues gives one (1) member of the household the right to vote. Additional members over the age of 18 can become additional members for \$25 per person. Not sure you’re a 2024 HSIA member? Please email admin@hillsmershores.org or leave a message on the Hillsmere voicemail at 410-263-4456 and we can let you know. If you are not a current member and wish to

join to be able to vote in the board member election, you MUST send your membership form and dues payment to HSIA by close of business November 3, 2024.

If you are not a current member of HSIA and would like to vote, download a 2024 HSIA Membership form from our website at www.hillsmershores.org and mail the form and payment to HSIA, P.O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403 or put it in the HSIA mailbox at the community house at the corner of Great Lake and Harbor Drives.

ELECTIONS

- November 14, 7 p.m., Key School the Barn Commons

The graphic features the Key School logo and the text "Fall Admission Events". It lists five events with dates and times:

- 8 OCT: Lower School Information Session 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
- 22 OCT: Middle School Information Session 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
- 24 OCT: Upper School Information Session 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- 29 OCT: Middle & Upper School Information Session 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
- 9 NOV: First School Open House 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Accompanying text includes:

- #1 Private School in Anne Arundel County
- #1 School for STEM in Anne Arundel County
- #7 K-12 Private School in Maryland
- A QR code with the text: "Scan to register for Key School's Fall Admission Events."

HSIA Events Committee Report

Helen Raven, Events Committee Chair



UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 14th Happy Hour is scheduled. Liquor license is in the works. This is on a Saturday with an earlier start and ending time (5–7 p.m.).
- October 19th Band and Volunteer Recognition is in the works. Waiting for Tom to sign the contract.
- Oyster Roast in November. Happy Hour Crew to handle this.
- Santa Run will be coordinated with the Fire Department.

NEXT MEETING

- September 16 at 7:00 pm at the House. Topics will include the band event, Oyster Roast, and plans for the holidays. The meeting will be advertised in the *Sea Breeze*, on the website, and eblast.

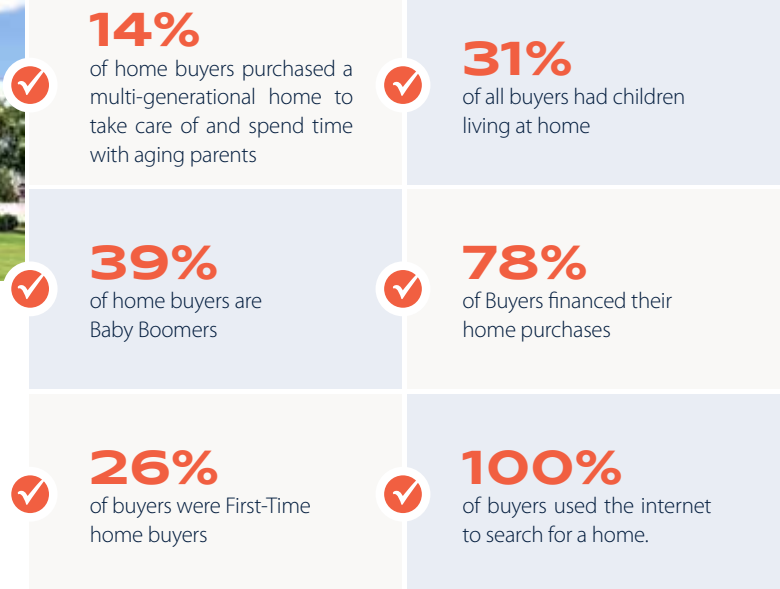
HOUSE

- Rules were drafted and sent to the Board for review. October is the target date to start community use of the house.
- The basement and garage were tidied and organized, with all decorations moved to the basement.



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HSIA Community Beach Report

Geoff Werner, Beach Committee Chair



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

As the season draws to a close, we can look back with fond memories of a fantastic summer at Hillsmere Shores. From sun-soaked days on the beach to community events that brought us all together, this summer truly embodied the spirit of our beloved neighborhood. We're grateful for everyone's participation and look forward to September and October for the perfect weather to enjoy Hillsmere Beach and all the improvements we've worked hard to make this summer as a community!

We'd like to extend a special thank you to the dedicated volunteers who responded to the storm damage from Tropical Storm Debby and worked tirelessly to clean up the beach. Your efforts ensured that we could all continue to enjoy our beach, and we're deeply grateful for your hard work. As the season draws to a close, we can look back with fond memories of a fantastic summer at Hillsmere Shores. From sun-soaked days on the beach to community events that brought us all together, this summer truly embodied the spirit of our beloved neighborhood. We're grateful for everyone's participation and look forward to September and October for the perfect weather to enjoy Hillsmere Beach and all the improvements we've worked hard to make this summer as a community!

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COMMUNITY SURVEY

Thank you to all that have already taken the survey. We currently have 205 responses! Your feedback is already helping to identify priorities and focus our efforts.



If you have not yet, please take a few minutes to share with us your feedback on improvements you would like to see at the beach and playground! Your input will help guide the team as we draft our long-term plan and budget for future spending: [HSIA Beach Survey](#).

Note: A hard copy of the survey is available upon request and will be made available at BOD and General meetings.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Join the Monthly Beach Cleanup at Hillsmere Shores (recurring 3rd Saturday of the month).

NEXT EVENT DETAILS

- Dates: Sept. 21; Oct. 19
- Time: 10–11 a.m.
- Location: East Pavilion, Hillsmere Shores Beach

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Provide Equipment: Please bring tools like rakes, shovels, and gloves.
- Provide Transportation: We need trucks or large vehicles to haul trash.
- Raise Awareness: Encourage your friends and neighbors to join us and amplify our efforts.

MONTHLY BEACH COMMITTEE MEETING

Join our Beach Committee at the monthly meetings to discuss ongoing and future projects. For details or to RSVP, email: beach@hillsmershores.org.

NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday, September 3; October 1
Time: 7–9 p.m.
Hillsmere Shores Community House

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The weekly game continues on Monday nights. We encourage you to express your interest or show up! Please contact beach@hillsmershores.org for further details and to connect with other players.

PREVIOUS MONTH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Community Beach Cleanup

During our beach cleanups this summer, a large number of dedicated volunteers showed great teamwork and worked to clean up debris, relocate sand that was washed into the pavilions and respond to storm damage on July 14 and again after Tropical Storm Debby in August. A special thank you goes out to Michelle and Tom O'Brien for spearheading the efforts—we all appreciate it!

Safety/Accessibility/Maintenance Initiatives

Playgrounds: Continued efforts to address deficiencies identified in the June safety inspection by Playscapes by Post, Certified Playground Safety Inspector.

- Site visit/inspection w/ Miracle representative (small East playground equipment manufacturer) complete.
 - o Motion approved at AUG BOD meeting NTE \$14,000 to repair hazards to include: cracked slides, cargo net, space ship Columbia, spring rockers, swing seats and chains and therapeutic swing.
- Site visit/inspection with Burke representative (large West playground equipment manufacturer) complete. Way ahead is pending determination by Beach Committee.
 - o Current potential courses of action (COAs) include:

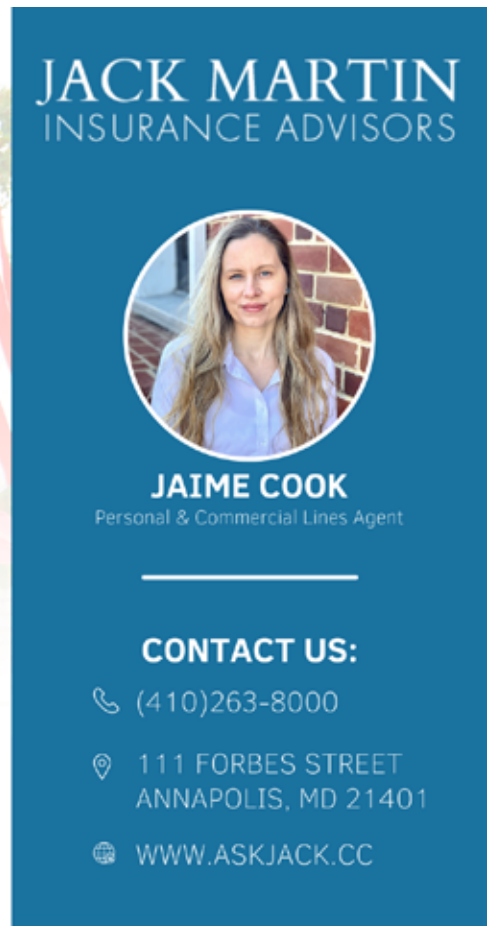


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- COA 1- Replace existing structure: est. \$80,000
- COA2- Replace with a smaller structure: est. \$50,000
- Pavilion Maintenance:
 - o Bruce Walker Pavilion Ramp: Installed by Gregg Home Services
 - o Bruce Walker Pavilion Lighting: repairs and installation of manual dome lights completed by Get It Dunn LLC
 - o Painting and Rust Treatment of structures: Completed by Blue Star Paint
- Landscaping: Lopez Landscaping weeded/edged swing set, playgrounds and volleyball court
- Storm Damage:
 - o Pleasant Trees removed the downed Linden tree following the 14 July 24 storm
 - o Polywood Boardwalk: Repaired by Gregg Home Services following storm surge damage from Tropical Storm Debby
- Managing Nuisance Geese and E. Coli Hazards:
 - o Maryland Geese Control—professional services acquired through August and early September. It has proven to be an effective deterrent and the handler is reporting a reduction in the nuisance geese population. Way ahead and continuation of services is pending determination by the Beach Committee.

CURRENT/FUTURE FOCUS AREAS

SAFETY/ACCESSIBILITY

- Playground surfacing: Pending coordination with new HSIA Property Manager to solicit landscapers to break up pea gravel in safe use areas of the playgrounds
- Automated Gate/Security Monitoring System: Continued coordination with Security Committee to research solutions and solicit quotes

MAINTENANCE

- Sinkhole Repairs: pending coordination with new HSIA Property Manager
- Plantings: coordination with Environmental Committee to add native plants throughout the property to assist in stormwater mitigation

IMPROVEMENTS

- Adirondack Chairs w/Grass Anchors—July BOD motion approved for the purchase of four chairs with anchoring system, NTE \$2,500. Order is currently pending.
- Concrete/Wood Picnic Tables – quotes solicited for 4 standard tables and two accessible tables to replace broken equipment. Motion planned for Sept. BOD meeting.
- Kayak Rack: Continued coordination with P&H Committee to design a low-profile solution and propose motion for construction to meet alleviate demand and reduce the wait list for watersports equipment storage in the community.
- Shoreline erosion protections: Continuing collaboration with the Environmental Committee to formulate strategies aimed at safeguarding the shoreline against erosion.

See you all at the beach, fall is just beginning!

beach@hillsmereshores.org

UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS—MARK YOUR CALENDARS		
9/10	Piers & Harbors Meeting	119 Great Lake Dr.
9/12	HSIA General Meeting	Key School, Katharine House
9/17	Pool Committee Meeting	119 Great Lake Dr.
9/26	HSIA Board Meeting	119 Great Lake Dr.

POOL COMMITTEE

Danielle Franz, Pool Chair

A BIG THANK YOU!

We couldn't have had such a great season without the amazing help of our volunteers. A huge thank you to everyone who pitched in, whether for an hour or the whole season! Your contributions are what make our pool so special.

In addition, Crystal Monkman has decided to join as co-chair. Crystal has been a huge asset to the committee this year, and we look forward to an excellent 2025!

2024 RECAP

The summer fun may be over after Labor Day's fantastic pool party, but the Hillsmere Shores Pool Committee is already looking ahead to next year! Here's a quick update:

- RFP for Pool Management: We're currently working on the bid process for our pool management company.
- Furniture and Budget Planning: We're getting a head start on furniture purchases and budget prep for next season.
- Join the Committee: We're always looking for enthusiastic volunteers! Just email us at pool@hillsmershores.org if you're interested in joining the pool committee.

Save the Date! Our next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17 at 5:30 p.m. at the Community House.



Looking for our Forever Family Home in Hillsmere Shores.



Hello! My wife and I have rented by Key School for 5 years and now need to find a home to buy. We have a sailboat in the marina and would love to stay in Hillsmere! I own Net Home Inspections and was a building contractor for 25 years before that. Our perfect house is a very dated fixer but one that we could move right into and fix up on our timeframe. If you own a home like this and are thinking of selling it, now or within the next year or so, please call us. We have financing in place and ready to go when the right house comes up.

Thank you, Joel and Jaycie Gibney,
410-310-1330

Security Update

HSIA has contracted with Chesapeake Protective Services to provide security for our community. We have a regular guard assigned to Hillsmere Shores, Melanie, so please say hello when you see her on patrol. Security services began on Saturday, April 6, 2024.

Chesapeake will provide us with patrols throughout the entire community. The guard will also be posted at the entrance to Hillsmere Shores during high traffic times to encourage drivers to respect the speed limit, and the guard will note the vehicle information of speeders. The guard will also ensure that vehicles parked at the marina and beach have Hillsmere stickers and will issue a notice if a car is parked without displaying a sticker.

Chesapeake will provide the Board with daily activity reports and incident reports, which will help the Board assess security issues and develop strategies/corrective actions to mitigate those security issues.

Chesapeake will not be on site 24/7 but they do have a **24-hour dispatch number: 410-788-6563, option #4.** (Please call the police for emergency issues.)



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Property Manager Report

Robin Clark, HSIA Property Manager, propertymanager@hillsmereshores.org



GOODBYE MESSAGE

It has been a pleasure serving as Property Manager over the last year. In September, I am leaving the role and joining the Anne Arundel County Government. I am especially proud of the work completed this year to complete interior updates to the Community House and establish it as a meeting place and office space and raising the standard for groundskeeping and environmental landscaping.

As I transition from Property Manager back to a volunteer, I plan to stay involved and I encourage all of you to participate in the future of the community as Committee members. Committees are the heart of Hillsmere Shores Improvement Association's structure. When there is broad and consistent engagement in Committees, HSIA functions well. I encourage everyone to take an active role in Committees.

With regard to property management, I look forward to seeing the progress of the next Property Manager, Cassie Heckman, and I am hopeful that the upcoming Reserve Study (more details below) will be a chance for HSIA to set aside funding for major capital improvements at the Hillsmere Beach and Pool.

Hillsmere will continue to move forward, and I am grateful to the many volunteers who helped me contribute this past year and to the dedicated list of contractors that support the community.

See you around!

Robin

CONTRACTS

The Property Manager is charged with leading the coordination of existing maintenance contracts and establishing new contracts based on Board defined objectives. The Property Manager, with oversight provided by the responsible HSIA Committee Chair, assists in the procurement of select ongoing service contracts by identifying the scope of work; drafting requests for proposals; soliciting bids/proposals; evaluating bids/proposals/qualifications; making award recommendations; and ensuring the Chair's role in managing the contract is clearly defined in related RFPs and final contracts.

POOL

The contract for pool management and operations will be opened for bidding this fall. There is a draft RFP and an RFP Review Team will be established.

GROUNDSKEEPING

Lopez Landscape LLC is under consideration for a contract addendum that would expand their fixed price contract from mowing to additional groundskeeping services through the fall of 2024. A groundskeeping contract will be re-bid in Spring 2025. Welspryng LLC is under contract to water the front entrance garden and new plants in the median. There were changes made to the Security staffing without the Property Manager's involvement in updating the contract.

ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY PARK

Plans for a wildflower garden north of the county's stormwater outlet along Harbor Drive, towards the corner of Great Lake Drive have been reviewed by neighbors to the property and received highly positive responses. This garden will protect underground conduits from compaction as part of the community's commitment to maintain the county's below-ground stormwater infrastructure.

PET WASTE STATIONS

Max Penn is continuing as the lead for Pet Waste Station maintenance and Davey Ward is the backup. If you have any issues with Pet Waste Stations please email Dogstation@hillsmereshores.org.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Environmental Landcare provided weeding and pesticide application in the Marina gravel lot. Welspryng provided hedge trimming along the entrance, and pesticide application in the rock lined culvert at the Marina.

Blue Star Paint and Property is addressing rust at the recently painted pavilions free of additional charge. Pleasant Trees promptly removed a large tree that fell across Bay View Drive during a storm and ground the stump.

NEIGHBORHOOD MONITORING

The Property Manager monitors Hillsmere Shores for deviations and irregularities to current HSIA Guidelines, Rules & Regulations, including monitoring approved building permits and reporting any non-approved building activities.

In July and August, the Property Manager collected addresses of residents with political signs that violate the HSIA rules and sent letters to residents with political signs in apparent violation.

Silt fence issues and dumpsters blocking the roadway were also reported to the Property Manager for follow-up.

SPECIAL PROJECTS: RESERVE STUDY

A responsibility of the Property Manager is to assist in the management and construction of Special Projects by providing input to architects, engineers and contractors on project design; ensuring that necessary permits are secured; drafting requests for proposals/bids; soliciting proposals/bids; and managing the selected contractors.

A reserve study to make sure that Hillsmere has adequate resources to preserve and maintain its assets into the future based on the estimated cost of major repairs to or replacement of the common assets. The Board reviewed three bids and selected a contractor to conduct a Reserve Study. The Reserve Study will exclude the Marina which has already obtained a separate study. The Property Manager provided Superior with some background legal documentation. Superior reached out to schedule a site visit in the fourth week of September and will be gathering information relating to the community's budget and finances, and capital projects anticipated at that time.

Motions From August 2024 Board Meeting

BEACH

Mike Wurst moved the Board approve NTE \$14,000 for the Metro Recreation proposal to repair/replace hazardous playground equipment on the Eastern playground (Miracle Brand Equipment) and swingsets, upon obtaining competitive bids. Items to be replaced listed as follows:

- Label: Ages 2–12 Years Mrec
- Swg Part Therapeutic Swg Seat W/Chain (8' Tr)
- Swg Part Harness (8' Tr)
- Swg Part Slash Proof Seat W/Chain (8' Tr)
- Swg Part Tot Seat 360 Deg W/Chain (8' Tr)
- Twin Rider
- Slide Side-By-Side W/Canopy 3' Deck
- Space Ship Columbia
- Cargo Net W/Rungs 3' Dk Pvc Hg

Gene Gross seconded the motion. Vote taken—unanimously approved.

PIERS & HARBOR

Mike Wurst moved the Board approve expenditures NTE \$8,000 for electrical work by electrician Michael McColgan at the Marina and Boat Ramps, to replace 32 non-GFCI breakers with code-complaint GFCI breakers, to conduct circuit tracing, and to re-label all breakers. Gene Gross seconded the motion. Vote taken—unanimously approved.

POOL

Joanna Parkinson moved the Board approve NTE \$2,400 for the Labor Day Pool party to include hamburgers, hot dogs, and Italian sausage. Gene Gross seconded the motion. Vote taken—unanimously approved.

Complete minutes can be found on hillsmershores.org.

Quiet Waters Park Expansion Update

Ray Sullivan, Hillsmere Representative to the QWP Stakeholder Group

Anne Arundel County purchased this Quiet Waters expansion property 5 years ago for approximately \$8 million (\$6 million in public funds and \$2 million from a generous donation of the Earl family). A few years ago, the plans for a private office building in the Quiet Waters Park 19-acre expansion were canceled. As a result, a citizen's stakeholders' group was formed by the county. The group met on July 27. The group consists of 11 citizens, three of whom are Hillsmere residents.

Bruce Bruchey from AA County DPW conducted the meeting. The county has changed the process of park planning by including citizens at the beginning of the process. The county sets the vision, which in this case is Accessible, Passive Recreational Use, and Natural. The QWP Master Plan still holds. Per Bruce Bruchey, "We are not changing the character of QWP."

The new plan applies to the new "expansion" of the park. We all submitted ideas that will be compiled before the next meeting. At some point the public will be able weigh in. When the comments are reviewed, TranSystem (formerly WBCM; the company that drew the initial plans) will come up with 3 scenarios that will be presented to the public, hopefully this fall.



Native Plant Sale

Native plants are perfectly adapted to our climate and soil types. They have co-evolved with wildlife and support native species of birds and insects. Native trees and shrubs have deeper root systems than grass, and help absorb stormwater.

Choose large trees carefully

Plant trees the appropriate distance from your house. Consider their final size. Plant small trees or shrubs where space is limited.

Order Information

Send orders to **Native Plant Sale**

503 Tayman Dr. Annapolis, MD. 21403

Checks payable to **Schotts Nurseries.**

Orders must be received by
September 23rd for fall delivery.

Hillsmere residents only.

Questions?

Phyllis Saroff

410-268-1691

Hillsmere Tree and Shrub Order Form

06/2024

Name _____ Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____ Total Due _____

SPECIES	WILDLIFE VALUE													ORDERING						
	Plant descriptions referenced from Wikipedia and MOBOT	Songbird	Waterfowl	Hummingbird	Butterfly	Beneficial Insect	Small Mammal	Under Utility Line	Near Building	Sun	Part	Shade	Dry	Moist	Wet	Container Size	Height	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Light: (F)ull Sun (P)artial Shade (S)hade	Moisture: (D)ry (M)oist (W)et	Mature Size: Height/Spread																		
Canopy Trees																				
(NEW) Bald Cypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>) F/P M/W 50-100' x 20-35'																				
Most Bald Cypress grow on flat ground on alluvial soils, mainly along riparian (riverside) wetlands normally subject to periodic flooding. It tolerates minor salinity, but does not grow in brackish waters. In cultivation it thrives on a range of soils including well-drained sites. It is a popular ornamental tree, grown for its feathery foliage and orange-brown fall color.																				
Small to Medium Trees																				
Serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier x grandiflora</i>) F/P D/M 15-25'																				
A small, deciduous, usually multi-trunked understory tree. White flowers in spring followed by small edible fruits in June. Berries resemble blueberries in taste and may be used in jams, jellies and pies. Finely-toothed, oval leaves emerge with bronze tints in spring, turning brilliant red to orange-red in fall.																				
Common PawPaw (<i>Asimina triloba</i>) F/P M/W 15-25'																				
A small understory tree which typically occurs in low bottom woods, wooded slopes, ravines and along streams. Often spreads by root suckers to form colonies or thickets. Cup-shaped, purple flowers appear in spring, and give way to edible, oblong, yellowish green fruits which mature in early autumn to a dark brown. Flavor and fleshy consistency resembles bananas, although they can produce nausea in some people. 2 trees required for pollination.																				
Eastern Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) P/S D/M 20-35'																				
A popular landscape ornamental tree with clusters of magenta flowers appearing on bare stems in early spring. Eastern redbud is a frequent native understory tree in mixed forests, hedgerows and roadsides. Heart shaped leaves turn bright yellow in autumn.																				
River Birch (<i>Betula nigra</i>) F/P M/W 20-35'																				
Wax myrtle is a fast-growing, hardy evergreen that can take tough conditions - heat, cold, wet and even salty areas. Small spring flowers are followed by clusters of tiny fruit that matures in fall and often lasts throughout the winter. Wax myrtle was used by early American colonists to make bayberry candles from the fruit's waxy, bluish coating. The foliage is also aromatic. Commonly used as a hedge or privacy screen, it can be trimmed to 7 or 8 feet tall and wide, or left to grow much larger - 20 feet or more.																				
Sweetbay Magnolia (<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>) M/W 20'																				
An attractive multi-stemmed tree often used in horticultural applications to give structure to landscape designs. It is known for its large, white, vanilla scented flowers, for its clean, attractive foliage, and for its fast growth.																				
Large Shrubs																				
(NEW) Wax Myrtle* (<i>Myrica cerifera</i>) F/P D/W 15-25'																				
Wax myrtle is a fast-growing, hardy evergreen that can take tough conditions - heat, cold, wet and even salty areas. Small spring flowers are followed by clusters of tiny fruit that matures in fall and often lasts throughout the winter. Wax myrtle was used by early American colonists to make bayberry candles from the fruit's waxy, bluish coating. The foliage is also aromatic. Commonly used as a hedge or privacy screen, it can be trimmed to 7 or 8 feet tall and wide, or left to grow much larger - 20 feet or more.																				
Medium Shrubs																				
Summersweet (<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>) F/S M/W 6-8'																				
Typically used as a shrub for natural gardens, or placed alongside a stream or pond in order to delay erosion. It grows in wet forests, pine flatwoods, wetlands, bogs and can be seen alongside woodland streams. The flowers are white or very pale pink with a sweet fragrance from July until September. Foliage turns yellow-golden during the autumn.																				
Winterberry (<i>Ilex verticillata</i>) F/P M 8'																				
A deciduous holly which is prized for the midwinter splash of bright red color from densely packed berries, which are highly visible on bare stems. Although wet acidic soils are optimal, the winterberry will grow well in the average garden. At least one male plant must be planted in proximity to one or more females for them to bear fruit. The berries are an important food resource for numerous species of birds. One male plant will be included with order.																				
Small Shrubs																				
Virginia Sweetspire (<i>Itea virginica</i>) F/S M/W 3-6'																				
Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Adaptable to shade. Prefers moist, humusy soils, but tolerates a wide range of soil conditions. Versatile shrub for sunny or shady areas of the shrub border or woodland garden. Leaves turn an attractive red in autumn.																				

* Indicates Evergreen

Plant order form created by:

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Piers & Harbors News

Steve Vanderbosch, HSIA Board Member and P&H Chair



SAND SPIT LIVING SHORELINE/COASTAL RESILIENCY PROJECT

After an unanticipated delay of about two weeks, on or about September 16th construction is rescheduled to start on the Sand Spit Living Shoreline Coastal Resiliency Project at the Hillsmere Shores Marina. See the [HSIA Website](#) for more information on the Project and design drawings.

The contractor for the Project, Resource Restoration Group, LLC ("RRG"), is now scheduled to begin mobilization, staging and site preparation in mid-September. RRG will be employing two large pieces of construction equipment for the work, which will take place during 10-hour workdays, typically 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. Fridays will be used as workdays as needed due to weather and/or other scheduling issues. Construction is expected to continue from mid-September to November 15, 2024, and resume in the Spring of 2025 for marsh plantings.

The Project requires the creation of stone headlands and marsh areas adjacent to the Sand Spit, and the placement of oyster reef balls. All of the stone, sand and reef balls will be delivered to the site by dump trucks traveling along Hillsmere Drive to Bay View Drive East. There are expected to be multiple truckloads of stone and sand delivered every workday.



The Project will be constructed in three sequences, with three Construction Zones, which will be fenced off sequentially. The first Zone will begin at the earthen berm on the righthand side at the end of the Marina driveway and extend to the vicinity of Slip #19. The gravel lot will be fenced off into two sections heading in: the Construction Zone on the right side toward the South River, and a Marina travel lane on the left side toward the Marina Bulkhead. Speed bumps and parking dividers will be removed as necessary. There will be no Marina parking from Slip #1 to Slip #20 during the first construction sequence.

CAUTION! CAUTION! CAUTION!

This will be a work zone with heavy equipment, large stone, and sand.
STAY OUT OF THE CONSTRUCTION ZONES!
NO EXPLORING, NO FISHING, NO CLOSE-UP INSPECTION!
View this work from beyond the Construction Zone fencing!

DRIVE CAREFULLY!

There will be new traffic patterns.
You will be distracted by the construction work.
There will be dump trucks coming and going!
Yield right-of-way to the dump trucks!
The SPEED LIMIT is still 5 MPH!

NOAA HURRICANE FORECAST

DO YOU HAVE A HURRICANE PLAN?

The HSIA Marina is extremely vulnerable to wind, storm surge and wave action. If a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning is issued for this area (generally 36 hours in advance), the best thing to do is to remove your boat from the Marina, by having it trailered, hauled, or moved to safer moorings or hurricane holes.

If you are out of town or otherwise unavailable during hurricane season, it is very important that you have someone local designated to take care of your boat. Please make sure their contact information has been provided to the Chair of Piers & Harbors! (marina@hillsmereshores.org). Pay close attention to tropical storm forecasts, be proactive, and be ready to move your boat to safety.

Kayaks, paddleboards and canoes are vulnerable, too, and should be tied down and secured, or removed to your yard or garage, or another safer place.

If you decide to have your boat ride out a storm at the Marina, take appropriate steps to secure your boat and protect the Marina by rigging extra lines, doubling up mooring lines and placing protective fenders. Boat owners are solely and completely responsible for securing their boats if left in the Marina during a tropical storm or hurricane. Note that all power and water will be shut off at the Marina and boat ramps during tropical storms and hurricanes.

SLIP HOLDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR AND ASSUME FULL AND SOLE RISK OF DAMAGE TO THEIR BOATS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT, THE BOATS AND EQUIPMENT OF OTHERS, AND THE HSIA PIERS AND DOCKS AS A RESULT OF LEAVING THEIR BOATS IN THE MARINA DURING A TROPICAL STORM OR HURRICANE.

P&H OPERATIONS

- Tropical Storm Debby did some damage August 8–10 at the Marina.
 - Due to high water and wave action reaching the shore power pedestals, power was turned off Friday morning 8/9/24, and was restored on Sunday 8/11/24.
 - A lot of gravel washed away, leaving the travel lanes with a washboard effect. A foot or more of soil eroded at the base of the black pine trees, exposing the tops of their root systems. Pay Dirt LLC responded on Tuesday 8/13/24 to rake and smooth out the gravel and replaced sandy soil on the exposed pine tree roots.
 - Some volunteers on Friday evening, and then a cleanup/repair party on Saturday 8/10/24 raked up debris and bagged up plastic and trash. The repair party replaced 10 curb stops, uprighted the porta-potty, re-anchored the curb stop log, moved some gravel, and put the coir logs back under the pine trees. Big THANKS! to Dave Ward, Michael Case, Tim Cantor, Dave Edinberg, Doug Freeman and Rosemary Foltis.
 - Thirteen (13) finger pier dock boards were lost. Will Heyer cut replacement boards to size and the missing boards were all replaced on Saturday 8/10/24.
 - Two faucets/spigots broke off, one each on A Dock and C Dock. Heidler Plumbing repaired the breaks and restored water service on Wednesday 8/15/24.
 - The ornament and solar light atop the flagpole blew off. Replacements have been ordered.
- In mid-August P&H Committee volunteers conducted a preliminary test of electrical current leakage ("ECL") by all boats utilizing shore power and identified a dozen apparent leakers. Our electrician will be conducting professional tests of ECL on the dozen boats and preparing written reports.
- We have identified 32 remaining electrical breakers at the Marina and at the two boat ramps that are not code-complaint. The electrician will be replacing the 32 non-GFCI breakers with code-compliant GFCI breakers, conducting circuit tracing, and re-labeling all breakers in the electrical panels.

- Vegetation overgrowth along the bulkhead was removed and/or treated by Environmental Landcare. Welspryng trimmed hedges along the Marina driveway and at the West end of the Sand Spit.
- The replacement picnic table at the Sand Spit is re-scheduled to ship on 9/14/24.

Routine maintenance has continued as needed. If you see any damage, deficiencies, inoperable equipment or something that needs repair, like loose dock boards, torn piling caps, broken fixtures, leaking faucets, etc. Please let us know. Contact Steve Vanderbosch at marina@hillsmereshores.org or 410-212-6978, or Norm Johansen at normjohansen@gmail.com or 443-822-8945.

NON-NATIVE INVASIVE (“NNI”) SPECIES REMOVAL

We are working with Arundel Rivers Federation to seek grant assistance for NNI species removal, primarily bamboo at the Boat Park and Beach Drive Boat Ramp, and phragmites at multiple waterfront locations. We have requested cost estimates from Environmental Quality Resources, LLC, and the Federation is also obtaining cost estimates for NNI species removal on HSIA properties.





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P&H MEETINGS
P&H Committee Meetings are held at the Hillsmere Community House at 119 Great Lake Drive. The next P&H Committee Meeting will be held:

- Tuesday September 10, 2024, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday November 12, 2024, 7 p.m.

All Slip Holders, Ramp Key Holders, Wait Listers, Kayakers, Boat Parkers, etc. are invited to attend. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed!

In the interim, please direct your questions, issues, concerns, and comments to marina@hillsmereshores.org and be on the lookout for Special P&H Notices and calls for Work Parties!

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HSIA Building Permits



WHEN DO YOU NEED A PERMIT?

An HSIA Building Permit is required every time an Anne Arundel County Building Permit is issued for any work done at your property. However, there are several situations where a County Permit is not required but an HSIA Permit is. Please check the AA County requirements as well as the HSIA Covenants before undertaking any building projects at your property. The responsibility of obtaining an HSIA Building Permit falls on the owner, not the contractor.

Why does HSIA require and issue building permits? Per HSIA Covenants & Deed Restrictions, HSIA's sideline setbacks (15') are different from the County (7'). We encourage anyone having work done at their property to reach out to the HSIA Building Permit Chair before designing your structure or applying to the County. Failure to obtain a HSIA Building Permit prior to the start of construction will result in a stop work order.

The fee for an HSIA Building Permit is \$25. The following items are required to obtain a HSIA Building Permit:

1. A copy of the Anne Arundel County Building Permit.*
2. A TO SCALE copy of the site plan.*
3. A copy of the plans and elevations, TO SCALE, of the structure.*
4. Cash or check in the amount of \$25, made payable to HSIA
5. Mail all required items & payment to HSIA, PO Box 3485, Annapolis MD 21403
6. Provide current mailing address, as your HSIA Building Permit will be mailed via USPS

*AN EMAILED PDF OF THE COUNTY PERMIT AND THE TO-SCALE SITE and/or STRUCTURE PLAN IS PREFERRED AND MAY EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING A HSIA BUILDING PERMIT.

HSIA Covenants & Deed Restrictions, recorded among the Land Record of Anne Arundel County, Maryland in Liber 900, Folio 334, are binding as a matter of law and are for the benefit of all other lot owners in Hillsmere. (Anne Arundel County Code, 2005, Article 18, Zoning, Title 2, General Provisions, Subtitle 3, Setbacks)

For permit approval, please allow 10 working days to receive your permit in order to allow time to make sure all of your documents are legible (do not take photos of documents and email them), review it, verify your request meets HSIA Covenants and setbacks, and contact you for any questions on the submission. Please provide your current mailing address if it is different from the address on the AA County Building Permit. Your permit will also be mailed, via USPS, which takes several days.

If you have any questions on the setbacks feel free to ask before you go to the trouble of getting a County permit and find you cannot get an HSIA permit. When in doubt, or, if you have any questions, contact HSIA Building Permit Chairman via email, permits@hillsmershores.org or voicemail, 410-263-4456.

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Important numbers and emails

AACO Police emergency 911
AACO Police non-emergency 410-222-8610
Hillsmere Security: security@hillsmershores.org
HSIA President: president@hillsmershores.org
HSIA Property Manager: propertymanager@hillsmershores.org
Key School liaison: kaustin@keyschool.org
AACO traffic engineer: pwflor11@aacounty.org
Community Cat Program: jckilborn@yahoo.com

Hillsmere Garden Club

Leigh Gruber, Administrative Assistant

On one of the glorious summer days in August, nearly half of the club attended the annual summer tea at the home of Jen Reilly. It was a lovely affair with discussions of summer activities and holiday plans. It was a great prequel for the first meeting of our fiscal year which will be at the Annapolis Neck Library at 12:30 on September 18. Members and interested guests will bring arrangements illustrating the theme "Down by the Sea." This is a fun "get to know you" meeting where members sign up for various fall activities including a field trip to Anne Marie Gardens in October.



Angie Smail, Barbara Ahr, Cindi Wible, and Coleen Mennucci gather in Jen's kitchen.

Those with an interest in gardening-related subjects are invited to join the club, which meets September through May on the third Wednesday of each month. Visitors are always welcome. For those wishing to join (Hillsmere residency is **not** required), annual dues for September through May are \$30. To receive the monthly "Buzz" newsletter or for more information about joining, send an email to the administrative assistant at HillsmereGardenClub@gmail.com.



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THE SEA BREEZE

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P.O. Box 3485, Annapolis, MD 21403

www.hillsmereshores.org

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Editor: Ann Levelle [seabreeze@hillsmereshores.org]

Property Manager: Cassie Heckman [propertymanager@hillsmereshores.org]

HSIA Service and Information: 410-263-4456 (24-hour voicemail)

BABYSITTERS

Bella	Age 15	443-534-7918
Charlotte	Age 15	443-924-1598
Ella	Age 16	443-223-0572
Hannah	Age 17	405-926-6159
Kiara	Age 12	410-972-5421
Lauren	Age 18	443-750-1228
Léana	Age 16	301-793-0032
Maggie	Age 16	443-900-5511
Nora	Age 14	443-458-8633
Sara	Adult	443-569-1722
Shanley	Age 15	443-569-9764
Sky	Age 13	410-562-3409
Linda	Adult	443-822-7956

PET SITTERS/DOG WALKERS

Alexis	Age 14	443-388-6611
Castin (cats only)	Age 12	703-853-2890
Earl	Adult	410-570-1894
Elaine	Adult	443-822-6035
Hannah	Age 17	405-926-6159
Hannah	Adult	410-980-6189
Keira (cats only)	Age 12	443-440-5558
Lauren	Age 18	443-750-1228
LC (cats only)	Age 12	410-990-0156
Linda	Adult	443-822-7956
Maggie	Age 16	443-900-5511
Mary Ellen	Adult	410-212-5744
Quentin	Age 13	301-793-0032
Sean	Age 16	443-569-9764
Shanley	Age 15	443-569-9764
Shondra	Adult	240-578-9221
Sky	Age 13	410-562-3409
Taegan	Age 14	410-562-2679

Individuals are responsible for updating their listings. If you would like to be added to either listing, please email postmaster@hillsmereshores.org.

HSIA OFFICERS

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Vice President	Claire Corcoran	410-263-4456
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Zoning & Covenants	Claire Corcoran	410-263-4456
Key School Liaison	Kate Austin	410-321-7811
ANPF Representative	Ray Sullivan	410-263-4456

COMMUNITY FACILITIES & LOCAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Beach Picnic Area Reservations	410-263-4456
Boat Ramp Keys & Boat Slip Assignments	410-263-4456
Guest Parking Passes	410-263-4456
Hillsmere Car & Boat Trailer Stickers	410-263-4456
Hillsmere Garden Club	410-268-7175
Hillsmere Hammerheads Swim Team	443-336-8432
County Community Services Specialist	410-222-1242
Animal Control	410-222-8900
Recycling Information & Bulk Trash Pickup	410-222-6100
Community Cat Program: Carolyn Kilborn	jckilborn@yahoo.com

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Beach Committee 7 p.m. Community House	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 P&H Committee 7 p.m. Community House	11	12 HSIA General Meeting 7 p.m. Key School Katharine Hall	13	14
15	16	17 Pool Committee 5:30 p.m. Community House	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 HSIA Board Meeting 7 p.m. Community House	27	28
29	30	October 1 Beach Committee 7 p.m. Community House	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12



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