

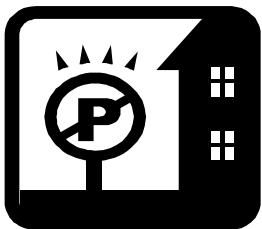


The London Towne Crier

The London Towne Community Newsletter

November 2007

TOWING: The Worst Subject in London Towne



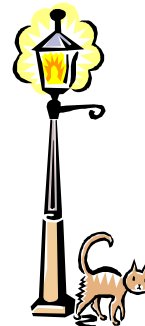
There has never been a shortage of bad feelings or harsh words when it comes to the subject of towing—whether talking about in London Towne, or anywhere in the country. Turn on any daytime court show and at least once a week there is someone suing a tow company because their car had been towed, for absolutely no reason, by a good-for-nothing-out-to-get-innocent-members-of-society-and-make-a-quick-buck towing company. There is probably no one hated more than the person behind the wheel of a tow truck—even if the person being towed is 100% in the wrong. Unfortunately, because it is the nature of the beast there is not much that can be done to change society's opinion of towing companies. Even more unfortunate is the fact that the service tow companies provide will probably always be necessary, because there will always be the not-so-innocent members of society that make it difficult for everyone else.

Although there are fewer complaints than ever in London Towne, regarding vehicles being towed, there have still been some complaints. Therefore, to keep residents vehicles from being towed, it was suggested that an article be added to the *Crier* outlining the Neighborhood's tow guidelines and times that the tow company patrols the Neighborhood, and information about the towing company.

First and foremost, the towing company which has been contracted to patrol London Towne is Battlefield Towing. If you ever see another towing company in London Towne patrolling and/or removing vehicles from unlicensed spaces, fire lanes, etc., they are doing so under someone else's authority. If you see anyone other than Battlefield, please let the police, Sequoia, or the Board, know immediately. If possible, take a picture of the truck, as proof. In some cases, these tow companies may be removing vehicles legitimately (call-ins by owners because vehicles are broken down, repossessions, etc.) but sometimes, there are rogue companies that peruse neighborhoods trying to make money.

Second, Battlefield has been contracted to patrol the Neighborhood from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

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LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

During London Towne's recent inspections there were a significant number of homes that were written up for inoperative exterior lights. Please remember, gas pole lights are required to burn continuously 24 hours a day and approved electric pole or wall mounted lights must be on from dusk to dawn. It is not only a violation, but a safety hazard, not to have your lights on and working properly. If you have a gas lamp, please change the mantels if they are burned out. If you have an electric light, you should install a sensor that will turn your light on and off automatically. If your pole has fallen down and is not operational, it needs to be repaired as soon as possible. Light poles may not be removed without Board approval.

There are too many dark areas within London Towne's courts, and your light serves a significant purpose. It offers safety when entering your home at night and helps to provide security against break-ins, vandalism and other unwanted activity. Having your light on at night may cost you a bit monetarily, but the peace of mind you and your neighbor's receive should more than make up for it.

If you notice a light out on your court, please help us out by contacting Samantha Winterstine at 703-803-9641.

THE LONDON TOWNE CRIER

SEQUOIA MANAGEMENT COMPANY, INC.

13998 Parkeast Circle
Chantilly, VA 20151
Samantha Winterstine, Community Manager
E-mail: swinterstine@sequoiamanagement.com
Day Telephone: 703-803-9641
Emergency Telephone: 703-968-6705
FAX: 703-968-0936

LONDON TOWNE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robin Peralta, President
William Sheldon, Vice President
Sally Saucedo, Treasurer
Michele McCormack, Secretary
Linda Evans, Director at Large
London Towne's Board of Directors meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at London Towne Elementary School during the school year and at Sequoia Management during the off-season or inclement weather.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Architectural Committee
Please contact Sequoia Management
Landscape Committee
Michele McCormack, Chair
Block Captains
Patricia Jackson, Chair

PDS (RECYCLING & SANITATION)

Call 703-560-8866 to schedule large item pick-up
Pick-Up Days: Tuesday & Friday
Recycling Day: Friday ONLY

BATTLEFIELD TOWING: 703-378-0059

NON-EMERGENCY POLICE & FIRE: 703-691-2131

ANIMAL WARDEN: 703-830-3310

MALFUNCTIONING STREETLIGHTS

NOVEC: 703-335-0500

STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE

VDOT: 703-383-8368

Advertisers Wanted

Any local firm or professional individual seeking a well-read outlet at reasonable prices, please contact Samantha Winterstine at Sequoia Management:

703-803-9641
swinterstine@sequoiamanagement.com

The *London Towne Crier* is published monthly for the benefit and interest of the residents of London Towne. Contributions of articles, letters, news items, photographs, drawings, and community advertisements are welcome.

The deadline for submission is the 5th of each month.

Written material **MUST** include name, address, and phone number.

The views expressed in the *Crier* are those of the contributor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board of Directors or the Editor.

The *Crier* encourages advertising for London Towne residents who have services to offer, items for sale, items needed, or lost pet notices. There is no charge for this service. Advertisements will run for one month. Each advertisement must be submitted monthly if a reprint is requested.



This is an official publication of the London Towne Homeowners Association. Publication in this newsletter of announcements, resolutions, rules and regulations duly adopted by the Board of Directors serves as official notice to the membership and residents of the adoption and implementation of these enactments for the purpose of enforcement.

The London Towne Homeowners Association does not endorse, guarantee, or warrant the nature, quality, or attributes of any products or services advertised in this newsletter.

Need Info Quick?

Visit our website at www.lthoa.com
or email the Board at lthoa@lthoa.com

Did you know that each month's *London Towne Crier* appears on the website about a week before the printed version arrives in your mailbox?



Check it out!

Crier Advertising Rates

Business Card	\$25.00
1/4 Page	\$45.00
1/2 Page	\$75.00
Full Page	\$125.00

10% discount for 6-month prepaid ad. 15% discount for 1-year prepaid ad.







Personal classified ads for residents are free.

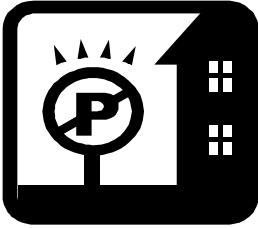
Business classified ads for residents are \$10.00 with a 3-line maximum.



ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

As the Board plans activities, we will try and add them to the Annual Calendar of Events and publish them each month in the Crier so the Community can better plan for any upcoming events. Please note, due to unforeseen circumstances (weather, illness, etc.), some events planned in advance are subject to change, so please watch the Calendar each month for any changes.

JULY 2007	AUGUST 2007	SEPTEMBER 2007	OCTOBER 2007	NOVEMBER 2007	DECEMBER 2007
Architectural Inspections		School Begins 9/4/07	Fall Yard Sale 10/6/07 Raindate: 10/7/07 	Board Meeting Offices of Sequoia Management 11/29/07 7:00 pm	Holiday Decoration Contest 12/12/07 8:00 pm 
Board Meeting Offices of Sequoia Management 7/19/07		Board Meeting Offices of Sequoia Management 9/27/07 7:00 pm	Neighborhood Watch Meeting 10/13/07 1:00 pm 6214 Paddington Lane		
Summer Yard Sale 7/28/07 Raindate: 7/29/07 			Halloween Costume Contest 10/27/07 1:00-3:00 pm 		
JANUARY 2008	FEBRUARY 2008	MARCH 2008	APRIL 2008	MAY 2008	JUNE 2008
Board Meeting Offices of Sequoia Management 1/24/08 7:00 pm		Architectural Inspections	Architectural Inspections	Spring Clean Up 5/3/08 Raindate: 5/4/08	
		Easter Egg Hunt Palmerston Square 10:00 am 3/22/08 		Annual Meeting Location TBA 7:00 pm 5/14/08	
		Board Meeting Offices of Sequoia Management 3/27/08 7:00 pm		Spring Yard Sale 5/17/08 Raindate: 5/24/08 	
				Board Organizational Meeting (Executive Session: 5/22/08)	



Towing, *continued from page 1*

only. If you see Battlefield in the Neighborhood removing a vehicle anytime between 7:00 a.m.

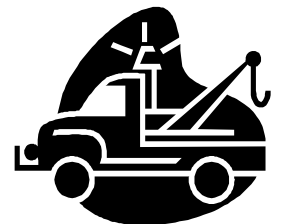
and 7:00 p.m. it is because the vehicle was called in—in most cases by residents of London Towne. The reason the Board has asked Battlefield NOT to patrol during the day is because it understands that there are a number of contractors in the Neighborhood on a daily basis doing work to residents homes and the last thing the Board wants is to have someone's contractor towed because they may be parked in an unnumbered space without a parking pass. This, however, does not mean that if you hire a contractor and allow them to park in someone's numbered space, without their permission, that the contractor will not be towed. It is entirely up to the owner of the space whether they call Battlefield or not. To prevent this from happening, allow any contractors you have coming to your home to park in your numbered space (or driveway, if you have one). Better yet, get to know and make friends with your neighbors. That way, they may allow your contractor to park in their space during the day, especially if they are not going to be around. Don't assume, just because your neighbor is gone, it is okay to use their space. They may come home unexpectedly and not be at all happy that they don't have a place to park.

So how do you keep your vehicle from being towed during regular patrol hours? Very simply, follow the guidelines set up in the parking policy. Don't leave your vehicle parked, or allow a guest to park, in an unnumbered space without a parking pass. Don't park your vehicle on a yellow curb or in an area clearly marked "No Parking." Don't park your vehicle in an area that is not designated as a parking space (that includes tandem parking in your driveway and/or parallel parking

behind it. If you are just pulling up to your home for a few seconds to unload groceries, put your flashers on, so if you are unloading your vehicle after 7:00 p.m. and the tow company comes by, they will know you are going to be right back.

Beginning on October 1st the towing company has been asked to take a picture of vehicles that are tandem or double parked. The picture will be date and time stamped. They have then been instructed to leave the vehicle there and continue their patrol, to give residents time to complete any unloading they may be doing. If, however, after 20 minutes the vehicle is still in the same place, the tow driver has been instructed to take a second picture (again showing time and date stamp) and to remove the illegally parked vehicle. Most everyone (Board member's included) has thought, "I'll just park here for a second, run in the house and come right back." The problem with this practice is that something usually always comes up—the dog got sick on the floor, the ice cream is melting, dinner needs to be started, etc. What was only supposed to be a minute or two turns into several minutes, even up to a half an hour. If our Community were single family, with much wider roads and lots of places to park, the occasional 30 minute drop off would not be an issue. But because our courts are extremely cramped, even leaving your vehicle in the way for just a few minutes can become a hardship to your neighbors.

The Board is fully aware that parking within London Towne is at a premium, especially after VDOT, without the Board's knowledge and approval, came in and took away several parking spaces on the State streets. The last thing the Board wants to do is cause even more hardship for London Town's residents. If anyone has any ideas as to alternatives to towing, please share your thoughts and ideas.



Leaf Removal

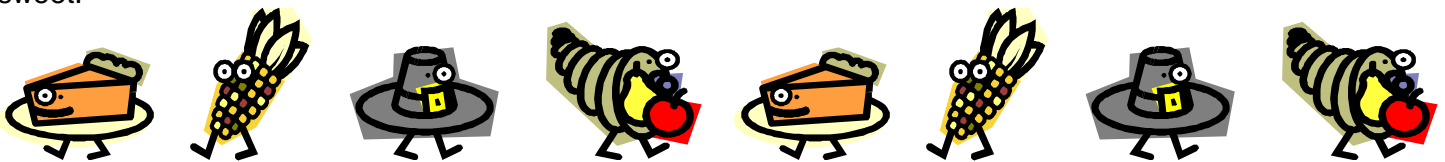
Autumn is upon us, which means cooler temperatures and lots of falling leaves. Please remember when clearing leaves for removal to bag them in clear plastic lawn and leaf bags. We don't have a scheduled date, yet, when Premier will be making a sweep through London Towne, but as soon as we know notification will be sent. When Premier does come through, if you prefer them to remove your leaves, please sweep them to the curb and they will pick them up for you. If you choose this method, please help the landscapers by removing any branches and limbs from your leaf piles.

TRASH REMINDER



The Board was asked to remind Residents that trash days in London Towne are Tuesday's and Friday's. Also, recycling pick-up is on Friday's only. Please remember trash/recycling should not be placed on the curb before 5:00 pm the night before a scheduled pick-up. Please also remember to remove trash/recycling receptacles as soon as possible after PDS has made their respective pick-ups. Receptacles are not allowed to be stored in the front yard.

If you have any questions at all about trash pick-up or receptacle storage, please refer to the London Towne Covenants, Trash Removal Procedures and/or the Architectural Guidelines. If you do not have copies of any of these documents please visit the London Towne website at www.lthoa.com or contact Samantha Winterstine at Sequoia Management at 703-803-9641. Thank you for your help in keeping London Towne looking and smelling sweet.



GET OUT AND VOTE!



This November the entire Virginia House of Delegates and the State Senate is up for reelection. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the School Board are up for reelection. People sometimes think these races are not important, but they are.



The State government controls funds for our transportation needs. They decide what can be taxed and by how much. The Board of Supervisors controls the real estate tax rates and determines how the money collected is spent in the County. The School Board controls the school budget and the direction of your child's schools.

Local officials are the most truly accessible of all government representatives. They are the people who come to your Homeowners Association meetings, who take your phone calls and respond to you directly. They are officials you are likely to see at the Parent-Teacher nights or in the local grocery store. Their decisions directly affect your quality of life.

Does your vote matter? Most definitely! Because many people do not bother to vote in local elections, many races are decided by a very small margin of votes. In 1999 a Virginia State Senator was elected by a margin of just 37 votes. Remember, elected officials are your voice in the political process, and your vote helps to elect officials that represent your viewpoint.

Finally, here are four reasons to vote:

1. It's easy.
2. Your vote makes a difference.
3. Your vote helps to make your voice heard.
4. And finally, it's the American thing to do!

The polls will be open on November 6 from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm. If possible, go to the polls in the middle of the morning or afternoon—that is when they are the least crowded.

Seven Fall Preparation Steps Every Homeowner Should Know



Most homeowners know the importance of weatherizing windows and doors, but are you aware of the damage that can occur to your foundation, roof, or plumbing if you don't take the proper steps this fall? Before the weather grows colder it's important to prepare for the winter months to prevent costly damage and ensure home safety.

1. Gutters and Downspouts

- * Clean gutters and downspouts frequently throughout fall to prevent build up of leaves and other debris. Neglected gutters can lead to wood rot problems, pest infestations, wet basements, foundation damage and many other expensive complications.
- * Be sure water is not coming down behind gutters and that all support brackets are secure.
- * Check to ensure water drains properly and doesn't pool, which can cause damage to foundations, driveways, and walkways.

2. Windows and Doors

- * Change summer screens to cool weather storm windows and doors.
- * Inspect and repair any loose or damaged window or door frames.
- * Install weather stripping or caulking around windows and doors to prevent drafts.

3. Heating Systems

- * Replace the filter in your furnace.
- * Consider having a heating professional check your heating system to ensure optimal performance and discover minor problems before they turn into major repairs.
- * Clean your ducts to better your heating system's efficiency as well as to reduce household dust and to provide relief to those with respiratory problems. Also check for air leakage especially around joints.

4. Plumbing

- * To prevent pipes freezing and bursting, ensure that the pipes, as well as the wall cavities where they reside, are well insulated.
- * Be sure that you know how to locate and turn off the water shut-off valve in case pipes do freeze.

5. Chimney and Fireplace

- * Call a professional in to inspect and clean your chimney. Fireplaces that are regularly used during the season should have an annual cleaning to prevent fires.
- * Test your fireplace flue for a tight seal when closed.
- * Consider installing a carbon monoxide alarm near the fireplace and furnace.

6. Attic ventilation

- * Be sure attic insulation doesn't cover ventilation vents in the eaves. This helps prevent winter ice dams on the roof.
- * Be sure ridge vents and vents at eaves are free of plants and debris.
- * Check bird and rodent screens for attic vents to prevent any unwanted guests.

7. Landscape and Yard Work

- * Although grass appears to stop growing in the fall, the roots are actually growing deeper to prepare for winter. Now is the best time to fertilize and reseed your lawn.
- * Prune your trees and shrubs after the leaves turn to encourage healthy growth in the spring.
- * Trim any tree limbs that are dangerously close to power lines or the roof of your house. Heavy snow and ice can cause damage in the winter.



Dog Owners:

Please remember to pick up after your pets when taking them for walks. Leaving pet droppings is not only unsanitary, but also against Fairfax County regulations.



Please be a scooper, not a pooper!

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Crier Newsletter Copy!

Do you have an article, announcement, letter to the editor, resident comment, etc., that you would like to have published in the Crier?

If so, please email them to lthoa@lthoa.com. The submission deadline for all articles is noon on the 5th of each month.

Alcova Mortgage Ad
Pick up from October issue

London Towne Homeowners Association, Inc. Architectural Improvement Request Form

To: London Towne HOA Architectural Review Committee
c/o Sequoia Management Company, Inc.
13998 Parkeast Circle
Chantilly, VA 20151-2283
(703) 803-9641

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: (H) _____ (W) _____

Proposed Improvement: Fence Deck Lighting Windows Color Change

Other (please describe):

APPLICANT MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING WITH THE APPLICATION

1. Site plan showing size, shape and location of improvement to residence and to adjoining properties (including specific dimension of improvement and distances to adjoining properties).
2. Manufacturer's brochure, if available.
3. Color samples, if applicable.
4. Architectural plans/drawings (for major additions/improvements).
5. Grading plan (if applicable).
6. Detailed written description of improvement.

Applicant hereby warrants that Applicant shall assume full responsibility for:

1. All landscaping, grading, and/or drainage issues relating to the improvements.
2. Obtaining all required State or County approvals relating to said improvements.
3. Complying with all applicable State and County ordinances.
4. Any damage to adjoining property (including Common Area) or injury to third persons associated with the improvement.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Architectural Review Committee

Date Application Received: _____

Request Approved As Submitted

Request Approved Subject To: _____

Request Disapproved Because: _____



Lynn Rowland
NVAR Lifetime Top Producer
Top 1% in Sales Nationwide
20 Years Real Estate Experience
703 772-4919

**CONSIDERING SELLING YOUR HOME?
 WANT RESULTS NOT PROMISES
 CALL LYNN!!**



Lynn knows London Towne inside and out. More importantly she knows what it takes to sell your home in any market. Together with her team of assistants, your sale or purchase will be handled in the most professional and knowledgeable way!!

CALL LYNN
FOR A FREE MARKET EVALUATION
703 772-4919



IF YOUR HOME IS CURRENTLY LISTED FOR SALE WITH A BROKER, PLEASE DISREGARD. THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION





The London Towne Crier

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c/o Sequoia Management Company, Inc.
13998 Parkeast Circle
Chantilly, VA 20151-2283



DIRECT DEBIT

If you are interested in automatic debit for your monthly homeowner's assessments, please fill out the information below and fax your request to Samantha Winterstine at 703-968-0936.

London Towne Homeowners Association Authorization Agreement for Direct Payments (ACH Debits)

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Instead of completing this form, you may include a voided check and sign and date the form

I (We) hereby authorize London Towne Homeowners Association, hereinafter called "ASSOCIATION", to initiate debit entries to my (our) { } Checking or { } Savings account (select one) indicated below at the depository financial institution named below, hereinafter called "DEPOSITORY", and to debit the same to such account.

DEPOSITORY NAME: _____ BRANCH: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

ROUTING NUMBER: _____ BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

(located on the bottom of your check)

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until ASSOCIATION has received written notification from me (us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford ASSOCIATION and DEPOSITORY a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

NAME(S): _____ LONDON TOWNE ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DATE: _____ SIGNED: _____ SIGNED: _____