

## Grounds and Landscaping Report

This is a summary report prepared for the annual meeting.

### Accomplishments.

1. Overgrown and unsightly juniper bushes at the corners across from Buildings 5 and 6 were removed and replaced with new bedding plants. This has resulted in a marked improvement in the first impression of the Shearwater grounds upon entering the complex.
2. Four Honey Locust trees were removed from the front of Buildings 7 and 8. These trees were too close to the buildings and were difficult to keep trimmed. They also dropped large quantities of small leaves that posed a clean up problem and were slippery to walk on. The area already has several large oaks so there was an excess of shade that prevented grass from growing. I plan to sod the area under the oak trees as funding permits.
3. Several dead or damaged trees were removed from the dogwalk area. There are other trees in that area that should be removed as funds permit so that the area would have enough sunlight to support turf.
4. A lightning arrester was installed at the top of the large oak tree at the corner of Building 1. Lightning normally strikes the highest tree or structure in the area and this tree is the tallest in Shearwater. This addition should provide protection to the tree as well as the surrounding structures.
5. Andino's Lawn and Garden Service continued to perform to a very high standard. Lawn mowing, mulching, leaf removal and snow plowing and shoveling continues to be performed in superior fashion.

### Problems.

1. The issue we have with the City of Annapolis with regard to pruning of the Sycamore trees on the waterside of Buildings 15 and 16 remains unresolved. The City has warned us not to touch the Sycamore trees again or face a fine. We are currently working with Bartlett Tree Experts to develop an alternative plan that would be acceptable to the City. The approach would be to take the Sycamores out and replace them with a combination of a more suitable tree and low plantings along the seawall. If we are able to reach agreement with the City on a revised plan, most of the landscaping budget for next year would be required to execute the plan.
2. We were unsuccessful in getting the insurance company representing the owner of the stolen car that started the fire which damaged the Deodora Cedar on the right side of the entrance to Shearwater to pay for its removal. The plan is to have the tree removed this spring and to cultivate the one behind it as a replacement. This tree will provide suitable balance to the Deodora on the other side of the street.
3. Several maple trees that were planted between the sidewalk and buildings do not have adequate room to grow without limbs encroaching on the buildings and roots on the sidewalks. This is particularly the case in front of Bldgs 3 and 4 and Bldgs 13 and 14. Some of these maples will have to be removed soon before they get so large that removal will be more difficult and costly.

