

# THE ISLANDER

Rumsey Island Residents Association

October 2017

## Yard Waste Pick Up Saturday December 9th For RIRA MEMBERS ONLY

Yard Waste Pick Up Saturday December 9th For RIRA MEMBERS ONLY Previously, the bi-annual yard waste pick up was a benefit the RIRA Organization provided to everyone on the Island but without the continued support of paying members, we are left with no choice but to provide it ONLY to paying RIRA members. You can join RIRA and receive the benefit of yard waste pick up TWICE a year for \$30 dollars. By paying the \$30 annual dues now, you will be a member in good standing through December 2018. That's three yard waste pickups!

Yard waste must be tied, bundled or bagged. Branches cannot be bigger than 3" in diameter or longer than 4'. Due to the early morning start, it is recommended that you place your yard waste on the curb the night before! Effective September 2017, Harford County no longer accepts yard waste in plastic bags. Waste must be in paper bags.

Managing yard waste debris especially leaves this time of year ensures that they do not find their way into the gutter and eventually down the sewer drains. These drains empty directly into the canals and waterways around our community and the Chesapeake Bay so the best way that we can help manage the sediment fill that clogs our canals is to make sure nothing including leaves makes its way into the sewer. This will help keep our waterways clear, help support the health of the bay and keep our water clean all through the year.

Your \$30 commitment to our community also helps to fund landscaping projects, offset the costs of our website, and it allows us to partner with other organizations in ways that are beneficial to our community. And finally, a big benefit of being a member of RIRA is knowing that for only \$30 you can make a difference in the community. Dues must be received by Dec 1st to be eligible for the Dec 9th yard waste pick up.

### Ways to Join RIRA Today:

- ⇒ A \$30 check can be **made payable to and mailed to:** RIRA, PO Box 196, Joppa, MD 21085 (Be sure to include your name, address, and email address)
- ⇒ Dues can be paid online at [RumseyIsland.com](http://RumseyIsland.com) for \$33.

**Not sure if you're a member? Write [RIRA@RumseyIsland.com](mailto:RIRA@RumseyIsland.com) and ask.**

*It's An Island Thing!*

[RIRA@RumseyIsland.com](mailto:RIRA@RumseyIsland.com) | [RumseyIsland.com](http://RumseyIsland.com) | [RumseyIsland.Nextdoor.com](http://RumseyIsland.Nextdoor.com)

## A Note From Russ

“Our organization is a social and community service group providing many services. All Rumsey can benefit from the yard sale events in the spring and fall, our Christmas decorating contest and prizes and the water testing program. Our members enjoy the Christmas party and the yard waste pick up in fall and spring.

It is through member dues that all this happens. The proposed budget totally depends on community involvement. Without residents support we cannot move forward.

2017 has been a great year and RIRA look forward to the coming year.”

Russ Brown, RIRA President

## Nextdoor

NextDoor.com, is the easiest way for all of us to talk online and make our lives better in the real world. You will find the information about RIRA events as well as recommendations, items for sale, crime reports, ideas about how to improve our Island and much more. Get to know your neighbors and stay informed about what’s happening right now on the Island. And it is **FREE** for ALL residents of Rumsey Island. [www.nextdoor.com/join](http://www.nextdoor.com/join) Use this Code: **WNKHFG**

## THANK YOU | THANK YOU

**RON & SARA PARKER** for the loan of their home for the September RIRA meeting  
Also for the meeting venue and the hosting of another successful crab feast

**WALT SMITH** who was on cooking duty at the September meeting

**JOPPA PIZZA & MARKET** for providing a Gift Card for the Crab Feast

**SAPORE DA MARE** for providing a Gift Card for the Crab Feast

**TOWNE PUB & GRILL** for providing a Gift Card for the Crab Feast

**DAYS AUTO** for providing An Oil Change Gift Card for the Crab Feast

**ANITIA DODSWORTH** for the handmade decoration she made for the Crab Feast

**ECHO GRIFFIN** for the beautiful quilt she made for the Crab Feast

**LAURA, LAURA, & MIKE** for their work on planning another successful Yard Sale

**PRINTRON Ron Beck @ PRINTRON.BIZ** for printing the Islander & Crab Feast Tickets

## Proposed 2018 RIRA Budget

Date	Descriptions	Amount
Yearly	Web Site fee	\$ 195
Yearly	PO Box Rental	\$ 130
Spring	Yard Waste	\$ 800
Spring	Yard Sale	\$ 135
Summer	Water Testing	\$1,000
Fall	Yard Waste	\$ 800
Fall	Yard Sale	\$ 135
Dec	Christmas Party	\$ 500
	Special Projects	\$ 300
	Rental - Marina	\$ 225
	Light Contest	\$ 200
	Total	\$4,420

**Budget will be discussed at the November RIRA meeting.**

# RUMSEY ISLAND WATER TESTING

As you all know, last winter there was a big fish kill in and around Rumsey Island. Given that event, there was concern as to the safety of the water in and around Rumsey Island. The Rumsey Island Resident Association (RIRA) voted to utilize some of its membership dues to begin conducting water quality testing around the island to understand the health of our water. Although there are many things that could be tested in water, our focus was on whether the Rumsey Island water was safe enough to swim in. For this first testing year, our initial focus was on understanding the presence and levels of fecal-coliform bacteria in the water. The EPA has guidelines as to what levels of fecal-coliform bacteria levels are safe within swimming areas. Fecal-coliform bacteria are bacteria associated with raw sewage. Community Environmental Labs (Aberdeen, MD) is an MDE certified water testing laboratory we used to conduct these tests. Through 2017, we tested the water in and around Rumsey Island area monthly (June -September). Specifically, we define three water collection areas 1)Leading edge of the canal at the top of Mariner Park 2)Area in front of the boat landing 3)End of the island behind the Joppa Pizza at the top of Shore Drive.

A summary of the 2017 results can be seen in the table below. Our water is clean, safe and swimmable.

## Fecal Coliform Testing on Rumsey Island

Month	Site 1 Top end of Mariner Park	Site 2 Boat Landing	Site 3 Behind Joppa Pizza Shore Driver
June 2017	50 CFU/100 mL of water	17 CFU/100 mL of water	80 CFU/100 mL of water
July 2017	2.0 CFU/100 mL of water	7.0 CFU/100 mL of water	2,0 CFU/100 mL of water
Aug 2017	30 CFU/100 mL of water	7.0 CFU/100 mL of water	2.0 CFU/100 mL of water
Sept 2017	50 CFU/100 mL of water	Not Done	22.0 CFU/100 mL of water

**EPA recommended “safe” level for fecal coliforms <126 CFU/100 ML. All results represent water clean and safe to swim by EPA.**

Fecal coliform bacteria levels appear to be rather consistent across the island sampling locations as well as being relatively consistent over the four-month testing period. RIRA is happy with the results of this testing and we hope to continue this testing next year so we can continue to monitor the island’s water quality over the coming years. Given the relative consistency of the results, we may want to consider less fecal-coliform tests per month and possibly look into testing other aspects of Rumsey Island water quality like water turbidity and/or heavy metal content. All of these tests are expensive! The more RIRA members we have, the greater level of benefits we can provide to the community. Do you want to get involved? Come to the RIRA meetings and let your voice be heard on how we better understand and monitor the quality of our water .

# Join the Rumsey Island Residents Association

The Rumsey Island Residents Association is **not a HOA**. We are a completely voluntary "Neighborhood Community Association" and as such does not need to meet specific requirements as with a stringent HOA. RIRA is a group of residents and property owners who advocate for and organize activities within Rumsey Island. We have elected leaders and \$30 annual dues. We work together for changes and improvements such as neighborhood safety, beautification and social activities. We reinforce rules and regulations through education, working together, volunteering to help each other, and by looking out for each other. We do not have the legal authority to enforce rules and regulations that focus on restrictions and building and safety issues. Please consider joining.

⇒ [www.rumseyisland.com/join-rira.htm](http://www.rumseyisland.com/join-rira.htm) or a \$30 check can be **made payable to and mailed to: RIRA**, PO Box 196, Joppa, MD 21085  
(Be sure to include your name, address, and email address)

For more information contact us at [RIRA@RumseyIsland.com](mailto:RIRA@RumseyIsland.com)

Here is the schedule of upcoming events and monthly RIRA meetings.

**RIRA Monthly Meetings are for members in good standing to attend. Think you might be interested in joining? Feel free to attend two meetings before becoming a member. Please note: dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Always check first at [RumseyIsland.com](http://RumseyIsland.com) or [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com)**

## November thru January RIRA Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event (Location)</b>
Thur. November 16th	General Meeting (Parkers) 7 PM
Sat. December 9th	Yard Waste Pickup— <b>MEMBERS ONLY</b>
Wed. December 13th	RIRA Christmas Party - <b>MEMBERS ONLY</b>
Sat. December 16th	Holiday Light Contest
Thur. January 18th	General Meeting (TBD) 7 PM

RIRA PO BOX 196 Joppa, MD 21085  
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