

THE ISLANDER

Rumsey Island Residents Association

APRIL 2020

A MESSAGE FROM RIRA PRESIDENT WALT SMITH

Normally our Islander spring newsletter is full of news and updates on events that are being planned on the Island for spring and summer. Unfortunately, because of the ongoing pandemic, we find ourselves watching an almost unbelievable scenario unfold around us daily as the entire world becomes engulfed in suffering.

My personal wish is that we all keep and strengthen our faith, watch out for our neighbors and loved ones, and follow orders and guidelines in place to assist in stopping the spread of this virus.

We have decided to distribute this newsletter electronically to avoid contact with our neighbors and to comply with orders to remain at home as much as possible. Should restrictions be lifted, we will try to distribute our newsletter to each home. Meanwhile, please forward this to anyone you know who might not get this on Nextdoor.

Our regularly scheduled general meeting for March was canceled and I expect, as of this writing, that our April meeting will be canceled as well. That said, I have included events and dates that we have already planned. All of those will be subject to change and notifications will be published on our website and on Nextdoor.

Please note that we will be participating in a program that is being promoted by the Gunpowder Riverkeeper called the Clear Choices Clean Water Awareness Program. Their representative will provide a slide show and discussion on steps we can all take to improve the quality of our waterways. That presentation is scheduled to be made at our May general meeting.

We welcome all residents of Rumsey Island to attend our regular general meetings on the third Thursday of each month. Please come to a meeting to learn more about our association. Membership in the association is only \$30 per household per year and includes some member only benefits such as the yard waste pickups and the Holiday Party.

Please check our website at rumseyisland.com for more information about Rumsey Island and our association's activities. We now include a calendar that is updated with our scheduled meetings and events.

It's An Island Thing!

RIRA@RumseyIsland.com | RumseyIsland.com | RumseyIsland.Nextdoor.com

YARD WASTE PICKUP Saturday May 9, 2020

Yard Waste Pickup

RIRA MEMBERS ONLY

Previously, the bi-annual yard waste pick up was a benefit the RIRA Organization provided to everyone on the Island. But with only 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 a yard waste pick up TWICE a year. By paying the \$30 annual dues now, you will be a member in good standing through December 2020.

Not sure if you are a member or are up to date with your dues???
Send an email to RIRA@RumseyIsland.com and ask.

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! Harford County no longer accepts yard waste in plastic bags. **Waste must be in paper bags.**

In the fall it is especially important that we manage yard waste debris properly. Protect the Chesapeake Bay, waterways and canals by preventing them from going into our gutters and sewer drains. By managing the sediment flow to our canals we can help keep our waterways clear, which supports the health of the bay and keeps our water clean all through the year. When you are a member of RIRA, you make a difference in the community for only \$30 annually. Dues must be received by April 30th to be eligible for the May 9th yard waste pick up.

YARD WASTE MUST BE IN PAPER BAGS

Waste Industries will no longer accept yard waste in plastic bags to be in compliance with Harford County's new regulation 16.02.14. You are required to place your yard waste in heavy duty yard debris paper bags which are available at your local home improvement centers.

If your yard waste is in plastic bags **GFL/Waste Industries will not pick it up**

For more information: <https://rumseyisland.com/documents/harford-county-yard-waste.pdf>

RIRA UPCOMING EVENTS

Here are some of the events that we are working on for upcoming spring and summer. Updates to these events will appear on rumseyisland.com and will also be posted on Nextdoor.

All event dates are tentative and are subject to change.

Notifications will be posted on our website and on Nextdoor.

5/2/2020 – Rumsey Island Spring Yard Sale

5/9/2020 – Rumsey Island Spring yard waste pick-up
(MEMBERS ONLY)

5/21/2020 - Clear Choices Clean Water Program.
This is a presentation by the Gunpowder River-keeper about choices we can make to help our waterways cleaner.

6/18/2020 – RIRA General Meeting and Cookout at Joppatowne Marina

7/25/2020 – RIRA Boat Hookup at Maxwell Point

8/22/2020 - RIRA Boat Hookup at Maxwell Point

9/19/2020 – RIRA Annual Crab Feast

Updates to these events will appear on rumseyisland.com and will also be posted on Nextdoor

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. By working together, we create and foster a desirable place to live – promoting neighborhood safety, beautification and social activities. We advocate education, community activism, and volunteerism to maintain Rumsey Island's highly desirable appeal to both our residents and visitors. Our association does not seek to enforce rules and regulations that focus on restrictions, buildings or building codes or safety issues. To become a member, go to www.rumseyisland.com/join or a \$30 check can be made payable to RIRA and mailed to: RIRA PO Box 196 Joppa, MD 21085 (Be sure to include your name, address, and email address)

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Are You On 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 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. **FREE** for ALL residents of Rumsey Island.