



SHEA TERRACE

CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

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Summer, 2015

Next Civic League Meeting

LOCATION: DOCK OF THE BAY

DATE: JUNE 8, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM



Please join us for the next Civic League meeting. Items for discussion include:

- **Status of the water and sewer rehabilitation on Constitution Avenue.**
- **Crime statistics and report from Portsmouth Police Department Neighborhood Impact Office.**
- **Featured guest speaker is Pam Koeppel from People for Portsmouth, a political action committee (PAC).**

Spring 2015 Yard Sale

The 2015 Spring Yard Sale was a big success with nineteen families taking part. It was a beautiful day and, despite the construction on Constitution Avenue, at least 150 cars came through filled with people shopping.

We distributed 150 maps between 9 am and 2 pm.

We also got to meet a lot of our new neighbors and, as usual, cleared out a lot of "junk/treasures."

Update on Water/Sewage Upgrade



While it has been difficult to get around, the work on Constitution is running on schedule. Hopefully, we will see repaving done by the end of this month. The most important thing is that our utilities will work properly and the street will no longer cave-in due to a rusted-out sewer main.

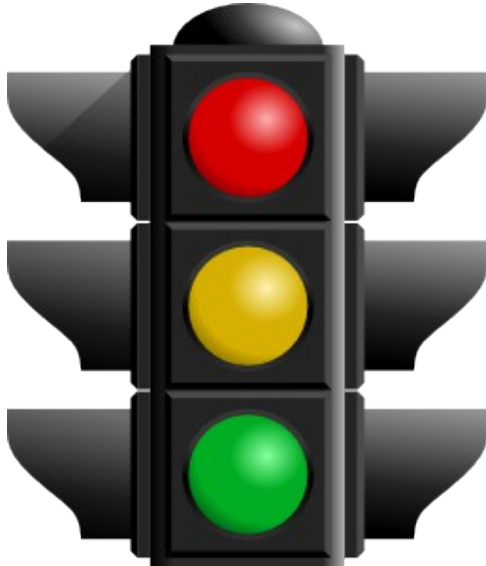
The crew has been extremely professional and attentive to neighborhood concerns. For example, when a new water valve had to be replaced, the first thing considered was the timing. That was at midnight when the vast majority would be asleep. The next thing was getting the word out. Every resident was mailed a hard copy of the notice. Ample time was advertised so residents knew what to inspect. As a result, the neighborhood was actually out of water service for 90 minutes.

Another thing I've notice about their work is that loose dirt is watered down to minimize dust. Yes, there's still plenty to go around, but I can see they are trying.

Bottom line... hang in there. We're past the half-way point. Just remember, we can now flush with pride and confidence!

New Traffic Scheme

By Bruce Bremer



Welcome to Virginia... we're under construction. Lots of that construction has impacted traffic at the corner of Constitution at London. The City of Portsmouth has changed the light scheme at that intersection to prevent northbound and southbound traffic from making left-hand turns at the same time. This was done due to the increase in "near-misses." So far, I see that it is working very well.



Report a pothole or other issues... online

The City of Portsmouth web site has a built-in form for those of us who want to get their favorite pothole repaired. Just navigate your browser to <http://www.portsmouthva.gov/feedbackform/general.aspx>

This is the city's general feedback form. You can report other concerns as well. One neat feature is the ability to attach files, such as pictures to help you fully describe the issue you are reporting.

Why Have a Civic League?

Ever notice the lovely decorations at the entrance to the neighborhood and the beautiful flowers in the park? Thank the Beautification Committee. Glad we have a yard sale each year? That's us. Want a newsletter to keep up to date on things every once in a while? Lose a pet and contact the webmaster? Well...that's us too.

Most of the time, the Civic League functions adequately with the 8 or so people who participate out of a neighborhood of 400 households. We nag the city to fix street lights, sweep the streets, pick up stray garbage, and get the Park mowed when the grass gets high.

The real reason we need to be here, though, is because the City can't talk to all 400 of us when they need input. They have to know that we will be here and that we will have our say about what they intend to do.

When a really serious issue arises, like a chemical company who wants to sneak in and spew sulfur all over us, we HAVE to be here to organize and respond. We HAVE to have a President with an email and phone to contact. Presidents sacrifice a lot of time to this volunteer job. So please, consider showing up to participate in a meeting.

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