



# Lexicon

Lexington Condo Homes Association  
[www.lexingtoncondohomes.org](http://www.lexingtoncondohomes.org)

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Open

## Upcoming Events

- **Board Meeting**  
May 25  
4:00 PM  
Clubhouse
- **Chair Yoga**  
Every Wednesday  
6:30 PM  
Clubhouse
- **Garage Sale**  
May 12-15

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

By Mike Stevens

### ***It's beginning to look a lot like SPRING!***

Hopefully the cold weather has passed and now we can get on with spring and summer fun! Now is a great time to do a little spring cleaning both inside and out. We have the Commons Garage Sale coming up next weekend. Look through your garages, basements and closets and find those treasures that you just had to save but have completely forgotten. Time to let someone figure out where to put them. Signs advertising your sale can be displayed two days prior to the sale and should be removed on Sunday.

The warmer and hopefully drier weather is also an opportunity to take a walk around the exterior of your unit. Take a good look at your decks and patios to see if they are in need of cleaning or repairs. Check the landscaping around your deck and patio too. A lot of debris has been tossed around due to the extreme winds we have had in the past couple of months. This trash can get caught up in shrubs and under decks. Remember, co-owners are responsible for keeping these areas clean.

### **From the chair of the Building and Grounds:**

Reminder if you would like to modify anything in or around your unit, please remember to fill out a modification request and turn it into the management company.

### **From the chair of the landscaping committee:**

Spring is upon us, just a friendly reminder if you are planning on do any plantings of trees around your unit you must fill out ARR 3.1 co-owner tree planting and submit to the management company for approval. Also if you are planning on sprucing up your landscaping around your unit you must fill out ARR 3.2a for planting request.

## **POOL UPDATE**

The pool is scheduled to open on Memorial Day weekend, however when Pristine uncovered it last week, they discovered many tiles which had broken off during the winter. These tiles must be replaced before the pool can be opened for the season. Your board and management agent are working quickly to get this issue resolved to prevent any lengthy delays.

## Avian Flu and Bird Feeders

*Nadine Merriman/Michael Stevens*

There has been some concern regarding backyard bird feeders and the current strain of avian flu. The following is a recommendation from the Michigan DNR.

Megan Moriarty, the state wildlife veterinarian with the DNR, said it is important to note that while all birds are potentially susceptible to HPAI, some are more likely than others to become infected and die. Domestic birds and some wild birds, like waterfowl, raptors and scavengers, are highly susceptible and have been particularly affected by this disease.

“Current research suggests songbirds are less susceptible to highly pathogenic avian influenza and are unlikely to play a significant role in spreading the virus,” Moriarty said. “However, much remains unknown, and surveillance and testing for HPAI in this group of birds is less common, resulting in a knowledge gap.”

One easy way the public can help reduce the potential spread of HPAI is to remove outdoor bird feeders. Though there isn't yet any widespread recommendation from state agencies to do so, temporary removal of these food sources could be helpful, especially for anyone who has highly susceptible species – domestic poultry, raptors or waterfowl – living nearby. Similarly, removal could be a wise choice for those who observe high-risk species like blue jays, crows or ravens hanging around backyard bird feeders. This temporary removal of bird feeders and baths may only last for the next couple months, or until the rate of HPAI spread in wild and domestic birds decreases.

“If you're concerned about this virus and want to act from a place of abundant caution, removing your bird feeders for now makes sense, but it isn't yet a critical step,” Moriarty said. “With warmer springtime weather on the way, too, birds will have more natural food sources readily available to them, so chances are many people will be taking down feeders in a few weeks anyway.”

If people choose to continue using their bird feeders, please keep this guidance in mind:

- Thoroughly clean bird feeders with a diluted bleach solution (and rinse well) once per week. Regularly cleaning helps protect birds against other infections, including salmonella.
- Clean up birdseed that has fallen below the feeders to discourage large numbers of birds and other wildlife from congregating in a concentrated area.
- Don't feed wild birds, especially waterfowl, near domestic flocks.

### ROOFING UPDATE

Your Board has signed a contract with Kearns Brothers Roofing to begin roof replacement on building K. Yes, soon you will need to use another landmark other than the “blue tarp” to inform visitors of where to turn.

This has been in discussion for too long and we are finally taking action on this. Building K is just the beginning as it is obviously high priority. The plan for the rest of the project is to tackle buildings in phases, 2 or 3 at a time. This plan will help reduce the overall financial impact to co-owners.

The engineering firm Intertek has performed an audit of the condition of roofing and will advise where each building falls on the priority list.

## NEW REFUSE CONTAINERS

To help residents become familiar with the new trash and recycling bins to be used by GFL, two sample bins have been set up inside City Hall. Residents can view them and take them for a spin in the lobby area. Their big back wheels make them easy to move in and out of garages and other storage areas.

Residents will receive a new 95-gallon cart for trash and a 65-gallon cart for recyclables. Bags and bins with a 35-gallon capacity can also be used with the carts or alone. One cart will be funded by the city, the second will be included in user rates.

The bins will be delivered to homes, condos and apartments that contract with the city for trash/recycling, on or after June 2.

The first week of June will be a transition period as Waste Management ends its contract and GFL begins trash/recycling pick-up. Pick-up will be delayed by one day that week due to the Labor Day holiday.

If you have questions about the trash/recycling collection program, please contact DPW. We invite you to follow and respond to the city's related posts on Facebook and Twitter. GFL, with input from DPW, will distribute an informative brochure to residents. City News and the city website will also have regular updates.

### Some questions from the city's website:

#### Q. Will the new vendor take away our old bins?

A. Yes. If you no longer want your 18-gallon recycling bin, please recycle it by putting it into the 65-gallon recycling cart or you can put a "recycle" note on it and set it at your curb on trash collection day. Plastic garbage cans may also be recyclable. Check the symbol on it and if it is recyclable, put a note on it. If it can't be recycled, set it out with your trash and mark it as such.

#### Q. Can we pick up our new carts early?

A. No. The carts will be delivered to your driveway on or after June 2.

#### Q. Are there any restrictions on what we can put in the carts?

A. Obviously, no hazardous waste. Otherwise regular household trash and recyclable items. There will be a list for those recyclables.

#### Q. Can I just dump trash into the cart without a bag?

A. Bagged garbage is preferred because it reduces the chances of coming loose or attracting undesirable critters. However, if something doesn't fit into a trash bag, such as a mangled golf club, simply put it into the cart.

#### Q. How do I tell GFL that I don't want a trash or recycling cart? I already have several large trash containers and I don't have room for more in my garage.

A. Please email [Mdomine@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:Mdomine@ci.northville.mi.us) and we will let you know how the city plans to proceed with these types of requests. The plan now is to alert DPW by May 20 if you want to opt out of getting a cart(s) or want a smaller trash cart rather than the larger one. In GFL's experience, many customers that initially didn't want a wheeled cart(s) later request one.

#### Q. Is the new service for the entire area of Northville - city and township?

A. GFL is the new contractor for the city of Northville. The township has already been using GFL and has a separate contract.

#### Q. I'm a senior and don't have a lot of strength to move the carts. What are my options?

A. The large wheels make the carts easy to maneuver; let the wheels do the work for you. Also, you can request the 65-gallon carts for recycling and for trash, which will be easier to move around than the 95-gallon trash cart.

If you have any questions not stated here, please send an email to the [DPW director](mailto:DPW@ci.northville.mi.us).

<https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11895963&pageId=13686470>