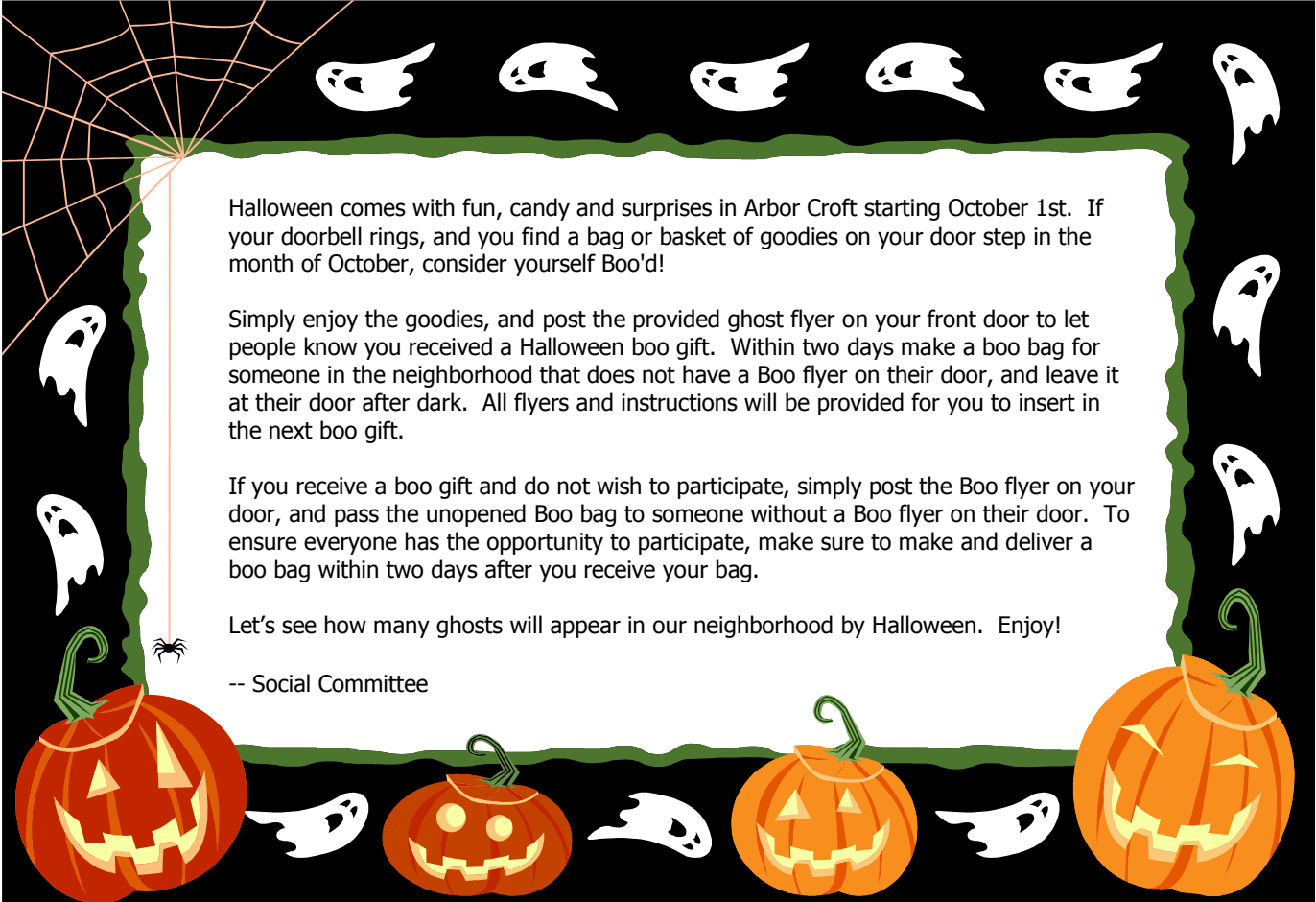


Committee News

Architectural Committee – The ACARC is looking for two more volunteers to consider requests for architectural changes. We think most of the necessary guidelines are in place at this point, but still need the committee to approve/disapprove any individual requests that come up from time to time. We had been meeting on a monthly basis, but we have found that it is more efficient to handle most requests via email or over the phone, depending upon the situation. Our names and numbers/email addresses are published on the web site for the convenience of the neighborhood, and sometimes, people just stop one of us on the street to discuss a project.

Won't you consider joining the committee so your voice can be heard on issues regarding architectural projects in our neighborhood? If you are interested, please contact any member - Mimi, Troy or Charmaine, or drop us an email at arborcroftarc@yahoo.com. We look forward to having new people on the ACARC!



Halloween comes with fun, candy and surprises in Arbor Croft starting October 1st. If your doorbell rings, and you find a bag or basket of goodies on your door step in the month of October, consider yourself Boo'd!

Simply enjoy the goodies, and post the provided ghost flyer on your front door to let people know you received a Halloween boo gift. Within two days make a boo bag for someone in the neighborhood that does not have a Boo flyer on their door, and leave it at their door after dark. All flyers and instructions will be provided for you to insert in the next boo gift.

If you receive a boo gift and do not wish to participate, simply post the Boo flyer on your door, and pass the unopened Boo bag to someone without a Boo flyer on their door. To ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate, make sure to make and deliver a boo bag within two days after you receive your bag.

Let's see how many ghosts will appear in our neighborhood by Halloween. Enjoy!

-- Social Committee

For the benefit of Arbor Croft residents, we are starting a list of useful numbers for service providers who have provided good work for someone in the neighborhood. The list will be posted on the Web site for our neighborhood, but will also periodically be published in our newsletter. If you know of anyone you think should be included in this list, please send the name and number of the business, plus the services they performed for you to arborcroftnews@yahoo.com.

To get us started, here are a few businesses and/or services recommended by people in Arbor Croft:

BUSINESS NAME	NUMBER	SERVICE PROVIDED/COMMENTS
Alexandra Kitchen	704-992-2883	Babysitting / cat sitting services
Bryan Ellis	704-453-6557	Installed front porch railing
Charles Wagner	704-875-6704	Various – fan installation/door repair/dimmer switch installation, etc.
DeEtte Collinge	704-948-9691	Personal Chef
Garden Grove (John)	704-875-1802	Designed and installed Oriental-style garden
Summit Air & Electric	704-597-0940	Heat pump inspection
TruGreen	704-663-8873	Quarterly lawn service

In addition, please feel free to post a service you are in need of - maybe someone else can make a suggestion you can use!

GARDENING CORNER – The Benefits of Aerating Your Lawn



The major benefit of aeration is to loosen compacted soils. If the ground is not composed of clay soils, subjected to children or animals moving about or automobiles that may drive on it, the lawn may not require aeration. Ground subjected to winter freezing and thawing or that is home to a healthy earthworm population may remain open and not require aeration. Wet areas often become compacted and will need to be aerated. A simple inspection can determine if aeration is necessary. Soil that is subjected to heavy foot traffic should probably be aerated annually.

Aerating opens the soil by pulling out small plugs of soil about 3-5 inches deep and then depositing them on the surface to eventually decompose and disintegrate back into the ground. Make sure you leave them on the ground to decompose. This provides the opportunity for the grass root systems to acquire the nutrients, water and air that are essential for growth. Loose soils allow the roots systems to penetrate more deeply into the soil and become stronger and more resilient if they have to fight off the effects of drought or disease. Soil microorganisms become more abundant and help in breaking down and preventing the formation of thatch in the lawn. Aerating destroys heavy thatch in the coring process and aids in adding this nutrient rich compost back into the soil.

Aerating is an ecological friendly endeavor. Water is more readily absorbed by loose soils. Fertilizers which are subject to run off and contaminate adjoining water sources are less likely to run off because the loose soil more readily absorbs the nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium that is contained in the fertilizers that are normally applied to lawns. Obviously the more fertilizer that ultimately is absorbed by the root system the healthier the grass will be. Pesticides that may be applied to a lawn also become more effective in loose soil. Earth worm activity is promoted and after several succeeding years of aeration, it is likely that a year can be skipped.

Seeding after aeration will produce excellent growth and any compost that is spread will settle into the small holes as a result of the coring process and add substantial fertility to the soil.

Community Website: <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/huntersville/arborcroft/>

Arbor Croft HOA Board: arborcrofthoaboard@yahoo.com

Architectural Committee: arborcroftarc@yahoo.com

Landscape Committee: arborcroftland@yahoo.com

Social Committee: arborcroftsocal@yahoo.com

Welcome Committee: arborcroftwelcome@yahoo.com

Community Watch: arborcroftwatch@yahoo.com

Newsletter Committee: arborcroftnews@yahoo.com

Items for the Newsletter

Whether you are on a committee and want to communicate to the entire community via the newsletter, or you have a great piece of information you think would benefit the neighborhood to know, send your newsletter items to the **newsletter e-mail address at arborcroftnews@yahoo.com**. Please send your articles by the **20th of each month** for inclusion in the current month's newsletter.

