

Finally, it's Fall! Many people enjoy this season and spend more time outdoors as the temperature starts to cool down. I'd like to take this opportunity to remind our residents about the local wildlife in the area and how important it is to not feed or disturb them. The Sandhill Cranes are a threatened species, in fact there is a company that comes into Victoria Park to monitor and count them. Feeding them is against the law; doing so draws them out of their natural habitat, making them less afraid of humans, and more susceptible to cars. Please keep your pets on a leash at all times while out in the neighborhood, dogs and cats alike have been known to chase after other animals. As we head into the winter months more cranes will be migrating into the area along with other species such as the Florida Black bear as they prepare for "denning" as this southern breed of Black bear do not truly hibernate as Northern species of bear do. For more information on migrating animals and/ or black bears please click "[here](#)".

Please put safety first and obey the speed limit and all other traffic laws while navigating the streets. Victoria Gardens is proud to offer beautiful tree lined streets, parks and nature trails. Please keep in mind the active lifestyle of the community in which you live; there are often people walking their dogs and biking/walking throughout the community; parking which blocks the sidewalk is prohibited as pedestrians have trouble navigating around the vehicles.

How many of you know your neighbors? With technology, social media and instant messaging options so prevalent these days it's easy to forget how important face to face contact actually is. Taking the time to introduce yourself or just offer a friendly smile can often lead to a friendlier community. We all have a vested interest in keeping Victoria Gardens a wonderful place to live!