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Insiders' Guide

Residents stay put in riverside area

By Andrea F. Siegel | Sun reporter

July 13, 2008

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Sit on the deck by the Whitehurst pool and you get two things: a view that stretches to Kent Island, and a good idea of why people who live in this Anne Arundel County community describe it as living in summer camp.

Whitehurst sits on the Magothy River, near where Cattail Creek enters it. The social center of the community is its outdoor waterfront pool - which couldn't be built under current waterfront protection laws - and a clubhouse with year-round parties and activities. Most people in the community are pool club members.

"We bought here for the community," said Jeffrey Jacobs, a resident of seven years, who wanted for his family the lifestyle he had growing up in a similar neighborhood nearby. When he and his wife Erin needed more space about two years ago, they joined the many homeowners here who choose remodeling over moving.

It's a community where neighbors socialize regularly, where people of all ages hang out around a pool club that's kept affordable (about \$525 this year, plus several hundred for a boat slip) by everyone pitching in on chores, where you can fish off one pier, and where nobody minds if you yell at their kids.

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[Scenes around Whitehurst](#) **Photos**

"We built this deck," said Ed Nusbickel, who moved here in 1982. The "we" are neighborhood volunteers, who also maintain the piers and installed the huge and popular ice machine at the clubhouse.

Housing stock

The neighborhood has about 147 single-family homes - splits, ranchers and colonials that generally have three and four bedrooms, many on leafy lots of about one-third acre. Some date to the start of the community, about 40 years ago. With residents loath to move away, home improvements, from additions to modernizations, are frequently in the works.

Crime

Statistics compiled by Anne Arundel County police depict a community with very little crime. The pace of burglaries is less than one a month. Neighbors often recognize just about everyone who lives there - several families have siblings who bought homes here - and they tend to watch out for each other.