

LAKEPOINTE GARDENS COMMUNITY NEWS

www.lpgpoa.org

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WINTER WEATHER:

The heavy snows (12" plus) of February 1st & 2nd proved to be more than our city was prepared to handle. They did not make their initial appearance in our subdivision until 6 p.m. on the 2nd (approximately 48 hours after the snow began). This created an additional burden on our contractor as they were forced to move the street snow as well as the driveway snow. They brought out their large payloader to assist in this effort and took most of the day on the 2nd to complete the task.

Our contractor was also called on to clear up several more of the city's responsibilities at this time, such as the entrance to the subdivision and the Columbine Circle curves which were left in a mess and were the cause of several residents getting stuck. Then, after the post office was threatening to cease mail delivery because they couldn't reach the mail boxes, they returned and plowed out the mail boxes.

My thanks to a number of residents who volunteered to call the street department and complain. It proved very helpful as the city was more attentive on the ensuing snowfalls. All-in-all, the temperatures were probably as much of an issue as the snow. Many records were broken for the cold weather.

SAFETY:

With the warmer weather approaching there are three (3) safety issues that I would like to stress:

- 1) Garage Doors: They must be kept closed whenever possible. We get a lot of visitors in autos and on foot and they're not all "just passing through".
- 2) Speed: There are a growing number of youngsters in our community and they are doing what youngsters do. Be mindful of this and obey the posted speed limits as soon as you turn off Vale Park Road.

3) Wild Flower Lake: Use of the lake is restricted to Lakepointe Garden's residents, or their guests who are accompanied by the resident. Children under the age of 18, must be accompanied by an age 18 or older parent, guardian or adult supervisor. For a complete list of restrictions see Section VIII of the Rules and Regulations. Visit our website at www.lpgpoa.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

I have recently had occasion to contact residents regarding various matters of interest and I'm finding that e-mail and phone numbers have been changed. This makes it very difficult to address the issues that may concern you. If you are one with recent changes, get them to me so we can communicate.

Cell # 219-781-7191

E-mail: r.wirtz@comast.net

Thank You

PREPARATIONS FOR THE GROWING SEASON:

Spring is around the corner and it's time to plan our landscape restoration. After meeting with the contractor, and contingent on weather conditions, the following schedule will take us into the growing season.

Spring cleanup, which includes leaf removal and cutting back of all perennials in the common areas will take place in late March or early April. We won't be trimming perennials in private beds unless requested by the homeowner.

Crab grass preventer will be applied in mid- April and broadleaf spray and fertilizing will be done in May and repeated in September.

Plantings, such as flowers will be done in May. Since this is an odd number year a complete mulching of all front, side yards and common areas, with the exception of the west tree line (even number years only) will be conducted in June along with pruning of all bushes in private yards and common areas.

Be advised that we will prune and mulch front and side yards only. Back yards are the responsibility of the homeowner. The homeowner has the option of refusing the pruning, weeding and/or mulching procedures, if, for any reason you chose not to have one of these Services it will be up to you to contact me so I can review your request. The day of the activity will be too late! The responsibility of the service will become yours. For the purpose of uniformity all mulch must be that as supplied by the contractor (chocolate brown).

Our goal (board of directors) is to satisfy the individual homeowner while remaining within the parameters of the budget and assuring the continuity of the subdivision as a whole.

CONCERNS:

I am receiving complaints from residents on two (2) issues involving Rules and Regulations violations.

- 1) Parking – The 48 hour parking rule that pertains to the parking pads located in the 1600 block of Geranium Circle, the 2900 block of Columbine Circle and the 3000 block of Columbine Circle. A few residents are using these pads for their personal parking areas while their driveways are empty. These pads are intended for use by visitors and occasional use of residents with a 48 hour limit. We also have agreed to share the pads on the 3000 block with the condo residents. Parking is at a premium throughout the community and the pads are a convenience to be shared by all residents and their guests. We cannot allow a handful of residents to control these spaces.

- 2) Animal Control – Any animal not on the owners property must be on a leash and pet owners shall be responsible for the prompt cleanup and disposal of their pets waste from their own or any other private or common area property. Lakepointe Gardens is not a dog park and we don't want it looking like one. We had an incident last summer where one of our contractor's mower drivers drove through a back yard full of dog excrement and came out covered with feces. Irresponsible pet ownership cannot be tolerated.

LOOKING FORWARD:

Before his retirement, Lee Ranger mentioned the potential for adding three or four additional parking spaces to the parking pad on Columbine Circle. We will follow-up on this thought by obtaining contractor quotes to be presented to the board for approval.

Voids in the west tree line caused by removal of dead trees will be addressed in April with the addition of two (2) Canadian Hemlocks. Our soil samples were favorable for plantings and the hemlocks were recommended as a good choice for a noise barrier.

The entrance plantings (bushes, etc.) will be reviewed and replaced where needed.

Holiday lighting will be removed from the four entrance trees and the trees will be trimmed to eliminate the branches reaching over the street and the lighting being caught on the tall trucks that pass through the entrance. This was the cause of the delay in getting our display operating by Thanksgiving last year. A half dozen strands had to be replaced.

Mark your calendars! The 2015 annual meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, October 17. Once again, the Welter room of Forest Park Golf Course has been reserved for the event. I will be reminding you again at a later date. Dates for the annual garage sale are being discussed and residents will be notified as soon as they are finalized.

Easter is less than a month away and we are wishing everyone a wonderful holiday. If you have any questions regarding the issues discussed in this newsletter do not hesitate to call me.

Robert "Bob" Wirtz