

May 2011

Chesterfield Neighbors

*Published by the
Chesterfield
Homeowners
Association, North
Aurora, IL*

**Contact the
Chesterfield Board of
Directors at board@
chesterfieldhome
owners.com**

Don't have access to a computer? Need a paper copy of a document or form mentioned in the newsletter? Call our management company to receive a paper copy in the mail.

Dear Chesterfield Homeowners,

The Chesterfield board would like to thank all of the residents who attended the April 7 homeowners meeting. The board welcomed and introduced our newest member, Ron Williams.

Wetlands

Wally from V3, the company that manages our wetlands, talked about why we did not do a burn this year, types of invasive plants that need to be removed, how V3 is removing them, and what needs to be done to get our wetland looking nicer. On **Saturday, May 21, at 8:00 AM** we are going to be having a **wetland planting day**. V3 will be here to help us plant over 2,000 plants that are native to our area. By having residents come out and help we will be saving thousands of dollars this year. So grab your work boots and gloves, and join us for a fun morning of planting wetland plants.

For residents that live on the south side of Graham and whose backyards back up to the wetlands: Acres, the company that maintains our grass areas, will be starting to mow 6 inches from fences and will be mowing 6 feet out from all fences/lot lines. This will keep the wetland plants from encroaching on your property. Acres will be mowing the 6 feet every week. There are a few areas that have been mowed back farther than the 6 feet, and these areas must be allowed to grow back to their original heights. Residents may not mow any part of the wetlands. Any homeowner who mows any areas of the wetland will be fined. By mowing more than the 6 feet, our homeowners association could be fined by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Butterfield Road fence

The board has actively been acquiring bids to have the fence that runs along Butterfield Road repaired, power washed and stained. The board has reviewed all of the bids and has hired Perfected Painting. Within the next 30 to 60 days, the fence will be power washed, any broken or missing boards will be repaired, and then it will be stained. If the fence borders your property, Perfected Painting will be entering your backyard to work on the fence. All homeowners are required to cut back any trees, bushes and vines that are touching the fence. All plant material must be trimmed by the homeowner. Please remove all items hanging on the fence. Homeowners are not allowed to have any items hanging on any Chesterfield fencing.

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Dear Chesterfield Homeowners

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Front entrance lighting

We have also acquired bids to have the lights at the front entrance replaced. The board has hired AECCO to replace the lighting. The replacements should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Renting rules

Residents in attendance at the April 7 homeowners meeting were asked to comment on the renting rules that were published in the last newsletter and that have been posted on our website. None of the residents in attendance had any concerns or issues with the new renting rules. A motion was passed to approve the renting rules. Please make sure you are abiding by these rules if you are renting out your home or are planning on renting. All renting rules will be enforced by Baum Property Services. Fines may be assessed for owners not following the renting rules.

Holiday lights

Residents and the board held a discussion on holiday lights in our subdivision. It was agreed that all holiday light must be taken down by March 15th each year. Since this rule has just gone into effect, residents will be required to have all holiday decorations and lights down by May 15th this year. Any homeowners who have holiday decorations or lights left up after this date are subject to fines.

Jeff, Randy, Debbie, Ron and Patty

Forum Website

It has come to our attention that there are lots of people who have joined our forum that do not live in our subdivision, have moved, or just do not need to know what our residents are discussing. In the next few months, the Chesterfield Forum will be shut down temporarily for reorganization.

We will be sending out an email to all members to let you know when the shut-down will happen. Once we have removed all the members, the forum will be re-opened. Residents wanting to join the forum will need to re-join the group. In order to be allowed on to the site, once you have rejoined you will receive an email asking for your name and address. Once those two items have been verified, you will be given access to the site.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Wildlife in my own backyard

Denise Vancil

Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh! While jogging down the street, I heard this sound and wondered what it could be. Then a huge shadow came over the street. Oh my, a pterodactyl? Later I learned it was a great blue heron in flight. It resembled a pterodactyl to me, flying overhead with its wingspan of 6.5 feet and its long beak and legs!

The great blue heron has been spotted in our area regularly because it likes to fish in the pond. It feeds in shallow water or at the water's edge both night and day, but especially around dawn and dusk. It uses its long legs to wade through shallow water, to spear fish or frogs with its long sharp bill.

The call of the great blue heron has been described as a harsh croak, but I personally have never heard it. They use their calls mainly during the breeding season, in territorial disputes or when disturbed.

Observing them in flight or stealthily stalking fish and frogs is a wonderful experience.



Photograph by Jean Kaitis

Akin to the heron is the egret. As many as five egrets have been seen around the pond in the early morning hours. The thousands of frogs are easy pickings; plenty for all.

So, the next time an awesome shadow overtakes you and it looks like a pterodactyl, look again. You've just seen the beautiful great blue heron in flight. And, whenever you pass by the pond or wetlands, that tall white stick figure is likely an egret fishing.

Signs at the Lake

In the next month or so, new signs will be posted around the lake. These signs are going to state:

Residents Only

No Trespassing

No Swimming

No Boating

No Ice Fishing

No Ice Skating

Violators subject to arrest and fines.

We are hoping these new signs will help cut down on the number of visitors coming into our subdivision and using the lake.

North Aurora Community Parade

The 2nd annual North Aurora Community Parade is scheduled for Sunday, May 15th at 2:00 p.m. The theme of the parade is "Rolling to the River," and new to the parade this year is a King and Queen Contest.

For more information on the parade, please visit the North Aurora Mothers Club website:
www.northauroramothersclub.org.

Spring Tune-up for Your Home

Brian Pelletier

The past winter has been a rough one! Not only was it rough on your back but it was tough on your home's shingles, siding, gutters, and trim boards.

Next time you get a chance, take a walk around your house and look for the following:

Shingles: You want to make sure that no shingles have been ripped or blown off. Your roof may not be leaking now, but there is a very good chance it will in an upcoming storm.

Siding: Look for pieces that have come "unhooked" or "unlocked" from the pieces above or below it. As long as the piece is not cracked or broken, fixing it will not be expensive. You do want to fix it as soon as possible before the whole piece blows off. Vinyl siding does fade, and finding an exact color match is nearly impossible.

Gutters: Damaged gutters and downspouts are easy to notice. On a rainy day, simply go outside and see if any water is dripping from gutters or downspouts. Leaks are commonly found by corners and downspouts. Homeowners can make this easy repair by purchasing a sealant that is specifically made for gutters and is self-leveling. Make sure it is a dry day, wipe the problem area dry with a paper towel, and apply the gutter seal.

Trim Boards: With extreme temperatures and heavy amounts of precipitation, there is a chance that water could have frozen between your trim boards. This causes the boards to pull apart from each other, creating a gap large enough for water to penetrate. This is fairly easy to spot by looking for darker spots at the joints of the trim boards (normally mold), buckling of the boards, and chipping paint. Trim boards should be taken care of immediately to prevent further damage.

Most of these fixes are inexpensive and will save you a lot of money in the long run. You would be surprised how many problems a \$75.00 fix can save you!

Builders Roofing & Siding Supply
www.Buildersroofing.com
29w002 Main St.
Warrenville, IL 60555
Phone 630-393-9811
Fax 630-393-7222



JULIE Reminds Residents – Call 811 before you dig!

Call JULIE Before You Dig. Just dial 811 to contact JULIE for utility location services. This is a free call and a free service.

The importance of calling JULIE is to reduce the risk of striking underground utility lines and potentially causing environmental or property damage, costly delays or personal injury.

Once per minute, underground utility lines are unintentionally damaged. Homeowners and professional excavators who fail to notify a state one-call center, such as JULIE, before digging cause approximately 40 percent of all damages, making it the top reason for these dangerous and costly incidents. This statistic jumps to 60 percent for landscaping and fence-building projects.

Based in Joliet, JULIE is a not-for-profit organization committed to promoting the importance of notifying the one-call center and safe-digging practices across Illinois.

The Eagles Run – August 6, 2011

Formerly known as North Aurora Days 5/10k

The Eagles Run is set to soar on August 6th, 2011.

Same beautiful course, but a race with a new look! The Eagles Run gets its new name from the beautiful course that winds through the Mooseheart campus. As you run through nature scenes of swans, lakes and shaded trees, you will pass a tall tree where two nesting eagles sit high above.

Registration is now open!

Register now and get early bird pricing.
T-shirts for all registrants who register before July 31.

Finisher awards for the kids!
Overall & age division awards in top 3 places.
Award for the fastest sub-division in North Aurora!

Something for Everyone

Run or walk the one mile with your family for a warm-up, then choose your distance of a 5 or 10k. All 5 & 10k registrants can run/walk the 1 mile fun run at no cost! The kids will love the extra support!

For more information go to: www.theEaglesRun.com.

Chesterfield Neighbors

CHESTERFIELD
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.chesterfieldhomeowners.com

Chesterfield Census Form

Baum has been receiving lots of census forms from all of you!! Please keep them coming in. All residents are required to fill out a census form and have it on file with Baum. If you have misplaced your form, they are available on our website.

Fence Amendment

Thank you to all homeowners who returned your signed proxy for the fence amendment. Over the next few months a Chesterfield resident or board member may knock at your door asking you to sign the proxy. We need 75% of the residents to approve this amendment in order for it to pass, and we have quite a few to go.

Make this YOUR newsletter!

Chesterfield Neighbors welcomes articles from all Chesterfield homeowners and residents. If you have some interesting information you'd like to share with your neighbors, send your submission to communication@chesterfieldhomeowners.com or mail it to our management agent (see box at left) marked "Chesterfield Neighbors newsletter."

Chesterfield Homeowners Assn.
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