

Conifer Park Homeowner's Association #6

Website: www.coniferpark6.com Web Log: www.coniferpark6.blogspot.com

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2008

YOUR HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



Below you will find a list of names and phone numbers of the volunteers who serve the Homeowners Association. Please feel free to give any of us a call:

President Dawn Davis 769-8128

Vice President Dave Black 471-2428

Secretary Richelle Sherwood 769-2398

Treasurer Nancy Rollins 871-7230

Board of Directors

Joy Pratt-Stanford 769-0501

Warren Price 769-8788

Marco DiCicco 616-0190

Architectural Review Committee

Matt Davis 769-8128

Shannon Mackie 871-9640

Gary Rollins 871-7230

Jaclyn Petersen 871-6361



ANNUAL HOA PICNIC AND MEETING

Summer is almost here and so is our annual HOA meeting and picnic. This year's event will be held on August 5, 2008 in our community park. The picnic portion will begin at 6:00 and the meeting will convene at 6:30. This is a great opportunity to visit with your neighbors and catch up on what has been going on in our neighborhood. This year there will be several positions open for volunteers to fill, so think about stepping up and becoming involved in

keeping our neighborhood the wonderful place it is to live in. We would also like to extend an invitation to the renters in our neighborhood. You are certainly welcome to join us and enjoy a hot dog and keep up with what's going on. Please know, however, that if there are issues to be voted on, you will not have a vote, but your input is welcome.



COMMUNITY YARD SALE

It's time to clean out the garage and closets again folks! Our community yard sale is scheduled for the 7th of June from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Your HOA will take care of the advertising, so all you have to do is get your treasures ready to sell and have them outside on those dates. As always, the community park is available if you'd rather set up there than at your house,



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

I did hear from a handful of you and I hope you enjoy receiving this newsletter electronically. For those of you who haven't, please do consider this cost saving measure. It is perfectly okay to continue receiving the hard copy in the mail, but every little bit helps when trying to keep costs down and it's never too late to add yourself to my e-mail distribution list. Just send an e-mail to: Richelle Sherwood at zgsherwood@yahoo.com and you will be added to the mailing list.

Conifer Park Homeowner's Association #6

Website: www.coniferpark6.com Web Log: www.coniferpark6.blogspot.com

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2008



MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

By Janet Heath

An emergency can strike anyone, anytime. Is our neighborhood ready for the next big storm? What if there is a gas main break, who will turn off your gas if you're away from home? Are you prepared for an earthquake? What can we all do together to secure our neighborhood and check on our neighbors during the first 4 hours following a disaster? Who, amongst our neighbors has a generator, AED, first aid skills or other abilities that we might all need in an emergency?

Our homeowners association is taking preparedness seriously and has a plan to bring to the membership at our annual meeting on August 7th. The plan, called 'Map Your Neighborhood' is sponsored by the State of Washington and is rolling out in neighborhoods throughout Kitsap County .

Why am I writing to you? I've lived on Empress Court for the past 16 years and I'm your local American Red Cross Chapter Director. I take preparedness VERY seriously. While serving with the Red Cross for the past five years, my team has responded to brushfires, home fires, out of state wildfires, snowstorms, windstorms, hurricanes, and floods. You won't see us around the house much if a disaster strikes, so we hope you are ready to take care of yourselves and volunteer to help take care of others!

The steps to be 'Red Cross Ready' are simple: make a plan; build a kit; get trained (may I add: volunteer and donate? smile . . .) See family preparedness tips at: <http://www.seattlredcross.org/show.aspx?mi=4003>. There's an extensive learning tool at: <http://www.redcross.org/flash/brr/English-flash/default.asp>

Safety tips and brochures can be downloaded for free at: <http://www.seattlredcross.org/show.aspx?mi=4006>

The Homeowners Association will talk more about the 'Map Your Neighborhood' project at the annual meeting.

In the meantime, there ARE things you can do to better prepare your home, family and business for disaster. You can preview the materials and outline of the plan at: <http://www.emd.wa.gov/myn/index.shtml>. We'll deliver packets to each home in the neighborhood at least a week before the August meeting and remind you to "come on out."

Please take a little time for self-learning and we will have a good conversation in August!

If you ever have any questions, please give me a call. The Red Cross is here to help you. (Did I mention we might have volunteer opportunities?)

All the best, your neighbor on Empress Court .

Janet Heath
West Sound Director
American Red Cross Serving King and Kitsap Counties
360-478-7681



EARTH DAY CLEANUP

By Gerry Austin

A few weekends ago, several neighbors got together to help clean up the neighborhood. It was a beautiful, sunny, Saturday morning. Who would have thought it would be snowing the following weekend? Turnout was strong, as people walked the streets picking up trash, and others scoured the park and the woods below. Thanks to the great turnout, we collected about 10 bags of garbage, in only 30 minutes! It was a great success, and we look forward to doing it again next year.



Conifer Park Homeowner's Association #6

Website: www.coniferpark6.com Web Log: www.coniferpark6.blogspot.com

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2008



SPRING

DEFEATING DANDELIONS

By Gerry Austin

Centuries ago, as the new world was being settled, Europeans brought with them a wonderful plant, *Taraxacum officinale*. It could be used as both medicine and a salad crop. Who could have foreseen that it would become the bane of gardeners and homeowners everywhere? We all know the bright yellow flowers, with a long taproot, and broad leaves. They're sunny and cheerful, but also multiply rapidly and can take over a lawn.

There are several ways to get rid of dandelion. I prefer pulling them with this really slick tool I bought at the hardware store for about \$20. With it, you can get the entire root; the dandelion will never grow back. You can use it standing up, so you don't have to bend over, or sit, which is great on the knees.

Keeping a healthy lawn will help your lawn out-compete dandelions. Give your lawn organic fertilizer or compost to ensure you've got healthy soil and enough nutrients for your lawn. Aerating and dethatching as necessary will also help your lawn thrive.

A last resort would be to use an herbicide such as weed and feed. A combination fertilizer with a weed preventative is also a good option, where it will also help your lawn. Read and follow the manufacturers' instructions and application guidelines, as incorrect use can hurt your lawn. Herbicides can also cause harm to humans, pets and wildlife so use this option cautiously.

Sadly, this is one job where the Weed Dragon is not effective. With their long tap root, dandelions will quickly spring back up about a week after being burned.

Happy Gardening!

