

Benjamin Crossing NewsLetter

April 2013 | Issue 11

Tippecanoe County Events April – July

APRIL:

Purdue Spring Fest - April 13 & 14
Purdue Grand Prix Race - April 20

MAY:

Round the Fountain Art Fair - May 25

JUNE:

Taste of Tippecanoe - June 15
Indiana Fiddlers Gathering - June 28-29-30

JULY:

Stars & Stripes Celebration - July 4
Wabash Riverfest - July 13
Dancing in the Streets - July 20
Tippecanoe County Fair - July 20-27

www.homeofpurdue.com



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Fax: (765) 448-1678

hoa@mgmtadvantage.com
www.mgmtadvantage.com

Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Benjamin Crossing Homeowners & Residents only pay \$10.58 per month for trash service and a 96 gal trash can through Waste Management. In order to get the discount you must contact Kevin. His information is below.

CONTACT:

Kevin Boyce @ Waste Management
(317)339-5304
kboyce@wm.com



Free Things to do this Spring & Summer

- Go to the Clegg Botanical Gardens and enjoy all the beautiful spring wild flowers.
- Plan a picnic at one of 30+ parks in Tippecanoe County.
- Fly a kite at the Tippecanoe Amphitheater
- Go to the Lafayette Farmers Market on a Saturday morning May - October for a fresh selection of produce & baked goods.
- Swing by one of the libraries and find books to help you plan the perfect garden
- Take a Frisbee to Murdock or Ross Park for a round of Frisbee Golf
- Check out Mosey Down Main Street, a family friendly event once a month from May through September offering live music, outdoor food and great entertainment
- Follow the tree trail at Purdue University and check out all of the fountains on campus (brochures available at Visit Lafayette - West Lafayette Visitors Center and Purdue Visitors Center)
- Take a picnic to Fort Ouiatenon
- Window shop downtown
- Take a "Tour the Town" free trolley ride to learn history and stories about the area

- Lunch on the Myers Pedestrian Bridge and watch the people go by
- Tour the Tippecanoe County Courthouse (self guided tour brochure available online)
- Discover the branches of your family tree at the Alameda McCullough Library.
- View artwork at the 'Round the Fountain Art Fair' the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend and Gallery Walks throughout the summer
- Drive your car to the Red Crown Mini-Museum, a walk-by museum at the corner of 6th and South, and see how it was in the "good old days"

Want More...

Explore..... Tippecanoe Battlefield Park, Celery Bog, Wabash Heritage Trail, Wolf Park, Wildcat Creek Winery

For hiking/biking routes: Visit Lafayette - West Lafayette Visitors Center, 301 Frontage Rd, Lafayette, or check www.homeofpurdue.com



Community News:

We need volunteers! If you missed having the Egg Hunt this year and would like to help plan a community event, please contact Marj Roller by email at marjbxboard@hotmail.com.

Community Event:

GARAGE SALE: June 14 and June 15*

Everyone in the community is invited to participate. Left over items can be dropped off at Goodwill, or if you have large donations you can contact Goodwill at 1-800-GW-PIK-UP or Salvation Army at 1-800-SA-TRUCK to schedule a donation pick up.

**New Date*

Crime Alert:

There has been vandalism and break-ins in the neighborhood. If you see any suspicious activity, please contact the Tippecanoe County Sheriff immediately or WeTIP it anonymously.

Volunteers are still needed for the Neighborhood Watch Committee. Please email Fred Coker at fredbxboard@yahoo.com.



From the Board:

2013 Officer Elections:

President: Destiny Ruby
Vice President: Fred Coker
Treasurer: Emily Foltz
Secretary: Cynthia Leap
Director: Marj Roller

2013 Committee Chairs:

Destiny – Website
Fred – Neighborhood Watch
Emily – Parking
Cynthia – Common Areas
Marj – ACC, Newsletter & Social

Thank you to, outgoing President, Lyn Kaspar for her service to the community.

Annual Meeting & Chilton Park

Removal: So few homeowner's attended this year's Annual Meeting that it was almost cancelled. A big THANK YOU goes out to those who gave us the 5% quorum we needed to hold the meeting! Removal of the Chilton Playground was discussed and the majority present thought it was a good idea to replace it with a landscaped seating area and possibly create a new playground area in Outlot #3 off Patuxet. What are your thoughts? Contact Management Advantage by email or phone and let them know if you would like to keep, remove or relocate Chilton Park. These changes will require submitting a minor modification of our subdivision's Final Development Plan to the County. The Common Area Committee is working on the details and hopes to have a plan of action soon. Email Cynthia Leap at cynthiabxboard@gmail.com if you would like to participate in this Common Areas project.

Violations: Spring is a great time to correct your exterior landscape violations. It also marks the start of two (2) inspections

per month by Management Advantage.

Vehicle Parking: Vehicles parked in a yard is a covenant violation. "Vehicles shall be parked in the garages or on the driveway serving the Lots." If you would like to extend your driveway to park additional vehicles a County permit and ACC approval is required.

Trash Cans: If you would like to leave your trash can outside an ACC approved barrier is required. Any trash can left outside without a barrier is considered in violation.

Trespassing & Common Courtesy:

Please let your children know that crossing through a person's yard is trespassing. We have had numerous complaints regarding this matter. Trespassing is a criminal offense and homeowners are encouraged to contact the police.

Smart Spring Clean Up

1. PRUNE DEAD & DAMAGE BRANCHES

Where tree or shrub branches have been damaged by cold, snow, and wind, prune back to live stems; neaten up a yew by pruning wayward shoots back to an intersecting branch. Prune summer-flowering shrubs, such as Rose of Sharon, before buds swell, but wait to prune spring bloomers, like forsythia, until after they flower. Trim overgrown evergreens back to a branch whose direction you want to encourage.

2. CUT BACK & DIVIDE PERENNIALS

Prune flowering perennials to a height of 4–5 inches and ornamental grasses to 2–3 inches to allow new growth to shoot up. Where soil has thawed, dig up perennials, such as daylilies and hostas, to thin crowded beds; divide them, leaving at least three stems per clump, and transplant them to fill in sparse areas. Cut back winter-damaged rose canes to 1 inch below the blackened area. On climbers, keep younger green canes and remove older woody ones; neaten them up by bending the canes horizontally and tipping the buds downward. Use jute twine or gentle Velcro fasteners to hold the canes in place. A pair of sharp bypass pruners makes a clean cut on both dead and living foliage.



3. CLEAN UP AROUND PLANTS

Rake out fallen leaves and dead foliage (which can smother plants and foster disease), pull up spent annuals. Push heaved plants back into flower beds and borders, tamping them down around the base with your foot, or use a shovel to replant them. Now is a good time to spread a pelletized fertilizer tailored to existing plantings on the soil's surface so that spring rains can carry it to the roots. Add a 5-10-10 fertilizer around bulbs as soon as they flower to maximize bloom time and feed next season's growth.

4. PREP DAMAGED LAWN FOR SEEDING

Grass starts growing in April. Remove turf damaged by salt, plows, or disease to prepare for the seeding. Work in a ½-inch layer of compost to keep the new seed moist, increasing the germination rate. Begin seeding once forsythia starts blooming in your area. Remove dead turf with a square metal rake, then flip it over to spread compost

5. NEATEN UP HARDSCAPE SURFACES

Rake escaped gravel back into aggregate walkways and patios, and order more gravel to spread in large depressions, which often form near the driveway's apron. Refill joints between flagstones by sweeping in new sand or stone dust; water with a hose to set it, then repeat. If the freeze-thaw cycle has heaved pavers out of place, remove them and replenish the base material as needed before setting pavers back in. Use a pressure washer with a low pressure tip to remove slippery algae spots or leaf stains from patios and walkways.

6. PATCH, REPLACE & PAINT WOOD

Remove badly rotted or damaged pickets, boards, or lattice, then scrub wood structures clean with a mix of 2 gallons water, 2 quarts bleach, and 1 cup liquid soap; let dry. Patch rotted sections with wood epoxy; install new wood as needed. Check wobbly fence posts to see if they need replacing (find the how-to at thisoldhouse.com). Scrape off old paint, then sand wood all over with 60 grit to prep for a new finish coat. Once temperatures go above 50° F, brush on a new coat of paint or stain.

- www.thisoldhouse.com

If you have standing water puddles in your backyard every time it rains, chances are that you have drainage problems. Most water drainage problems are caused by an improperly graded slope around your home as well as clay soil that does not carry away water. Problems such as these can cause leaks in your basement or crawlspace. Installing a French drain around your home may be all it takes to fix a drainage problem. These can be purchased at a hardware store and do not require ACC approval for installation at this time.