



**NEWS
AROUND
THE
NEIGHBORHOOD**

SPRING 2015

2015 Board of Directors

Jay Popp, President
Ralph Flens, Vice President
Joe Arias, Treasurer

Kathy Skurauskis, Secretary
Ron Szikora, Director

PLEASE TAKE MOMENT TO READ

We are going to continue to present our Newsletter in a brief, bullet statement format. We are hoping to present a lot of community information in such a way that the reader is not distracted by wordy explanations. Of course, if you would have any questions about any of the statements please feel free to contact Peter Bylen at pbylen@1stpropertymanagers.com or the Briar Cove Board at briarcoveboard@yahoo.com

Our next open Board meeting will be Thursday, July 16, 6:30 pm, at the Schererville Library.

Our community has a fertilization and weed control program for our lawns that was developed by our lawn consultant Phil Hartagan. This program has shown considerable success in the last couple of years and should not be altered.

Residents who have taken it upon themselves to apply additional fertilizer, weed control and grass seed, not supplied and applied by our lawn care contractor, have caused damage to their lawns and have compromised the efforts of our lawn care program.

Dogs are great as long as they don't disturb residents of the community. Please pick up waste while walking your dog in the community and don't allow waste to accumulate on your own property.

To stay informed about community activities, alerts, and announcements and to receive future community newsletters make sure Peter Bylen pbylen@1stpropertymanagers.com has your email address.

The first phase of our three-year painting program will start this year.

The original closing date from the developer will determine the painting phase list.

The painting program schedule will be announced prior to the start of each phase. The painting information will also be posted on our website.

The contractor will prep the surface as needed and caulk where necessary. The exterior cedar will be painted, including the cedar privacy fence and stairs in the rear of the homes, mailbox posts, shutters in front of the homes and the white wood door trim, including the door. New and larger home numbers will be installed over the garage door. Further details will be mailed out with updates on our website.

Briar Cove News Around the Neighborhood – Spring

2015

The first phase of our driveway asphalt resealing program will also start this year. The process will be spread out over a two-year plan based on the year it was last sealed. The sealing material will be non-coal tar, in consideration of environmental issues. Further information about both programs will be provided by email and future newsletters.

Enbridge Pipeline has started construction of a new 36 inch diameter pipe on the south border of our community. Construction will normally be 12 hours per day 6 days a week. Work is to be completed by the end of July. Please put Pipeline mailings you receive in a place you can retrieve easily. There is information in the mailing that will help you identify if an emergency situation may exist.

Schedule of 2015 Briar Cove Board Meetings - July16, October15, November 19

Fertilization and disease control is underway by Forever Green for Association lot line trees and trees on Association property

Yellow ribbons were attached to 26 trees by a Forever Green arborist to determine quantity and location of ash trees in our community. Unfortunately, Northwest Indiana and other large areas in the Midwest have been infested by the Emerald Ash Borer which is killing the trees. Some of these trees are trees planted by homeowners. Homeowner trees will be treated and or removed at the homeowner's expense. Association lot line trees or trees on Association property will be treated if possible or removed if necessary. As spring progresses the trees will be reassessed for damage.

Fertilization and weed control will start for lawns and front flower beds.

Again, if additional flower beds were installed by residents these can be treated at homeowner's expense. Contact Forever Green at 219 365-6778.

Our pond fountain is back in service. Last fall we had a storm which stirred up debris and bent the pump shaft.

Our waterfall pump will be installed shortly. The pump motor had to be replaced due to insulation failure.

Please observe the posted signs on usage of our pond. A rule change is being prepared to address the purpose of the pond.

Please take advantage of Briar Cove's walking path. The path surface has been repaired and the path affords a very relaxing and peaceful environment.

Briar Cove News Around the Neighborhood – Spring

2015

Those with sprinkler system turn-on valves are requested to turn them on as soon as possible to allow check out by our sprinkler system contractor.

Our section of LED street lighting was considered a success by the town and NIPSCO, however completion of LED lighting for the rest of the community is not scheduled until at least next year.

Still need a few more votes to pass our three proposed amendments: (1) Association responsibility of trees and bushes, (2) Board member “good standing” requirements and (3) Architectural review committee jurisdiction. Please contact Peter Bylen or any Board member for further clarification. As required by our community covenants, provide Peter Bylen with homeowner’s insurance information. This is for your safety as well as your attached neighbor.

Coyotes and EAGLES have been observed in our community, so please keep a watchful eye on your pets if they are outside.

Exterior Modification forms have to be submitted for any work that takes place outside of the interior walls of your home, including doors and windows. This process is required by our bylaws and ultimately can help to keep our community the attractive place it is.

We are asking that you explore your inner photographer side and snap that "once in a lifetime" picture that you think others would love to see that shows the uniqueness, nature, beauty or comical side of our community. We would love for you to send pictures as an attachment via email to: briarcoveboard@yahoo.com.

Start checking your storage areas for items that will be good material for our one and only community garage sale coming the third Saturday in August.

Last but not least, every November we have an election of Board members. Your current Board is very proud of our community and encourages residents who are willing to share their time and talents to run for the Board and make our community even better. Here is some food for thought: the Board members devote much of their personal time and energy to overseeing the needs of a community of 272 homes so that you can be reasonably happy in your surroundings. They appreciate your support and cooperation.

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Briar Cove News Around the Neighborhood – Spring

2015