

Neighborhood News

Riverglen and River Watch Home Owners Associations

FALL 2012

Riverglen President's Update Rick Huber

Hello, Riverglen homeowners and welcome to the RGHOA 2012 Annual News Letter. In past years we have published both a Spring and Fall newsletter, but this year, in an effort to reduce costs, we voted to publish an annual letter.

In addition, we updated the <http://www.riverglenhoa.com> web site and made major improvements with additional information and documents that will assist each and every homeowner. Please visit the web site for answers to your questions and to contact the Board of Directors and Greenacres Properties.

There are a number of other improvements that I would like to bring to your attention:

- During the Spring the BOD had an irrigation company clean all of the outlet valves in the ponds. This cleaning will allow an unobstructed flow from the streets to the ponds. This will ensure a smoother runoff during heavy rains and prevent blockage to the drainage system.
- The BOD upgraded the landscaping at the entrances and irrigation systems. The planting of creeping fig along the walls is completed and new entrance plantings have made a big difference to Donneymoor Drive.
- The parks are well maintained and vandalism is down, thanks to homeowners who report concerns to the Sheriff's Department before they can major problems. Thank you for your efforts!

One last point, as the year comes to a close. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2012 at the Riverglen Community Center. When you receive your notification letter please mark your calendar and plan to attend or return your proxy card in a timely manner. Thanks for your support!



This year's fall **Saturday in the Park** event will be held on Saturday, October 27th. In addition to the Halloween activities for the kids, this year will also include a Military Appreciation theme. Expect the usual good time, including games, contests

(prizes!), food and more. Plan to come out and enjoy the park, the company, and the fun.

More details will be mailed out and also published on the riverglenhoa.com website.

River Watch President's Update Martin McDonough

First and foremost, a hearty thank you to those RiverWatch homeowners that have volunteered their time over the past year. Without your service, there are many, many items that would go undone throughout our community. There is no better way to help our community grow and change than to volunteer.

I am pleased to tell you that RiverWatch has done a great job in managing costs for the association while providing the services we have all come to expect. RiverWatch finished 2011 staying within budget and 2012 is off to a wonderful start. Our financial picture remains healthy and our reserves for high cost item repair (streets, sidewalks, curbs, drainage, etc.) are on target against our long-term plan. As you can imagine, it is a delicate process to balance the current and future needs of the community against the cost of our annual assessments. Your Board of Directors has done an outstanding job to date in managing the operating costs of 2012 while being ever so mindful of the poor economy and how it affects each and every one of us. All homeowners are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings if you have questions regarding expenditures or have any input on projects to benefit the community that you would like to see addressed.

This past year has seen our first need to replace some of the gutter pan (street gutters) due to tree root and water damage. As the Oak trees continue to grow, we will likely see more damage done to the gutters and sidewalks within RiverWatch. While homeowners are still responsible for the maintenance of the sidewalks, the RiverWatch HOA is responsible for grinding or replacing sidewalk sections as they heave due to tree root expansion. Homeowners are encouraged to notify the management company if a section of their sidewalk "heaves" greater than one inch. Keep in mind that damage done to the sidewalks by homeowner contractors is the responsibility of the homeowner. We will continue to inspect the sidewalks and gutters throughout the year to catch these situations before they become a huge problem.

You may have also noticed that the lighting for the sign and the American flag has been improved. These fixtures were replaced earlier this year when the previous fixtures were beyond repair. Both the RiverWatch sign and the flag pole are now lit by new fixtures that will be more maintenance free and more eco-friendly than the previous fixtures. Going forward, your board of directors is looking to improve the lighting in the area from the gate house to the Clover Glen intersection.

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Riverglen HOA Upcoming Events

BOD and ACC meetings are held @ 7:00 PM

Riverglen BOD

October 18 (budget meeting)
November 15
December (no meeting)
January 17 (2013)
February 21
March 21
April 18

BOD meetings are held at the conference room of the Riverview Church of Christ, 12114 Boyette Road, Riverview.

Riverglen ACC

October 11
November 8
December 13
January 10 (2013)
February 14
March 14
April 11

ACC meetings are held at 9218 Sunnyoak Dr., Riverview

Annual Homeowner Meeting

November 1, 2012 at 7 PM,
Riverview Civic Center, 11020
Park Drive, Riverview

Saturday in the Park

October 27, 2012

Auto-debit your Association Dues!

Isn't it hard to remember quarterly payments? Take the hassle out of paying your Riverglen Association dues by signing up for Auto-debit. You can find the Auto-debit form at www.riverglenhoa.com on the Menu under the Forms section.

How do I become a member of the Board of Directors?

A few residents have asked about running for a position on the Riverglen Board of Directors (BOD). The process is governed by the Riverglen Homeowners Association Bylaws and the Florida Statutes.

There are 7 Directors, one for each of the seven Units in Riverglen. The primary method of selecting Directors is by election at the annual membership meeting. Any member of the association (in good standing) may be nominated for a Director position before or during the annual meeting. If there are two or more nominees from a particular Unit, then the nominee getting the most votes would be elected to represent that Unit. Votes can be submitted in person at the meeting, or by proxy. Proxy forms are sent to all homeowners along with the annual meeting notice.

Convening the annual membership meeting requires a quorum. The minimum number (defined by FL Statutes) is 30% of the total number of homes. Since there are 629 homes in Riverglen, a minimum of 189 homeowners must be present (either in person or via proxy). For the last several years (since 2006), there have not been enough homeowners in attendance to achieve a quorum. The Association Bylaws state that "each director continues in office until a successor has been elected and qualified..."

So without an annual election, the directors remain on the BOD until they resign, become disqualified, or become otherwise unable to serve.

When a Board vacancy occurs, the vacancy is filled by appointment. Any homeowner (in good standing) from the Unit which has the vacancy may be nominated for appointment. The BOD votes on the nominee(s) at the monthly BOD meeting, and the appointment is effective for the remaining term. If no one from the applicable Unit volunteers to fill the vacancy, the BOD may appoint a volunteer from another Unit (at large).

In summary, there are 2 ways to become a member of the Board of Directors: 1) by election at the annual meeting (if a quorum is achieved to conduct the meeting), or 2) by appointment to fill a vacancy on the Board. As always, all members are welcome to attend any Board meeting and get involved in your association.



Board of Directors

Riverglen Management

Greenacre Properties

Jonathan Grass
4131 Gunn Highway
Tampa, FL. 33618
813-600-1100 ext 165
jgrass@greenacreproperties.com

Riverglen Board of Directors

President

Rick Huber - Unit 3
President@riverglenhoa.com

Vice President

Ralph Brown - Unit 7
VicePresident@riverglenhoa.com

Secretary

Jim Egbert - Unit 6
Secretary@riverglenhoa.com

Treasurer

Cathy James - Unit 2
Treasurer@riverglenhoa.com

Directors

Greg Griffith - Unit 1
DirUnit1@riverglenhoa.com

Brian Lorentzen - Unit - 4
DirUnit4@riverglenhoa.com

Casey Vaughan - Unit 5
DirUnit5@riverglenhoa.com

Riverglen Committees

ACC

Ali Houshmand
acc@riverglenhoa.com

Landscape

Chris Brown
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Newsletter

VACANT
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Parks

Brian Lorentzen
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Ponds

Jim Egbert
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Website

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Welcoming

Rick Huber
welcome@riverglenhoa.com

Lawn Maintenance

by Ali Houshmand

We've all noticed the occasional property where the landscaping deteriorates to the point that tall weeds and over grown bushes seem to be the only features on the lot. I think we can all agree that it makes the property and the neighborhood unattractive. Tall grass and weeds aren't just unsightly, they are a serious hazard and offer a place for rodents, snakes and other pests to hide. To reduce this risk, lawns should be mowed/weeded and trimmed. Flower gardens should be mulched and free from weeds. Tree limbs and shrubbery should be properly pruned and yard waste must not accumulate on the property.

Removing all of the grass or letting it die due to lack of irrigation is not a reasonable option. Your yard needs to have grass to prevent erosion. Without it, soil and sand washes onto the sidewalk and into the street, causing an unsightly neighborhood appearance and clogs in the drainage system.

A well maintained yard is also an effective crime prevention tool. Lawns that are not cared for give criminals the impression the property is unattended and might present an attractive target. As a Riverglen resident you are responsible for maintaining the grass and vegetation on your property. This includes the front, back, sides and along the fence line as well as the area between the sidewalk and the street.

Jon Grass recently was appointed the Community Association Manager for Riverglen of Brandon HOA, Inc.

Jon and his wife, Kathy moved to Tampa from St. Louis, Missouri in 2003 to be near their daughter and son-in-law and two granddaughters.

As a Portfolio Community Association Manager with Greenacre Properties in Tampa, his duties with Greenacre Properties include managing Homeowner and Condominium Associations along with serving as the Deed Restriction Violation Manager for Westchase a community of over 3,400 homes.

Jon is looking forward to working with the Riverglen of Brandon HOA, Inc. Board of Directors and assisting in addressing any questions or concerns of the residents of Riverglen. Jon can be reached at (813) 600-1100 x165 or jgrass@greenacre.com.

Fall 2012 by Jim Egbert

I'm back!! Another newsletter, another rant. That's just the way it is. Where does the time go. I sat around wondering what it was I was going to speak about for this issue of the newsletter. I didn't want it to be the same old thing over and over again even though it still is for the most part the same old thing over and over again. Almost like déjà vu. It is still the same few things from the same few homeowners that stand out but then I guess some people just don't understand.

I was thinking of a topic when all of a sudden it struck me. I have in the past been contacted about my articles telling me that I am out of touch with what the board is doing. Are you joking? I am there every month. I am fully aware of what the board is doing as I am part of the process. I don't think it is a case of me being out of touch as much as it is the homeowner that fails to acknowledge that this community is a deed restricted community. You may be asking so what? Why should I care? If you people (the board) would just leave me alone and let me do what I want to live how I want to live, things would be fine! Who are you to tell me what color my house is or what kind of fence to install? If the board did not get involved, things probably would be fine... For you! But I have to ask why did you move into a deed restricted community? The document and covenants direct what items are governed by both the board and the ACC. The average person moving into a deed restricted community reads these items and understands the process. As with life there are the selected few that feel that if they ignore the process it will go away. News flash!! It won't. The process remains for both communities Riverglen and Riverwatch.

I am always happy to see new faces at a monthly meeting. Unfortunately that does not occur too often. The homeowners that are on the board volunteer for the community. The committees are the same. I have been on the Riverglen board since 2005 and the Riverwatch board since 2010. The bulk of the members for both boards and committees have remained the same with very few changes. Every once in a while a new face will appear usually after they got mad at the board but then as soon as they find that they may have to do something they are gone. If you don't want to get involved, that's fine but understand that those that are involved are the individuals that are following the documents that govern the community. They are enforcing the way it is spelled out in the covenants and would be negligent if they did not. So rather than get mad when you get a violation notice or any other type of correspondence, ask yourself why you received it.

By now you're probably wondering where I am going with this babble. Well here it is. If you are unhappy with what is occurring in the community, or maybe you don't like the process or the people that are on the board or committee, by all means, attend a meeting to voice your concerns. If you are still unhappy, then here are a few options:

- Vote the members out. Better yet,
- Become involved yourself. If you think you can do a better job (and maybe you can,) then become part of the process.
- Attend the meetings to see how the process works.

After all, this is YOUR community. You have 12 opportunities each year to come in and voice your concerns. Oh, I forgot. We now have voicemail and e-mail. It's much easier to sit at the keyboard and tell people they don't know what they are doing or leave a voicemail to tell us to leave you alone.

Neither board does things perfectly all of the time. I am sure you won't believe this and you may even think I am lying but there are times when the boards' decisions are incorrect. I know, I know, that is hard to believe, but it is possible. So if for no other reason, come by and keep us operating correctly! Yeah, that's a challenge! I dare you.

River Watch HOA Upcoming Events

River Watch BOD

Oct 17 (budget final)
November 21
December 19
January 16 (2013)
February 20
March 20
April 17

BOD meetings (except for the Annual Homeowner Meeting) are held at 7:00 PM at Beef O'Bradys, 4330 Bell Shoals Road, Riverview

River Watch ACC

Oct 17
Nov 21
Dec 19
Jan 16 (2013) (Riverview Civic Center)
Feb 20
Mar 20
Apr 17

ACC meetings are held at 6:30 PM (immediately prior to the BOD meeting) at Beef O'Bradys, 4330 Bell Shoals Road, Riverview

Annual Homeowner Meeting

Jan 16 2013 (tentative date)
7 PM at Riverview Civic Center,
11020 Park Dr., Riverview

Community Garage Sale

April and September 2013
Dates TBD

River Watch President's Update Continued...

Many who walk in the evening have commented that the area is dark and improved lighting may be the answer. Community input is appreciated should you have any ideas on this subject.

Speaking of input, there are two committees within RiverWatch that could use some volunteers. That would be the Landscaping and Neighborhood Watch Committees. If you are interested in community involvement, please do not hesitate to get involved. Regardless of the committee name, there is ALWAYS a place for those who wish to volunteer to serve their community.

My annual message would not be complete without addressing safety. There has been an increase in vandalism/theft in RiverWatch and we are all encouraged to keep our eyes and ears open. Along this line, speeding and the running of stop signs remains a problem. HCSO continues to do "regularly-irregular"

speed suppression programs (radar) within the community so please watch your speed and stop at all stop signs. ALL stop signs in RiverWatch are within County Code and are supported by a traffic jurisdictional agreement between RiverWatch and Hillsborough County. You can be cited for running stop signs. Please slow down and watch for children as they return to school.

As always, your board members and management company are here for you so do not hesitate to reach out and contact us with the concerns that you may have.

We look forward to seeing you at the next monthly meeting.

Storm Drains by Margaret Cabral

Within the past year, many residents have felt that it is acceptable to place yard waste on the storm drains throughout the River Watch Community. This is a very dangerous practice for a number of reasons. The storm drains are maintained not by Hillsborough County but by the River Watch Homeowners Association due to the fact that we are a private gated community. Yard waste, plastic bags, plastic ties on the bags etc are carried into the retention ponds and can cause harm or death to the wildlife that resides in and around those ponds. During downpours like those that we experience during the rainy season, the yard waste is dragged down into the storm drains and can sometimes cause a blockage.

Several years ago River Watch had three storm drains that failed and the repairs for those storm drains proved costly for the residents of River Watch. As a preventative to costly repairs it is not appropriate to place yard waste or any other materials on the storm drains. It hardly seems fiscally prudent that all residents within River Watch should be made to pay for the costly repairs of the storm drains due to the negligence of a few uncaring homeowners. And just as a reminder, in accordance with the deed restrictions of River Watch, yard waste should only be placed at the curb twenty-four hours prior to the collection and presently the day for yard waste collection is Thursday. All yard waste must be screened from view until placed at the curb.

It is hoped that all residents will comply with the deed restrictions of River Watch and the mandates of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) regarding yard waste. Should a resident have any questions about yard waste disposal please feel free to call McNeil Management at 571-7100

River Watch Management

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River Watch Board of Directors

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Welcoming
Casey Borst
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Landscaping
VACANT

Neighborhood Watch
VACANT



Gate-o-nomics 101

“If you have a clicker, it should be good enough that you can open the gate even if you’re not the next car. Open the gate and follow the car through.” William

“Personally, I just yell the code out my window for the drive in front of me” Anonymous

“My favorite was one that had a baby shower announcement taped to the key pad with the entry code for their guests and whoever else might read it.” Shelly

I would love to print more of the comments I heard recently while conducting a “pseudo poll” at the entrance to River Watch, however, there is just not enough room for the good ones and some were quite obscene. Living in a gated community is a choice and there are many reasons one chooses to do so. While I would enjoy addressing that topic, I want to take this opportunity to address what I would call gate operations and etiquette as seen from our security cameras.

- The gates require a hand-entered code, remote control or bar code....they do not open when you place the bumper of your car against them and push. Doing so will create expensive repairs.
- Hillsborough County Fire Rescue has a “knox box key” (for emergency access), that is checked regularly. Homeowners do not need to try and hold open the gates for rescue equipment. This is an admirable thought, but can be quite dangerous.
- As you enter the community with a bar code and there is a car in front of you at the call box, it might be “nice” to let them enter first to clear the drive (as opposed to going around them on the right side). You may get home a few seconds later, but maybe this act of kindness will bring a smile to your face.
- If you are entering the community and the gates just recently opened, please proceed with caution and be prepared for them to close. There are loops in the pavement (much like traffic light sensors) that will signal the gates to open, however, if in the closing mode, **there is a delay to stop the movement of the gate and reverse**. “Running” the gate can lead to expensive auto repairs for you and your insurance company.
- The gates are not an amusement park ride; please do not allow your children to ride on them as they open and close. This will result in gate damage and your child could be injured severely.
- Yelling and hitting the telephone operating box will not make the gates open. Please refrain from doing so.
- One side is an entrance and the other is the exit. Entering via the EXIT is dangerous, dangerous and did I say dangerous? There has been at least one head-on collision (low speed) that was captured on video. This includes bikes, scooters and motorcycles.
- Please keep in mind that your actions at the entrance and exit are being videotaped. The cameras can see you, your vehicle and license plate.

The River Watch Board of Directors will work closely with the appropriate authorities should criminal activity happen in our community. Video downloads are provided to the authorities only. Please do not ask a board member to see what time your daughter or son came home last night.

Idea Hillsborough

Hillsborough County
GOVERNMENT
Florida



Hillsborough “state of mind” has taken effect in the county and the county wants you to join in with your ideas for shaping the future. To capture your opinions and inspiration for the new Hillsborough County Strategic Plan, Hillsborough Community Services is reaching out through a specially designed website called, “Idea Hillsborough”.

At this site, you can share your opinion on matters that affect us all. You’ll be able to view the ideas and comments made by others, give thumbs up or down, and connect in a dialogue about the topics most important to you. Up for discussion are topics such as jobs, livability, and health, to name just a few. Ideas will change along with viewpoints as we move through the open forum timeframe.

After the brainstorming comes to a close, the ideas, votes, and comments will be part of the input used by the County Commissioners to set a course for the future of our community.

Become a part of your county’s future! Time is limited to express your vision on how we move forward and grow into an even more desirable place to live, work, and play.

Sign on today!

www.idealhillsborough.ideascale.com



The Facts About Roof Cleaning

There's a lot of false information about roof algae, roof mold, black stains & dirty roofs floating around right now, and it's time to set the record straight. So, the following are the top ten misconceptions about roof stain removal and roof cleaning.

1: Misconception: Black roof stains are caused by tar, acid, dirt, or jet fuel and this is how a Florida roof looks naturally.

Fact: A hardy type of blue-green algae called *Gloeocapsa magma* causes most roof stains. All it takes is for one algae spore to land on your roof and take hold and they will start to grow. The algae will continue to multiply and spread, its growth fed by the limestone filler in the shingles and moisture. And yes it spreads from one roof to the next so prevention is the key.

2: Misconception: Algae on a roof is really a sign that it's time for a new roof.

Fact: The simple presence of algae stains does not necessarily equate with needing a new roof. In many cases all a roof needs is a good professional roof cleaning to restore its original look and health. This one simple action could save you the price of a new roof.

3: Misconception: Roof algae removal will not make an impact on curb appeal.

Fact: Most people are shocked when they see how much better their home looks after a roof cleaning. Most homeowners have gotten so used to seeing the stains on their roof that they've completely forgotten how good it looked when it was new. If you're getting ready to put your home on the market, discuss your roof's appearance with your realtor. A new roof can cost you \$10,000 or more but a roof cleaning will improve the look without a high cost and bottom line impact. No matter how beautiful your landscaping, windows, and/or paint job, if your roof is covered in filthy roof algae stains it will ruin the appeal. The first thing a buyer will think: "This home needs a new roof."

4: Misconception: Roof algae are only a cosmetic issue so it can be ignored.

Fact: If not cleaned, roof algae has the ability to shave years off the life of your shingles. It's important to remember that roof algae are living organisms that need a food source to continue to grow. Guess what the favorite food of roof algae is? That's right – your shingles! Shingle makers now use limestone filler in the manufacturing process which the algae just love to chew on. This will result in premature loss of shingle granules and general deterioration. Shingle granules are vital to the health of your roof and home because they work to deflect UV rays and heat away from your roof surface. If they are gone or covered with algae then you will have a hotter attic and higher AC bills. You'll also have to replace the roof a lot sooner, and with the average new roof these days topping \$10,000 it's just a no-brainer to keep your roof shingles clean and functional for a fraction of the cost.

5: Misconception: The best way to remove roof algae on your roof is with high pressure.

Fact: Next to positioning your home in the path of a hurricane, power washing your roof to remove algae stains is the worst thing you could possibly do. Just because your concrete, deck, and brick siding were pressure cleaned doesn't mean you should do it to your roof shingles. Your shingles are flimsy and fragile. If you pressure wash them, tens of thousands of shingle granules will pop right off.

6: Misconception: Chemical roof cleaning will damage shingles, gutters, and landscaping.

Fact: If you're using the right chemicals, diluted correctly, and applied with the proper procedures and rinsing techniques, you have nothing to fear. Cleaning your roof in this way will remove the actual algae root structure of the killed algae. You will need a helper present whose sole responsibility is to rinse the heck out of the grass, shrubbery, and perimeter landscaping so that there's absolutely no chance of plant damage.

7: Misconception: It's only necessary to clean the sections of the roof that have visible stains.

Fact: Just because you can't see algae stains on certain parts of the roof doesn't mean that it's not already there and beginning to develop. Keep in mind that in its early stages roof algae is completely invisible to the naked eye. It's not until the more advanced stages that it actually turns black and becomes visible. So if you can see algae on even one section of your roof that means it's probably already taking hold on your entire roof.

8: Misconception: Temperature has no effect on the effectiveness of roof algae cleaner.

Fact: If you're using the correct chemical mixture then it will be most effective when the temperature is above 50 degrees. If applied below 50 degrees and the power of the solution will drop off rapidly. If you absolutely must have the roof cleaned on a day when it's right around 50 or a little bit lower just keep in mind that the chemicals will need to sit for a little bit longer on the roof to be effective. So instead of giving it five minutes to kill the algae, give it 15 minutes. Then reapply if necessary. If it's an extremely hot day you may find that your roof-cleaning chemical is evaporating before it even has a chance to kill the algae. In this situation you can simply soak the roof with water to cool it down before applying the chemicals.

9: Misconception: Roof cleaning is an easy do-it-yourself (DIY) project that any homeowner can do in an afternoon.

Fact: There's nothing easy or quick about roof cleaning. In fact, if you approach it with an attitude that it can be done by anyone, you run a good chance of injuring yourself. If you want to have any chance of cleaning your roof safely and effectively then you need to set out a clear plan of attack, have safety procedures in place at all times, and, above all, take your time. Rushing through a roof cleaning only leads to trouble. Either you can hire professional roof cleaner who has the equipment and experience or you can spend an entire weekend doing it yourself.

10: Misconception: It's expensive to clear the roof with a professional cleaner.

Fact: On average, it will cost the homeowner between \$300-\$500 to professionally clean a roof. The company should rinse and clean the roof and take about one hour per 1,000 square feet of roof space. You can expect about half a day to do a good job.

Information concerning this article is thanks to Mr. Todd Hunt from Code Engineered Systems Inc., the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association (ARMA) and GAF (North America's largest shingle maker).



GET YOUR GARDEN READY FOR FALL

By Chris Brown

This is a reprint of an article from last year. Since we have many new residents, the information may be of help to them, and for those of you who missed it last fall, perhaps there is something valuable for you as well.

Now is the time to prepare your garden for fall and winter. A few simple chores now will allow you to sit back and enjoy the cooler weather. Weed and do a general clean up in planting beds. Remove tired summer annuals and prepare your planting beds for cool weather plants. Add compost to amend the soil before planting and top dress beds with new mulch for a fresh look.

Prune shrubs now so that new foliage has time to mature. Make sure that this chore is accomplished prior to November so that cold weather doesn't kill young leaves. Check your shrubs for aphids and scale and apply insecticidal soap if needed. If your Crape Myrtles are showing symptoms of fungus you will need to spray with fungicide.

Fertilize lawns for the last time in October, if you use a "weed and feed product, October is also the time for that application.

October and November are typically drier months and now is the time to check irrigation systems. Make sure to calibrate so that all areas of your yard are being irrigated evenly. Set your system for the right day(s) of the week and check the county website for your scheduled days for watering during our water restrictions.

Hit your favorite thrift stores for sheets to use as cold weather protection for tender shrubs and perennials. Make sure to cover plants correctly when cold weather hits.

Plants need to be covered all the way to the ground to trap residual heat from surrounding soil. Throwing a sheet or towel over the top of shrubs does little or nothing and may actually harm your shrubs by breaking thin branches. Damp towels and blankets are heavy and will often freeze to the tops of the shrubs you are trying to protect. Drive stakes into the ground around your plants and drape sheets over the makeshift "cage". The fabric won't touch foliage and freeze/stick to leaves. Plants covered correctly stand a better chance of surviving cold weather. Plastic isn't usually recommended unless you are willing to get out early and remove it before the sun heats up too much. Even during winter months the Florida sun can cause trapped heat to burn tender foliage.

A little work now will mean a few months of relaxation, with fewer chores in the spring, and time to sit and admire your neat and tidy planting beds.

Parking Enforcement Specialist Team

For those who want to assist Hillsborough in enforcing the county's parking policies, the Hillsborough Sheriff's Department is looking for Parking Enforcement Specialist Team volunteers. This is a uniformed Sheriff's Office support organization open to all Hillsborough County disabled citizens 19 years of age or older.



Parking Enforcement Specialists monitor all approved fire lanes and disabled parking spaces in unincorporated Hillsborough County. This volunteer organization has been in existence since 1985, and is one of the first of its kind in the State of Florida.

Training and Equipment

Parking Enforcement Specialist Team Members are issued special uniforms provided by the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. Team members are not armed and do not have the power of arrest. Members of the team must serve a minimum of four hours of patrol each week, and are reimbursed for mileage traveled while on duty. Members are also eligible for Worker Compensation benefits.

Membership Requirements

A Parking Enforcement Specialist is a person appointed by the Sheriff to enforce parking regulations. Requirements for participation in the program include:

- 19 years of age or older
- Resident of Hillsborough County
- Pass a background investigation
- Provide own transportation
- Be able to fill out a citation and place it on the windshield of a vehicle
- Be able to be clearly understood during verbal communication
- Complete a 40 hour training course approved by the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission.

Organization

A sworn deputy assigned as a liaison officer between the Sheriff and the team supervises the Parking Enforcement Specialist Team of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. The Parking Enforcement Specialist Team is assigned to the Community Outreach Division.

For information regarding the Parking Enforcement Specialist Team contact the Sheriff's Office at (813) 247-8115.

Riverglen of Brandon HOA
C/O Greenacre Properties
4131 Gunn Highway
Tampa, FL 33618

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
TAMPA FL
PERMIT NO.1924

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