

Neighborhood News

RIVERGLEN

Fall 2018

Riverglen and River Watch Owners Associations

Riverglen President's Update Ralph Brown, President

Hi neighbors!

If you are new to the Riverglen community, WELCOME!

First off, I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize my fellow members of the Riverglen Board for their willingness to serve as Directors. Wrede Kirkpatrick, Cathy James, Margaret Cabral, Larry Barroner, and Larry Sommers – THANKS. You have worked well together this past year, and have stepped up to make the tough (sometimes) decisions to best serve the association and the community.

I'd also like to recognize our committee chairs who have done great work for all of us. Debbie Helmick has been diligent in working with the new pond maintenance company to improve the appearance of our retention ponds. Larry Barroner is the point person for our landscape maintenance company, getting a refreshment of the plants at the community entrances, and coordinating a comprehensive service contract.

In addition to editing this newsletter, Rick Huber has taken on the task of coordinating the volunteers who open and close the community park. This is a crucial but underappreciated task that is easily taken for granted. And he definitely needs more volunteers. If you are willing to help out (even if just occasionally), please contact Rick.

Last, but not least, our ACC Chairman, Ali Houshmand has been a stalwart member of the association for many years. He and his committee are dedicated to maintaining the attractiveness of the neighborhood, and the value of our homes. It's a thankless job, to be sure, but Ali's even temperament and leadership has guided the committee through many difficult issues and situations. If we had an award for community MVP, he would get my vote every year.

What's on the horizon? We plan to continue the improvements to the community landscaping and the ponds. We are also working through a problem with many of the pine trees along Donneymoor drive – they been infected by a disease that will likely require removal of nearly all of them. And we voted to approve a revision to the Riverglen ACC Standards that will be effective in October, shortly after you receive this newsletter.

Finally, I offer a renewed plea for someone to step up and volunteer for the Board. The vacancy for a director from River Watch has gone unfilled for over a year. We need you!

River Watch President's Update Margaret Cabral, President

It's hard to believe that summer is over and our children have returned to school. Halloween decorations are popping up in stores and before we know it Jen Defresse and her husband Rob will be decorating the entrance for the holidays! Thanks to both of you.

Welcome to all of our new River Watch residents. You have made a wise decision in purchasing a home in River Watch. Our welcoming committee chairperson, Kara Rutherford has probably already delivered a welcome packet to you. If not please feel free to request a welcome packet via our web site www.riverwatchhoa.com. That packet will provide some information not only about River Watch HOA but also the surrounding areas.

The River Watch HOA Board of Directors is as follows: Margaret Cabral -President, Susan Flynn – Vice President, Judy Serra – Secretary, James Pulkowski – Treasurer and our newest addition to the BOD is Becky Clemments who is the at large Board Member. Becky moved into River Watch a little more than a year ago and volunteered for the open position when there was a recent vacancy. We are delighted to have her as she shares our enthusiasm in residing in River Watch.

Our Architectural Control Committee(ACC) has a new chairperson, Dawn Callao. The ACC meets on the third Wednesday of the month just prior to the BOD meeting. The meeting notice is posted prior to the meeting at the exit to River Watch. We are always seeking new volunteers for this very vital committee. Please contact Dawn via our website (www.riverwatchhoa.com) if you're interested. It's important to remember that we live in a deed restricted community. If you intend to do any alterations to your home (i.e. lawns, fencing, painting, roofing, windows, etc) you must first file a request. The request forms can be found on our website and must be filed no later than the Friday before the ACC meeting. If a homeowner makes an alteration without ACC permission it could prove costly for the homeowner. All documents for the HOA including ACC requirements and meeting minutes are on our website.

Our semi- annual yard sale will be Saturday October 6 from 8 am until 2pm. Our new chairperson for the yard sale is Deb Ganbin. Thanks, Deb.

One of the issues that I hear about frequently is speeding. Please remember that the posted speed limit is 25mph. The River Watch BOD wants to be proactive in preventing a tragedy rather than reacting to the aftermath of an unfortunate accident. So please be mindful of your speed. Be aware that we have several residents who travel throughout our community in wheelchairs. When sidewalks and driveways are blocked our handicapped residents need to take to the streets which is definitely not safe for them.

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Treasurer

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Directors

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VACANT Unit 5
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Committee Chairpersons**ACC**

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Newsletter

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Ponds

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Website

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Richard Huber
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Welcome VACANT

welcome@riverglenhoa.com

Reporting County Problems

http://
www.hillsboroughcounty.org/
en/i-want-to/report

River Watch President's update continued...

In an effort to be kind to our handicapped residents please do not block sidewalks Common Area in River Watch is at the entrance to River Watch only. All properties bordering ponds are private property. Fishing is not permitted in the ponds.

It would not be a newsletter unless I pleaded with all residents to volunteer for River Watch. We are in need of volunteers and many of the posts require only a minimum amount of time commitment. What better way to get acquainted with your neighbors in River Watch than to join a committee?

Our newest Director, Becky Clemments is spearheading a campaign to secure all of your e mail addresses. Those e mail addresses would be used to warn or announce to all River Watch residents, important information that needs to be received quickly. Remember when the annual meeting this year was cancelled the night before the meeting when the Brandon Library was overrun with bedbugs????

Thank you for your interest in River Watch

**Pothole and sidewalk
issues**

Larry Barroner, Riverglen

As of this writing it appears that all of the pot holes that have been reoccurring have been fixed. But give it 24 hours and that will change.



As the trees mature along the sidewalk they are and will cause tripping hazards.

If this is occurring in front of your home or along the streets within the community you can take action and request the county to repair the damage.

Go to..... <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/i-want-to/report> where you can submit an online work order with the Public Works Department to identify the pot hole or sidewalk issue.

2,3,4-wheel safety in Riverglen

There are an increasing number of vehicles of all kind in Riverglen and River Watch, and with that comes a corresponding increase in close encounters between cars, trucks, vans, bicycles, scooters, and golf carts. When I decided to quit running in 2015, I took up cycling as a substitute. Having logged well over 20,000 cycling miles in the past 3 1/2 years, I've become acutely aware of the numerous safety hazards which cyclists, skateboarders, rip stickers, scooter riders, rollerblades, and even pedestrians encounter each day on the roads north of Boyette and east of McMullen. Some drivers in our community seem oblivious to speed limits and stop signs. Others seem to think that motorized vehicles have an absolute right of way over non-motorized vehicles. Many of us back out of our driveways without checking the sidewalk, easements, or street for approaching vehicles or pedestrians. Cul de sacs are a special hazard, as children often assume it's safe to play on the dead-end street. It's natural to want to get our homes quickly after a long work day, but close to home is exactly where we should be the most cautious, as this is where we are generally the most relaxed and least observant.

Let's all try to be more aware of those not traveling in a 3000-pound motorized projectile.

**Riverglen
BOD Meetings,
Events and ACC
Monthly Meeting Dates:**

**Saturday In the Park
Bring the Family
November 3, 2018
12:00 – 2:00 PM
Riverglen Main Park**

Riverglen Park's Committee
needs your help with opening
and closing the park.
Contact Richard Huber

Riverglen meetings and events

**RGHOA Monthly Directors
meeting** held every 3rd
Thursday of each month.

RGHOA ACC meetings are
normally held every 2nd
Thursday of each month.

RGHOA ACC meeting held
every 2nd week of each month.
Meeting notification posted on
the bulletin board a week prior
to the meeting.

Meeting notification posted on
bulletin board 48 hours prior to
the meeting.

**Annual Meeting
November 7, 2018
7:00 PM
Bloomingdale Library**

Pine trees removal on Donneymoore Drive

By Larry Barroner

You may soon see some changes in the number of pine trees along Donneymoore Drive. Brightview Landscape Maintenance Arborist has determined that the pine trees are infested with Pine Borer. The infestation of the Southern Sculptured Pine Borer has killed many of the pines trees and will eventually move on to other "host" pines trees. Based on the condition of the trees, the worst infested or dead pine trees will be removed first and then others as deemed appropriate by our landscape team.

If you observe any issues with landscape or irrigation system maintenance, please contact the property manager. jgrass@greenacreproperties.com

We always welcome any suggestions you may have to enhance our community. If you have any suggestions, please let me know at landscape@riverglenhoa.com



We want a "Waste-Free" community!

It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you're liable to step in one such reminder!

Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter.



When walking your dog in our community, remember that it should be leashed. Also, it is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. Take along a baggie with you to pick up waste with and then dispose of it properly. Please do not leave your baggie along the sidewalk.

By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in our community. Thank you for your cooperation!

Ten ways to help our community

1. Attend meetings. Don't just show up if you have a problem or complaint.
2. Accept nomination to serve on the Board or appointment to any committee.
3. Describe the association in positive terms.
4. Be prepared when asked to contribute; plan details of an event, coordinate with other owners and affiliates.
5. Contribute whatever time you have available for the benefit of the community. Become a dependable, constructive member of the association.
6. When attending Board meetings, remember that the only time you should address the Board is during the Open Forum session. Don't interrupt during the Business meeting.
7. Keep an open mind and look for the benefits to the community whenever a new program is being initiated.
8. Don't criticize the Board, committee members or other volunteers.
9. Read your newsletter and correspondence from the management company in order to understand what is going on and why decisions are being made.
10. Introduce yourself to new owners. Let them know that our community is a great place to live and that you look forward to their involvement.

Fun fit games



Registration is now open for the 2018 Tampa Bay Active Life Games. The games will build upon the thrill of competition and camaraderie of previous years. The 38th annual Olympic-style competition gives adults 50-plus a chance to test their skill in activities ranging from bunco, dominoes, and bag toss to pickle ball, cycling, and traditional track and field events. Whether you're a natural athlete, weekend warrior, or seek more recreational pursuits, there's something for every skill level in the Active Life Games. If you're somewhat fit in mind, body, or both, embrace fun, and will be at least 50 years old by the end of 2018, you're qualified to enter the games. Some of the 25 events are qualifiers for the state level competition. A \$30 registration fee allows participants to compete in as many events as they choose, with the exception of golf, which has a \$55 registration fee and includes a cart.

Opening Day festivities and an awards luncheon are included with either registration. Think you're not quite ready to go up against your peers? Need to perfect your golf swing, polish up your bowling technique, or brush up on your bunco game? There's plenty of practice time left. All People's Life Center is offering FREE training on Tuesdays from 9 am - Noon starting August 21st. During these sessions, potential athletes can train for the one mile walk, field events, bag toss, and pickleball. To sign up for these sessions, call (813) 744-5978.

Registration for Tampa Bay Active Life Games will continue through Wednesday, Sept. 19. Visit HCFLGov.net/ActiveLife for the complete schedule of events and registration information. The games begin on Friday, Oct. 5, and conclude on Oct. 19. Tampa Bay Active Life Games are hosted by Hillsborough County, City of Tampa, City of Temple Terrace, and Friends of the County Parks.

Riverglen ACC (Units 1-4) Update

Dear Homeowners,

The ACC has reviewed and updated the Riverglen 2007 ACC Standards. These updates have been approved by the Board of Directors and the full list is now available to read on our community website. As always, thank you for your assistance with maintaining our community. Below is a partial list of the changes.

Exterior Lighting

All exterior lighting shall be limited to the minimum necessary for safety, identification and decoration. Lighting associated with a building shall be consistent in style and theme with that of the associated building. Lights may be solar powered, battery powered or electrically powered. Top of lights may not be higher than 24 inches above the ground. Landscape lighting is not permitted in easement. The lighting color must be white or clear (Exception: During the holiday season from November 1- January 31.). Landscape lighting can also be used in plant beds as accent lighting. Lights which no longer function or are in disrepair must be replaced or removed.

Flags/ Flagpoles

Flagpoles no taller than 20 feet high are permitted as long as the flagpole complies with all other requirements set forth in the FL Statutes chap 720. Flagpoles may be freestanding or mounted on the house, but must not be mounted upon the roofs, Trees, or Electric/Phone/Utility poles.

All flagpoles must be maintained in good condition. The ACC recommends that a homeowner submit an application prior to installation of a flag or flag pole if the homeowner is unsure of whether or not a planned installation complies with these Standards and the Florida Statutes.

Garden Flags

No more than two small garden flags attached to in-ground flag holders are permitted in the front yard/garden area visible from the view of the right of way (street) or common area. The following types of garden flags are not authorized: letters, words, logos or representation which are in the nature of an announcement, direction or advertising. No flag shall display any topic offensive in nature. If you're unsure if a flag can be displayed contact the ACC for their review and comment.

Fountains/ Yard Art / Exterior Decorative Objects

A maximum of five exterior decorative objects per home are allowed visible from the view of the right of way (street) or common area. This includes, but is not limited to, such items as garden statues, yard art, lawn ornaments, sculptures, gnomes, and plant pots. Objects exceeding 12 inches in height and 12 inches in either width or depth require ACC approval. Exception: cranes/herons may not exceed 36 inches in height. An application to the Architectural Control Committee is not required for 5 or less decorative objects. Decorative items must be in good repair. No decorative objects which are offensive in nature shall be allowed. All fountains require ACC approval.

Landscaping Decorations (Faux lawn/synthetic turf/artificial foliage)

Faux lawn and synthetic turf are not permitted. No artificial foliage may be attached to the exterior of a house or located within the garden, yard or easement without ACC approval.

Only street trees and mailboxes are permitted in the area bordered by the edge of the public sidewalk and the curb of the roadway, as well as in any platted easements. Homeowners may replace the sod and street trees with the same species should the need arise without ACC approval. However, other type of planting/landscaping designs or decoration in the easement is not permitted without ACC approval. (Exception: During the holiday season from November 1 through January 31.

Roof

Only shingles allowed for roofing.

Storage Unit (Sheds)

Vinyl/Plastic/PVC shed no longer permitted.

Draining your pool - considerations..

As we continue to receive the heavy rains of summer as well as start to repair our aging swimming pools, pool waters are being drained into our gutter systems which flow into our storm drains. Ultimately, these waters wind up in our storm drain retention ponds where our aquatic and wildlife can be impacted. According to our pond maintenance company, most chlorinated pools contain Bromine, copper compounds, and chlorine, which can be toxic to most aquatic life at certain concentrations which could result in a fish kill as well as impact to other aquatic life such as our frogs, tadpoles, dragonfly larvae etc. It depends on the size of the pool, the amount of water being drained and the size of the pond they are filtered into. Overtime, the chlorine introduced into the lake will naturally break down and dissipate from the water returning the pH back to its normal range.

There are several ways to safely discharge pool water which is not in violation of any county ordinances. According to the county ordinance enforcer, it is preferable to discharge your pool water directly to the sanitary sewer system (the 6-inch clean out access pipe located on your property) or onto a vegetated portion of your own property. If you elect to discharge directly into the sanitary sewer system, it is recommended you contact the wastewater department prior to draining into the sanitary sewer to ensure that there will not be any issues with the added flow/volume of water entering the system.

Pools may also be discharged towards the MS4 (ponds) as long as they have been left untreated for a sufficient amount of time to dechlorinate (recommended at least 10 days). If possible, use a pool/chlorine test kit to ensure that the chlorine has been reduced to undetectable limits. The pool water should be directed down the driveway and allowed to run over land in sunny conditions to further dechlorinate before entering the MS4 (ponds).

Saltwater pools have more strict requirements and should not be discharged to the MS4 (ponds). Discharging saltwater onto your own property would also be difficult as it would have to be completely contained within your property and it will likely have lasting effects on your vegetation/soil. The recommendation is to discharge a saltwater pool directly into the sanitary sewer (not the storm drain system) or hiring a company to treat and remove the water from your pool.

The county advised that if pool discharge is found to not meet the criteria of the county ordinance 14-4 then the property owner may be subject to prosecution by the Hillsborough County Code Enforcement Board. Any person found guilty by the Code Enforcement Board of violating ordinance 14-4 may be subject to administrative fines up to \$1000 per day for each new violation, and up to \$5,000 per day for repeat violations, for each day the violation exists.

Please consider these options when draining your pools so that our ponds stay healthy and your wallets are not impacted by harsh fines in the case of violations.

Just how important is it that you attend a board meeting?

If you've never attended a Board of Directors meeting then you are not taking advantage of your right to observe and participate in the decision-making process that protects, preserves and enhances your community's assets and, ultimately, your property values. If you really understood what kind of business is conducted at a Board meeting, and the important role that you, as a homeowner, play in making those decisions, then you just might change your mind and chose to attend a meeting.

Most of the business decisions made at a board meeting have a direct impact on the property values of our community. Decisions regarding association maintenance items are the most common. Some decisions have an indirect effect, such as decisions regarding rules and regulations and financial operations. But whether they effect property values directly or indirectly they all have some impact on our community and as a member of the community, they impact you.

Under Florida law, homeowners can attend all board meetings, and homeowners are permitted to address the Board for a limited time period. Homeowners who wish to address a specific issue may contact the Property Manager in advance to be placed on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. Also, homeowners are given an opportunity to address any issues during the open comment portion of the meeting. An important point to remember is that although important issues may be brought to the Boards attention, don't expect the Board to always act on these issues immediately. Many issues are turned over to management for research and to determine the options available for dealing with the issues. The more prepared the Board is before making a decision, the better the decision will be.

Isn't it time you recognized how important it is!



**River Watch HOA
Upcoming Events**

River Watch Annual Meeting
The specific date, time and location is still under discussion the Annual event is scheduled to be held in January 2019.

Community Yard Sale:
October 6, 2018
8 AM till -1 PM

River Watch Monthly Meeting:

Wednesday September 19
Beef O Brady's Bell Shoals

Wednesday October 17
Beef O Brady's Bell Shoals

Wednesday November 14
Beef O Brady's Bell Shoals

7:00 PM
Beef O Brady's
4335 Bell Shoals Road

**December no monthly
scheduled meetings**

Monthly BOD Meetings are the third Thursday of each month at 7:00P.M. Beef O Brady's Bell Shoals

All ACC and BOD Meetings are posted at the community entrance.

The 2019 Schedule will be posted on the www.riverwatchhoa.com

You're Source of Information and Community News:
www.riverwatchhoa.com

Beetles bust budget

Over the past several years, insects have killed many of the pine trees in the common areas of Riverglen. In the past, the board of directors has contracted to take one or two trees out every few months and the expense of removing the trees has been manageable.

The infestation has accelerated and you may have noticed the red ribbons around several pine trees. Roughly 25 had become a safety hazard and needed to be removed this summer. Several more will need to be removed soon. One quote obtained for removal of the 60+ trees is approximately \$20,000 to remove and grind the stumps. This extraordinary expense has caused me, as Treasurer of the Board to recommend a one year increase of the quarterly homeowner assessment from \$80 a quarter to \$85 a quarter. This increase next year of \$20 per home will provide an additional \$12,580 to be used to defray the cost of clearing the dead pine trees.

A budget workshop will be an agenda item at the September 20, 2018 board of directors meeting to be held at the Boyette Springs Church of God at 12114 Boyette Road beginning at 7pm. All board meetings are open to Riverglen homeowners.

Cathy James
Unit 2 Representative and Board Treasurer

Estoppel fees

Recently several homeowners have questioned an estoppel fee that appears on closing documents. Please be aware that when selling a home, the seller will be charged an estoppel fee by the management company. This is a fee that is allowed under Florida State Statute (Chapter 720 Section 30851) and in July of 2017, the Florida Legislature raised the maximum amount that a management company may charge for this fee to \$250.00. The estoppel fee is to cover the cost of the management company's expenses in reporting any liens, outstanding debts or violations incurred by the homeowner on the property that is for sale to mortgage companies. It needs to be made clear that the HOA (both Riverglen and River Watch) receive nothing from this fee. In the case of a River Watch resident the estoppel fees will be charged for both associations.

River Watch Management

Greenacre Properties

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River Watch Board of Directors

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Vice President

Susan Flynn
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Secretary

Judy Serra
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Treasurer

James Pulkowski
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Director as large

Becky Clemments
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**River Watch Committee
Chairpersons**

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Reporting County Problems

<http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/en/i-want-to/report>



River Watch Quick Facts

When the time comes to repaint, there is a paint palette document accessible on the River Watch webpage that provides pre-approved options.

<http://www.riverwatchhoa.com>



The Riverglen Board of Directors needs your help

If you have read previous editions of the annual newsletter, you know that a recurring issue is the lack of volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors and the various committees.

One glaring example: there has been a vacancy on the Riverglen Board of Directors for OVER A YEAR. Ideally the board would have a representative from each of the seven units. River Watch encompasses Units 5, 6, and 7, so 3 of the 7 directors should be River Watch homeowners. Currently there are only 2. It's somewhat disheartening to think that out of nearly 260 homes in River Watch, only 2 people are willing to step up to serve the Riverglen community.



Perhaps you are interested, but hesitant to volunteer because you don't think you have the time, or you don't know what is involved. Here are a few things you should know:

The time requirement is fairly minimal – the board meets monthly, and meetings generally last about 2 - 2 1/2 hours. You would be expected to prepare for the board meeting by reading the agenda, minutes, committee reports, etc. that are sent out prior to the meeting. Unless you are involved with one of the committees or some special project, that's pretty much it.

There is an additional requirement for new directors to go through a certification process to become familiar with the applicable rules and regulations. This can be accomplished by attending a certification class or self study.

What do the Directors do? Basically, the Board of Directors conducts the business of running the Homeowner's association. We all pay dues to the HOA, and the board's responsibility is to ensure that the money is spent wisely to maintain the community amenities, preserve the appearance, and protect the property value of our homes. Obtaining estimates, approving expenditures, reviewing and approving contracts, etc., are all part of the board's responsibilities, with the assistance of the property management company.

Another important duty of the board is to equitably enforce the rules and regulations, as outlined in the governing documents. The enforcement of these rules must be strict and consistent because the rules are in place to protect the quality of life of the homeowners and to protect their property values. The board does not assume the duties of the sheriff, code enforcement, or animal control officers. The board is empowered by law to enforce only association rules, including the collection of assessments.

To get a better understanding of the business conducted by the board, take a look at the minutes of the meetings – the last 12 month's minutes are posted on the riverglenhoa.com website, under the "Board of Directors" tab. Better yet, come to a meeting and see for yourself. Homeowners are always invited to all board meetings. The dates, times and place are also listed on the website (and elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Hope to see you at an upcoming meeting. We need your help!

Rick's Riverglen Chili

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 lb. pork sausage
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 tbsp. garlic, minced
- 2 tbsp. chili powder
- ½ tbsp. cayenne pepper
- 1½ tbsp. ground cumin
- 1 (28 oz.) can diced tomatoes
- 1 (15 oz.) can tomato sauce
- 4 c. water
- 1 lb. kidney beans
- 1 bell pepper, chopped
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and diced

Instructions:

In a large sauté pan, brown the beef and sausage with onions.

Once browned, drain and put in crockpot.

Add spices, tomatoes, tomato sauce, water, beans, and peppers to crockpot. Cook on high for 7½ hours, stirring every 2 hours.

Add corn during the last hour of cooking and salt and pepper, to taste.

Serve with your favorite garnish – sour cream, cilantro, or shredded cheese. For an extra kick, Laura recommends topping with a dollop of French onion dip.



Merry Christmas

IKare Publishing is provided all articles in this newsletter by the BOD or residents. IKare Publishing is not responsible for content.

Advertising in the Newsletter

If you are interested in placing an ad in the next edition of this newsletter, or know of someone who may be interested, submit contact information (Business name, phone and e-mail) to the publisher at IKarePublishing@gmail.com, or call Kim at 813-991-7843 and let her know that you wish to advertise.

Ads are limited to 1/8 page (business card size), and are priced at \$60.

Advertisements will be accepted from any reputable business; however, we especially encourage local businesses, and those operated by Riverglen and River Watch residents, to submit ads.





**Carr Pediatric
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Natalie Carr Bustillo, DDS, MS
Board Certified Pediatric Dentist

11936 Boyette Rd. Phone: 813 672-DENT (3368)
Riverview, Fl 33569 Fax: 813 672-3398

www.Carrdental.com

GARDEN CALENDAR - What to do in OCTOBER

Bedding Plants: Even though temperatures are still warm, begin planting for the cooler months ahead. Dianthus, petunia, and pansy are good annuals for the fall garden.

Bulbs: Plant agapanthus, rain lily, and many varieties of lily now for blooms next spring or summer. Add organic matter to the planting bed for best results.

Herbs: A wide range of herbs can be planted from seeds or plants this month. Some to try are parsley, cilantro, chives, garlic, and sage.

Garden Vegetables: Plant crops now that will grow and produce throughout the winter months. This includes beet, Brussels sprout, carrot, and onion.

Lawn Weeds: The best time to control winter weeds in lawns is before they appear. Pre-emergent herbicides must be applied when nighttime temps are 55°F-60°F for 4-5 days to be effective.

Fertilize Ornamental Trees & Shrubs: This is the last month of the year to fertilize plants that aren't performing as desired. Controlled-release fertilizer provides nutrients over a longer period of time.

Fertilize St. Augustine Lawns: Choose a fertilizer (not a weed & feed) with little or no phosphorus unless a soil test indicates the need of it. A fertilizer with controlled-release nitrogen will give longer lasting results. This is the last fertilization for these lawn types for the year.

Strawberries: Prepare beds and set strawberry plants this month. Strawberries also make a colorful and tasty container planting. Either way provide daily watering until plants are established.

Winter Landscapes: Evergreen hollies and their bright berries add color to the landscape when other plants have died back for the winter. Water well when planting and mulch to minimize weeds.

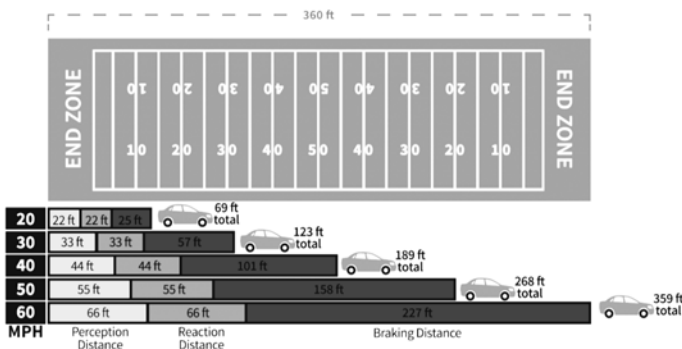
Twig Girdlers:

Small branches falling from oak and hickory trees may be the work of twig girdlers. To control, clean up and destroy fallen branches, which may harbor young twig girdlers.

What to Do Every Month

Adjust irrigation based on rainfall. Deadhead flowers to encourage new blooms. Monitor the garden for insects and disease. Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials and water until established. Mow lawns at recommended heights: St. Augustine : 3-4"

DRIVING ON OUR ROADWAYS



It takes roughly 60 feet to stop for every 10 MPH of speed. Please take a moment to consider how many feet you can predict the behavior of children, pets, and even adults. Also, how well can we see past cars parked in driveways and along the street?

Please take this into account and keep speed down. On behalf of the kids, dogs, and adults who call this their home, thank you.