

VILLAGE LIVING

The Official Newsletter of the Villages of Garrison Creek. Walla Walla Valley's Premier Private Planned Community

SPRING 2024

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The mission of this publication is to inform homeowners on matters of interest and provide transparency and a channel of communication. Part of that goal is to be accessible and you will see QR codes being added to the mailboxes. Most mobile phones can read these codes and will automatically link to the publication. If you find this useful or want to contribute to the content please reach out with your ideas.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

OUR BANK HAS INFORMED US THAT
DUE TO UPDATED SECURITY THEY
WILL NOW ONLY ACCEPT CHECKS
PAYABLE TO:

VILLAGES OF GARRISON CREEK



Thank You to all of our volunteers who support your community

Dead or Alive?

by John and Yvonne Jaso

As you look around your yard, you may have noticed plants with brown leaves or needles. Many plants took a hit this past winter due to the extended period of single-digit temps in February.

The signs of damage are most obvious on evergreens. Broad-leaved plants, such as laurels or rhododendrons, may show a considerable number of brown leaves. Narrow-leaved evergreens such as cedars and spruces may also exhibit damage, with leaves falling off easily as you touch the branches. The question is: will the plants recover?

Don't be too hasty to remove them. The first thing to check is the cambium layer, the living tissue that is just under the bark. With your fingernail, scrape back a thin layer of the outer bark.

If you see bright green tissue, the vessels that maintain the plants were not damaged, and the plant will most likely push new growth in early spring. Any other color may indicate some damage. If the branches are not flexible and easily snap, that part of the plant is probably dead. Trimming back to healthy tissue may save your plant. For more information, do an internet search on "winter burn".



Architectural Control ARC

Springtime reminders from ARC The unique aesthetics of our community which attracted residents to move here requires continued commitment on everyone's part. The ARC Committee assists the Villages in achieving this vision. Springtime brings plans for gardens and home improvements. If your plans include front yard replanting or house painting, be sure to contact ARC for approval, or project information. Parking Reminder - Overnight parking on the street is not permitted due to the following. The City of College Place relies on the Washington Model Traffic Ordinance, along with the City Fire Marshall who has cited the International Fire Code (IFC), which only allows overnight parking on one side of the street on those streets that are 28 feet and wider. The code is to provide emergency access for all required vehicles. The Board and ARC are committed to maintaining this code which enables emergency vehicles to have timely access to residents. The design of our streets is under the 28 foot requirement. Tuesdays are garbage pickup days. Garbage containers are required to be retrieved and concealed by the end of Tuesday. The most current version of the Land Use Standards is found when visiting the Villages website:-

villagesofgarrisoncreek.com

Look for the ARC tab at the top of the page. You can contact ARC with questions you may have at-

arc@villagesofgarrisoncreek.com

2024 Events Calendar

Sunday, May 5, 3:00

Gazebo ~ Mr and Mrs Smarty Plants Have the Scoop on Potty Plants John and Yvonne discuss "crappy" plants: labor intensive, poor performing plants you should not have in your yard. Also better choices, best use gardening practices including pruning & proper watering. Raffle of a beautiful potted plant created by Yvonne on site.

Sunday, June 9, 2:00

West Trail Field ~ 2nd Annual Blackberry Mini-Target Golf Opening Day. Dick Cook and his team guide us as we tee off and aim for the target flags. There will be putting practice and other golfing tips. Kids, non-golfers and "pros" are welcome. Refreshments, token prizes

Sunday, July 28, 12:00-2:00

Gazebo ~ Kids and Grandkids Fun Day in the Villages. Games, Crafts, Snacks and Treats for all the Village children and grandchildren. A fun day for everyone. Lots of helpers on hand to keep things moving. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, August 3, 5:00

Garrison Village Way ~ National Night Out - Village Wide Potluck Dinner. All villages invited. Bring a dish to share. Meet your friends and neighbors. Enjoy the camaraderie of our very special community as we meet together in a closed off area of Garrison Village Way. We'll be protected under the shade of our beautiful trees for this "al fresco" meal on a summer eve.

Sunday, September 8, 3:00

Gazebo ~ El Color de Mexico. Experience the culture of Mexico as our own Hugo and his folklore dance group entertain us again this year with their choreographed dance performance. Enjoy a delicious Mexican buffet as you appreciate the lively music, beautiful costumes and colors of this fabulous show.

Sunday, October 13, 2:00-3:00

Village Trails ~ Dress Up Pet Parade. Take your pets for a walk round the villages, showing off their style and cuteness (costumes encouraged), ending at the gazebo for a well deserved treat for all the pets and their walkers.

Wednesday, December 11, 6:00

Gazebo ~ Christmas in the Villages. Experience the magic of the Christmas Season with friends and neighbors as we gaze upon the glowing luminaries surrounding the gazebo, light our very own VGC Christmas tree, and sing our favorite carols. Hot drinks and holiday cookies for all. And you can even spread the joy of Christmas by selecting a name from the "giving tree" and providing a gift for a deserving child

Common Area Maintenance

By Ray Goff

January 2024

Snow removal on the highest-priority VGC streets by the outside contractor.

Tree Amigos Landscaping to remove snow & ice from the south sidewalk on Garrison Village Way

Volunteers removed three willow trees felled by wind into the Village 7 large pocket park.

March 2024

Volunteers will remove a willow tree felled by wind in Village 7, and two dead cottonwood trees, one threatening to fall into the large Village 7 pocket park and a second one threatening to fall across the walking trail south of Garrison Creek between Bridges 2 and 3.

Second stage of village 9 drainage area overhaul will be completed in March April.

Water Matters-Leak Repair

Approximately 150GPH (21%) of the estimated 720GPH potable water leak has been found in village 5 and repaired. We have developed a much more precise method to identify leak locations. There is still at least one additional 500GPH leak in Covey Court. This represents 20-25% of our total water usage, therefore we will continue to monitor and repair the system for leaks throughout the next few months until we get below an acceptable level of 10%-15% based on common utility standards.

Irrigation Planned Start Date

Irrigation systems will start to be switched on around the 14th March. This will take several days. Approximately 70% of the common area control system is now remote controlled and we will be adjusting that system during the first couple of months after startup. The goal this year is to cut down over watering and reduce the labor to manage the system.

Safety and Security

Joyce Beecroft / Denise Bartlow

Safety Inspections

The first of twice-yearly inspections in the Villages. We concentrate on possible trip or fall hazards, pavement holes, tree limb hazards, line of sight impairments, and overgrown shrubbery. We also notify homeowners who may have shrubbery covering windows that reduces security. This year we will add on the task of logging "park on other side of street" signage, which have gone missing in some locations. These important signs provide access for emergency vehicles. Because our streets are narrower than city streets, parking on one side only is required.

As springtime arrives our residents will be getting outside. Many will be walking, running, some riding bikes, and children on short riding bikes. Many of our residents use walking devices. The posted speed within the Villages is 15 MPH, this is due to narrow streets, and the lack of sidewalks. Please follow the one-way signage directing traffic and stop at posted intersections. Doing this will ensure the safety of all residents and show our neighbors we do care.

Public CPR Training Initiative by College Place FD

There are some significant public initiatives in progress in Walla Walla County that relate to cardio pulmonary resuscitation. Did you know that for every 60 seconds delay in CPR being started the probability of a successful outcome drops by 10%. No matter how fast our first responders react it will take several minutes for EMTs and Paramedics and during that time the more bystanders that are trained to initiate high quality CPR the more likely resuscitation and long term prognosis will be successful. College Place fire department will be participating in a public training initiative. Our community has asked to be one of the first to participate in this public service initiative and therefore it would be useful to have some idea of how many of our homeowners would be interested in a hands only CPR class, taught by professional American Heart Association Instructors. Contact us to register your interest.

Contact us at: safetysecurity@villagesofgarrisoncreek.com

Presidents Message

Happy Spring (almost)!

As members of our HOA board one of our foremost responsibilities is to communicate clearly and consistently with the members of our community. Communication helps foster trust, promotes transparency and ensures that everyone in our HOA is clear about rules and expectations. Just as importantly it can create a true sense of community among homeowners.

Our HOA board members have been considering ways for us to better connect with our membership in order to ensure that you have timely information regarding important topics, issues, and happenings in our community. Last year, as your president, I sent out monthly messages to the membership. This year I will be sending messages to you as part of our newly reinvented newsletter.

Many of us utilize email and social media to disseminate news. Others may prefer alternative methods. Thus, this newsletter will be distributed both electronically and by ink and paper. The ink and paper newsletter may seem a little bit old fashioned, but that is actually what makes it so effective. Many homeowners may have sentimental affection for this tried and true method of communication. We have a lot of older homeowners who might like reviewing paper newsletters as opposed to staring at a screen. However, you choose to view this information we hope it is helpful to you and we would very much appreciate feedback.

Linda Olson, VGC MPMA President



Contact : newsletter@villagesofgarrisoncreek.com