

The Good Life...

IN THIS ISSUE

New Employee
Landscape & Work Schedule
Seasonal Reminders
Gas & LP Grills
Computer Disposal
Social Event Schedule
Civility & Gun Policy Considered

---Published by Tamarack Trails Community Services Association---
(608) 833-1615 – www.ttcsa.org

March – April 2011

New Landscape Supervisor

Tamarack staff will be performing the edging and mulching of all existing beds, the installation and watering of flower beds, and the trimming of all shrubs and small trees in 2011. In order to coordinate this effort, we have hired a new landscape supervisor.



Please welcome Eddie Post to the Tamarack staff. He will be supervising and coordinating all of the above mentioned responsibilities. Eddie comes to us with a background of fifteen years experience with the Bruce Company of which six of those years were spent as the onsite supervisor at Tamarack.

Landscaping Info and Work Schedule

Spring Clean Up & Snow Plow Damage – The Brickman Group will be responsible for spring clean up which is scheduled to begin the first week of April and will take approximately three weeks to complete. Repairing of the plow damage to lawns from this past winter's plowing will commence the third week in April. Please take care when navigating corners or parking to avoid overrunning newly seeded areas.

Edging and Mulching of Phases I, II, and III -- The beds will be edged and mulched by hand. This year's mulching is scheduled for late April.

If there is an area that you do not want mulched please submit a detailed written request to the Tamarack office. White flags are available at the office to allow residents to mark flowerbeds or areas that should be skipped. If you do not want any

mulching done around the house, just specify "No mulch" on the written maintenance request. The

addresses of the homes that are currently on the "No Mulch" list are posted on the bulletin board at the Clubhouse.

If you have any questions, would like to be removed from the *No Mulch List*, or need to obtain white flags contact Jean at 833-1615.

What if I'm not scheduled to be mulched this year? If you reside in the unscheduled area, mulch is available for your use in the bin located to the west of the tennis courts. If you would like a load of mulch, it can be delivered to your drive or patio through a written request. You are responsible for spreading the mulch within a week of its delivery.

Flower Beds – Flowers, small shrubs, or other ornamental plants may be planted within 4 feet of a foundation wall, sidewalk, patio or decorative fence without requiring approval. If you plan to increase the size of a planting bed beyond this 4-foot area please submit a request in writing to the Tamarack office. As a clarification, the Association does not maintain, clean out or mulch perennial and annual flowerbed areas. Once a resident has established a flowerbed area, the maintenance becomes the residents' responsibility.

IMPORTANT!! -- Please Keep Garden Fences Back From the Turf.

For those residents who put up fencing, please place it at least 4" back from the turf. This applies to small fences near the homes as well as to the larger fences in the garden plots at the corner of Tree Lane and Westfield Road. This will help prevent the fence from becoming damaged by the string trimmers or mowers.



Holiday Decorations

Please remember to remove your holiday decorations as soon as the weather permits.

Large Item Reminder

The city will collect large items from the terrace every other Wednesday. For exact dates, please go to the City of Madison website located at: www.cityofmadison.com/streets/documents/wedA.pdf

Disposal of Old Computers and Equipment



Goodwill has partnered with Dell to make FREE computer recycling available to area residents. It is called the Reconnect Program. You can donate your computers, speakers, and printers at any of the attended donation centers; and, your donation is tax deductible. For questions, please call the Middleton Goodwill at 836-3120.

Tamarack Resident Activities Committee (RAC) News & Upcoming Event Dates

RAC Events – Following are the upcoming events. **Please mark your calendars.**

Spring Potluck (in the Clubhouse)
Sunday, May 1 (5:00 to 7:00 PM)

Summer Pool Party in the Pool Area
Sunday, July 24 (4:30 to 7:00 PM)

We look forward to seeing you there.

Seasonal Procedures and Reminders

Check Your Downspout Take Away Pipe - The take away pipe is the piece of gutter at the bottom of each downspout. It is designed to direct the water away from the house and foundation. If you see a crushed take away pipe (sometimes flattened by lawn mowers or plows) or a pipe that has fallen off, please fill out a maintenance request so this matter can be attended to. Spring showers are here and this small repair can mean the difference between a wet or dry lower level.

Digging by Your Post Lights - When planting shrubs or flowers near the white fence at the front of your unit, beware of the wire that runs from the garage to the post light. If you intend to do any planting in this area, dig cautiously to avoid damaging or severing the wire that operates the post light.


Yard Waste - Small amounts of yard waste can be placed loosely in the bin labeled “Yard Waste” located to the west of the tennis courts. Yard waste includes leaves, straw, weeds, flower stalks and grass clippings. **Please do not mix any plastic containers, dirt or other refuse with the yard waste, as it requires additional sorting time.** Remove the yard waste from its bag or container when it is dropped in the “Yard Waste” bin and properly dispose of the bag/container in the trash.

Any large accumulation of leaves and dead grass should be raked into piles and will be collected by The Brickman Group. Please fill out a maintenance request to facilitate collection.

Yard Waste Collection - Tamarack Staff will pick up yard waste each Monday morning from April 4 thru the end of October. Preferably the yard waste should be placed in a Rubbermaid tote or small trash can near the end of your driveway. Please do not mix dirt or planters with yard waste to be picked up. Large sticks should be placed adjacent to the container.

Exterior Modifications Require Architectural Review Board Approval

- As a reminder to all residents, any exterior building modifications or improvements require the approval of the Architectural Review Board. This includes but is not limited to the installation of a TV satellite dish. Policy Resolution IV-401 provides guidelines for getting your project approved. Copies of the Policy Resolutions are available on the Clubhouse bulletin board and on the website.

Please Clean Up After Your Pet – The following Madison General Ordinance pertains to the pet Owner’s (your) responsibility for cleaning up after your dog. 

- You must **ALWAYS** carry equipment sufficient to clean up your dog’s feces.
- You must not allow your dog to defecate on any property, public or private unless you immediately remove, and properly dispose of the waste.
- You must not allow dog feces to accumulate on your property.
- You must keep your dog leashed when off your property.

Dog feces can pose health risks to people and pets. Failure to follow these rules may result in citations. Keep our Association clean and safe. Please pick up after your dog while out on your walk. If you see someone in violation of the ordinance kindly remind them of the city requirements.

Charcoal and LP Gas Grills



Spring brings thoughts of outdoor grilling. Keep in mind that, per the City of Madison Fire Department, some restrictions do apply. Please adhere to the following:

(Charcoal & LP-Gas Grills and other Open-Flame Cooking Devices: Shall comply with MGO 34.308. Be sure to read the owner's manual!)



- **Charcoal burners and other open-flame cooking devices** shall **not** be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction. (Exceptions: one- and two- family dwellings and/or where buildings and decks are protected by an automatic sprinkler system). Make sure the coals are completely cooled down with water before disposing of them. Make sure all ashes are contained in a noncombustible container.
- **LP-gas burners** having an LP-gas container with a water capacity greater than 2.5 pounds [nominal 1 pound LP-gas capacity] shall not be stored or operated on balconies **unless they are served by exterior stairways**. (Exception: one- and two-family dwellings).

Post Lights

If you change the bulb and the post light still does not come on at night fill out a maintenance request and the Association will check the photocell and light socket. If you would like, the Association will replace the bulb with a long life fluorescent bulb for \$10.



Update on Manager's Recovery

The surgery went well and Lou is on the road to recovery. He has not yet been cleared to return to work. Following Lou's second follow-up appointment on April 8th, the doctors will be able to determine a more accurate return date.

Most of the motor skills were not affected and the doctors are very pleased with his rate of progress thus far. There has been some impaired vision due to the swelling; however, the doctors are hopeful that the vision will improve as the swelling decreases.

Lou is very thankful for all of the cards, prayers, and good wishes he's received. They have pro-

vided him with so much encouragement during this challenging time.

Civility and Gun Policy to be Considered by the BOD

The Maintenance and Security Committee has developed a civility policy and forwarded it to the BOD for their review and approval as a Tamarack Policy Resolution. A draft copy of this resolution is attached to this newsletter. The BOD is seeking input from Homeowners and will hold a public hearing for the review of this policy at their May 3rd meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the clubhouse.

Also to be considered is a policy which would disallow the carrying of handguns on any of the common areas. Proposed wording for this policy follows:

"Except for police officers on duty carrying out activity in Tamarack, firearms are not permitted in the Clubhouse, the development's commons, community gardens, and recreational areas, and on the foot-paths."

ARB Reminder Regarding Satellite Dishes

If you are planning on installing a satellite dish, you are required to have the location approved by the ARB. This requirement is spelled out in the Book of Standards on page 3, Policy Resolution IV 400, section 1.B.

If you have any questions contact the Tamarack Office at 833-1615.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Calendar

Mon. Mar 28 ARB Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
Tue. Apr 5 BOD Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
Tue. Apr 19 Maint. Comm. Mtg. 4:00 p.m.
Mon. Apr 25 ARB Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
Tue. May 3 BOD Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
Tue. May 17 Maint. Comm. Mtg. 4:00 p.m.

Tamarack Trails - Proposed Policy on Civility

Purpose of This Policy:

As a residential community Tamarack Trails recognizes the need for civility among its residents and *staff*. Neighborliness, respect for others, and courtesy provide the basis for cohesive, pleasant living.

Although the size of the community and its complexity mean that tensions, differing viewpoints, and conflicts may occasionally occur, restraint must temper resident behavior. Residents are also encouraged to view their neighbors' personal activities and beliefs within the broad perspective of rich diversity in the Madison area as a whole.

Guidelines:

1. Residents and *staff* are expected to maintain respect toward others in their daily interaction within the community including its recreational areas. This respect shall be accorded to guests and visitors, and shall be expected in turn, from them.
2. During meetings of the organization officers, committee members, and resident participants shall speak and listen with a reasoning demeanor so that discussion may be carried on in an efficient, productive manner.
3. Owners who deal directly with *staff* in the *office* will treat the employees there as professionals, and adhere to the procedures in the Association's guidelines for accomplishing work they want done. In their correspondence with *staff*, and in emails and phone conversations, they will likewise refrain from creating personal antagonism that would hinder tasks from being completed or problems being resolved.
4. Residents dealing with *staff* working at their homes or in adjacent areas shall be courteous toward those individuals, being helpful and constructive in their suggestions while allowing the *staff* personal space and time to perform the technical tasks they are assigned to do.

Non-compliance:

The Tamarack Trails' administrator, its committee chairpersons, its *staff*, and Board of Directors may invoke the following remedies when residents do not comply with the preceding guidelines:

Tamarack Trails' Administrator - The administrator may refuse to have further interaction with disruptive individuals, and ask them to leave the office. He (she) may return offensive correspondence, unanswered, to a resident whose letters or memos create an atmosphere of provocation or personal animosity. He (she) may direct staff to cease performing work tasks at a site where a resident's verbal or physical behavior creates an atmosphere inimical to, or hostile to, productive completion of work there.

Committee Chairpersons - After an initial warning committee chairs may ask committee members or meeting participants to leave a meeting. If the atmosphere of the meeting as a whole seems threatening to the safety or well-being of those attending, the chairperson shall have the right to cancel the meeting immediately, again after an initial warning.

On-site Staff - Workers who find themselves in situations where their productivity would be impeded by hostile resident interference or egregious intolerance of their work are directed to leave the work site immediately.

Board of Directors - The Board may act appropriately to curtail noncompliance with the above policy, within the powers granted it under the Association declarations.