



Shadow Woods Newsletter

www.shadowwoods.com

Spring 2012

Subdivision Board

Officers:

President:

Terry Lanker
375-0509

Secretary:

Patricia Mitchell
375-5469

Treasurer:

Linda Brown
375-0596

Committees:

Newsletter:

Open Position

Social:

Annella Baker
420-8081

Capital Improvements:

Al Wolfe
375-1706

Safety & Security:

James Thomas
321-0007

Maintenance:

David Reese
375-1609

Communication:

Beth Tilove
375-1309

Neighborhood Deed:

Bruce Brown
375-0596

New Shadow Woods Event in the Works!

Greet the arrival of summer with the first

Shadow Woods Summer Kick-off BBQ

scheduled for Saturday, **June 9th**. The plans are being laid right now for a sub-wide BBQ and potluck, chock-full of food, games & fun! What a great way for your family to enjoy the return of warm weather, socialize with your neighborhood friends, and make new friends as well.

A planning committee is already hard at work, but there will be lots of ways to contribute. If you'd like to help out in any way, please contact Annella Baker, our Social Committee chair. Give her a call (see left column) or write to: annella.baker@nobelautomotive.com



So jump in! Remember, it's your involvement that makes Shadow Woods more than just a subdivision—it makes it a community.

Have You Paid Your Dues?

Thank you to the 84% of homeowners who have paid their 2012 Annual Dues of \$165.00! Remember that these dues are our sole source of income to pay for capital improvements, grounds maintenance, electrical utilities, social events, etc. You can see how our funds are allocated by visiting the sub website, www.shadowwoods.com. Click on "About Shadowwoods" and then "Annual Report".

We have 419 homes in Shadow Woods, and the remaining 16% of the dues that are owed represent approximately \$11,000 in much-needed income. Questions about specific dues payments may be directed to Patricia Mitchell at 375-5469 or email patricia@texascooking.com Thank you!!

Local Hazardous Waste Collection in June

Here's your chance to get rid of all those paint cans, bottles of herbicide, piles of batteries, old fluorescent bulbs...all the items accumulated over the year that are NOT supposed to go into our trash bins.

Oakland County's No Haz collection program will be at Oakland University on Saturday, **June 2, from 8am til 2pm**. There is a \$10 fee, so why not combine your items with a neighbor's? For a full list of accepted items, as well as an advance registration form, go to oakgov.com/waste/nohaz/nohaz.html

Mark your calendar:

June 9th—sub BBQ & potluck

July 10—Great Yards judging

Letter From the President

Dear Residents,

As we prepare to say hello to summer, we all look forward to outdoor activities and yard work. I look forward to cleaning up my yard and sprucing things up. I hope you will join me in making our neighborhood look "clean and green".

The Shadow Woods Capital Improvements committee has been working with the city on expanding the new roadside trees along Tienken. Maybe you have seen the brand new saplings recently planted along both Tienken and Brewster Roads. The goal is to give a "wooded lane" look to our part of the world. Because we are leveraging the city's contract, the installed cost to the Homeowner's Association (SWSA) is less than \$125 per tree. These trees are not only a good deal but will leave a great legacy for future residents.

Some residents walking the bike path along Brewster south of Tienken this winter might have noticed there is no longer ice on the bike path. Through the efforts of the Homeowner's Association Board the city was contacted about the unsafe condition and the city installed a culvert to send the water and ice below ground and keep the bike path safe and dry. We are currently in contact with the city to correct the resulting new drainage area in the commons just west of the bike path to properly disperse the water flow and prevent puddling. All work was done at no cost to SWSA.

Unfortunately due to the recent harsh economic conditions, some of the Shadow Woods homes show some signs of neglect. The city of Rochester Hills has a blight ordinance. We have asked the city to have their enforcement officers keep a sharp eye out for violations. The storage or accumulations of junk, trash, rubbish or refuse of any kind is prohibited. If any resident needs to report blight conditions, please call the city at 248-656-4615.

I want to welcome Annella Baker to the Subdivision Board. Annella is taking over Stacey Ferguson's seat on the Board as the chair of the newly re-named Social Committee. Maybe you met Annella at the very successful Easter Egg Hunt she and her committee put on.

Thanks for taking your time to read this. I respect my neighborhood, my home and my friends and I'm glad to take the time to make Shadow Woods a great place to live.

If any of you have additional comments, please indicate by giving feedback through the web site at <http://www.shadowwoods.com/contactus.html>

Sincerely,
Terry Lanker
SWSA President

Get Ready for the Great Yards Contest

Shadow Woods is a great sub, with many, many homeowners who take pride in their yards. You are out there mowing, weeding, and planting from early spring to late fall.

The Shadow Woods Board of Directors wants to reward your hard work, so, at the suggestion of a resident, we decided to hold a contest to find the five "greatest yards". We thought these awards will be much more meaningful—and be seen as less subjective—if they come from a non-Shadow woods resident who is a professional in this field. We immediately thought of Bordine's Nursery.

Much to our delight, Bordine's readily agreed to help us, and volunteered the services of one of their top administrators and horticulture experts, Fiona Brinks, to be our judge!

Fiona Brinks is the Retail Vice President at Bordine's and has been in the horticulture industry her entire life, with over 29 of those working at Bordine's. A few of her many responsibilities include overseeing the entire greenhouse department for Bordine's four locations, traveling across the country in search of the newest annuals and perennials to add to Bordine's selection, and purchasing unique garden and Christmas décor items.

Fiona has an impeccable eye for both design and display, which she uses to create many of the gorgeous plant combinations seen at Bordine's. When Fiona isn't busy at work she is at home tending to her amazing gardens and trialing next season's newest annual varieties in her breathtaking combination planters. Plants truly are her passion!

Here are the details of this very exciting contest:

Judging day is July 10, when Fiona thinks our lawns and flowers will be at their best. Here is what she will be looking for:

- A well-maintained lawn
- A good balance of deciduous trees and evergreens
- A landscape design that enhances the home structure
- The use of color, either annuals or perennials
- A great entryway (front door) design with containers

Shadow Woods will award **five \$50 Bordine's gift certificates** to the winners, and will feature their photos on the Shadow Woods website, www.shadowwoods.com.

So, this spring take a trip to your favorite nursery (we hope it's Bordine's) and start planting!

Before You Build...

Remember that before you invest in any yard or house remodeling or reconstruction, check your Deed Restrictions first! These rules are a legal addendum to your deed, and are incumbent on every Shadow Woods homeowner. Familiarizing yourself with them can definitely save you money and headaches later on! They can be found at the Shadow Woods website, www.shadowwoods.com. Click the "Deed Restrictions" button on the left side of the page.

Tick Tips for You and Your Family

Someone has reported finding ticks in our subdivision woods. Due to the mild winter and warm spring, it is possible that ticks and other insects may extend into new areas. Here is some information to help you identify and avoid ticks, and to protect yourself from disease.

Ticks are small, dark brown, hard shelled bugs that latch onto a host animal and ingest its blood. Not all ticks are disease-carrying, but some ticks can carry Lyme Disease or Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. They tend to reside in tall grasses, and under wood and leaf mold.

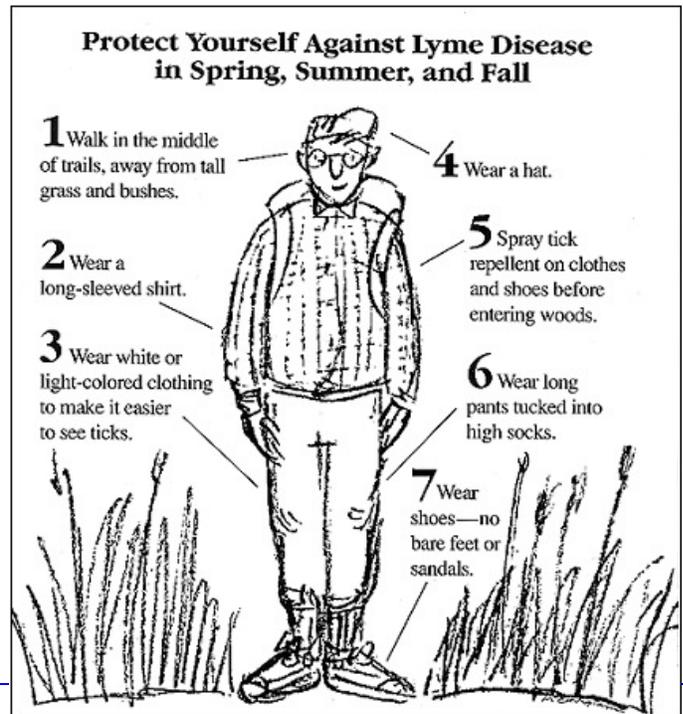
The two most important safeguards against tick-borne disease are

- (1) avoid exposure to ticks
 - (2) find and remove ticks from pets or people
- WITHIN 24 HOURS

When spending time in tick habitat, an insect repellent with 20%-30% DEET is recommended.

For more detailed information, the Michigan DNR maintains several informative articles. Go to michigan.gov/emergingdiseases and click on Lyme Disease.

Remember, ticks are a natural part of the environment, and while you should take care to avoid and remove them, they should not interfere with your enjoyment of the outdoors.



Door-to-Door Salesman Safety

Salespeople have the right to solicit business door-to-door in Rochester Hills, so long as they are properly licensed by the City and face basic rules of conduct. In a case where you feel uncomfortable with the behavior of a solicitor who comes to your door, the City of Rochester Hills offers this advice:

The salesperson's permit, or peddler's license, should be clearly visible and available for your inspection.

If a salesperson's behavior makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable in any way, call the Sheriff at **248-537-3530** and a car will be dispatched as soon as possible. The deputies will check the credentials of the solicitor and advise the City of the complaint. Numerous complaints about the same company can result in having their permit revoked.

Install a "No Solicitors" sign by your door. Salesmen are required to respect the sign.

Remember that you NEVER have to open your door to a stranger.

What's Happening In the our Area...

Local Events to Add to Your Calendar:

May 5 — Downtown Rochester Farmer's Market opens for the season
 May 19 — Downtown Ewe Revue begins
 May 26 & 27 — Rochester Heritage Festival
 June 2—Hazardous Waste Drop-off, 8—2pm, Oakland Univ.
 June 9 — Shadow Woods Summer Kick-off and BBQ
 June 22-24— Rochester Green Living Expo
 July 10— Judging for Shadow Woods Great Yard Contest
 July 12-14—Rochester Sidewalk Sales
 Sept. 7-9—Arts'n'Apples Arts Festival

Spread the Word!

There are a variety of ways to keep up-to-date with Shadow Woods news and communicate with others. Check out our website, www.shadowwoods.com on a regular basis. There you'll find updates as well as Board contact information, a copy of the deed restrictions, and more. "Like" us on **facebook** so that you'll be kept current on postings. The best thing about facebook is that it is the place for YOUR comments and questions. Since anyone can post, it's a great place to engage in some dialogue with your neighbors.

Finally, if you are reading this information-filled newsletter, you are one of the growing number of residents that have sent us your email address. So how about **TELLING YOUR NEIGHBORS!** Let them know the benefits of being "in the loop" here in Shadow Woods. So far we have reunited a lost dog, located a bunny costume, took RSVPs for the Easter Party and Garage Sale...there's no end to the usefulness of this method of communicating with our residents! Tell your neighbors to sign up for the sub email list today by clicking on the "contact us" link at our website.

This is the newest and most immediate way to stay informed in Shadow Woods. And whatever method you prefer, keep in touch!

Crime Watch—Stay Tuned

We are lucky to live in a low-crime area, but it never hurts to learn more common-sense ways to keep it that way.

Due to concerns expressed by some residents, the Safety & Security Committee is looking into the possibility of holding a sub meeting with a crime-prevention presentation by the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.

Recent budget cuts to the Sheriff's Dept. are causing some delays in planning this event, but we will continue to find ways to pass on information that will keep our residents well-informed and make sure Shadow Woods will always be a great place to live.

Like This Newsletter?

Would you like to be a part of improving communications among our residents? Think you might enjoy a little word processing with a bit of creative flair?

Since scrapping a hard-copy newsletter due to cost, the Sub Association relies on this electronic version to keep residents informed. And we are in need of an **Editor**.

The current goal is to produce two newsletters a year. You would need access to Microsoft Publisher or similar publishing software. If you are handy with writing and layout, and want to lend a helping hand to your neighborhood, this is your chance! Email the Board at shadowwoodsrh@gmail.com today!