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myriverwoods.org

Sport Court Removal Begins

Removal of the Sport Court has started, and will be completed as weather permits. Plans are to replace the Raging asphalt surface with grass, flowers, trees and, perhaps, benches.

The Sport Court has a long history. When River Woods was completed in 1974, it was a pair of tennis courts, which saw heavy use for a few years. But because of springs underground in that area, the asphalt surface started to buckle and make for erratic bounces. At about the same time, the city of Burnsville developed Red Oak park, less than a quarter mile away, and included six new tennis courts. Tennis playing at the decaying River Woods courts dropped off almost immediately.



So, the Board priced out the cost of a new asphalt surface and found it would cost almost \$10,000. Given the proximity of the Red Oak courts, this didn't seem like a sensible investment. So, as an alternative, the Board installed the Sport Court about 20 years ago, complete with basketball hoops.

For a while this proved popular. But then two years ago, the basketball courts were "taken over" almost daily by young men from outside River Woods, and River Woods residents found it difficult to get playing time. In addition, the outsiders played and partied noisily into the night, and at times threatened residents who asked them to keep the noise down. The Board then decided to take out the basketball hoops and replace the Sport Court with green space.

July Dates to Remember

The **Board Meeting** is on July 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the HOA office.

The **ACC** meets on July 28 at 5:30 in the HOA office. The deadline for ACC requests is July 5.

The HOA office will be closed July 3 and July 6. The Grounds Manager will be on vacation from July 6 - 10.

Absolutely No Glass at the Pool

Three years ago, a pool user dropped a glass bottle, and the hundreds of shattered pieces caused a shutdown of the pool for three days, with a cost of several thousand dollars to find and pick up all the shards, including completely draining and refilling the pool.



As a result, we vigorously enforce the “no-glass” rule at the pool. This means not only no glass bottles, but no glass or glass-like objects of any sort: no glass jars of salsa or pickles, no glass baking dish tops, no breakable crockery. Violators of the “no-glass” rule may expect to be suspended from pool use for up to 60 days.

A Good Annual Meeting

The 2026 annual meeting, held at the Heritage Library in Lakeville on June 16, re-elected three members of the Board for three-year terms: April Bowen, Claudia Merriman, and Don Picard. The audience heard presentations on insurance by Dan Kampf, representing our insurance broker, Kraus-Anderson. He indicated that insurance companies seemed to be backing off from dramatic premium increases of recent years and hoped this indicates our rates may go down a bit this year. (Bid requests have been sent to carriers and a proposed Master Plan package will be presented to the River Woods Board in late July or early August.)

Dan also stressed the importance of having an HO-6 policy to protect your personal goods, any improvements made to your house since it was built and to cover the \$50,000 per incident deductible of the Master Plan. He pointed out that a lot of HO-6 policies limit loss assessment coverage to far less than the \$50,000 deductible we have, so check carefully before you buy. In addition, he said, most HO-6 policies limit their loss-assessment coverage to one incident per year, so homeowners might consider a higher loss-assessment coverage. It often doesn't cost much more to cover more than the \$50,000 and may be a good hedge against the possibility of more than one incident per year.

Power Washing Has Begun

Power washing is nearly finished on units 274-333, and painting has already begun. How soon painting will finish depends on the weather.

New Road Surfaces — Drive Carefully

Parts of the road from 234-257 has just been resurfaced with new asphalt. The new asphalt is soft for a while, so please drive carefully on it, especially when the weather is hot. For example, if your car is stopped and you turn your tires from one side to the other, it's likely to chew up some of the road surface. Eventually the asphalt will cure and become more hardened, so for now, please treat it gently.

Be Careful of Coyotes

We've received several reports of coyotes seen around River Woods. Neither the Association of Burnsville Animal Control can do anything about them. Control of coyotes is up to the Minnesota DNR.

Coyotes cannot be euthanized, nor trapped and relocated. Be aware that while coyotes rarely attack humans, they can be quite brazen. One reason they are

coming into the Association is unit owners who are feeding the wildlife. Remember, it's against River Woods Rules and Regulations to feed rabbits, geese, deer or any other type of wild animals. If you do so, you are contributing to the problem. (The one



exception is bird feeders, which are permitted in the Association.)

Coyotes will kill domestic pets that are unleashed and unattended as they are easier to hunt than a normal wild prey, so don't let pets, such as cats, wander about at night. And leash all dogs when walking them.

Wildlife Feeding Reminder

Please do not dump scrap food in or around grounds. With the abundance of wildlife in River Woods that is just asking for trouble. Keep in mind that food left on grills after cooking draws wildlife to the units, as well as grease pans that are full. It is always a good idea to clean and put away grills after each use.

No Vehicles in the Pool Area

Some pool users are trying to bring scooters, bicycles, etc., into the pool area, which is prohibited for safety reasons. There is a bike rack outside the pool gate where you can lock up your vehicles.

NOTES TO REMEMBER

Write fee checks carefully: Make sure checks are written for the correct amount and signed. Banks are rejecting checks with incompatible dates, illegible writing, and writing in colored ink, which may not scan properly.

Fireworks: Most fireworks are not permitted to be set off in the Association. Woods and underbrush can easily catch fire. In addition, setting off such fireworks violates the Association's Master Insurance Policy. The following fireworks are illegal and not allowed in River Woods; anything that flies or explodes such as firecrackers, bottle rockets, missiles, Roman candles, mortars, shells, etc. The only fireworks permitted are sparklers, cones and small tubes that emit sparks, snakes, and party poppers. Owners are advised to call police immediately if you see fireworks violations; if they start a fire, it could be your house that burns. Even legal fireworks are not permitted here after 10pm.

PayLease/Zego: If you pay via PayLease/Zego (available through the Association website), note that they have made changes to their website. The information is listed on our Association's website.

Contacting the Office: We have only one employee in the HOA office, so it's best to call or email first before stopping in to be sure someone is there. Also, please do not text the office, as we do not have text capabilities. You can send email to riverwoods@myriverwoods.org or call 952-894-4368. If you are trying to reach Loren (Tiny) please email him directly at rwgroundsmgr@gmail.com. Please remember the office is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon on Friday. If you need to see someone in the office outside of those hours, please call or email during office hours to make arrangements. Office personnel does not return emails or call after office hours.

Emergencies

If you have an emergency, you should dial 9-1-1. For urgent, but non-emergency problems, here is a list of agencies you can call:

Sewer Backup: We recommend calling Drain Pro (952-469-6999). We use them to jet out the sewer lines every other year, so they are familiar with the Association sewer system.

Gas smell: Leave home immediately and call 9-1-1

Vehicle blocking access to your unit: Call the HOA office during business hours; call police after hours.

Roof Leaks: Email the HOA office with details, including name, unit number and telephone number.

Storm damage, such as shingle or siding damage: Email the HOA office.

Noise Issues with Neighbors: Call Burnsville police.

Pest control (ants, mice, etc.): Call exterminator of your choice, at your cost.

Dog Defecation: Email HOA office

Dogs barking or off leash: Call Animal Control and email the HOA office.

Guest Parking issues: Email the grounds manager

Green Pool Tag Reminder

The only pool tags that will permit entry to the pool area are the green tags, not the red or yellow tags used in previous years. Last spring, we made a serious attempt to inform all owners of the need to exchange their old pool tags for the new green ones. We put notices in the monthly newsletter, we sent emails to all owners. We set special hours evenings and weekends so people could exchange tags without having to take off work. And many owners did exchange their tags.

But, as President John Kennedy once famously said, "There are always 10% who never get the word." In late June a homeowner came in to exchange his red tag — which hadn't let him get into the pool — for a green tag, complaining that we forced him to take a half day off work just to switch tags.

The Village Administrator explained about all our efforts last year to let everyone know how to exchange tags and pointed out that even this year, you can arrange to switch tags after hours: During the monthly Board and ACC meetings, the office is open later than the usual closing time, and you can make arrangements to exchange tags before the meetings.