



Decatur Ridge News



HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 432, CAMBY, IN 46113

Please Observe the “No Fishing” Restriction on All Ponds



Article IV of the Decatur Ridge Covenants and Restrictions states that “there shall be no swimming, skating, boating, fishing in or on or other recreational use of any lake, pond, creek, ditch or stream on the Real Estate.” No fishing signs are posted around all ponds in our community. Please comply with this restriction.

Community Wide Yard Sale June 10th



In conjunction with Decatur Commons, there is a community-wide yard sale scheduled for Saturday, June 10, 2006. The sale will run from 8:00am till 3:00pm. The Home Owners Association will post signs at all entrances to our community and place an ad in the newspaper.

Friendship is like a prism through which the many variations of beauty are revealed in our lives.

Milhouse Road Entrance

Getting a “Face Lift”

After months of negotiating with Marion County officials, plans have been approved to enhance the aesthetics of the Milhouse Road entrance. Twelve Japanese Lilac Trees will be planted (six on each side) in the right of way at the entrance. Large decorative boulders will be placed on the other side of the sidewalk. A large number of perennial flowers will be planted on both sides of the entrance. This will improve the image of our community and provide a deterrent to driving up on the grass. Work should begin by late May or early June.



Mature Japanese Lilac Tree

Over-Night Parking Has

Improved!

Fewer and fewer residents are parking on the street over-night. Everyone is to be commended for cooperating with the enforcement of Article IV, paragraph S which prohibits over-night parking of any vehicles. However, there are still a few residents who continue to violate that ban. During the summer months there will be stepped-up enforcement of the parking restriction. After repeated warnings, vehicles found in violation of the over-night parking ban will be towed at the owner's expense.

April Showers Have Brought May Flowers!

Driving around our community you can easily see the signs of spring. Many of your fellow residents Decatur Ridge residents have done a great job planting flowers and making their homes look attractive and appealing. These types of improvements and attention to detail help make our community a more pleasant place to live and contribute to the over-all property values in our community. A huge thank you needs to go out to those property owners who have worked diligently this spring to "spruce-up" their property and the community.

Please share your concerns with the Board of Directors

If you have concerns or issues that you would like the Board of Directors to address please contact us. You can contact them via email, voice mail or "snail mail." All issues will receive their attention and will be appreciated.

2005-2006 Board Members

Nick Francis - *President*

William Clark- *Treasurer/Secretary*

John Smith - *Assistant to the President*

Terry Hallock - *Assistant to the Secretary*

No Above Ground Pools Allowed

With warmer weather upon us, residents are reminded that the Covenants and Restrictions (Article IV) prohibit all above ground pools. In previous years, there has been some misunderstanding and frustration with pools. Please re-read your Covenants and comply with the restriction on above ground pools.

Lawn Care Tips

Mowing is the most misunderstood part of lawn care, and the most often incorrectly performed part of lawn care. Far too many people will set their mowers too low or "scalp" the lawn. This leads to thin and dying out grass, shallow root systems, and in the long run, NO GRASS. For a lush, thick carpet of weed-free grass set your mower as high as you can. Try to leave your grass at a height of 2 ½ to 3 inches. This will help choke out weeds and promote root growth. (From Greg Pierce of Lawn Masters, Inc.)



Carriage Lights

Just a reminder, maintaining Dusk to Dawn Lighting is a requirement in accordance with Article IV, item Z of our Declaration of Covenants. During night inspections of our community, it has been noticed that several home owners with one or both carriage lights inoperable. All homeowners are requested to periodically inspect their lights to ensure they are working properly. If bulbs have burned out, please, for the safety and appearance of our community, replace them promptly. Home owners who repeatedly refuse to repair or replace burned out bulbs will have the light repaired by the Home Owners Association and that cost will be added to the 2007 dues of those homeowners (Article IX, Item 9.1).

Please Clean Up After Your Pets!

We have many dog and cat lovers in our community. The Home Owners Association wants to remind those home owners with pets to act



responsibly. Please do not allow your pets to defecate on another homeowner's property and just walk away. Picking up after your animal is the Law (Sec. 531-203 Dog and Cat Curbing Requirements). This section of the county code states: "No person knowingly shall allow a dog or cat which is kept by that person to defecate or urinate on a public street, byway, municipally owned or public land or building, or upon private property, in the city without the prior

permission of the owner of such property. If an animal defecates on the property described in this subsection, the animal's owner or keeper promptly shall remove any feces to a waste container, or otherwise dispose of such materials in a manner inoffensive to reasonable sensibilities. A person who violates any provisions of this section shall be punishable as provided in section 103-3 of this code; provided, however, a fine imposed for any such violation shall not be less than twenty-five dollars."

Community Day

The Decatur Ridge Home Owner's



Association is planning a Community Day event for Saturday, June 3, 2006, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We will have games and

events for children and adults.

Complimentary food and drinks will be provided. We will also try to have the Decatur Fire Department and local vendors on hand for demonstrations. If you are willing to help with the Community Day, please contact the Board at one of the contact means listed in this newsletter. Volunteers are needed to help with preparation, cooking and organizing the games.

Please come out, meet your neighbors and have a good time!

Spring Planting Tips

- Choose plants suitable for the site (sun - vs.- shade etc)
- Arrange plants according to their height
- Arrange according to plant form and texture
- Arrange according to flowering periods for constant blooming
- Arrange in groupings by type and color considerations

Soil preparation

Prepare flower beds by spading deeply. Loosen up heavy clay and clay loam soil with addition of peat moss, sand, ground bark or compost. Add about 2 lbs of 5-10-5 fertilizer per 100 sq ft or 1 lb of 10-10-10 per 100 sq ft and turn the soil over again. Then rake it smooth, and the bed will be ready.

Pre-planting care

If you buy bedding plants but can't plant them the same day, water packs or flats thoroughly and put them in shade to prevent excessive wilting. Evenings of cloudy days are the best times to plant. If you have to plant during the heat of the day or on sunny days be sure plants are watered thoroughly immediately after planting.

How to plant

Annuals come in market packs, pop out packs, trays, flats or individual pots. Choose plants that are dark green, vigorous looking and short in height. If plants are in individual containers, gently separate plants keeping as much soil around the roots as possible. Plant the root ball below the soil line. Plant individual peat moss pots slightly below the soil line to keep the pot from

drying out by exposure to air.

Watering

Bedding plant annuals are thirsty plants. Water them thoroughly to give them a good start. Thereafter water whenever the soil begins to dry. Do it early in the day. Don't be satisfied with just sprinkling the foliage since plants will not receive enough water, and moisture on the foliage for more than 24 hours encourages plant disease.

After planting care

To promote bushy, vigorous growth and more continuous blossoming, pinch out the central buds of annuals such as tall snapdragons, zinnias and marigolds. The tops of plant which tend to vine such as petunias should be cut back to 3 to 4 inches when they are too tall. Fertilize every 3 to 4 weeks (1 pinch per plant or 1 lb. per 100 sq. ft. of 5-10-5 fertilizer).

Vacation tip: Cut your plants back before you leave and when you return they will be fresh, thriving and vigorous.

From www.fernlea.com

