



THE CENTRAL POINT

COMMUNITY IN FOCUS

Should You Give Up on Your Shrubs?

Now that spring has sprung and the sun is shining more, our yards are beginning to green up - mostly. If your yard is like most in the Rogue Valley, it may have suffered some damage from that December cold snap. For the record the coldest day in December was December 8th with a low temperature of 3°. Most shrubs weathered just fine, however some are not looking normal.

Before tearing out those beloved shrubs, there are a few things you can do to see if they are truly dead. Although the foliage may look dead, don't forget to look at the stems. A healthy plant will have lots of color to the stems. Then tug very gently on the stalks. It is a good sign if they hold their own in the soil. Finally, scratch a small stem. Don't scratch too much, a small scratch will tell you what you need to know. If there is green under the exterior, you have a live plant.

Spring Checklist for Home and Lawn Care

Whether you're considering the resale value of your home or are simply resigned to doing maintenance projects to keep your house in good condition, your lawn and garden could certainly benefit from some TLC of the this spring.

The exterior of your house commands most first impressions, and even mild winters inflict seasonal damage. If you don't know where to start, a home-improvement project checklist may help. Consider the following lawn and garden maintenance tips:

Remove piles of dead leaves from the lawn. Not only will your grass grow greener, a clean lawn helps maximize fertilizers and pesticides. Don't make the mistake of fertilizing your grass too early though. April is the general benchmark; any sooner might result in yellow spots and dried-out patches of grass.

Check gutters for leaks and debris. Loose gutters cause improper drainage.

Downspouts should point away from the foundation of the house and must be clear of all debris.

Remove piles of wood or debris stacked near the home. Firewood should be kept far away from the foundation, and stacked 18 inches off the ground. These preventative measures help keep insect pests from exploring your home.

Don't strain yourself, and stay hydrated. This might be the first time you've done any heavy lifting or spent hours in the sun for months. Remember to drink plenty of fluids, take breaks and stretch your muscles.

CC&R's Corner – Landscaping Maintenance

Did you know that our CC&R's state that trees and lawns must be watered and lawns must be mowed, edged and kept free of weeds. Homeowners or residents are responsible for the care and maintenance of their yards at all times, including vacations or periods of absence.

POINT ON ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

Guidelines for Resident Communication during Our Quarterly Board Meetings

Residents are encouraged to attend and observe association board meetings. In fact, the board of directors loves when residents attend. If you would like to bring an issue to the board's attention, you're welcome to speak at the beginning of the meeting—a time set aside just for resident communication. So that everyone who attends has an opportunity for a meaningful exchange with the board, we ask that you observe the following guidelines:

Although we're all neighbors, this is a corporate business meeting. Please behave accordingly.

The president will ask residents in attendance if they would like to address the

board. She will select one resident at a time to speak. Also, please sign in when you arrive. This allows the board to contact you if they need further information or to report back to you with an answer.

Please remember that resident communication should be an exchange of ideas, not a gripe session. If you're bringing a problem to our attention, we'd like to hear your ideas for a solution too.

To keep the meeting businesslike, please refrain from speaking if you're particularly upset about an issue. Consider speaking later, speaking privately with a board member, or putting your concerns in writing and e-mailing them to the office or board.

Only one person may speak at a time. Please respect others' opinions by remaining silent and still when someone else has the floor.

Each person will be allowed to speak no

more than five minutes. Please respect the time of our volunteer board members by limiting your remarks.

If you need more than five minutes, please put your comments in writing and submit them to the office. Include background information, causes, circumstances, desired solutions and other considerations you believe are important. The board will make your written summary an agenda item at the next meeting.

We may not be able to resolve your concerns on the spot, and we will not argue or debate an issue with you during the board meetings. We usually need to discuss and vote on the issue first. But we *will* answer you before—or at—the next board meeting.

Next Board Meeting

Monday April 28th at 7:00pm in the Clubhouse

April
2014

HIDDEN GROVE & GREEN VALLEY

COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD

POINT ON THE COMMUNITY

Tips to Breeze Through Spring Cleaning

Spring heralds a season of fresh starts and growth -- and what better way to start anew than with a little spring cleaning?

Taking the time to get organized can make all the difference, and it can make the most cluttered closets and dirtiest corners a breeze to clean. With the right tools in hand, organizing any messy space becomes a manageable task.

Still don't know where to start? Try these spring-cleaning tips:

Cover the basics. Take inventory of your cleaning supplies. Some must-haves are mops, brooms, sponges, paper towels, trash bags, disinfectant wipes and bathroom-specific supplies. Make a list of what you need so you can get it all in one shopping trip.

Tackle the clutter in steps. Spring cleaning can be daunting, so take small steps and approach spaces one at a time. Strive to find everything a permanent home. Create "donate" and "trash" piles for items you no longer use or need. Don't forget Central Point's citywide yard sale day coming up on May 3rd!

Use organizing tools. Over-the-door mesh shoe racks are great for storing all kinds of winter accessories -- hats, gloves, scarves and coats. Get some sturdy hooks for purses, backpacks

and other accessories, and relish the feeling of a clean closet.

Revitalize your laundry room. Put a stop to the mountain of dirty clothes that grows every week by getting each family member a laundry basket. If clothing doesn't make it into their bin, it's not getting washed. Keep your laundry room stocked with detergent, bleach and stain remover.

POINT ON THE ROGUE VALLEY

Medford Pear Blossom Festival

It is springtime in the Rogue Valley, and for 60 years, one of the biggest and most beloved events of spring has been the Medford Pear Blossom Festival. This year, the festival will take place April 11th and 12th. The street fair has moved to a new location this year. Their new permanent home will be the Medford Commons Park blocks.

The Medford Pear Blossom festivities will also include several runs on the morning of Saturday, April 12th and the Pear a Fare which celebrates the foods of Southern Oregon. The annual parade will begin at 11:00 on April 12th in downtown Medford.

In 1954, representatives of several Medford groups (including the Fruit Grower's League, Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association, American Legion and the school district) met to initiate an event during the spring blossom season. They decided to have a children's parade.

A five-year-old, Miss Blossom, was chosen to reign over the 10 floats.

There were 100 floats in the parade by 1956, and the festival included a 30-mile tour of the valley's blooming orchards. Since 1957, children have been chosen festival King and Queen. Motorized floats were allowed in the parade in 1964. Pear Blossom Festival parade marshals have included Governor Holmes (1957) and John F. Kennedy (1960).

POINT ON GOOD HEALTH

April is National Donate Life Month

Each year, the lives of countless patients are saved and improved through the generous gift of organ and tissue donation. National Donate Life Month was established in 2003 to raise awareness for organ, tissue and eye donation and the lifesaving impact of those generous gifts, as well as celebrate those that have saved lives through the gift of donation. Every day in April, people across the U.S. make a special effort to celebrate the tremendous generosity of those who have saved lives by becoming organ, tissue, marrow, and blood donors and to encourage more Americans to follow their fine example.

For more information, or to register to become an organ donor, please visit <http://www.DonateLifeNW.org>.

April Calendar of Events

- 04/01 – April Fool's Day
- 04/03 – 04/07 – Ashland Independent Film Festival
- 04/10 – Street Sweeping**
- 04/11-04/12 – Pear Blossom
- 04/14 – Passover begins
- 04/19 – City of Central Point Easter Eggstravaganza (Easter Egg Hunt)
- 04/20 – Easter Sunday
- 04/22 – Earth Day
- 04/24 – Street Sweeping**
- 04/28 – Board Meeting

DID YOU KNOW

**A main
cause of rat
infestations
is backyard
bird feeding?**



**Feed
birds
responsibly.
Do not overfeed
& keep area
swept up**

**Also, keep garbage in sturdy bins with tight fitting
lids & don't feed your house pets outside.**

**Rats love garbage and dog food.
Your neighbors will thank you!**