



Message from the HOA President

In a year of budget cuts, debt ceilings, and shut downs I'd like to proudly announce that our community is business as usual and is operating within it means. Money is being contributed to reserves each month and it is being spent on needed maintenance items. This year we have re-surfaced a very slick basketball court, corrected some worn out rubberized surfaces at the parks, and replaced tons and tons of granite. For those wondering where all their HOA dues are going, these three items came at a cost of nearly \$100,000. Over the last 10 years, we have only had to raise rates one time, and we have collectively decided that we will wait one more year before we will need to address this issue again. It is very expensive to run a community our size. As a reference, our water budget for the next year will increase from \$180,000 to \$210,000 a year. Our landscaper monthly cost is over \$20,000 a month. Point is, it costs money to have a nice community. With this investment comes several benefits, the largest being an increase in value to your largest investment, your home. Homes sell fast in our neighborhood, and fetch top dollar compared to other neighborhoods. Your HOA dollars are very well accounted for and assessment increases are taken very seriously. We will run at a bit of a shortage this year but we feel we can make up the difference based on some savings we will see in other areas. Next October, we will look at the numbers again and make a determination that is best for the community. Enjoy your community, and keep an eye out for those that make it more expensive through mindless vandalism. I look forward to meeting many more of you at our fall festival, and would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding our community. - Jeff Lee

Important Contact Information

- Community Manager

Chantelle Alderson

480-813-6788

chantelle@rcplimited.com

www.rcplimited.com

- Villages of Eastridge Website

www.eastridge85209.com

- Landscapers - DLC Resources

www.dlcreources.com

- City of Mesa – www.cityofmesa.org

- Emergencies

911

- Police Non-Emergency

644-2211

- Fire Non-Emergency

644-2101

- Animal Control

644-2211

- Street Light Outage

644-3191

If you notice a light out, please call. Have street light number.

- Crime Prevention Officer: 644-5014

Karen.Stegenga@mesaaz.gov

Call the police first if you see suspicious activity or vandalism. Even if you don't file a police report, Karen can notify patrol of these events if she is contacted.

Fall Festival

Saturday, October 26th at 4:00 pm
at Villages of Eastridge Main Park

- Pumpkin painting
- Petting Zoo
- Chili Cook-off with prizes
- Hot dogs and drinks
- Inflatables



Bring your chili by 4:20 pm to be entered into the Chili Cook-off.
Call Jason & Janet at 480-235-8848 for Chili Cook-off details if interested.

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 26 4:00 pm
Fall Festival at Main Park

Nov. 13 at 7:00 pm
HOA Board Meeting

Jan. 8 at 7:00 pm
HOA Board Meeting

Note: All board meetings are in the auditorium at Desert Ridge High School

Winter Grass in The Villages

(a message from DLC Resources, our landscaper)

Each year, with cooling temperatures, our warm weather grass (bermuda grass) begins to go dormant. It will stay in a straw-colored appearance until nighttime temperatures are consistently above the mid-60s (usually late April or early May). In these cooler months, we typically overseed some of the turf with rye seed. If only we could keep this beautiful, dark green, thin-bladed lush rye grass year round. But the type of rye that grows best in our valley does not like the heat and humidity combination we get during summer monsoons.

So we have competing crops. Any farmer will tell you, it's good to rest your field every now and then if you can. However, for us to keep green grass all year, we force bermuda into early dormancy to plant the rye before it gets too cold. Then in spring, we aerate and dethatch the rye to open up the ground for the awakening bermuda. It's a carefully timed dance that takes a toll on the bermuda over time. Bermuda needs as much time as we can allow for it to re-establish itself each year before going dormant again. Sometimes the weather does not cooperate and the rye stays with us for longer, making it harder for the bermuda to fill in.

Just to keep things interesting, *Poa annua* (annual bluegrass) also enters the turf in the winter. Can't we all just get along? No, this is a pesky, grassy weed. This plant emerges during the delicate fall transition from bermuda to rye. It wouldn't be so bad, but it is a lighter green color than rye grass and it's clumpy and pervasive like crab grass. Over time, it will look like the turf has broken out with a case of light green polka dots. The ugly weed will continue to spread and reseed itself until early summer, making it more challenging for the bermuda to fill in. It is possible to treat poa while still planning to overseed with rye, but very difficult to prevent poa from coming up while trying to cultivate the rye. The cost does not outweigh the benefit.

The best solution to control poa is to treat bermuda turf throughout the cooler season, preventing some poa from coming up and eradicating what does emerge before it flowers and seeds. Each plant can produce a couple thousand seeds. We have identified roughly 7 acres in the community that need to be treated for poa. **Therefore, the majority of the community will not be overseeded.** The good news is the treatment will not harm the dormant bermuda and will help it re-establish itself in the spring. There will still be poa seeds waiting to activate (not all germinate each year), but the numbers will be greatly reduced and easier to spot treat.

DLC Resources has been your landscaper since 2010. We are honored to participate in this year's Fall Festival this weekend (October 26th) and we hope to meet some of you there!