



Job Readiness Workshop	3
Vacation Watch	4

Yard of the Month	7
HOA Pool Rules	9
Upcoming Events	13

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# Who to Follow on Twitter

@MiraLagosHOA Association Information and Neighborly News

> @GrandPrairiePD Grand Prairie Police Department



@gp\_tx City of Grand Prairie, Texas



@mansfieldisd Mansfield Independent School District

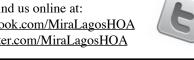
@Gpscanner Grand Prairie Scanner, local Police, Fire, EMS

@DFWscanner DFW Scanner, area Fire, Police, EMS

Who's your favorite? Tweet to @MiraLagosHOA with hashtag #MLMessenger!



Find us online at: www.facebook.com/MiraLagosHOA www.twitter.com/MiraLagosHOA







## Association Contact Information

www.miralagoshoa.com

www.texas.fsrconnect.com/miralagos

On-Site Management Stacy McGrath, General Manager manager@miralagoshoa.com

Matt Urbaniak, Assistant Manager Matt.Urbaniak@fsresidential.com

Cynthia Prox, Administrative Assistant Cynthia.prox@fsresidential.com

817-473-6787 (office) 817-473-4978 (fax)

South Pool Office "Veranda" 3025 S. Camino Lagos Grand Prairie, TX 75054

Office Hours

Tuesday-Saturday 8:30 am-4:30 pm Closed Sunday and Monday

FirstService Residential Customer Service (877) 378-2388

Mail Payments to: **Lockbox Address** 

Mira Lagos Homeowner's Association c/o FirstService Residential PO BOX 62047 Newark, NJ 07101



Relationships based on respect, trust and effective communication are the cornerstone of our success.

Committee Chairs Chair Meetings: Bi-monthly



#### Communications

OPEN position communications@miralagoshoa.com Meetings: monthly

#### Landscape

Pam Downs landscape@miralagoshoa.com Meetings: 1st Wednesday monthly

#### **Pool and Sports**

Deneisha Barnes poolandsports@miralagoshoa.com 3rd Tuesday (Apr-Sept)

#### Safety

Robert McLain, Chairman safety@miralagoshoa.com Co-chair: Cheyanne McLain Meetings: 1st Tuesday monthly

Social

Valorie Felix and Anita Walker social@miralagoshoa.com Meetings: 2nd Wednesday monthly

#### Welcome

Susan Kennedy welcome@miralagoshoa.com Meetings: monthly/electronically

> **New Members welcome** on all committees!

#### **Board of Directors**

Joshua Spare, President Eric Blackwell, Vice President Ken Self, Director Deirdre Garrett, Director John Hughes, Director board@miralagoshoa.com

## Mira Lagos Messenger

Is the only authorized and official monthly publication for the residents of the Mira Lagos Community with news and calendar of community events endorsed by the Mira Lagos HOA & its members.

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#### **City of Grand Prairie Code of Ordinances**

Sec. 13-277. - Noise nuisances

Restricted hours of operation

- **Building construction:** The erection including excavation, demolition, alteration or repair of any building, structure or appurtenance thereto, within any residential district or within three hundred (300) feet of any residential structure, **shall be limited to daytime hours**, except in the case of urgent necessity in the interest of public safety, for which approval shall be obtained from the chief building official. This restriction shall also apply to the clearing of land prior to future development.
- Street construction: The erection including excavation, demolition, alteration or repair of any street, alley or appurtenance thereto, within any residential district or within three hundred (300) feet of any residential structure, shall be limited to daytime hours, except in the case of urgent necessity in the interest of public safety, for which approval shall be obtained from the city engineer.



#### JOB READINESS WORKSHOP

June 4th • 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm Clubhouse - Great Room

Instructor: Leslie Thompson

#### Topics Include:

- Application & Resume Development
- Pre-employment Screenings & Software Assessments
- Importance of Grammar & Typing
- Dressing for Success
- Interviewing Essentials
- Social Media & the Workplace

Come One Come All. Students and Adults. Anyone looking to better market their skills and advance their career.

You are welcome to bring your device or laptop, to take advantage of hands on practice.





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www.braceplace.net | 972-660-5522

2630 S. Carrier Pkwy Suite A Grand Prairie, TX 75052

"Vacation Watch" is a service provided to the residents of Grand Prairie, TX, while they are out of town. The beat officers or Citizens on Patrol will check the residence as often as possible.

To request this service, please fill out a request at least one day prior to your departure at www.gptx.org/index.aspx?recordid=67&page=19

Before you leave use this checklist to secure your home:

- Make sure your home looks lived in, not empty.
- Stop mail and cancel all deliveries or ask a friend to make daily collections.
- Leave shades and blinds in normal positions.
- Put an automatic timer on several lights and a radio.
- Have a neighbor keep your property maintained.
- Leave a key with a trusted neighbor.
- Tell a neighbor that you trust your departure and return dates.
- Supply an itinerary with phone numbers where you can be reached in an emergency.
- Lock all windows and doors including the garage doors before you leave.
- Don't advertise your plans to strangers.





## **Registering with FirstService Connect**

https://miralagos.connectresident.com/

When visiting your community's landing page, navigate to the resident access section by selecting the Resident Access button.

For registration, we require a valid email address and a mobile phone number. If a mobile phone number is not available, a nonmobile phone number is allowed but will not be used for registration.

Once a user submits their registration information, there are a few scenarios that may occur.

#### YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WAS FOUND

Your email address was found in our system. We will send you an email to the email address provided. In the email you will find a link to validate the email address. Once the email address is validated, you will be redirected to a registration form to complete your registration.

#### YOUR PHONE NUMBER WAS FOUND

We did not have your email in our systems, but your phone number was found. We will send you a SMS text message with a code to your phone number. You will then be prompted to enter the code provided to validate your phone number. Once the phone number is validated, you will be redirected to a registration form to complete your registration.

This code can include letters and numbers and is case sensitive.

# YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER IS ALREADY REGISTRERED

Unfortunately, your email address or phone number could not be found in our system. If this is not correct, you will be prompted to contact customer care. The number will be displayed on the screen.

#### **COMPLETE REGISTRATION FORM**

Now that we have validated the information provided, fill out the registration form to complete the registration process.

Now that you have registered with FirstService Residential Connect, use the email address and password you created during registration to log in.

#### **ACCEPT TERMS OF USE**

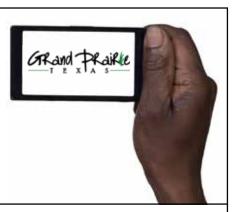
On your fist log in, you will be presented with the Terms of Use for FirstService Residential Connect. You must read through by scrolling down to the end to select the "I Agree" checkbox. You must agree to the Terms of Use in order to use the First Service Residential Connect. Once you have accepted the Terms of Use. You will not be asked again unless the terms have been updated.

#### INITIAL LINK TO PROPERTIES

Upon accepting the Terms of Use, the system will link you to your available properties based on your verified email address or phone number.

YOU ARE NOW READY TO USE FIRSTSERVICE RESIDENTIAL CONNECT FOR RESIDENTS.

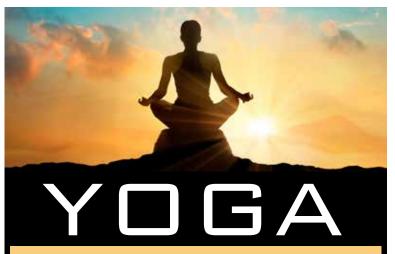
# Grand Prairie Snap & Send!



Grand Prairie residents using the city's new "Snap and Send" app can now report issues, such as street light outages and code violations, using their smartphones. The app, currently compatible with iPhone, iPad and iPod touch, allows users to specify the location of an issue and attach a photo to send directly to city staff as well as track the status of their service requests.

Search "Snap and Send Grand Prairie TX" in the Apple App Store and download for free. The city plans to make the app available for Android users in the future.

Residents can also report issues directly through the city's website at gptx.org/report or call city offices at 972-237-8000.



a Hindu spiritual and ascetic discipline, a part of which, including breath control, simple meditation, and the adoption of specific bodily postures, is widely practiced for health and relaxation

Mira Lagos HOA Pool and Sports Committee has teamed up with a Yoga instructor to provide free classes to homeowners within Mira Lagos HOA only. The dates and times for June are as follows:

Wednesday, June 5th 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm Saturday, June 15th 8:30 am – 9:30 am

Homeowners need to RSVP via email to poolandsports@ miralagoshoa.com, but walk in homeowners are always welcome to attend. The homeowners would need to bring a yoga mat to the session. Important Note: Once the class has ended please exit the building as the building alarms will set at a specific time.





#### BASIL

Houseflies, Mosquitos, Thrips



**BAY LEAVES** 

Flies

#### **CATNIP**

Ants, aphids, flea beetles, Japanese Beetles, Mosquitos, squash bugs, weevils

#### **CHIVES**

Aphids, Carrot Rust Flies, Japanese Beetles

# How to keep bugs away from your **FLOWERS AND HERBS**

Here's just a few plants which insects will typically avoid as the essential oils of these particular plants are a natural pest repellent.

#### **CHRYSANTHEMUMS**

Ants, Bedbugs, Fleas, Japanese Beetles, Lice, Roaches, Silverfish, Ticks

#### **CITRONELLA**

Mosquitos

#### **DAHLIAS**

Nematodes



Aphids, Cabbage Loopers, Spider Mites, Squash bugs

#### **FENNEL**

Aphids, Slugs, Snails

#### **LAVENDER**

Fleas, Flies and Mosquitos, Moths

#### **LEMONGRASS**

Mosquitos

#### **NASTURTIUMS**

Aphids, Cucumber Beetles, Squash Bugs, Whiteflies

#### MARIGOLD

Aphids, Aphids

#### **PARSLEY**

Asparagus Beetles

#### **PEPPERMINT**

Ants, Mosquitos, Spiders

#### **PETUNIAS**

Aphids, Asparagus beetles, Leafhoppers, Tomato Hornworms



#### ROSEMARY

Fleas, Ticks

# YARD OF THE MONTH

Thank you for those that got their yards in shape already this year! It was a challenge I'm sure with all the rain we have had, yet you still accomplished it! Here are the 15 Winners of the May 2019 Yard of the Month Contest:



El Llano - 7347 Darsena



Las Brisas - 7375 Vienta Point



La Tierra - 2804 Pino



La Pradera - 3127 Pampa



Bella Vista - 3035 England Pkwy



Bella Vista - 2820 England Pkwy



El Arroyo - 3123 Guadaloupe



Valencia - 2711 Columbus



Marbella - 2779 Explorador



La Ensenada - 2955 Bahia



Escondido - 2951 Lavanda



El Sendero - 2839 Barco



Sonora - 6918 Sarria



El Mirador - 2803 Mastil



Cordova - 3040 N Camino Lagos

# Are you currently receiving the monthly *e-News blasts*?

These emails are sent out mid-month to provide homeowners with important information from the onsite management team, elected board members and volunteer committee chairs as well as updates and information on upcoming community and city events and news. To be part of the community information system please email your contact information along with your address to admin@miralagoshoa.com

# Dear Mira Lagos Homeowners,

Access to all ID cards have been turned off if you are not current on your dues or you are not currently on an active payment plan. If you have made arrangements for payment please contact the onsite office to have the access ID cards turned back on.

In the event you are not able to make your assessment payment in a timely manner, you may opt to be placed on a payment plan. Payment plans must be initiated by FirstService Residential or you will still be considered late. No exceptions. Payment plan arrangements can be started by contacting the On-Site office at 817-473-6787 or by email at admin@miralagoshoa.com. Assessment dues or due by January 30th. The 31st they are considered late. Please plan to have the payment processed prior to the 30th.

Payments should be made to:

Mira Lagos HOA c/o FirstService Residential PO BOX 62047 Newark, NJ 07101

If you need assistance getting your account number or access to your online account for Mira Lagos HOA please don't hesitate to call, we are here to assist.

Thank you! ~ Management





# **HOA POOL RULES**

- NO LIFEGUARD on duty. Swim at your own risk. 1.
- Children under the age of 14 MUST be accompanied by a resident, 18 years or older, 2. possessing a valid pool card.
- Only 4 quests allowed per residence. A resident, 18 years or older, possessing a valid 3. pool card, MUST accompany all guests.
- Proper swimwear required. 4.
- Persons with skin diseases, open sores or wounds, inflamed eyes, nasal or ear 5. infections or any communicable diseases are not allowed to use the pool.
- For the health and safety of the residents, rubber pants in addition to swim diapers 6. are REQUIRED for all non-toilet trained children.
- NO water wings allowed without a **U.S. Coast Guard approved life vest**, properly 7. fitted with age and with adult supervision. NO rafts allowed.
- NO diving allowed. 8.
- NO pets, NO smoking, NO alcohol or glass objects of any kind allowed in pool area. 9. NO food or drink allowed in the pool water.
- 10. Radios and other noise should be maintained at a low level at all times.
- 11. DO NOT ride bikes, tricycles, scooters, roller blades, skateboards, or any other similar vehicle in the pool area.
- 12. Running, roughhousing or general horseplay that may endanger the safety of others is NOT allowed.
- 13. Foul language and/or threatening behavior will NOT be tolerated.
- 14. Emergency equipment is to be used for emergencies only.
- 15. Access to the equipment room is restricted.
- 16. NO trespassing after pool hours or during pool closures.
- 17. The Homeowners Association or Management Company is not responsible for personal property, accidents, injuries or theft.
- 18. 10-minute breaks prior to each hour will be taken during the season to prevent bathroom accidents.
- 19. VANDALISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. To report vandalism, call police immediately, then notify Management Company 817-473-6787.
- 20. Pools WILL CLOSE during inclement weather.
- 21. In case of EMERGENCY, CALL 911.

Violation of pool rules may lead to revoking of pool privileges and/or criminal prosecution.

#### **NEW CLUBHOUSE INFORMATION**



\$500.00 Deposit (refundable) \$50.00 per hour/ minimum of 2 hours

#### **Cleaning Fee:**

\$75.00 (non-refundable after 4pm) Tuesday – Saturday, All day Sunday & Monday \$35.00 (refundable before 4pm) Tuesday – Saturday

#### **Alcohol present:**

\$45.00 / Grand Prairie Police Officer - office staff arranges TABC licensed bartender - your choice

Capacity 150 people

#### NO HOLIDAY BOOKINGS

For more information please contact: <a href="mailto:admin@miralagoshoa.com">admin@miralagoshoa.com</a>

For reservations email: reservations@miralagoshoa.com



# Reach Your Neighbors! Advertise in this Magazine!



Contact Community News
Connection
for more information:

972-396-8855

info@communitynewsconnection.com

# **MOSQUITO CONTROL**

It's that time of the year! That time when it can be hard to enjoy the sunset on your patio in the evening because of the mosquitoes. So what is the best way to control mosquitoes?

Mosquitoes can only breed in standing or stagnant water. That means that they cannot breed in the ponds around Mira Lagos. The ponds in our area have good water circulation that flows through them whenever it rains and we also have water fountains in the ponds that helps keep them from becoming stagnant. However, there are plenty of places for mosquitoes to breed. Places like gutters, buckets or containers that have standing water in them. Any areas where water can sit and become stagnant can become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Even places like birdbaths or a low lying areas in your yard where the water does not drain off soon enough to prevent it from becoming stagnant. So the number one way to get rid of mosquitoes is to eliminate all standing water around your home.

Here is a list of 10 things that can be done to help control mosquitoes around your home. Some of them can be very cheap while others can be very expensive. Also, I have found that when using only one way to deal with mosquitoes, sometimes I get good results and sometimes I do not. However, when I combine more than one mosquito management technique together with others, I get better results. Here are some mosquitoes management techniques that can be combined for better results.

- 1. Eliminate all standing water.
- 2. Citronella candles
- 3. Electronic bug zapper
- 4. Mosquito trap that uses CO2
- 5. Netting
- 6. Mosquito repellent bracelets
- Mosquito dunks (For standing water that cannot be drained)
- 8. Misting system for mosquitoes
- 9. Spray on mosquito repellent
- 10. Spray your yard or have it sprayed by a professional.

# **Tarrant County Pest Control**

Termites, Ants, Rodents, Bed Bugs, Spiders, Fleas, Scorpions





Brent Russell Owner, Certified Applicator License Number 0561995 TDA TPCL 0570378 Call:817-465-7378 Text:817-705-7171 brent@bugbugbug.com www.BugBugBug.com

# PARKING IN MIRA LAGOS

The public streets in Mira Lagos fall under Grand Prairie's regulation so, there are no laws forbidding street parking. However, there are some factors you might consider:

- Street parking creates risks for children at play.
- Minimizing street parking improves the neighborhood appearance and is most appreciated by others who live in the area.
- Street parking is a common concern expressed by residents.
- Street parking tends to reduce the desirability of the neighborhood for new home buyers.

Obviously there are times when your family or visitors must park on the street, but if so please park in the direction of traffic and not by a fire hydrant or near an intersection.

If you see a vehicle that has been parked for more than a few days you call the Grand Prairie code compliance or non-emergency police department (972)-237-8700 to report it. The police have access to vehicle owner information that the HOA does not have, so reporting it allows the Code Compliance or police to make contact with the owner and inform if the vehicle needs to be moved.

Please note that the gated area of Las Brisas has their own restrictions which may restrict overnight parking. In addition, RV's boats, trailers are prohibited anywhere in the community (including driveways) for a period of time. These kinds of vehicles should be stored off site and are to be in the community for loading and unloading only.





ummer andwiches ...IT'S A WRAP

When the weather is hot, cooking in your kitchen may be the last thing you want to do. How about making a wrap for lunch or dinner? It is easy, delicious and healthy; also you do not need to heat up your kitchen.

A wrap can be a flour tortilla, pita or flat bread filled with just about any food. Create a salad wrap by using lettuce, tomatoes, mushrooms, cheese and your favorite salad dressing. If you have left over rotisserie chicken, chop it and add chicken to your salad wrap. Chicken salad or tuna salad wraps are hearty wraps perfect for lunch or dinner. For a quick kid friendly wrap, use lunch meat and sliced cheese. If you want to be fancy, wrap your wrap in parchment paper and tie with string.

Keep yourself and your kitchen cool, eat a wrap.

# **JUNE 2019 LANDSCAPE TIPS**



# Question of the month: "Because we had all this rain, will I have to fix my irrigation system right away?"

The answer is yes.... a resounding Yes! We are in Texas and on given day, week, month or year we could be in the worst rainy season or in the worst draught in years. Fixing your irrigation problems now will give you a peace of mind later when we go into extreme hot temperature that you are ready to supplement with irrigation water. Our irrigation systems are that, supplemental water, and not a replacement to rain. We are not always fortunate, as in this spring, to have great spring rains.

Also, by staying up on your irrigation repairs now, you will see less problems occur later down the road. Systems are not made to last forever, and they do wear out. No sense in letting the repairs pile up and be a larger burden (and price!) later in the season.

With these rains, make sure you have a good rain stat to shut of your system during these rains. No sense in watering when it's raining. There's where the turning off of the system will save water...and your pocketbook.



## Plant of the Month: Coral Bean

Coral Bean (Erythrina spp) is a Texas native which is not commonly seen in our urban landscapes. It is a welcome addition to the garden when given full sunlight, plenty of room and no supplemental watering. In the Central Texas area, the Coral Bean is marginally hardy (which means it will freeze to the ground many years) and must be covered with a thick mulch layer after cutting back postfrost. In the Southern part of Texas, it is hardy and North Texas might be considered an annual shrub. It blooms with dramatic red flowers each spring and has some spikey bits on the stems which can "grab" you when pruning. They are not easy to find, so look online to see who sells it (specifically native plant nurseries and garden centers).



#### **June To Do List**

- Do a full irrigation audit (notice how I mention this one a lot? Should be done monthly)
- Still a great time to add mulch to all the beds
- Interested in planting a garden? Great time to plant Okra, Winter Squash, Black Eye Peas and Melon plants. Great summer project for kids that can get the whole family involved.
- Watch for signs of fungal problems, especially in St. Augustine lawns. The rain is great, but with increased heat, water and humidity we have a great formula for fungus and disease.
- Ants! Wow, with the rains, they are on the constant move. Be patient and treat regularly. There are so many products that will assist you with the battle. Please follow directions and stay on top. With baits, a little is good, but a lot is not necessarily better.
- June/July is a typical time for summer planting of annuals. For that instant full look, plant 10" baskets.
- Tip prune your shrubs. Lots and lots of growth due to these wonderful rains. Staying on top of them now will save your time and headaches later.



#### Street Parking

The street is viewed as the public right-ofway meaning that the HOA cannot enforce a certain number of vehicles being parked



there. This issue falls into the jurisdiction of Grand Prairie DPS. They are able to step in when a vehicle is parked in front of a mailbox to the point that the US Postal Service cannot deliver mail, if a vehicle is parked directly in front of a driveway, when the tags on a vehicle are expired, or if a vehicle is damaged to the point of being inoperable.

#### Boats, RV's, Trailers

Recreational vehicles and trailers are only permitted for loading and unloading "only". The allotted time purposes permitted, according to the governing



documents, is 24 continuous hours. In the rare instance that an extended period of time is needed, please let management know and we will note it on your account.

#### **Basketball Goals**

Basketball goals may not be stored in the public right of way. When not in use, please store basketball goals in your driveway, garage, backyard, or tucked away on the side of your



home. Basketball goal bases should not be a holding spot for buckets, flowerpots, sand bags, tires, or anything else that would be considered unsightly.

#### Leashes/Excessive Noise

There is a leash law in the City of Grand Prairie. If your pet is out-side your home or fenced backyard, it must be on a leash or citations will be given. We would also like to remind residents of the noise ordinance in the City of Grand Prairie. Between the hours of 5:01 p.m. and 7:59 a.m., excessive barking may also result in a citation.



# **NEW POLICY AT THE POOLS**

## **Safety Breaks**

Hello everyone, with the pools now OPEN, we have a new policy! Due to unfortunate past events we will be implementing safety breaks! Safety breaks are meant for everyone to exit the pool and give your body, and our monitors a rest. This includes adults. While having lots of fun in the pool it's easy to forget to keep yourself hydrated, and that you may have to use the restroom! The breaks will be 10 minutes prior to each hour.

We want everyone to stay safe while having fun! Thank you for your continued support and cooperation!



(all events are subject to change, please watch for updates.)

#### **Social Committee**

Back Pack Collection - July - Aug (door prize ticket for backpack through August 16th)

**Jazz night** - Sep 14th - 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Fall Garage Sale - Sep 21st (weekend)

Fall Festival/Vendor Fair - Oct 19th - 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Holiday Brunch - Dec 7th - 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm (please bring an unwrapped toy for Santa Cop to attend)

#### **Pool & Sports Committee**

Meetings first Thursday of the month.

**Yoga Classes** - June 5th - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm June 15th - 8:30 am - 9:30 am - Clubhouse

**Drowning Prevention Class** - TBD

Rangers Game - June 8th - Oakland A's - 8:05 pm July 12th - Houston Astros - 7:05 pm

Friendly - Kick-ball Game @ South Pool - June 22nd 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - South Open Space

#### **Safety Committee**

CPR Class - July 16th - 6:30 pm First Aid Class - July 18th - 6:30 pm National Night Out - Oct 1st - 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Santa Cop - Dec 7th - during our Holiday Brunch

#### **Welcome Committee**

Receptions - Quarterly (RSVP only, per invitation) July 20th - 10:00 am - 11:30 am October 12th - 10:00 am - 11:30 am

#### **Communications Committee**

**Blood Drive** - July 27th - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

#### **Workshops**

Do it yourself pest control - Rodents - June 15th 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

# NOTARY SERVI

On-site Assistant Manager, Matt Urbaniak is a NOTARY for Mira Lagos, free to the residents needing services. Please make an appointment at admin@miralagoshoa.com.

# **KEEP FRUIT & VEGGIES FRESH(ER)**



#### **BANANAS**

Bananas stay fresher when kept together in the bunch vs. separating. Wrap the banana stems with plastic wrap as soon as you get them home for further freshness.



## **MUSHROOMS**

Storing mushrooms in a paper bag will reduce moisture which causes slime.



#### **POTATOES**

Place an apple in a bag of potatoes and store them in a cool dark place such as your pantry. Apples create ethylene gas which can help keep your potatoes firmer and fresher a few weeks longer.



#### **TOMATOES**

For excellent flavor and a juicy texture, tomatoes should not be stored in the fridge. It is best to keep tomatoes on the counter (away from the sun) to allow them to ripen and reach full potential.



#### **HERBS**

Keep herbs fresh by placing the herb bunch in a glass of water in a windowsill or on your table in a mason jar. After the herbs begin to look a little less fresh, finely chop herbs, and place them in an empty ice cube tray, top with olive oil and freeze for other meals.



#### **BERRIES**

To the lengthen the life of berries and kill mold spores give them a bath in 1 cup vinegar and 3 cups of water. After the vinegar bath it is important to dry the berries before storing them in the fridge.



#### **CELERY**

Remove the plastic wrapper around fresh celery and wrap celery in aluminum foil. Celery will stay crisper longer.



Apples should be kept in a fruit bowl on your counter. The ethylene gas is bad for other veggies. If you prefer cold apples, store your apples in a plastic bag in your fridge.



#### **AVOCADOES**

Keep avocadoes out on the counter until they have ripened then place them in the fridge. To preserve a cut avocado brush it with olive oil or vegetable oil and seal in airtight container.







Your HOA Management Team



# DO YOUR TREES HAVE ROOT PROBLEMS?

Have you noticed a decline in the health of one or more of your trees? Yellowing or curling leaves, branches dropping off? Your first response might be to look up however looking down at the roots might actually be the right response. Trees are a valuable and important investment to the curb appeal of your home and community, to shading your home keeping utility costs down as well as to the health of the environment. Maintaining the overall condition of your trees might begin at the roots.



# GIRDLING ROOTS CAN MEAN A DEATH SENTENCE FOR YOUR BEAUTIFUL TREES...

but you might not even notice them, or know what they are. Girdling roots are caused when a root begins to circle and coil around the base of the tree trunk. Over time, as the root continues to enlarge, they inhibit proper trunk growth and the proper transfer of water and nutrients up into the tree. Girdling roots can occur in both container-grown and ball-and-burlap trees that have been left in their container or burlap bag too long. The roots don't have anywhere else to go but around and around essentially strangling the tree! Girdling roots can also be caused by failing to remove the wire from the root ball before planting, or from planting the tree too deep, or especially allowing too much soil to pile up around the base of the tree, or by allowing dense ground cover to grow around

the base of the tree which is what we see a lot of in our area landscaping.

When a tree's root flare is covered up with soil, oxygen is limited, and roots may grow

around the trunk under the excess soil. Roots below the soil could be weakened, compressed, diseased or grown through/around and wrapped up in a soaker or sprinkler sys-

tem. To the average homeowner, roots are seldom considered when maintaining trees. It is a good idea to seek the professional opinion and consultation of an experienced arborist to look at your trees and root system.

There are a few signs to look for which can indicate your tree roots might be in trouble. First, is the canopy of your tree changing or one side looking more affected



than the other? Second, does your tree lean? Third, have you noticed broken, dying or rotting roots? And finally, do you see fungal conks or mushrooms growing near the base of your tree? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, your tree needs help from an arborist.



It is recommended that your trees be inspected yearly by an arborist in order to save your trees, properly diagnosis treatment or perhaps remove any unsafe damaged trees ultimately saving you money. Healthy tree roots stabilize and sustain your valuable trees.



Resident Notice

# **PAYMENT & BILLING OPTIONS**

Dear Resident,

Welcome to FirstService Residential. As the managing agent for your community, we ask that you please review the following information on how we accept your payments.

## Manage & Pay Your Charges Online

As the **preferred way** of accepting payments, we request that you create an account online with our provider, **Click**Pay. Through this convenient platform, you can view your balance due and make individual or automatic recurring payments from your smartphone, tablet or other media device.

Payments can be made online by e-check (ACH) from a bank account at no cost to you or by credit or debit card for a 2.95% fee. Get started by visiting the web address below and following the instructions listed:

# www.ClickPay.com/FirstService

- ① Click Register and create your online profile with ClickPay
- ② Connect Your Home using the account number found on your coupon or statement
- Set up Automatic Payments or click Pay Now to make one-time payments

Please set up your payments 3-5 business days prior to your "late date"

For help with your account or setting up payments online, please contact **ClickPay** through their online help center at **www.ClickPay.com/GetHelp**.

# Mailing Address for Payments

If you choose to submit your payments by paper check, money order or through your bank's Online Bill Pay feature, please mail your payments to the address listed below.

Association Name c/o FirstService Residential P.O. Box 62047 Newark, NJ 07101

Please make all checks payable to the entity listed on your statement or coupon, include the remittance slip with your payments, and write the account number found on your statement or coupon in the notes section of your check or Online Bill Pay settings.