

Berkley Grove's POA

The Grove Newsletter

September 2018



HAPPY FALL BERKLEY GROVE!!!

What's coming up & important dates...

- **Berkley Grove Fall Garage Sale** – September 21 & 22, 2018 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **Berkley Grove Town Hall Debate** – October 4, 2018
 - **Location:** Fishers City Hall Auditorium
 - **Time:** 7pm - 9pm

Purpose: An agenda will be published ahead of the meeting with proposed topics for discussion & debate inviting all residents to participate. Board will also report back on progress made since the April Town Hall.

FROM THE BGPOA's PRESIDENT

Hello Berkley Grove Residents,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and beginning to settle into Fall as summer heat begins to wane. I have made my way around and have met most of you and heard your concerns. I wanted to update you on a few pressing areas of concern.

First, I have been working with Fishers Police Department to create ongoing support for our neighborhood due to the recent vehicle break-ins. One of the areas they see we could use to help ourselves would be to start a crime watch program that the city would help us organize. If there is interest in this please email me.

Next, there will be an update coming to our website, it will make the site more user friendly and intuitive to use and find all the documents you need.

In addition, you have probably seen a little orange tag in your front yard, AT&T will be finishing the fiber-optic job that was not completed last year due to the city pulling the last company's contract. You should experience no interruptions in service, but if you do have questions or concerns, you should email me directly as instructed by the community support rep for AT&T. Your issue will be resolved more quickly if the issue comes from me per AT&T's request.

Finally, new playground equipment was selected and ordered and should be installed in the coming weeks. This was a lengthy process due to the desire to select equipment that would have the widest rate of appeal to a broader age range.

One issue that remains outstanding are covenant issues. While some can be remedied quite easily, others can take a bit longer to resolve due to circumstances. Please be patient and they will be addressed. One of the largest issues has been the algae growth in the ponds this year, after communicating with Puddle-Jumpers, this season was specifically bad. If you would like more information, please let me know.

A couple of Fall notes:

- Power wash the sides of your home
- Trash cans out of Street View
- Replace and/or Paint Trim to prevent rotting wood and exterior paint matches
- Fireplace Chimney Inspections due
- All Outdoor lights on at night.

Warmly,
David Martin

With the new website, please note some new email addresses:

BERKLEY GROVE POA BOARD and COMMITTEE HEADS

Executive Board

President: David Martin – president@berkleygrove.com

Treasurer: Bob Barcheski – treasurer@berkleygrove.com

Secretary: Pam Wise – secretary@berkleygrove.com

Committee Heads

Newsletter Editor: *OPEN POSITION*

Electronic/Internet Communications: Steven Frank – info@berkleygrove.com

Community Events: *OPEN POSITION*

New Resident Welcoming: Pam Wise – secretary@berkleygrove.com

Parks/Entryway: Dave Jacocks – djcox4040@gmail.com

Pond Coordinator: Greg Christoff – gc5322@gmail.com

Waterfall/Maintenance: Steve Verplank – sverplank@sbcglobal.net

SAFETY AWARENESS

We continue to have a few vehicle break-ins in our neighborhood from time to time. Here are a few helpful tips on how to protect you, your family, and your home:

- Be aware and vigilant of your surroundings.
- Keep an eye out for one another and your surrounding properties.
- Report any strange activity or anything you see that may be suspicious.
- Check your property regularly for anything that may look out of place.
- Be sure to lock all vehicles that are parked outside. Also, if vehicles are parked outside, garage door openers should not be left in cars.
- Do not leave valuables in your vehicles and keep anything that is left in the car out of sight.

LIGHT UP—KEEP SAFE

Since Berkley Grove has no street lighting, per the covenants, maintaining continuous dusk-to-dawn lighting controlled by a photocell on the side of your garage is mandatory. Leaving your doorway lights and post lamps (if you have them), adds to your personal safety. **FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS**, please keep your outside lights lit after dark. If you see your neighbor's lights are out, let them know!

LIGHT UP—BE SAFE

NEIGHBORHOOD SPEED LIMIT SIGNS PROJECT—COMPLETED!!

The City of Fishers has now posted **25mph speed limit signs** in Berkley Grove. **Watch your speed** –it is now posted and is **enforceable** by the Fishers Police Department. With the start of school and days becoming shorter, more children will be out during the morning and early afternoon hours. **SLOW DOWN – KEEP ALL OUR RESIDENTS SAFE!!**

POST LIGHT— “THE BEACON”

Recently our entryway post light was not working due to some underground wiring problems. It has been repaired and is working properly. A resident recently stated that the post light seemed like a beacon to Berkley Grove when he drove home at night. **The BEACON is back!**

PARK – As you may have noticed, the old wooden structure was removed due to a number of safety issues. New commercial grade park equipment has been ordered. Installation of new equipment should be completed by late-October/early November.

WATERFALL ENTRY WAY - After several months of consideration, Berkley Grove was awarded a Neighborhood Matching Grant from the City of Fishers. This matching grant is awarded to older neighborhoods within the City Limits with the intent to match monies spent to enhance the appearance of these neighborhoods to ensure they continue to draw and maintain residents and keep property values high. **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN** – Berkley Grove will now be in a position to repair and enhance the existing landscaping around the entry way and waterfall to improve the overall appearance.

WEB-BASED/SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION - The best way to get information is the website www.berkleygrove.com - The Berkley Grove website has been updated and should be live in the next few

days. Watch for a new and improved, user friendly website! If you have any questions concerning the website or where to locate information please reach out to info@berkleygrove.com.

In Addition to the Website:

www.facebook.com/berkleygrove.hoa/- This is a public page so you may view it without a Facebook account. Facebook will be used to share events and important information to connect residents with info.

Your Email- If you are on our email list you will receive all updates there as well. If you are not but would like to receive a few emails from us to be updated and in the know, please email [info@berkleygrove](mailto:info@berkleygrove.com) to be added to get the most up to date information.

COVENANT VIOLATIONS – If you are in VIOLATION you WILL receive a notice

- maintain continuous dusk-to-dawn lighting controlled by a photocell on the side of your garage
- trash bins should not be visible from the street except on trash pick-up day
- your lawn is properly maintained by mowing and trimming
- cut down and remove dead trees
- keep the exterior of your home in such a state of repair or maintenance as to avoid it from becoming unsightly including repair to rotting wood and flaking paint. This will also prolong the life of your home
- be courteous of your neighbors while parking vehicles on the street
- no trucks one (1) ton or larger in size, campers, trailers, boats, or similar vehicles shall be parked on any street
- be courteous of your neighbors and keep the sidewalk in front of your home free from lawn clippings, overhanging tree limbs in the summer months, and snow/ice in the winter

***If this pertains to you, please have completed by October 15th
Covenant Violation Citations will be mailed***

HOW TO POWER WASH YOUR HOUSE TO KEEP THAT “NEW” LOOK

As our houses age, painting or pressure washing one's house will help it retain 'that new' look. Per an internet article on wikiHow's *to do anything* website, www.wikihow.com/Pressure-Wash-a-House, below are some helpful tips on how to pressure (power) wash your house!

“Pressure washing, also known as power washing, involves using a high-velocity water spray to clean dirt and residue from the exterior of a house. This type of cleaning is a particularly important preparatory step before painting or re-painting your house. A clean surface allows new paint to last longer. You can use pressure-washing equipment on most types of housing material once you learn how to pressure wash a house.

1) Choose a pressure washer that is best for the job. Different housing materials can withstand various water pressures. The size, or spray power, ranges from 1,200 to 3,000 pounds per square inch (psi).

- Softer housing materials, such as painted soft-grain wood and aluminum, require a 1,200 to 1,500 psi model to prevent pressure damage. You may need a wide spray nozzle to disperse water pressure for even more vulnerable materials, like stucco.
- Stronger non-painted surfaces, such as vinyl, clean better with a more powerful 2,500 to 3,000 psi model. These models work the fastest.
- Select a pressure washer that has a detergent dispenser if you plan to use a cleaning solution.

- 2) Protect your house's exterior fixtures, like lights, landscaping shrubs and plants, from harmful water pressure. Cover with drop cloths or plastic covering and secure with duct tape.
- 3) Manually scrub any visible mildew from the surface you are power washing with a brush.
- 4) Mix the cleaning solution and fill the pressure washer's detergent dispenser. Combine approximately 1 pound (.455 kilograms) of a non-phosphate concentrated cleaner for every 4 gallons (15.4 liters) of washing water.
- 5) Connect a garden hose hooked to your water supply to the pressure washer. When you are ready, turn on the water.
- 6) Test how to pressure wash a house by holding the pressure washer nozzle with both hands about 3 feet (121.92 centimeters) from the wall. Move it in closer until you feel the spray is strong enough to remove dirt but not strong enough to cause damage.
- 7) Start at the top of the house and move down. Spray roof overhangs, under-hangs and gutters at an approximate 45-degree angle. Move the spray steadily from side to side.
- 8) Rinse from the top down with plain water from a garden hose. Allow house siding to dry at least 2 days before painting."

Tips & Warnings

- Hold the wand at an angle to spray near windows and doors. This prevents the water from damaging the glass or any joints around the window.
- Do not use a pressure washer while standing on a ladder. The force from the washer may push you off the ladder.
- Try not to spray any surface of the home while it is directly in the sun. The sunlight may cause the cleaning solution to dry before it can be rinsed away.

There are many **HOW TO's** on the internet. <https://www.improvenet.com/a/diy-how-to-power-wash-siding> gave these quick tips:

1. Cover nearby plantings with a plastic drop cloth. Wet down plants that can't be covered and try to keep them wet.
2. Mildew spots usually require a weak bleach solution. Wipe it on lightly, then rinse the area with clean water.
3. To add detergent to the flow, hook the siphon tube to the pump with the filter end in the detergent container.
4. Apply the detergent at low pressure. Work from the bottom up, and allow the solution to stand several minutes.

If some of your siding has begun to grow mildew, however, a little bleach is required. Mix one-part household bleach with 10 parts water and wipe it on the affected area. Then, rinse it away with a sponge and clean water.

Using bleach on siding is tricky, so start with as little as possible, for as short a time as possible.

FOR YOUR PROTECTION, check out several articles on how to do it yourself by searching: How to pressure wash your house.

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO BERKLEY GROVE RESIDENTS – Babysit? Handyman Services? Send your information to info@berkleygrove.com . These items will be posted in future issues of *The Grove*.

Want to see something specific in *The Grove* –Let us know! Send article requests to info@berkleygrove.com .