

To submit an article:

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- Deadline
December 15th

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How to Winterize your Garden

Readying your garden for winter is essential in our region, where freezing, drying conditions can tax even hardy plants. Even in warmer climates there's plenty to do. Most deciduous flowering bushes, unlike evergreens, provide no visual interest in winter, but their promise of spring blooming gets us through many a dreary winter day.

There's some preventive shrub care you can provide for your flowering bushes to return the favor -- some simple winter protection. When you put your garden to bed every fall, you are actually preparing for spring at the same time.

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Fireplace Safety – *can your ashes*

What could be better than curling up in front of the fireplace or wood stove on a cold winter's night? What could be worse than burning your house down because you didn't properly dispose of the ashes! Since fireplaces and wood stoves have increased in popularity; fires related to their misuse have increased as well.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage occurs and dozens of families are displaced because of fires caused by the improper disposal of fireplace ashes. Fireplace and wood-stove ashes retain enough heat to ignite other combustible materials for several days after a fire. It is important to learn the proper ways to dispose of fireplace and wood-stove ashes:

- Do **NOT** discard your ashes into any combustible container like a paper or plastic bag, a cardboard box, or a plastic trash can.
- ✓ Do put ashes into a non-combustible metal container with a lid.
- ✓ Do pour water into the container to make sure the ashes are cool.
- ✓ Do keep your ash container **OUTSIDE** the home, away from combustibles.

Leewood's 1st Annual Neighborhood Block Party

Thanks to everyone who showed up for the block party! The weather certainly cooperated and we enjoyed meeting new neighbors and seeing old friends.

The canned food drive was a huge success and all contributions are being delivered to a local food bank for Thanksgiving.

Be sure and check out Judy Currier's party details and pictures on our community website at www.Leewood.us.

Tips on winterizing your garden and shrubs

Continued from page 1

Here are a few tips to get you through the winter:

- Plant spring-blooming bulbs such as tulips and daffodils. Plant them any time from September in colder regions through November - as long as the ground can be easily worked.
- Rake leaves and dispose of them. Failing to rake leaves can result in a dying or diseased lawn.
- Pull up any annual flowers or vegetables felled by frost and dispose of them.
- Cut back almost to the ground any perennials whose foliage has become unsightly. The seedheads and dried foliage of some perennials add interest during the winter months, while others just look messy.
- Weed. Fall action prevents weeds from getting a head start next spring, saving you work in the long run.
- Dig up tender bulbs. Cannas, tuberous begonias, gladiolus, dahlias and most other summer-blooming bulbs don't survive the winter in our zone. Store bulbs in vermiculite in a paper bag in a cool (65 degrees F or cooler), dry spot.
- Protect your roses - leave spent blossoms on rose bushes so hips will form and help induce dormancy for winter. When weather cools, prune between knee to waist high. Strip leaves. Attach climbers to supports for protection against wind. Mulch to a depth of two inches once the ground has cooled down after severe frosts.
- Protect broad-leaved evergreens, such as rhododendrons and holly, with an antidesiccant spray. This prevents water loss from drying winter winds.
- Water evergreens and small trees and shrubs if the fall weather is especially dry. Their foliage and stems need to be nice and plump to prevent damage from drying winds now through early spring.



The most important thing is to make sure your plants are healthy and pest free. A healthy plant has the energy reserves to make it through a tough winter - a pest ridden one may not!

A brief history and origin of Thanksgiving Day

In 1620, a boat filled with more than one hundred people sailed across the Atlantic Ocean to settle in the New World. Their first winter was difficult as they had arrived too late to grow many crops. Without fresh food, half the colony died from disease. The following spring the Iroquois Indians taught them how to grow in the unfamiliar soil and how to hunt and fish. In the autumn of 1621, bountiful crops of corn, barley, beans and pumpkins were harvested. The colonists had much to be thankful for, so a feast was planned. They invited the local Indian chief and 90 Indians.

In following years, many of the original colonists celebrated the autumn harvest with a feast of thanks. After the United States became an independent country, Congress recommended one yearly day of thanksgiving for the whole nation to celebrate.



Local Spotlight: Burger Joe's

While visiting Atlanta, Carrie and Eric John Schori fell in love with a restaurant that served the best burger they ever had. After convincing the owner to expand his franchise to Virginia, they opened Burger Joe's in Springfield in mid-June and they hope you feel the same way here.

Burger Joe's is a unique concept designed to fill a niche in the delivery market and offers a new alternative – a gourmet, juicy, “run-down-your-chin-good” burger – delivered straight to you! Their staff makes fresh half-pound, gourmet burgers daily by hand using beef, turkey, or veggie, prepared in a variety of different styles and toppings and they soon plan to introduce a ¼ pound beef burger called “Lil Joey”. In addition to burgers, fresh marinated chicken breast sandwiches and tenders are available, as well as wings and salads. Rounding off the menu are the popular, hand-dipped milkshakes.

Located at 7024 Commerce Street and open seven days a week, Burger Joe's offers delivery, takeout, as well as a comfortable, retro-styled dining room. They can be reached at 703-226-5637

See *YOUR Leewood Homeowners Association Coupon* on page 4

Our New Board President *by Janet Rourke*

The Leewood Homeowners Association Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Julie King as a member of the Board effective October 1, 2006. The Board would like to thank Julie on behalf of the Leewood community for her service on this and past boards. We hope to be working with Julie as a volunteer in some capacity in the future.

On October 10, 2006, I was elected President of the Board. I look forward to working with all of you over the next several months. I can be reached anytime by email at [REDACTED] or more directly at [REDACTED]. I can be reached by phone at [REDACTED]. Of course, homeowners can write to me at Leewood Homeowners Association, at the address on page 4, attention: President.

I will do my best to respond to homeowners and to bring matters of concern to the Board for attention. Bob Chilakamarri remains as Vice President of the Board, Mohammed Umar as Treasurer and Rose Weber as Secretary.

Community Spotlight:

5275 Bradgen Court

Take a stroll by 5275 Bradgen Ct. and see the beautiful fall mums, festive pumpkins and stone wall landscaping. The care and extra touches make this a beautiful home in our community! If you wish to submit a home that you would like us to spotlight, please send an email with attached photo to LeewoodTimes@cox.net.



A cheeseburger from Burger Joe's

7024 COMMERCE ST
SPRINGFIELD, VA
703-226-JOES



Leewood Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 1421
Springfield, VA 22151

Our Board

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Secretary –
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We're on the Web!
www.leewood.us

To submit an article:
Email us at:
LeewoodTimes@cox.net

LEEWOOD HOMEOWNER PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES IN SELF GOVERNANCE

By Bob Chilakamarri

Leewood Homeowners govern themselves consistent within the Leewood Covenants, Articles of Incorporation, and applicable state and county law such as The Virginia Property Owners Act and rules and regulations found in our Standards Manual. Details of these documents may be found on our website: www@leewood.us

We are an American community of diverse age groups, talents including techno-talents, skills, national origins, languages, colors, and faiths realizing the American Dream. Part of the dream is also democratic self governance. We all feel we will be served better if more members from our community of 195 homes volunteer to actively participate in self governance. It could be a challenging as well as a learning experience to remember fondly later. Your participation gives you a chance to have your constructive say in our Governance.

From my past experience of over a dozen years here, I have no doubt that our community has been blessed with very talented and skilled persons. No doubt, it is difficult for any one of us to find time to volunteer. However, it is found that self governance from within is better than from without because of economy and direct administration.

As a Board Member overseeing the Nominating Committee formation and its Chair person, I am soliciting the interest of persons who wish to be on the Nominating Committee. The main purpose of the Nominating Committee is to solicit names of members who wish to stand for election to the Association's Board of Directors. The committee members serve from the close of the Association's Regular Annual Meeting until the close of the following Regular Annual Meeting. If you are interested in being a member of the nominating committee, please send me an email to build a pool of such volunteers for now and future use. If you have an interest in serving on the Nominating or any other committee, please let me know by an email to vice president.

In fact, we have ten organizations within Leewood for which one could volunteer, not all mandated but could enlarge members participation in Self Governance:

- A. Board of Directors
- B. Architectural Review Committee
- C. Grounds and Maintenance Committee
- D. County and Community Affairs Committee
- E. Finance and Investment Committee
- F. Audit Committee
- G. Nominating Committee
- H. Consumer Affairs Representative
- I. Welcome Committee
- J. Website Committee

You may use the link below from which you can printout a form to fill and send to a member on the Board:
<http://www.leewood.us/community/Leewood%20Needs%20You2.pdf>



Expires 12/31/06

LHA COUPON

Special Offer!

\$2.00 OFF any purchase of \$15 or more

not valid with other offers

coupon must be presented at time of purchase