



Hello neighbors!

This year is beginning to move by us quickly and there have been some changes to our previous activities scheduled. To begin with, our Summer Party that was scheduled for Saturday, September 5th, has been canceled. After further discussion, the HOA Board has decided that is safer to have smaller block parties instead. If you are interested in joining in on your block's party, contact your Block Captain and let them know! With smaller block parties, people can bring their own food and beverages and keep social distancing under control much easier. We will be scheduling food trucks to return soon. If you have any preferences, please let us know!

OUR ANNUAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH AT 4:30 PM. This is an extremely important meeting, as this is when we will have the election for next year's Board of Directors! Please mark your calendars now and plan on joining us and placing your votes! We must be able to make quorum, either by proxy or in person, to be able to have the election. Last year we had a very favorable turnout, but we hope to have even more of you show up to this year's meeting!

NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN BY TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH IN ORDER FOR YOUR NAME TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT!!!

If you've never volunteered to be on the Steeplechase Board of Directors, you're missing out on an exciting, fun adventure! I had no idea what it took to keep things moving in a forward motion for our community. The learning experience has been incredible! There seems to be a misnomer that one must have experience to be on the board. That is farthest from the truth! Like any job, you learn as you go! And with a team of friendly volunteers to work with, it becomes a well-greased wheel! This year we have had some interesting challenges to deal with. The biggest is of course COVID-19! Wow! Who knew?! Again, learned a lot!!! I urge all of you to take your turn as a volunteer and not look at it as a commitment, but rather a temporary adventure and a way to be a part of what makes Steeplechase **STEEPLECHASE!!!** Think of how YOU could add different ideas to improve or add to our usual routine. Think outside the box and make it fun! You can download a **NOMINATION FORM** from our website at www.steeplechaseedmond.com. If you're not interested, maybe your spouse is! Feel free to add a short biography to give us an idea of WHO you are

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
OFFICIAL POOL CLOSING DATE
MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14TH**

and any changes you would like to make to improve our community! These may be dropped in the pool mailbox or given to a current board member. **WE NEED YOU!!!**

There will be an Annual Dues Increase of \$100.00/yr/household on the ballot. Last year we almost had enough votes to pass. It is essential that we raise our dues to balance the expenses we are enduring year to year. Our annual maintenance commitments are only \$2,100 less than the money we collect from every household. Comparatively speaking, we are HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS BEHIND MOST OF OUR SURROUNDING ADDITIONS! Steeplechase is over 20 years old now and showing its age. The pool and grounds are always our biggest expenses, but this year, we had major issues that arose that took more funds that were budgeted for. Let me be clear, there are even larger ones ahead of us and if we don't start getting our dues increased to an acceptable amount, we will be forced to ask for assessments well over \$1000.00. So please be prepared to vote "YES" on the dues increase to prevent this from happening. Our dam in the east pond has MULTIPLE leaks that are becoming larger everyday. At some point, that dam will break and we will lose all the water in both ponds, as they are connected! These are not scare tactics, these are facts! We have recently found out through a professional arborist that our huge beautiful elm at the west end of the west pond has Dutch Elm Disease. This is a fungus that is spread and carried to other trees by the Dutch Elm beetle. We are currently getting estimates to have it taken down and disposed of to try to prevent further spreading. If you have any elm trees in your yard, I highly suggest you take precautions to prevent the fungus from attacking it. This is yet another unexpected large expense that we have incurred this year. There is no stopping nature, but we can be better prepared to deal with it if our funds are in order. Please consider this when voting on the dues increase.

On a final note, I would like to thank everyone for their patience with the changes we have had to make to allow for safety during this pandemic. But the silver lining is that I do believe it has brought us all a little bit closer together as a community! Stay healthy and happy!!!

Warmest regards,
Meg Robinson, President

DEAR STEEPLCHASE NEIGHBORS

It's that time of year again! We are looking for nominations for the 2021 HOA board of directors.

No experience required, just a love of our Steeplechase community, a desire to maintain and improve what we already have, plus an enthusiasm and willingness to work with neighbors in making Steeplechase a great place to live and grow our families.

Please seriously consider volunteering as your energy and ideas are invaluable in continuing to make Steeplechase a wonderful community to live in. We also have the added incentive of keeping our property values high, as Steeplechase is a desirable addition to live in.

The present 2020 HOA board of directors will be happy to help you get settled, offering advice and assistance when requested.

What are you waiting for?

Your neighborhood needs YOU!



Summer Swim League

Steeplechase Stingrays had another successful summer swim league. We finished 3rd in the Large Team Division at All City! We had 26 kids swim on the team representing 17 families. We made some changes this year due to COVID to ensure everyone's safety. We learned some of those changes were better than the way we were doing things. The kids all improved greatly as the weeks progressed, many ribbons and medals were won each week! If you were ever around the pool during practice you would know lots of fun was had, there was always a lot of laughing and splashing. Both kids and parents made new friends during practice and volunteering to host the meets, furthering our bond as neighbors and community. Steeplechase hosted 3 meets this summer including 8 other neighborhoods. Our pool is one of the best in the city for hosting meets as it is almost 25 yards long and has a lot of room for spectators, not to mention we have great parent volunteers. We appreciate the neighborhood's continued support of the swim team. Look for signs next Spring if you want to join us next Summer!

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE SCHEDULED SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD
Declutter your garages and closets to get ready for the upcoming holidays.
It's also a great way to get out, meet new neighbors, and simply have a fun day.

Steeplechase Board of Directors
Meg Robinson, President
Betty Millican, Vice President
Linda Reid, Secretary/Treasurer
Harold Phillips, Grounds Chair
Bill Greaves, ARB Chair
Denise Doepke, Pool Committee Lead

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

ABBREVIATED VERSION OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES TO JULY 31st 2020

RESERVE ACCOUNT	\$57,942.47
Total REVENUE to Date	\$104,747.59
Homeowners Annual Dues Realized	\$104,441.76
Finance Charges	\$135.83
Pool Key	\$60.00
Newsletter Advertising	\$25.00
Bank Interest	\$85.00
Total EXPENSES to Date	\$64,886.34
Management Fees	\$2,211.38
Total Communication	\$132.39
Total Grounds	\$33,183.81
Insurance Expenses	\$6,405.00
Total Pool Expenses	\$18,227.09
Total Utilities	\$4,642.56
Neighborhood Party	\$69.11
Bank Charges	\$15.00
Estimated EXPENSES still to come	\$35,253.70
Grounds	\$13,128.37
Pool	\$6,201.67
Utilities	\$8,578.47
Management Fees	\$1,250.00
Communication	\$295.19
Association Taxes	\$550.00
Diseased Tree Removal	\$5,250.00
Collected REVENUE : \$104,757.59	EXPENSES Known & Anticipated : \$100,140.04

The American Flag Etiquette



The flag of the United States is the distinctive symbol of its proud citizens and the embodiment of our values as Americans. Its design embodies our origins, our unity and our vision. The colors represent our Country's virtues, such as bravery, purity and justice.

The display and care of our flag is codified by Congressional Resolution. This code standardizes the design, presentation and disposal of our Nation's emblem so that it is flown uniformly around the world. Here are excerpts from the code that describe proper care and display of the flag:



1. The flag should be displayed from sunrise to dusk.
2. The flag may be displayed at night, if adequately illuminated.
3. The flag shouldn't be flown in inclement weather, unless it is an "All Weather" flag.
4. The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
5. If hung vertically on a wall or porch, the Union (the blue field of stars) should be in the top left corner.
6. The flag should never be worn as an article of clothing.
7. The flag should never touch the ground or anything beneath it.
8. The flag is flown at half-mast during periods of national mourning but hoisted to its peak for an instant before lowering it.
9. When a flag becomes worn, faded or frayed, it should be disposed of ceremoniously. This can be done by your local Scouts or American Legion Post.
10. When not on display, the flag should be folded into a triangle with the Union visible



The url below includes a demonstration of proper flag-folding.
<https://www.marthastewart.com/1528912/american-flag-etiquette>

YARD OF THE MONTH



July Winners
John & Sara Baier
 2501 Saddleback Road



August Winners
John, Ellen & Jackson Gifford
 2524 Steeplechase Road



Beaver Activity

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT TRAPS ARE SET!!!

The recent activity by the beavers has taken down several trees. Please keep your children and pets away from the Steeplechase Road creek bed until further notice.

While we have taken extra steps to protect our new trees at our east entrance, we cannot protect all of our beautiful trees along our creek. If you see any new activity, (fresh wood chips around any tree along the creek), please notify us immediately! Beavers are an extremely destructive rodent.

Again, please keep your children and pets away from the creek from Coltrane up through Steeplechase Road.

Snakes



BEWARE OF COPPERHEADS IN OUR AREA!!!

We have recently had three different dogs bitten by copperheads in the Steeplechase addition, while others have been reported in nearby neighborhoods. These are extremely serious and painful bites and demand immediate attention! So please keep an eye out for them and approach with caution, preferably with a hoe or shovel!!!

Newsletter advertising

for our neighborhood entrepreneurs (under 18) has always been free. Ads for professionals in our membership are \$25 for a business card sized ad. The fee is used to offset the cost of printing the newsletters. Please submit ads to BOD members.

AUTO THEFT IN STEEPLCHASE!!!

Steeplechase has recently been hit by thieves. Not only were vehicles broken into and items stolen or found elsewhere, but we've also had a truck stolen from a Steeplechase resident. The police have been involved and home security cameras have been useful in picking up images.

It's easy to become complacent in our everyday lives and we like to believe we can trust our homes and belongings are safe, but unfortunately, there are always going to be thieves out there waiting for the right moment to victimize.

LOCK YOUR DOORS TO YOUR HOMES AND VEHICLES AND KEEP YOUR SECURITY ALARMS SET!

If you see anything suspicious, do not hesitate to call 911 and report it! You never know how it may prevent or help in solving a crime!