

WindStone Wonders

Published by: WindStone Residential Association
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JUNE YARD OF THE MONTH

**Jim and Sue Rozell
1825 Windstone Drive**



Welcome to WindStone

Cliff Bellush/Judy Bielman – 662 Wisley Way
Chris and Ruth Bresson – 2171 Holden Farm Place
Chad and Beth Dupuis – 9237 Loch Haven Cove
Bertram and Gena Payne – 465 Wisley Way
Jim and Niki Walker – 52 Sandpiper Trail



Golf Course Etiquette

- Children should not play on the golf course.
- Golf course is not a walking trail.
- Rock quarry is private property and dangerous.
- No dumping yard debris on golf course.



Friendly Neighborhood Reminders (or...How To Be a Good Neighbor)

- All pets (including cats) should be confined to the pet owner's property. Don't let dogs bark constantly.
- Maintain your house and lawn so that your neighbors enjoy the view.
- The speed limit is 25 mph on all WindStone streets. Please keep our streets safe by slowing down.
- Keep the streets clear. Parking in the streets is prohibited except by guests visiting for short periods.
- Any changes or additions to the outside of your home or landscape must first be approved by the Architectural Review Board.

Fox Sighting

The Association is aware we have a sick fox among us. We are in the process of trapping and removing the sick fox. If you see the sick animal, please do not attempt to go near it. Be sure to keep your small pets and children away from it.

As for any healthy fox living among us, they will remain in place. Please reference information below from the humane society regarding living in a community where red fox are present.

Here are a few facts to put the presence of foxes in your yard in perspective:

- Foxes are not dangerous to humans, except when they are rabid (which is very rare) or when they are captured and handled. Even then, a fox's natural tendency is to flee rather than fight.
- Foxes may prey on small pets or livestock (such as rabbits, guinea pigs or chickens), so pets should be kept indoors or housed in sturdy structures.
- Foxes will also eat various fruits, but they usually do not bother garden vegetables.
- Sometimes foxes are blamed for damage they did not cause, such as when they are spotted eating from spilled trash when neighborhood dogs or other animals were responsible for the overturned trashcan.
- A fox cutting through your yard is probably just passing through on his way between hunting areas and no action is necessary on your part.

Jack's Corner

The heat of summer is well upon us, and so is the drought. Mosquitos being a very serious problem this year, here are a few suggestions for your yard. Make sure all gutters are clean, empty pots of stagnant water, change bird bath water every three days and place mosquito dunks in ponds. I have found a new product for mosquito control, Terminix AllClear Mosquito BAIT&KILL, which uses garlic and sugar to kill off the mosquitos. You can spray it in your lawn and non-flowering shrubs and, while it does have a slight garlic smell for the first few days, it works. Find this product at Lowes.

Please remember to wear sun screen, wear lightweight clothing and a wide-brimmed hat and drink plenty of water while working in the yard. Melanoma is the worst skin cancer we can have so take all precautions. Schedule activities early morning or early evening.

Raise the height of your mower in this heat to keep the lawn from stressing out. This will also conserve moisture in the ground for the root system. For best results, mow 2" for Bermuda grass, 1-2" for zoysia, and 2.5 – 3" for fescue grass.

July is a good month to prune "bleeder" trees, like maples, dogwood, elm, birch and others that bleed sap when pruned in winter. Avoid pruning spring-flowering shrubs from now until next spring, as anything you remove now will also be removing next year's flowers. Spring blooming shrubs include azaleas, camellias, weigela and rhododendrons. Now is the time to prune overgrown oak leaf and mophead hydrangeas. Cut old flower heads from hydrangea such as "Annabelle" to get a second but smaller flush of flowers.

Give chrysanthemums and asters a last pinch pruning no later than mid-July to keep the plants thick and full of blooms in the fall. Deadhead perennials to keep them flowering and be sure to remove fading flowers down to a leaf node or new bud. Cut back by one third your annuals that are getting leggy or out of control to keep them looking good into autumn. Give them a shot of a water-soluble fertilizer, such as "Miracle Grow." Annuals include impatiens, salvia, sweet potato vine, trailing or ground cover type petunias and herbs, like basil, rosemary, thyme, and oregano.

Cut flowers are beautiful indoors as well. Cut them early in the morning. Immediately place them in water. Good cut flowers include purple or white coneflower (echinacea), Black-eyed Susan (rudbeckia), zinnias, salvia, dahlias, sunflowers, Mexican sunflowers, celosia, cosmos, dill, fennel, blanket flower (gaillardia) bee balm, phlox, and yarrow to name just a few.

Please be careful using fireworks this holiday and summer. As dry as everything is, it takes very little to set off a wildfire. There are several places in our area to enjoy professionally-produced fireworks. Pick one or several to enjoy with your family.

Thank you to all Veterans who served and continue to serve our great nation. God Bless America!

Happy Gardening!

Jack Holloway, Master Gardener