

Butler Creek News

September 2015

Target Hardening

Residential burglary is one of the most frequently reported crimes. It is also one of the most preventable. Locking your windows and doors, installing high security locks, and establishing good security lighting, is the easiest and most cost-effective way to prevent burglary. The concept of "Target Hardening" is not new to anyone who has served in the military. The idea is to make your "enemy" – (in this case), a burglar, simply opt not to risk confronting your defences. But rather, move to an easier target. *Continued on page 2*

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Working Solutions will continue to inspect property to assist with the enforcement of the ACC covenants.

Letter from our President

Now that summer is coming to an end and the children are back to school, we must make sure we watch the children near school bus stops and walkways. NEVER try to beat the school bus or try to pass them when they are unloading. Most buses now have cameras posted on their sides, so they will photograph you passing and send you a summons by mail. In this mail you will see a photo showing the incident and a fine for about \$300.00. They also might charge you with points on your license and this could increase your auto insurance rates.

This is also the time of year when robberies start increasing. This is because households leave their front door, back door or doors in the garage open so the kids can get into the house. Thieves are quick and work in pairs. One is the lookout, while the other thief goes into your house to pick up quick things that are left on tables or desks. If something like this happens to you, the best thing to do is dial 911. Let the police do their job, we don't want any of our neighbors getting hurt.



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Ken's Corner

By Ken Scruby

WEED OF THE MONTH CRABGRASS

Crabgrass is hard to kill and is in full bloom now. Be very careful and read the directions as the herbicides used to kill this weed are very powerful. Try this product (KILLS CRABGRASS) by IMAGE. It is available at Home Depot. This should do the job.

AIR FILTERS Changing these are getting expensive. Here is a money saving tip. Buy one and save the old one. Spray the old one with 409 or any kind of de-greaser. Rinse it out and repeat. Then let it dry out. The next time your air filter gets dirty, then replace it with the one you cleaned out. Change out every time you change your oil about twice a year.

Mower Blades It is very important to replace the blades periodically. Check it while you are changing the oil. If the blade is in bad shape, then you need to find the exact replacement blade. I do not recommend using the universal blade. They never fit as well as the OEM blade. You can find correct OEM blades at the place you bought the mower or you may have to get it from a mower shop. If you got it at Sears then they will have that specific blade. You will need the model number and serial number, which can be found on the mower deck sticker. It is also good to take the old OEM blade with you. To remove the blade, remove the spark plug wire and block the end of the blade with a block of wood. Use a ½ inch drive breaker bar for bet results toe remove the center bolt.

Dollar Spot of Bermuda Grass

Source MSUcares.com

This common fungus disease occurs on several grass types but is most severe on Bermuda grass. It attacks neglected turf or areas that are under moisture or nutritional stress caused by a lack of nitrogen.

Warm, humid weather and cool nights with heavy dew promote the disease. It kills the grass in small spots 2 to 3 inches in diameter. The spots may grow together into large areas. They appear first as small, circular, straw-colored spots of blighted turf grass about the size of a silver dollar. Individual leaves develop lesions that have a bleached, straw-colored appearance, bounded by a tan to reddish-brown margin. A white, cotton-like fungal mycelium growth may be seen in early morning when dew is present.

Pieces of diseased plants are spread by mowers, sweepers, and other lawn equipment.

Control: 1) Maintain adequate moisture and nutrients. Maintain a high level of nitrogen when the disease is prevalent. 2) Prevent the buildup of thatch. 3) Do not water in late afternoon or evening. 4) Many strains of this fungus resist certain fungicides, so use several types of fungicides to control this disease. Alternate contact fungicides with systemic fungicides.

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Some burglaries are committed by professionals and no amount of home security measures will stop everyone because, let's face it, every home has glass windows which are easily broken. But minimizing the temptation by providing a strong defence will greatly reduce your chances of being a victim. Here are several additional recommendations to assist in "target hardening" your home, and making it less attractive to a criminal.

- Sliding glass doors tend to be an easy point of entry. Special locks and bars are available to prevent lifting and prying of the active door.
- All exterior doors should be equipped with deadbolt locks. If the door is equipped with a window which is less than 40" away from the lock, a double-cylinder deadbolt lock is recommended.
- Landscaping should be trimmed so criminals cannot use it for concealment.
- Arrange landscaping/plants to allow for "natural surveillance" of your property. Avoid blocking windows and entrance doors from the view of pedestrians, motorists, and police.
- Illuminate the exterior of the home at night. Position lights to avoid glare, shadows, and blind spots. Consider motion sensor (demand lighting, timers) or photo sensor lights.
- The door frame is often referred to as the door jamb, and it is inherently weak. In most cases the frame is the weakest component of the door assembly. Adequately anchor the strike plate to the framing of the house by using 3" long screws.
- Exterior doors that open outward have exposed hinges. Doors can be removed by removing the hinge pins. "Pinning" can be accomplished by removing two screws opposite each other, and installing pins in place of the screws. This will prevent the door from being removed.
- If you already have a furry four legged friend, then you are far ahead in the crime prevention game. With senses far superior to our own in both hearing and smell, dogs act as an excellent early warning system, not to mention burglars do not like to be bitten.
- Remember, the name of the game in "Target Hardening" is not to make your house like Fort Knox, rather to make the bad guys think twice and pass you by, in hopes of finding an easier score.

From PENS, Unit 1, Cobb County Police

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FARMERS MARKET

PLACE: DEPOT PARK, DOWNTOWN KENNESAW

TIME: 3:00-7:00PM ON MONDAYS

FOOD TRUCK MONDAY

PLACE: DEPOT PARK, DOWNTOWN KENNESAW

TIME: 6:00-9:00PM MONDAY

9/12 TASTE OF KENNESAW

PLACE: DOWNTOWN KENNESAW

TIME: 11:00-8:00PM

9/26 WORLDWIDE DAY OF PLAY

PLACE: SWIFT CANTRELL PARK

TIME: 9:00-12:00PM

10/3 GREAT LOCOMOTIVE RACE 5K

PLACE: DOWNTOWN KENNESAW

TIME: 7:00-10:00AM

10/10 FALL-O-WEEN FEST & OUTDOOR MOVIE

PLACE: SWIFT CANTRELL PARK

TIME: 5:00PM

10/13 COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

PLACE: BEN ROBERTSON COMMUNITY CENTER

TIME: 5:00PM

10/31 GARDEN GALLOP

PLACE: DOWNTOWN KENNESAW

TIME: 7:00AM

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

HOW TO MAKE PAVILION RESERVATIONS

See facilities on butlercreek.org and select tennis rules.

Pavilion option is under the Court tab.

BYLAWS, COVENANTS AND ACC FORMS

See documents on butlercreek.org to print what you need.

POOL KEY FOBs

Replacement key fobs can be purchased for \$25.00.

Contact Mark Ford, mford757@gmail.com.

President's Letter

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In conclusion, I hope you have liked the changes the Board has made in the past 2 months. We are trying to work out a time for a Town Hall Meeting in early November. I also want you to know that I have gone personally to each resident in our neighborhood and given out the updated BC Directory. This was a promise I made to myself to see each and every one of you.

Sincerely,
Joe Mantineo

Please park in your driveway.

