

Butler Creek News

January 2017

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Letter from the Prez

Dear Neighbors,

I'd like to wish each and every one of you a happy and prosperous New Year!

I can't believe it's been 1½ years into this administration already. Now that the holidays are behind us, the Butler Creek HOA can get back to working hard behind the scenes to make our neighborhood better for you.

Here are a few highlights for the upcoming months:

- In the open area before you get to the playground we will adding a tether ball set.
- We have a new company, Backyard Design and Maintenance, maintaining our common areas. They are the company that added the grass around the tennis courts, and made us a great offer, saving us about \$300.00 per year.
- We are working on repairing the basketball goal which has been broken for a couple of years.

Last but not least, we have about 13 households that have neglected to pay their 2016 HOA dues. The Board will be sending out letters to these residents requiring them to show proof of payment for their 2016 dues by January 28, 2017. After this date, our lawyer will begin the process of putting liens on their homes. The Board does not like to proceed in this manner, but every homeowner is legally obligated to pay their dues, and the dues provide the necessary resources for maintaining this great community in which we live.

Peace and tranquility and other fun stuff.

See you around the neighborhood,
The Prez

Ken's Corner

Winter is here and we are still experiencing a drought in Georgia. Even when the drought ends we should always conserve our most precious resource, water. Here are some water saving tips for your home and garden.

Indoors:

Check all faucets, pipes and toilets for leaks.

- Install water saving showerheads and ultra-low-flush toilets.
- Take shorter showers.
- Never use your toilet as a wastebasket.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Defrost frozen food in the refrigerator.
- Rinse vegetables in a full sink or pan of water.
- Fully load your dishwasher.
- Rinse dishes in a full sink or pan of water.
- Wash full loads of clothes.

Outdoors:

- Don't over-water landscaping.
- Water your lawn or garden early in the morning or late in evening.
- Adjust sprinklers so that they don't water the sidewalk or street.
- Don't water on cool, rainy or windy days.
- Equip all hoses with shut-off nozzles.
- Use drip irrigation systems.
- Plant drought-tolerant or low water-use plants and grasses.
- Use shrubs and ground cover to reduce the amount of grass.
- Place mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and discourage weeds.
- Set your mower blades one notch higher since longer grass means less evaporation.
- Use a bucket instead of a hose to wash your car.
- Use a broom rather than a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways.

Safety tip of the month

Check your vehicle safety lights and cars lights at least once a month.

NEIGHBOR SERVICES

Notary Public – Nichole Krouse

NEW WEBSITE INFORMATION

The new Butler Creek website has been operational for a few months and is a valuable resource for you. Every household has a login and password, which enables access to resident-only information, such as an up-to-date resident list, documents, and resident-only news. Please contact Ken Watson at furman87@gmail.com to verify your email address and he will send you your password.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Book, CD & DVD Swap @ Ben Robertson
Community Center

Jan 28 @ 8:00 am – 11:00 am

Valentine's Dance Party: Enchanted Forest @ Ben
Robertson Community Center

Feb 11 @ 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Community Blood Drive @ Ben Robertson
Community Center

Feb 14 @ 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

SPRING CLEAN-UP

Butler Creek will be conducting a spring clean-up of the trail and common areas. Refreshments and snacks will be provided to sustain our volunteers. Please volunteer to help.

Dates and times to be determined.



Winter Pest Control Tips

How to Get Rid of Indian Meal Moths

Indian Meal moths are destructive pests that can wreak havoc on an unsuspecting pantry or cupboard. If you spot moths in your pantry, the only way to be rid of them is to thoroughly wash everything out and discard anything that was infested. Additional measures can also improve your odds of keeping the pests from coming back. Here's what you need to know about getting rid of pantry moths.

Look for adult moths or larvae

The easiest way to spot a pantry moth problem is to see an adult moth flying around your pantry or home. This usually happens at night rather than during the day. If you suspect that you may have a pantry moth infestation, check all the dry food in your pantry. Moths hide out in flour, cereal, rice, and other grains most often, but you should also check pet food, dried fruit, or any other dry food products. In short, check everything. The last time I found Indian Meal Moths, they were in a package of crushed pecans. Examine the corners and edges of the cupboards and pantry, as well.

Check for cocoon webbing

Webbing often appears in food packaging, if you spot something that you suspect to be webbing while examining your food, it's best to treat it as such.

Inspect the lips of all your cans and jars. Pantry moths are plenty capable of spinning webs in these lips. Look in the corners and along the inside edges for clumps of stringy or grainy material.

Cleaning

Remove everything from the pantry. In order to clean the pantry thoroughly, it needs to be empty.

Throw away infested food. Any food that shows clear signs of contamination should be discarded. If an open bag of grains or dry food does not appear to be infested, but you still have concerns, you can either discard the food or place it in the freezer for a week. The cold temperatures will kill any moth eggs that you cannot detect with the naked eye. Note, however, that you should not do this if you can spot larvae or adult pantry moths.

Vacuum out the pantry. Use a vacuum cleaner with a hose and an angular nozzle attachment to clean the walls, baseboard, and corners of the pantry or cupboard. Clean under all shelving liners.^[2] Remove any old liners and vacuum beneath them. If the liners are in bad shape, you may need to replace them. Focus on areas with webbing, larvae, or adult moths, but vacuum the entire area. This includes all hardware, wire shelves, and pin holes in the cupboard.

Scrub the pantry with soap and hot water. Use a dish towel or sponge to wash the walls, floors, doors, and shelves of the pantry or cupboard. Make sure that you get the door hinges and door jamb, as these spots are the most common hiding places for larvae. You should also scrub beneath any shelving liners or interior racks.

Wash old containers in hot, soapy water. If you have plastic food containers currently in your pantry, wash them in a dishwasher or use hot water and dish soap to scrub them out thoroughly. This is an essential step if the containers were exposed directly to the pantry moths, but even if there were no pantry moths inside the container, it is still a good idea to temporarily remove the contents of the container and wash it. Doing so will also allow you to more closely examine the contents for evidence of infestation.

Take the trash outside. The vacuum bag and any trash bags containing infested food should be immediately removed from the kitchen and taken outside. If possible, place the bags on the curb or in an area that does not share a wall with your house.

Call SmartGreen Pest and Mosquito Control Today! As pest control experts, we will take inventory of all your issues and keep the pests away. Call us at 404-937-7088 or email me at scotts@smartgreenpestcontrol.com...Thanks!