

Dominion Club News

MARCH 13, 2009

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3



The Green, Green Grass of Home

We know it's hard to believe, but spring will be here soon. With Spring comes a rough schedule of grass mowing, fertilizing, lawn insecticide protection, bed edging, front bed mulching and periodic weeding as well as estimated shrub pruning times.

It is an "estimated" schedule because the activities are weather dependent, but you may find it useful to plan some of your own planting activities.

Our property maintenance contracts are bulk, "condo" style contracts, for the overall Dominion Club at New Albany Links originally platted Sections 2 & 6 of the New Albany Links subdivision. This means the contract fees are for the total of all properties and the clubhouse—per lot fees are not calculated, regardless of size.

Any lot or land additions or expansions are not and will not be covered by the association.

Summary of Events for the whole season:

1 springtime power edging of the front beds.

1 springtime mulching of the front beds—the same black mulch will be used as last year.

1 late spring pruning of shrubs in the front bed.

28 Mowings – remove grass clippings, blow the sidewalks and driveways clear (if not wet). Mower height settings will be determined by the contractor with consideration for the season and amount of

moisture in the ground.

14 lawn/sidewalk edgings—alternate with front bed hand-weeding.

14 front bed hand-weedings—alternate with lawn/sidewalk edgings.

(EITHER an edging or weeding activity will be performed with each mowing.)

1 end of season pruning of shrubs in the front bed.

6 seasonally oriented chemical treatments for lawn fertilization and insecticide – including white grub treatment if needed. For 2009, late fall fertilization is planned. No lawn aeration is planned for fall 2009.

We have certain quality expectations, i.e., use mower heights with consideration for the season and hydration amounts, no scalping, etc.

To attain cost effective mowing and completion of the job (and noise and mess) in one day, the contractor will determine when and where to use the riding tractor mowers, the large platform "walk-behind" mowers, or the small 21 inch power hand mowers.

Custom work, which is outside the scope of the association bulk contract fee, can be added on an individual basis. Those wishing special mowing or special edging outside the scope of the contract, to attain a "manicured" appearance of
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Mark your calendar now for upcoming Dominion Club parties - don't miss all the fun!

- ◆ 2009 Schedule Coming Soon...

DCHA Quarterly Meetings

- ◆ April 16
 - ◆ July 16
 - ◆ October 15—Election, 2 Board Members
- All at 7 pm Clubhouse



March 20

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Valentine's Day Dinner



The Valentine's Day Dinner for the members of the Dominion Club was held this year at the Rise & Dine Restaurant in New Albany. Fifty-five people were in attendance.

The entree was Lasagna with garlic bread and salad. Our Host, Mike Davis, the owner of the New Albany franchise for Rise & Dine, made the Lasagna and everyone said it was delicious.

As a special treat, we had two birthdays on this day, so Charlie Evrastian and Dave Kretschmaier brought a cake for Ellen and Linda. We all sang "Happy Birthday," then enjoyed the cake.

As the evening wound down, no one was in a hurry to go home, so people just visited with their neighbors and enjoyed the opportunity to get out and celebrate the day.



The Green, Green Grass of Home (continued)

their yard, have that option. Please do not stop a worker to ask for special treatment—that adds to the DCHA's costs. Instead, you are invited to contact Dean Jauchius to arrange for a site visit by Abbruzzese, to obtain an estimate of additional charges. Of course, you may choose to use a separate contractor, however, please bear in mind the monthly Dominion Club fee will not be adjusted to exclude the base level mowing service provided by the association.

Average mowing fees to have the yard, or portions thereof, mowed (manicured) with a smaller mower can range anywhere from \$20 to \$50 additional cost per mow-

ing, depending upon the size of the work volume negotiated. At 28 mowings per season, the range is from \$560 to \$1,400 extra per year. Towne Properties would bill you monthly on a per-visit basis, for the additional optional service.

Basically, the principle of this option is along the same line as those who have additional shrub, tree, and flower bed treatments (by TruGreen Chemlawn, for example) at their own additional expense. But, this enables you to tailor landscaping services to your particular tastes, beyond the bulk, contracted yard maintenance.

"Those wishing special mowing or special edging outside the scope of the contract, to attain a "manicured" appearance of their yard, have that option...contact Dean Jauchius to arrange for a site visit by Abbruzzese, to obtain an estimate of additional charges"

DCHA Block Watch Program Ahead of the Curve

In December we reported that Bob White and Fred Steinhaus had worked closely with the New Albany police to set up our Block Watch Program. Bob and Fred subsequently delivered packets to our homes describing the program and giving us tips to keep our neighborhood safe. Judy Bennett is the newest member of the team.

On March 2, The Columbus Dispatch ran an article entitled, "Block-watch revival afoot across the area". The article said that "fewer officers on the streets and worries that the down economy will drive up the crime are fueling a renewed interest in neighborhood-driven block watches, central Ohio police say". The concern is highest in Columbus where new interest in Block Watch programs has been reported on the Far West Side, and Bexley. One of the more successful programs is the Tussing Block Watch program on the Far East Side which consists of 450 residences, 16 businesses, and Tussing Elementary School. Concern is higher in Columbus because there will be fewer police officers on the street due to the economy and retirements.

As of this writing, there have been no reports of reduction in officers in New Albany, but extra eyes and ears are always useful. Things to look for according to Central Ohio Crime Stoppers are "... vehicle descriptions, license-plate numbers, time and location of crimes, suspect descriptions and other identifying information." The best protection according to Karen Ritchey, founder of the Hilliard Green block watch program, "...is people getting to know each other and be nosey. You can't have a safe neighborhood if people don't know each other."



Do you remember?

A year ago, March 6-7, the 16 inch snow storm...

**Dominion Club Homeowners Association
2009 Property Maintenance Activities by Month**

MARCH

Annual power-edging of the front beds

About mid-March, early spring pre-emergent fertilizer and weed control

APRIL

BEGIN - Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

Annual mulching of the front beds

Late April or Early May late spring pre-emergent fertilizer & weed control

MAY

Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

Late April or Early May late spring pre-emergent fertilizer & weed control

JUNE

Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

About mid-June - early summer fertilizer and weed control

About mid-June - grub preventative

Late June - front bed shrub pruning

JULY

Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

AUGUST

Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

Early August - Post emergent crabgrass, weed control & surface insect spray.

SEPTEMBER

Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

Late September - fertilizer & weed control

OCTOBER

Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

Second front bed shrub pruning

NOVEMBER

Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

Mid-November - fertilizer & weed control

DECEMBER

END - Mowing & edging or weeding - see above general note.

DCHA Board

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Community Notes...

Stitchery—The DC stitchery group will meet this month on Monday, March 9 and March 23 at 7 pm in the clubhouse. Join us!

The Dominion Club Women's Bible Study—Meets in the clubhouse each Thursday, 10:00 to 11:30am except in the Summer. Contact Mary Lou Ewing, 614-933-9017 if you are interested in joining.

New to the DCHA Web Site—Five new items have been posted to the web site for quick reference:

- Special Warranty Deed
- Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions
- Code of Regulations
- Occupancy Change—Sellers Responsibility
- Renter's Responsibilities

Clubhouse Spring Cleaning—Watch for Tom Gyurko's article in the April newsletter calling for volunteers to participate in the annual clubhouse spring cleaning and flower planting day.

Volume of Snow Removal Damage Down—The level of damage experienced during snow removal thus far this winter is much lower. We attribute much of the fall-off in damage to the use of the snow stakes.

Clubhouse Library Ceiling Leak Repaired—Trustee Tom Gyurko reports the roof of the clubhouse has been repaired. The water leak is suspected to have slowly started after the winds of the remnant hurricane Ike blew through last September.

St. Patrick's Day
March 17



If you have contributions for the newsletter or something to communicate to the Dominion Club community, contact a member of the Communications Committee:

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