

Hi Neighbor!

In just a few days, it will officially be Spring! I'm certainly looking forward to some green grass, blue skies and warmer temperatures, aren't you?

In the next few weeks and early into next month, the Grounds Committee will be busy getting the fountain aerator and monthly pond maintenance underway, along with the usual spring and summer stump grinding, and turning on the round-about fountain for the season. IDL, our irrigation system management team, will program our zones this next quarter, flush the lines, and physically audit the system to begin irrigation when it's time.

We've already had our spring broadleaf control and fertilizer application with Envision, and we will probably see the first mowing sometime in May. Of course, everything is dependent on the weather for final dates, but everything will be ready when Mother Nature says it's a go.

Spring is also a time when many of us look at our own property and freshen or repair things like decks, landscaping, and other exterior features. Please remember that all exterior changes to your home are governed first by The Fountains of Raintree Architectural Review Board (FARB) and then by the Raintree Lake Property Owners Association.

Currently, The Fountains Board and FARB are working together to compile updated information for residents and for publication on the website. If you need help or have questions, please contact the committee chair, Mike Hile, at 816-805-8161.

Understanding Your HOA Board

Like clockwork—and just like Daylight Saving Time—preparations begin now for the annual election of your Fountains Board of Directors. Starting with this *Hi Neighbor* and continuing over the next two months, there will be a short section explaining how the board operates and the responsibilities involved in serving.

Your board works on behalf of the entire community. In addition to our monthly meetings, board members regularly communicate throughout the week or sometimes daily by email and text while reviewing maintenance needs, coordinating with contractors and vendors, and overseeing the financial responsibilities of the association. Much of this work happens behind the scenes, but it helps ensure that our neighborhood continues to be well-maintained and financially sound.

Hopefully, this information will give you a better understanding of what the board does and it may also encourage anyone interested in serving the community to consider running for a position.

Until next time, let's look ahead to bright skies ahead!

Sharon