

STEEPLE RUN NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE STEEPLE RUN HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume 2, Issue 3

SPRING 2007

Message From Our New President

As I step up to the plate, I would like to acknowledge the people whose legacy I follow:

First, our outgoing SRHA President Bill H. We were all very fortunate for the enthusiasm that Bill brought to the table. Bill has a natural knack for understanding and resolving issues. His calm, but detailed, approach enabled Bill to balance the Board's objectives without compromising a sense of community. Bill's leadership kept the Board on point while tackling the laborious task of revising the Covenants and Bylaws. This document was in need of revision in order to be applicable in the 21st century. Personally, he set an example for me to follow as SRHA President and for future presidents to come. Thanks Bill.

Second, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of Jill P., whose hard work as Secretary and as Editor of Steeple Run News website have also brought SRHA into the new millennium. The good news is Jill will continue as the Editor. A personal thanks to Jill for proofreading my submissions for the Newsletter.

I would like to also acknowledge the hard work of the Joe O. and Karen M. which will continue for another term. Joe, as SRHA Treasurer, put together budgets and developed reports to enable the Board to understand its financial obligations to its members. Karen, as the Assistant Treasurer, provided a check and balance. Karen also is our Social

Committee Chairperson. Special thanks to Karen, Linda E. and Karen F. for the outstanding block party of 2006.

Next, I would like to thank George L. and Steve K. for their *pro bono* legal counsel provided to the Board for the Covenant and Bylaw revisions, the insurance acquisition and other issues that came before the Board.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the members who voted on the issues presented to them at the SRHA Annual Board meeting. Whether you voted for, against or abstained, the fact that you participated in the process makes my participation in the homeowners' association worthwhile.

On a personal note, I would like to introduce myself. Married to Linda for 37 years, we have 3 children: Lisa, Eric and Kristen, who are 33, 31 and 26 yrs old respectively. We also have a new puppy named Cody. Linda and I are filling our retirement years with travel, home improvement projects and babysitting our 4 grandchildren. As "newbies" to Steeple Run Estates, having lived here just 4 years, we have really enjoyed the neighborhood deck parties, card games or just talking with a neighbor about the weather.

This is what I bring to the SRHA Board:

Sense of Value In the past year the Board aggressively pursued vendors who offered competitive prices for lawn fertilization,

lawn care, snowplowing and blacktop sealing. In 2007, these Contractor Programs will continue with one addition - Arrow Septic Service will be offering Steeple Run homeowners a discount. The next publication of the Steeple Run News will have all the details.

Community Involvement I want to continue to advance ideas that bring us together as a community. Block parties, card games, deck walks and Easter egg hunts are examples.

Compliance. At my first Board meeting as Vice President in 2005, I learned that there were as many as 6 different "versions" of the Covenants and Bylaws in play. With the revised Covenant and Bylaws, everyone will be working with the same document. You will be mailed a recorded copy of the revised copy of the Covenants and Bylaws. Please take the time to reread it. If you have any questions or concerns on a compliance issue, the Covenants and Bylaws should be your first reliable resource. If you're not sure about your situation, please contact any one of the nine Board members or attend a Board meeting so that we can help add clarity your situation.

Quoting our previous President "Together we can make Steeple Run one of the most desirable neighborhoods in Crystal Lake."

- Herb L.

Special points of interest:

- MARCH 31—8-12 ALG. TOWNSHIP RECYCLING RE-OPENS
- APRIL 1—DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL STEEPLE RUN RATE WITH SCOTTS LANDSCAPING
- APRIL 17-ELECTION DAY
- APRIL 19—7:30 PM BOARD MEETING AT THE LEBLANCS
- MAY 17—7:30 PM BOARD MEETING

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TREASURER'S REPORT by Joe O.

“THE DUES INCREASE OF \$15 WAS APPROVED FOR NEXT YEAR.. AN IMPORTANT CHANGE IN THE NEW BYLAWS FORMALIZES A LIMITATION ON FUTURE DUES INCREASES”

FISCAL YEAR	2006-07				EST
	1st QTR	2nd QTR	3rd QTR	4th QTR	YTD TOTAL
INCOME	5,180.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5180.00
EXPENSES	1265.32	2359.02	1136.27	0.00	4760.61
EST. EXPENSES	1265.32	2359.02	1136.27	2,060.00	6820.61
EXPENSE CATEGORY					EST
Communications	250.36	289.36	539.67	90.00	1079.39
Legal	0.00	0.00	36.56	400.00	436.56
Maintenance	850.00	800.00	365.87	1,150.00	2015.87
Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
Insurance	0.00	1104	0.00	0.00	1104.00
Utilities	164.96	165.66	194.17	270.00	794.79
Social	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL - ACTUAL	1265.32	2359.02	1136.27	2060.00	5580.61
TOTAL - EST					
NET CASH FLOW					1,640.61

Note: Expenses not yet Billed- \$500

The end of February marks the close of our third fiscal quarter. To date we have paid expenses of \$4760.61 with projected expenses of \$1660 going forward into the fourth quarter. There is also a potential \$500 in prior expenses which have not been billed. This could raise our total net cash flow deficit to \$2140 for the fiscal year.

The dues increase of \$15 was approved for next year. It was the first increase in four years and was primarily due to the new Li-

ability Insurance cost. Since the revised By-Laws will be completed this year, we expect the annual assessment of \$85 should put us in balance for next year. An important change in the new By-Laws formalizes a limitation on future dues increases (a maximum of \$5 per year for each year since the last increase, and no more than \$30 in any single year) this will help reinforce our goal of high value and fiscal responsibility.

We appreciate your cooperation.

PLOWING DAMAGES MAILBOXES

If yours was one of the Steeple Run mailboxes damaged by a snow plow or by the force of the recent heavy snow being cleared by the Algonquin Township snowplows, please notify

the Highway Department at the township offices ASAP. In addition to your street address, they will need the date of the damage. Township crews will inspect the damage and repair it as

they have in previous years.

To add your name to their list, call 1-847-639-2700 ext. 6 during normal business hours.



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ANNUAL MEETING WRAP-UP

SRHA held its Annual Meeting on January 30. Materials used during the discussions are available as a Power-Point presentation at our website for non-attendees. Neighborhood Directories have been distributed to each household.

After a 30 day extended voting period, the final vote to adopt the proposed changes to the Covenants and Bylaws and to approve the 2007-2008 annual as-

essment was tallied on March 2nd. Both issues were approved with the votes as follows:

ISSUE #1 Covenant Update

FOR	63
AGAINST	5
ABSTAIN	3

ISSUE #2 \$85 Assessment

FOR	59
AGAINST	7
ABSTAIN	4

The approved Covenants and Bylaws have been filed at the McHenry County Courthouse. Once returned, copies will be mailed to each residence in Steeple Run and will be available for downloading from the website. Each page will have the Registrar's file number at the bottom. When you receive this official copy, please throw out any prior versions to avoid future confusion and misunderstanding.



YOUR SRHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board members are elected year. In March, the Board elected their Officers:

President Herb L
Vice Pres. Ron R
Secretary Therese G
Asst. Sec. Sandi S

The SRHA Board is rounded out by the 5 returning members, Therese G, Steve K, Dave N, Ron R and Sandi S, who are in their second



Board meetings are tentatively scheduled to be held on the third Thursday of each month and are open to all Steeple Run members who wish to be placed on the Agenda. Please contact Herb LeBlanc if you wish to attend.



OBITUARY: GERALD GRASSER

Longtime Steeple Run neighbor and friend Gerry Grasser passed away from a massive heart attack at Northern Illinois Medical Center on March 10th. The

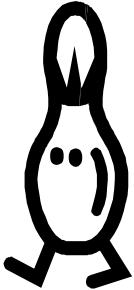
Board and residents of Steeple Run would like to extend their deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to Arline and their children during this difficult time.



Directory Updates

Correction:
 Please attach this sticker to correct the Rowe family listing in your blue directory. Their phone number should end in – 3152. Thank you.

STEEPLE RUN NEWS



“MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK”

-AMISH PROVERB

“THE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE WHAT MAKES THIS A NEIGHBORHOOD AND GIVES IT A HEART LIKE NO OTHER”

- ANONYMOUS STEEPLER RUN RESIDENT

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT March 2007

Girls' Night Out

The Wednesday Night Bunko group is opening up their next two events to the ladies of Steeple Run. April 18, they will be having a mani/pedi night and in May, bunko will be replaced with Bunko Bowling Babes. Please contact Karen F if you would like more information or if you are interested in attending either or both events.

Wednesday Night Bunko Group

The Wednesday night Bunko group needs 2 new members. The group meets on the third Wednesday of every month. Each Regular gets their pick of a month to be “Hostess”. If you want to join in on the fun occasionally, the group is also looking for Subs. Please contact Kristie N or Karen M if you are interested.

Regular members, please contact Karen M. or Kristie N. with your choice of date to host.

Wine Taste Gathering

Please contact Karen M if you are interested in getting together for another Wine Taste Gathering. The group will determine what dates work for everyone.



Block Party

We are looking for someone to head up the Block Party this year. Last year Karen F took charge with her assistants Karen, Nancy & Kim and made it a complete success, but we need another volunteer to head this up. With the practice from last year we have an upper hand in planning this now, which will make it easier for the following years ahead. Please contact Karen M if anyone is interested.

Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale

It's that time of year again! We hold an Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale organized by a neighborhood volunteer to oversee the smooth running of it. In the past, Kristie N has taken charge of it, and last year, Justine W decided to make a go of it. They both did an excellent job. It would be nice to entice either of them to run it again, but if we can't then we will need to find someone else. Many neighbors take part in this every year due to the high traffic that comes into the neighborhood from having the sale. It's also nice that not just one person has all of the work to do to get a sale going because everyone pitches in to make it a huge success. Anyone who wants to take this task and run it or who would like to volunteer to help the person in charge of running it, then please contact Karen M.

HASTINGS ASPHALT SERVICES

Hastings Asphalt Services will offer a discount to Steeple Run homeowners for blacktop sealing. A minimum of 10 members signed up is required to qualify for the discount pricing.

Special black-top pricing requires same day service for all members who sign up.

More information will be available in

the next newsletter, the Summer 2007 issue.

Please contact Herb L for more information at 815-477-2595.





NATURESCAPES 5 APPLICATION LAWN FERTILIZATION PROGRAM

Naturescapes
1103 Morse Avenue
Schaumburg, IL

Application program consists of 1-2 liquid fertilizer applications depending on weed control plus 3-4 granular fertilizer applications. Included are broadleaf weed control, all crabgrass control and surface feeding insect control at no extra charge. Preventative Grub Control is available for an additional \$49 billed on the 3rd or 4th application invoice. Call Herb L (815-477-2595) ASAP to sign up. Remember, final pricing depends on the number of SRHA participants.

	Bracket #1	Bracket #2	Bracket #3
Homeowners Participation	0-5 HOMES	6-10 HOMES	11-15 HOMES
Spring Application	\$104.00	\$99.00	\$94.00
Late Spring	\$104.00	\$99.00	\$94.00
Summer Application	\$104.00	\$99.00	\$94.00
Late Summer application	\$104.00	\$99.00	\$94.00
Fall Application	\$104.00	\$99.00	\$94.00
*Pay for each pricing total	\$520.00	\$495.00	\$470.00
**Up Front Payment total	\$479.00	\$449.00	\$419.00
***Savings	\$41.00	\$46.00	\$51.00

- * Payment due after each application
- ** All 5 applications billed with the first application invoice
- *** Savings by homeowner by participation bracket over the pay per each invoicing

Call Herb L (815-477-2595) ASAP to sign up. Remember, final pricing depends on the number of SRHA participants.

SCOTTS LAWN SERVICE

For the second year, Scotts is again offering a multiple residence discount.

Please contact Butch Keating (847-462-9797) by April 1 to maximize savings on all 6 applications.

Applications	Timing	6 - Application Plan		4 - Application Plan	
		Regular Cost:	Special Cost:	Regular Cost:	Special Cost:
1	Early Spring	\$149.00	\$115.00	\$149.00	\$115.00
2	Late Spring	\$149.00	\$115.00	\$149.00	\$115.00
3	Early Summer	\$149.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
4	Late Summer	\$149.00	\$115.00	\$149.00	\$115.00
5	Early Fall	\$149.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6	Late Fall	\$149.00	\$115.00	\$149.00	\$115.00
Total \$:	Total \$:	\$894.00	\$710.00	\$596.00	\$460.00
		Save	\$184.00	Save	\$136.00

2007 Septic Tank Pump-out Program

Service: Arrow Septic & Sewer of Woodstock offers a discounted group rate (minimum 2 homes) for septic pump outs in Steeple Run Estates at a cost of \$169.00 per household tank up to 2000 gallons. This price reflects a \$20 savings from the standard price of \$189.00. If the access lid to each tank isn't easily accessible and exposed for the driver, an additional charge of \$20.00 per 15 minutes of labor may be incurred. The

pump outs will be scheduled for 2 dates in the month of May.

- Saturday May 12th
- Saturday May 19th

Contact: Call Herb L ASAP at 1-815-477-2595 to secure your desired pump out date.

Payment: Payment is due at time of service. Arrow accepts checks, credit cards or cash. If you won't be home on the day of your appointment,

call their office at 1-815-459-5558 to arrange for payment by credit card or disclose to them where you would leave a check for the driver to collect for services rendered.



Note: All offers on this page represent the best offer from submitted bids by vendors for this type of work. Other vendors contributed bids which are available upon request. As always, the SRHA Board doesn't endorse one vendor over the other. We offer this information for you to use as you see fit.



Adult Emerald Ash Borer



D-shaped exit hole in bark

“MOVEMENT OF INFESTED FIREWOOD AND WOOD PRODUCTS HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN FOUND TO BE THE MAJOR CAUSE OF INTRODUCTION OF EMERALD ASH BORER TO NEW GEOGRAPHIC AREAS.”

STEEPLE RUN NEWS

EMERALD ASH BORER—the new Dutch Elm Disease

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a significant threat that has decimated more than 20 million ash trees in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana since 2002. The insect has been spotted as close as Winnetka, Gilberts and Elgin and is **expected in McHenry County this summer.**

The IL Dept. of Agriculture (IDA) will be working to contain it and relies heavily on the citizens to help monitor the unusual pests. If left unchecked, it could have the same impact on ash trees that Dutch Elm disease had on elms. There are more than 130 million ash trees in IL and here in northeastern IL, 20% of all trees are ash.

The US Dept of Agriculture has declared a “zero tolerance” policy on moving ash products in or out of infested areas. The IDA is leading efforts to stop the beetle by destroying infested trees. The beetle can fly up to a half-mile at a time but usually moves in infested firewood, timber and tree stock. Do not travel with firewood; buy it locally, even if you’re vacationing in another state. Kane County and northern Cook County are under quarantine.

Look for signs of the borer when trees flower in spring. The larvae feed just under the bark. Adults make “D” shaped exit holes the size of a small BB from May/early June until late July. The adult Emerald Ash Borer is a half inch long beetle with metallic green wings and a coppery-red abdomen.

New infestations are difficult to detect since tree damage may not be apparent for up to 3 years.

What can I do?:

- Monitor your ash trees
- Don’t move firewood.
- Burn what you have
- Care for your trees. Fertilize
- Keep them watered 1 inch per week
- Plant other species

Signs to look for:

- D shaped exit holes in the bark, especially in late May and June
- Dead leaves and branches at the top of the tree, lower branches dying in following years
- An increase in woodpecker activity
- Vertical bark cracks
- Excessive new branching on the lower part of the tree trunk

The Morton Arboretum is urging everyone with firewood remaining from the winter to use all of it up before the warm weather arrives, just in case the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is lurking inside.

There are some other types of borers native to our area but those insects will only attack sick trees. The Emerald Ash Borer will attack and kill healthy trees in 3 years. Watch you ash trees carefully this year. If you’re not certain if you have ash trees on your property, contact Jill Peterson when their leaves are out.

If you suspect an infestation: Call the McHenry County University of IL extension office at 815-338-3737 and/or the IL Dept of Agriculture extension office 630-584-6166 or 800-641-3934.

The state may pay for removal of infected ash trees if they qualify. For more information: <http://www.agr.state.il.us/newsrels/r0308071.html>. The Care of Trees on Ridgefield Road is a IDA certified marshalling yard.



Above: Emerald Ash Borer Larvae

Far right: Larval trails cause damage under tree bark

LINKS to more Emerald Ash Borer information

www.emeraldashborer.info

IL Department of Agriculture
www.agr.state.il.us/eab

www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/index.shtml

Morton Arboretum:
<http://www.mortonarb.org/plantinfo/plantclinic/EAB.htm>

<http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/>
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/eab/>



GYPSY MOTHS.....THEY'RE HERE

The Gypsy Moth is another pest that is already established here, with infestations primarily in northeast IL. Lake County has been quarantined since 2000 and the gypsy moth has been found in the oak trees near Highway 31.

Although the caterpillars prefer oak, (crab)apple, hawthorn, birch and willow leaves, they will munch 500+ kinds of shrubs and trees. They are capable of stripping plants bare, leaving them vulnerable to secondary insect and dis-

ease attacks.

Female moths cannot fly because of the weight of their eggs so they lay eggs on objects near the trees where they are feeding, including picnic tables, campers and grills. For this reason it is extremely important to check all vehicles and equipment after camping and before returning home.

Male gypsy moths are brown with white markings and have a wingspan about an inch and

a half. The females have two inch wingspans are white or cream colored and die shortly after laying their egg masses in June or July. These buff colored masses can bleach whiter over the winter. One gypsy moth egg mass may hold up to 1000 1/16th inch black baby caterpillars. For every egg mass that is seen, there may be hundreds hidden. Hatching occurs around the same time that the oak trees leaf out in late April or early May.



Above left: Gypsy Moth Larvae or caterpillars hatch in April or May
Above right: Female and Male Gypsy Moths emerge from pupa in late July

What Can I Do?

Monitor your property-

Egg Masses - are present from July to May and remain after the larvae emerge. They are 1 ½ inches long, teardrop shaped and look like buff-tan felt. New egg masses are firm to the touch; hatched egg masses are soft and spongy.

They laid on the trees, especially in protected spots in bark flaps, crevices, and holes Egg masses are also found in woodpiles, rocks, walls, or other protected locations. Homeowners should check lawn furniture, behind shutters, underneath tree houses, and beneath lower rows of siding on a house or garage.

Larvae and Pupae - Burlap bands placed about tree trunks can help the homeowner detect the presence of gypsy moth larvae before noticeable defoliation occurs. Larvae climbing down the trees early in the morning will locate and crawl beneath the burlap where they can be periodically removed and destroyed.

Keep your trees healthy -

- Mulch under the trees in an area as wide as the outer branches to prevent competition for moisture and nutrients and to keep lawn fertilizer with weed killers away from tree roots.

- In droughts, stressed trees benefit from watering, fertilizing, and pruning to thin the tree tops and reduce moisture demands on the roots.

Make life tough for the insects-

- Remove their shelter - bark flaps, dead branches, yard debris (boxes, cans, old tires)
- During winter, remove and destroy egg

masses. Wearing gloves, carefully inspect garages, play sets, stone walls, under window eaves, woodpiles, decks, vehicles, lawn chairs and other yard equipment. Place egg masses in a sealed plastic bag and microwave for two minutes before throwing in the trash. Stepping on them will not kill the eggs.

- In April, place burlap bands on trees at chest height, especially oaks, and destroy larvae and pupae that hide beneath it during daylight. To make a band, cut a strip of burlap 12-18 inches wide and long enough to reach around the tree and overlap a few inches. Tie a string around the center of the band and allow the top six inches to flop over to make a two-layered skirt. Check the bands every day from early afternoon until about 6 p.m. Use rubber gloves or tweezers to collect all caterpillars, pupae, adults and egg masses. Kill them by microwaving 2 minutes in a sealed plastic bag or by placing them in a cup of soapy water. Once the insects are dead, drain off the water and throw the insects in the trash. Take the burlap bands down in August.

- Plant trees that they don't like - poplar, honey locust, maple, mountain ash, evergreens. Ask advice at the nursery.

- Encourage natural predators - small rodents, insect-eating birds, spiders and some wasps.

Report to the authorities -

IL Dept. of Agriculture Gypsy Moth Hotline
1-866-296-MOTH (6684)

For more information, visit:

<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/gypsymoth/>



June through April, locate and scrape egg masses into water to drown or microwave to kill before disposing



Tie around the middle of the burlap



Fold top half over



STEEPLE RUN NEWS

Covenant Violations



THE ASSOCIATION'S GOAL AND JOB IS TO PROTECT PEOPLE AND PROPERTY. AND PEOPLE COME FIRST. YOU HAVE JUST AS MUCH ACCESS TO PROTECTION BY THE COMMUNITY AS YOU DO ACCOUNTABILITY TO IT. IN MOST CASES, IT IS EASIER TO CORRECT THE VIOLATION.

What's the old adage? You don't appreciate something until it's gone. The same thing applies to enforcement of our Covenants and Bylaws. If your Board of Directors and various committees stopped enforcing the rules in our neighborhood, the resulting outcome isn't something you would like.

The main reason the restrictions are enforced (in addition to the many legal and fiduciary duties outlined in our Bylaws) is that homeowners who live in planned communities overwhelmingly want the rules enforced. Ask any Realtor and they will tell you that a well-run HOA that enforces the rules attracts prospective buyers and increases property values. However, in any community, there will be a minority of owners who have a less than positive view of rules enforcement. Regardless of your viewpoint, you benefit when the rules are adhered to.

Please familiarize yourself with our Covenants to which

we are all legally bound. You should be receiving a copy shortly; they are also available for immediate download from our website. We have had a very positive history of voluntary compliance within Steeple Run and for that we're thankful.

Conditions and restrictions are defined in our Covenants. We have had very few instances of violations in Steeple Run and those cases often were a result of oversight or misinformation. Some potential violations are:

Yard Light—a minimum of 1 yard light needs to be installed near the intersection of the driveway with the road right-of-way.(6.04E)

Parking— no truck, trailer, boat, camper or similar articles shall be parked, either temporarily or permanently on any lot unless it is under a permanent roof. (4.09)

Burning—the burning of yard waste shall be pursuant to the

rules of McHenry County (4.05)

Outbuildings—No buildings shall be erected, altered, placed or permitted to remain on any lot other than one detached single family dwelling. (4.01)

SRHA does not have a member dedicated to seeking out non-compliance but we must respond to complaints made by our members and neighbors.

If a resident feels that an infraction does not exist on their property, please write a letter or email telling the board about it. It can be verified and they will have the Board's utmost respect for handling the situation professionally and with style.

The bottom line is that the Association intentionally makes no unreasonable requirements. What becomes unreasonable is pretending the rules don't apply to you when legally they do.

TORNADO SAFETY and POWER OUTAGES

Tornado season is upon us. Although they can form throughout the year, they are most prevalent from April through July, peaking in May and June.

We don't like to imagine anything bad happening to our families but this is a good time to review your family's preparedness plan and check your emergency supplies.

When a tornado is coming, you'll have little time to react. Determine where the most protected spot in your home is, under a sturdy table on the lowest level and as far away from exterior walls and windows. Make sure your children know where to go.

A NOAA weather radio with an alarm is a valuable ally when homes are built to shut out sounds of the outside world. With closed-up air-conditioned homes, television noise and loud children, it is not always possible to hear the warning sirens until it is too late.

Other must-haves are a three day emergency supply of food and water, flashlights and a battery-operated radio. Candles are not as safe or as bright as flashlights. When the power is out, cordless phones will not operate as they need the electricity; an old-fashioned wired phone should be functional as long as the poles haven't been knocked over. Cell phones will work until the batter-

ies go dead. A small UPS can be used to recharge batteries or operate a cordless phone for days.

Never bring a charcoal grill into the house or garage to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

If you have one, don't plug a gasoline-powered generator into your household circuits. The electricity will travel outside of your home to the downed power line and possible electrocute the utility workers, believing the line to be dead. Instead, plug directly into your generator or have an electrician install an isolation circuit to keep the generated electricity from traveling outside of your home.



Early Vote until April 12 for the April 17 Election

Early voting for the April 17 Consolidated Election ends on April 12. You may vote at the Algonquin Township offices weekdays 8:30 am-4:00 pm. There is no voting on Friday April 6 (Good Friday). You may also vote early at the McHenry County Administration Building, 667 Ware Rd. 2nd

floor, Conference Room A weekdays 8:30 am-4:00 pm, except on Friday April 6 and Saturday April 7, early voting will take place 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Unlike absentee voting, early voting does not require a reason for voting early. You may also vote at any of the 5 early polling locations.

If you miss the April 12 deadline and you will not be able to vote on April 17, you will need to cast an absentee ballot at the County Administration Building or the Algonquin Township office. For more information, contact the McHenry County Clerk's Office at 815-334-4242.



April 17 Consolidated Election Referendum

Spring elections do not get as much attention, or voter turnout, as November elections but that doesn't mean that they are unimportant. When it comes to local issues and property tax bills, the spring election is the one that counts the most.

Spring voters will choose school, park, library and fire district boards. All of these entities provide important services, tax residents and place referendums on ballots.

A shocking 80% of the

McHenry County residents eligible to vote will take a pass on this upcoming election. Even though steps have been taken to make the voting process as convenient as possible with early and absentee voting, fewer registered voters are actually voting each year.

In addition to local and school board elections, the April 17 ballot will contain a referendum for us.

The McHenry County Conservation District is proposing the

issuance of \$73 million in bonds

- to acquire and preserve open space for public use
- to protect different habitats and
- to improve trails and recreational facilities.

For the owner of a \$100,000 home, the tax bill would increase by \$13.50 for a new total MCCD tax of \$63 per year.

"THE PROPOSED

**\$73 MILLION
MCCD
REFERENDUM
WOULD ACQUIRE
OPEN LAND,
PROTECT
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FACILITIES"**

McHenry County Defenders Closes Woodstock Site

McHenry County has lost its major recycling center. The McHenry County Defenders have closed their Woodstock Recycling Center on McConnell Road, limiting the places we can take our recyclables. Their website still provides a wealth of current recycling information. (www.mcdef.org/recy.pdf)

All waste haulers in McHenry

County are required to provide curbside recycling options.

Our Algonquin Township highway department offers recycling on the last Saturday of the month, from March to October. Call 847-639-2700 Extension 6 for more information.

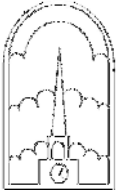
Elgin/Crystal Lake Recycling, 5114 E. Terra Cotta Ave.

(815-455-7700) buys non-ferrous metal and accepts steel cans, paper and cardboard.

T&C Metal Co., 378 Prairie St. (815-459-4445) buys non-ferrous metals only.

Days & Crawford Scrap Metal, 304 Briarwood (815-459-7751) buys non-ferrous metal only.





A PUBLICATION OF THE STEEPLE RUN HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Questions? Comments?
Volunteering? Contact:
Jill Peterson— editor

Email:
secretary@steeplerun.org

We're on the Web!
www.steeplerun.org

**For all the news
between newsletters**

REDUCED FEES FOR WELL WATER TESTING IN APRIL



Have you tested your well water this year? During April, the McHenry County Department of Health is offering reduced fees on their water testing. Well water samples can be tested for coliform bacteria and nitrate for \$18. Since many contaminants are colorless and odorless, testing is the only way to determine whether the water is safe to drink.

Sampling kits may be picked up in Woodstock or at the Algonquin Township Office. Samples should be taken Tuesday morning and dropped off at the Algonquin Township offices on Tuesdays between 9 am and noon.

For more information call the Environmental Division of the County Dept. of Health at 815-334-4585.

GREEN CARE FOR TROOPS



Do you know someone who is in the military and is currently serving a tour of duty in the Middle East?

Lawn Doctor of McHenry County is providing free lawn care and landscape services to military families whose primary provider is currently in the Middle East through "GreenCare for Troops." This nationwide

outreach program originated by Minnesota-based Project Evergreen seeks to ease the stress of affected families by caring for their yard and landscape.

For more information, to fill out an application or to refer a military family, please call Lawn Doctor 815-344-5050. Participation is limited so call now !