

STEEPLE RUN NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE STEEPLE RUN HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume 3, Issue 1

FALL 2007

Stepping Up to the Plate



Greetings to All,

When I asked for feed back in the Summer 2007 Newsletter concerning garbage refuse removal, the very next day SRHA member Ron Ryan called and said he was already working with Marengo Disposal to collect his own refuse at a lower rate. Ron shared with me what he had already learned. Marengo Disposal had a new owner and was looking for additional business east of Route 31. After a few minutes I knew he was on to something that could save SRHA members thousand of dollars a year for the collection of refuse.

We quickly developed a refuse money saving program to present to all SRHA members. Using a mailbox flyer and the Internet, the word spread quickly to SRHA members and even to our neighbors in Wyndwood, who many of them responded to this opportunity. Marengo Disposal agreed to place a truck in front of Ron Ryan's home so that those interested could see what they were buying into and ask

questions directly with a MDC representative.

The response to this Contractor Program was outstanding with 40% of homes in Steeple Run signing up and as a result will save in total \$9,000.00 annually in refuse costs. In addition, Marengo Disposal's comments were very positive, not just on the response but how professionally the program was implemented. This is the second vendor, the other being Arrow Septic, who gave SRHA members high marks on how the programs were developed and implemented.

During September, SRHA's Social Committee celebrated Part II of the Block party. Thanks to Nancy and Karen again (with the assistance of Karen Fichuk and the many volunteers listed on pages 4 and 5) for their continued efforts to bring SRHA members together for fun and entertainment. All who attended had a great time sitting around fire pits, listening to one of the three bands play a variety of new and old favorites. Once again SRHA members demonstrated they could put on quite an event for all members to enjoy.

As anyone can see, Steeple Run Estates is doing a lot of things right. The SRHA Board and all special event volunteers have, as the examples above demonstrate, stepped up to the plate and worked very hard to

make Steeple Run Estates a special neighborhood. The Board and many SRHA volunteers will continue to offer programs and events that save money and provide fun for all. We sincerely wish to thank all who helped make these events possible.

Finally, the Board and many of the SRHA members continue to question those who do not comply with SRHA Covenants, and its Rules and Regulations. You don't need to be on the SRHA Board or volunteer for an event or committee to take part in the benefits of living in Steeple Run Estates. All anyone has to do is comply with the Covenants, and its Rules and Regulations and you *participate in the process*. This Board and *your* neighbors have demonstrated their commitment to the SRHA Covenants, and its Rules & Regulations by following its guidelines.

To those SRHA members who have compliance issues step up to the plate it's your time to help.

Please join us – participate in the process,

Herb LeBlanc
President – SRHA



Special points of interest:

- THURSDAY OCTOBER 25, 2007 7:30 P.M.—NEXT SRHA BOARD MEETING
- SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25—LAST DAY IN 2007 FOR OUTDOOR BURNING IN MCHENRY COUNTY

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STEEPLE RUN NEWS

TREASURER'S REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008					
	1st QTR	2nd QTR	3rd QTR	4th QTR	YTD
INCOME	6,290.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,290.00
EXPENSES	1,549.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,549.75
EST. EXPENSES	2,025.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,025.75

EXPENSE CATEGORY

Communications	185.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	185.60
Legal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Maintenance	1,224.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,224.00
Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Utilities	140.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	140.15
Social	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TOTAL-Actual	1,549.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,549.75
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TOTAL-Est.	2,025.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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NET CASH FLOW					4,740.25
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“OUR EXPENSES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER ARE IN LINE WITH THE BUDGET.”

I am pleased to report that all homeowners have paid their annual dues assessment for the fiscal year. We appreciate your cooperation and timely payment. We will continue to review ongoing expenses with a goal to providing value to all homeowners.

Our expenses for the first quarter are in line with the budget. The chart above reflects the summary of expenses. The Estimated Expenses include approx. \$476 in accrued lawn care services which have not yet been billed. The bank balance as of Sept. 1, 2007 was \$12,744.63.

The required federal and state tax returns have been filed for the 2006-07 fiscal year. Anticipated expenses in the second fiscal quarter include surveys of the signs and related county permit fees.

Marengo Disposal Participates in Local Show-and-Tell



Picture by Herb LeBlanc

A representative from Marengo Disposal made a visit to Steeple Run on Saturday morning August 15th and was parked in front of 4215 Steeple Run Drive. There was a steady stream of visitors from 9-11 a.m.

The MDC driver had samples of their various totes and bins available for inspection. He was also able to answer any questions concerning their collection service

and policies in addition to enrolling residents. Currently 33 SRHA members and 12 Wyndwood residents have elected to switch to MDC from their current garbage collection provider. There is no time limit on future enrollment by calling 815-568-7274. Be sure to mention that you're in Steeple Run.

MDC will collect garbage and recycling (and landscape waste if enrolled) in Steeple Run on Mondays at 6:30 a.m.

McHenry County is Quarantined

The state has sealed our county to prevent the spread of the tree-killing emerald ash borer beetle. The federal government already quarantined the entire state of Illinois in June 2006, prohibiting interstate travels of ash wood and products.

The quarantine prohibits the removal of:

- all or parts of ash trees,
- bark or chips larger than 1 inch
- items containing ash wood
- any firewood (other than pine)

Landscape waste haulers must cover their loads in August (the borer's flight season)

What does this mean to us? Do not take any of these items in or outside of McHenry County. **If you need firewood on vacation or at your second home, buy it locally. Shop locally for landscaping and mulch needs;** nurseries outside of the county are prohibited from delivering ash trees and mulch to addresses within our county. Keep your existing ash trees watered and healthy.

These listed wood products may

move within McHenry County as long as they are not infested. There is a \$500 fine for violations.

If you spot the beetle or believe that your trees are infested, call the County Extension office at 815-338-3737.

Please refer to the Spring 2007 newsletter (page 6) or the website for additional information, links, and color photos.



“TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE EMERALD ASH BORER, PLEASE DO NOT MOVE ANY FIREWOOD, ASH BRANCHES, BARK OR CHIPS OUT OF MCHENRY COUNTY.”

Directory Update:

Please change these entries in your Steeple Run Directory:

Melinda and David Penny—penny4018@comcast.net

Linda and Ron Rowe—815-477-3152

TIE AN ORANGE RIBBON

As a neighborhood with large lots and long drive-ways, trick-or-treating can be very tiring for our youngest walkers who are out before dark. Imagine how frustrating it is to make the trek from the street to the doorbell only to find that the homeowners aren't home from work.

One of our residents experi-

enced that situation last year with her grandchildren and she came up with this solution:

This tip is for those with very young toddlers who are out in the early afternoon. **If you see a simple orange ribbon attached to the mailbox, it means that someone is home and ready to welcome trick-or-treaters.**

Usually the youngest children are satisfied with just a few homes to visit.

The length of orange plastic ribbon provided in this newsletter can be used for that purpose.

No matter what the age of your children, please have a safe and happy Halloween!

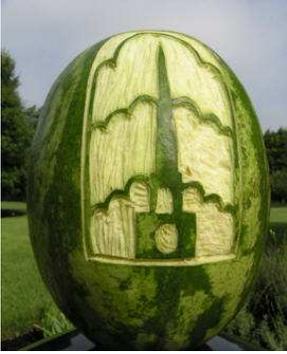


OBITUARY: Ed Burley, Jr.

One-time Steeple Run resident Ed. Burley Jr. passed away in his McHenry home on September 12th at age 51. He was survived by his parents, 2 sisters, and 4 children. Part of Barrington HS Class of '73, he was a stand out hockey player for St. Norbert College in DePere, WI. Ed owned and operated Burley Construction of Cary. He built his home at 4002 Steeple Run Drive and lived in it a short while before moving to McHenry. One of his daughters subsequently moved in before the home was sold to George and Marla. Funeral services were held on September 15th.



STEEPLE RUN NEWS



Neighborhood Block Party Volunteers and Donations 8/4/2007

Last Name	# People	\$	Extra \$	Total \$	Dessert/ Salad	Water	Soda/ Juice	Chips	Set-up/ Clean-up	Grilling	Loan/donate
Buthod	3	24	10	34	X						\$, tables, chairs
Cygan	5	40		40						X	Grill
Evans	8	48		48							Raffle
Fichuk	0										Assistance
Fisher	4	32	8	40	X						
Graff	4	32		32							
Harfst	1	8	8	16						X	
Ibbotson	6	48		48		X					
Johnson	4	32		32	X				X		
Kirchberg	4	32		32							
Lang	3	24		24				X			
LeBlanc	3	24		24		X			X		Ice, Ext.. Cords, Tables, Fire pit
Liscovitz	5	40	10	50	X						\$, Chairs
Littrell	4	32		32			X	X			
Malcolm	3	24		24							Raffle, Corn, Bottled Water, Horseshoes, Ext. Cords
Nath	5	40	2	42		X					
O'Malley	0		20	20					X	X	\$, but didn't come
Peterson	3	24		24	X						Fire pit, Coolers, Ice, photos
Pinkl	4			0							Band
Reitcheck	4	32		32			X	X	X		
Renzy	2	16		16							
Rowe	0		25	25							\$, but didn't come
Schlough	0										Coolers
Wallis	4	32		32			X				Ice, Coolers



**BLOCK PARTY I
SUMMARY**

Total Budget	\$675
Sam's Club	153
Dunk Tank	235
Raffle	89
Corn	50
Bands	150
Total	677
Remaining	-\$2

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of these gift baskets and prizes at the Battle of the Bands!

**BASKET RAFFLE
SUMMARY**

Tickets sold	\$180
Total Cost	\$245
Deficit	-\$65.00



Battle of the Bands Volunteers and Donations 9/22/2007

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FIRE PIT</u>	<u>WOOD</u>	<u>SET-UP/ CLEAN-UP</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
Malcolm			X	Raffles, lighter fluid, plates, napkins, and tablecloths
LeBlanc	X			Extension cords, tables, take over-griller, photos
Pinkl, Jim and Joe				Bands
Evans				Brats, buns, charcoal, electrical, raffles
Fichuk	X	X		Table, chips
Wallis	X			
Harfst				Grill
Giacchetti				Potato Chips
Peterson	X			Table
Reitcheck			X	Main Griller, Chips
Others-last minute				Chips



STEEPLE RUN NEWS

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT SEPT. 2007 by Karen Malcolm

Garage Sale

This year the garage sale was held for two weeks to accommodate everyone. The first week of the garage sale included six families and two garage openings, and an additional neighbor who had been unaware of the neighborhood Garage Sale. The second week included five-possibly six families in two-three garage openings, and including a church garage sale hosted by one of our neighbors. We coordinated the placement of signs.

Two new ideas were tried and worked with a few kinks:

Centralize donations of Garage Sale signs from neighbors. If anyone has any to donate, then please call Karen. These signs can be used by anyone in the neighborhood at any time by asking me. This way, no one has to worry about making signs. We already have some donations, but welcome more, especially sturdy plastic and metal ones.

Make the Neighborhood Garage Sale a group effort:

- Get all the names of the participating neighbors
- Each participant is assigned a "Designated Sign Area" (which will be close to their homes). They will pick up the signs (if available) and put them where assigned. An email will go out with instructions. After the sale is finished, the latest person assigned will collect the signs and pass them on to the person assigned in week two or return them to Karen.
- An ad will be placed for the week/s and the cost divided among the participants.



Next Garage Sale will be scheduled for the spring, so start your piles early; dates will be determined later.

Block Party I

The Block Party would have been a big

success had it not been cut short by rain; at least everyone was able to eat. The party included 81 of our neighbors that participated and an additional 8 other family members; this number does not include the band members. With the donations made, we were able to afford the food, dunk tank, bands and raffles. No SRHA funds were used.

A special thank you goes out to the Evans for letting everyone use their home as a base for the party. Once again we want to thank Rick Cygan and Bill Harfst for supplying the grills and being our "Chief Grilling Masters". With the help of our very own SRHA Treasurer Joe O'Malley, the food was cooked to perfection and very much enjoyed. Thanks again to everyone who mentioned to me how much they enjoyed the corn; I'm so glad everyone really thought it was tasty enough to have seconds and thirds.

The first band to open was "Bottom Line" featuring our neighbor Jim Pinkl, and immediately following was the "Traveling Cowboys". It's unfortunate that the rain started shortly after they started playing. Thankfully, they all decided to come back to entertain us.



Block Party II/Battle of the Bands

The "Battle of the Bands" was a continuation the Block Party that never finished. We were very lucky to have all three bands return. Things ran behind schedule because the first band "Traveling Cowboys" showed up very late. Unfortunately, by the time the last band and main attraction "Don't Tell Mama" (featuring our very own Joey Pinkl) played, people were starting to go home...timing is everything.

Nancy and I put together some mighty nice raffles; winners were announced during band changes. It must be recognized how extremely generous it was of the Fichuk's having all that wood delivered for the fire

pits and the Evans who bought all the brats, hot dogs and buns for everyone who attended. With a large donation of potato chips from the Giacchetti's and others, the party was complete. Many thanks to Bill Harfst for supplying the grill. A special thanks to our new neighbors the Reitchecks and their family members for helping out, but mostly to Mike for being the "Chief Griller" at the last minute; thanks for all your hard work.



The night started out with around 80 people but became fewer during the evening. Everyone seemed to enjoy the night so much that we are hearing they want to do it again next year. Hopefully, this will be one Block Party and not two; a rain date will be picked to avoid this from happening again. We booked the band "Don't Tell Mama" for next year and as promised will include payment for entertaining us.

All and all it turned out to be a very enjoyable night of eating, sitting under the stars by the fire with friends and family listening to music...it's a hard life...

Personally, I would like to thank my party planner partner in crime Nancy—I think we make a good team and looking forward to working together again on our next event—whatever that may be.

As it takes much time to plan these events in order for them to take place, Karen and Nancy would love to hear your comments. If you like these events and want to continue to have them, please let us know by emailing Karen; we really want to hear from you.





Preferred Contractor Program: Marengo Disposal Offer

Steeple Run residents may have noticed an orange garbage truck rumbling through the neighborhood on Monday mornings. For the first time, MDC is operating east of Highway 31 and has extended their City of Crystal Lake rate to SRHA members. The details have been available on our Steeple Run website, in the Board meeting minutes from July, in a mailing to each member household and were delivered to Wyndwood residents.

This offer may not be synchronous with your current collection company's quarterly billing. Please watch for your next bill and compare your current service with this offer. You may enroll at any time.

Each enrolled homeowner will be invoiced on a quarterly basis. Marengo does not add a Fuel Surcharge.

Two levels of service are available - with or without landscape waste collection:
Refuse and Recycling Only
\$18/month (\$54/quarter)

- 1 bulk item per week (no items with mercury switches accepted)
- 5 cans/bags refuse (resident-provided cans) per week.
- Wheeled tote available from Marengo for an additional \$2/month or \$6/quarter
- Unlimited recycling
- one 18 gal. recycling bin provided free of charge
- *both tote and recycling bin remain the property of Marengo Disposal

Refuse, Recycling and Landscape Waste
\$ 2 4 / m o n t h (\$ 7 2 / q u a r t e r)
Above listed services PLUS

- 5 35 gal. totes or cans/Kraft-type biodegradable brown paper bags landscape waste per week (mark each can clearly

with a large "X" for landscape waste)

- A landscaping waste tote may be rented from MDC for an additional \$1/50/month or \$4.50/quarter
- Landscape waste is collected from April-first week of December (but billed year-round)

Recyclables include: newspapers, magazines, telephone books, catalogs, junk mail, cardboard, regular paperboard, wet strength paperboard, mixed or miscellaneous paper products, tin, bi-metal beverage and food cans, aluminum cans and foil, plastics #1-#7, clear/green/brown glass bottles and jars.

Bulk Items: Any items which are too large to fit into an approved refuse container and which exceed, in total, 50 pounds in weight. Examples include sofas, large tables and chairs, dressers, televisions, bookcases, mattresses and box springs, other household furniture and large appliances which do not meet the definition of white goods below.

White goods: are any domestic and/or commercial large appliances which contains CFC or HCFC refrigerant gas, PCB containing capacitors, mercury switches, or other hazardous components. Examples include. but are not limited to, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, gas and electric ranges, dehumidifiers, water heaters, furnaces and other similar large appliances. Depending on the item, arrangements can be made to pick up white goods at an additional charge.

If you are interested, please contact Ron Ryan or call MDC (825-568-7274)

“SINCE THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS HAS BEEN EXCEEDED, GARBAGE COLLECTION BY MDC HAS BEEN INITIATED”

NOTE: The SRHA Board does not recommend the use of any contractor over another nor does the Board guarantee the cost or quality of the services provided but offers this information to SRHA members to use as they see fit. Other contractors are welcome to submit separate bids as well.



STEEPLE RUN NEWS

Care 4 Breast Cancer 5K Walk/Run

Nancy Evans is leading 2 groups from our neighborhood in the Care 4 Breast Cancer Walk/Run in Lippold Park on October 28th 8:30 a.m. She is trying to get t-shirts printed for our group. Many of our neighbors have already signed up or made a donation to this cause.

If you have any questions, would like to join in the Walk or Run, would like to make a donation or would like more information, please phone Nancy Evans.

For event information, to participate or donate: Type "Breast Cancer" "Lippold Park" and "Team 22" in your Search box. Click on Team 22 for Nancy.

Choices:

1. Register to run or walk. The registration fee is \$25.
2. Donate
3. Purchase a jersey T-shirt for \$22.00. Purchase by calling Nancy Evans and include your size.

"PROCEEDS STAY IN MCHENRY COUNTY TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF BREAST CANCER ISSUES, TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SCREENING AND TREATMENT AND TO PROVIDE MAMMOGRAMS FOR WOMEN IN MCHENRY COUNTY"

OFFLINE DONATION FORM Page 1 of 1

Right Click" your mouse to PRINT this page.

I can't participate in the race, but I'd like to make a donation in support of the women of McHenry County in their fight against Breast Cancer

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other Amt: _____

Please make Your Checks Payable to Family Health Partnership Clinic.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

Donor Phone _____

Email _____

Instructions for Website Donation Page

FROM: your name anonymous

In Honor In Memory In Support

of _____ (or none)

Do you wish your donation amount to show?

Yes No

Thank You So Much For Your Contribution!

Mail this form and your check to:

Family Health Partnership Clinic
 Attn: Cathy Brickey
 13707 W. Jackson St.
 Woodstock, IL 60098

Care 4 Breast Cancer 5K
Run/Walk

Team 22 for Nancy

<http://www.kintera.org/htmlcontent.asp?cid=74843>

Local Non-Profit Accepts Garage Sale Items

Do you have garage sale leftovers to share? Did you miss the neighborhood sale but still have excess belongings you'd like out of your home? Did someone have a growth spurt and now nothing fits?

The Blessing Barn is accepting donations of gently used household items. These donations are not sold in a resale shop; the goods are given away to needy families in McHenry County. If you have unsold items from the recent Garage Sale or if you are clearing out the clutter, please consider giving the Blessing Barn a call at 815-477-8928.

Note: The SRHA Board doesn't recommend the use of one business or charity over another but offers this information for its members to use as they see fit.

SPRING FORWARD, FALL BACK

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday November 4, 2007. Don't forget to set your clocks and other electronics back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night and you can enjoy an extra hour of slumber.

This is also a great time to check or to change any batteries in the Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide detectors around your home.

WAL-MART SUPERCENTER TO OPEN October 24

Please be cautious when pulling out of our neighborhood onto either Sands Road or Crystal Lake Ave. Traffic may be heavier than usual with traffic heading using Sands as a shortcut to Highway 14. The new Wal-Mart SuperCenter opens in the Lutter Center on Highway 31 and Rakow Road. The opening is scheduled for October 24th at 7:30 a.m. Since the addition of the traffic light at Sands and Route 14, Sands has become a popular quick route for drivers heading towards the Twin Ponds and who want to avoid Highway 31 and the stop lights at the on- and off- ramps.

Additionally, an ALDI grocery store will be built in Spring '08 near Three Oaks near Hwy. 14 in Cary.

Blessing Barn

You Donate We Distribute

Date: _____ Cash Donation _____
Non-Cash Donation _____
(Filled in by donor)

Item/s Donated: _____
Donor Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____

No goods or services were provided by Blessing Barn in return for this contribution

Thank you for your donation!

A non-profit corporation
501(c)(3)

Blessing Barn
4715 Wallen Dr.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 477-8928





Does Your Water Pass the Test? by Bill Harfst

The average homeowner judges their water by how it looks, smells and tastes. If it's clear, has no odor and tastes OK, it gets a passing mark. Unfortunately, the water in Steeple Run gets a failing grade in all categories.

Unlike Chicagoans who get their water from Lake Michigan, our water comes from deep wells that draw from underground aquifers. Most wells in this area are 100 to 200 feet deep.

Groundwater is not as pure as you'd think. As rainwater percolates through the ground, it dissolves various minerals from the surrounding geology. In our case, the nearby sand and limestone deposits contribute high levels of calcium and magnesium hardness along with a significant amount of iron, sulfur and silica. These impurities create problems by causing "lime" deposits in hot water tanks, soap scum in the shower, and iron stains on clothes and porcelain fixtures. If that's not enough, high levels of sulfur impart a "rotten egg" smell.

In addition to these nuisance problems, wells may become contaminated with bacteria and man-made chemicals. Of particular concern are the disease-causing organisms from untreated sewage and nitrites from agricultural runoff.

The first step in evaluating your water is to obtain a laboratory analysis. The McHenry County Health Department will test your well

for these parameters for a nominal fee.

Assuming your water passes the test for bacteria and nitrite levels, the two most troublesome impurities in well water are hardness and iron.

A properly designed and operated water softener is the answer for most residential water-related problems. Generally installed as a whole-house system, the softener removes all hardness and essentially all the iron. If you don't have any problems with hard water deposits or, in particular, the dreaded iron staining, then your softener is functioning as designed.

If you are like the rest of us, however, and hard water spots in the dishwasher, iron staining and discoloration of your clothes remain a problem despite having a water softener, then your system needs some attention.

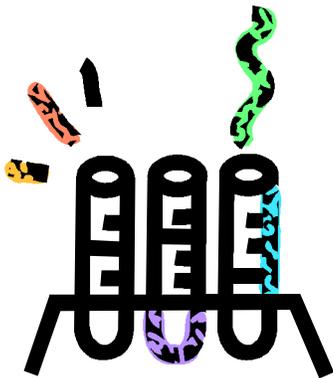
A softener contains a bed of resin that chemically exchanges sodium for the calcium, magnesium and iron in the well water. After several hundred gallons of water pass through the softener, the resin becomes saturated and must be regenerated with salt to restore the resin back to its original sodium form. The more water you use, the more often the softener needs to regenerate. Determining the amount of salt used per regeneration and the frequency of regeneration are two important criteria to insure a continuous source of iron-free, soft

water. If you frequently run out of salt or use too much water between regenerations, hardness and iron will pass through the unit with the resultant unpleasant consequences of spotting and iron staining mentioned previously. Some softeners are designed with twin tanks and a water meter that are set to regenerate based on the volume of water used instead of at a predetermined time of day. This helps prevent softener overrun. Notwithstanding the softener design, Rule No. 1 is to never, ever run out of salt.

The iron levels in the typical Steeple Run well are high enough that eventually the softener resin will get fouled with iron. This diminishes the softener capacity and may result in iron leakage from the unit. Softener resin cleaners such as Iron Out™ (sodium hydrosulfite) help clean the softener bed and minimize resin fouling. You can also purchase salt that contains this cleaning agent. Overall, if you have iron staining on your porcelain fixtures or tile, it's more likely that your softener is not properly set to deliver a continuous source of soft water. You may need to use more salt per regeneration or set the softener to regenerate more frequently. Consult your owner's manual for details on how to do this.

What if your water still gets a failing grade? And what about that funky smell? These will be discussed in the next issue...

"GROUNDWATER IS NOT AS PURE AS YOU'D THINK."



Preferred Contractor: Delivered Softener Salt

If you're tired of wrestling with 40 pound bags or heavy blocks of softener salt, there are several companies in the area that provide home delivery. Not only do they deliver salt to your home, they also add it to the softener tank.

It is difficult to compare companies as they carry different products. With a quick look in the phone book you will find several that deliver salt, some that offer salt as cash-and-carry, some firms that have a combination of both and others who provide

additional water conditioning treatments.

The next time you're restocking your softener salt, compare prices with this small sampling below and decide if home delivery is an option that suits your needs.



	Phone	Contact	Quantity	40# bag	40# Solar Salt	50# block	Cash & Carry	Misc.
Ameri-Kim	847-540-9876		6+	\$7.49	\$6.95	\$6.99		order 12, get 13th free
							www.ameri-kim.com	
Huemann	815-385-3093	Kim	3 to 14	\$6.90			\$3.76	C&C 1st Saturday of each month
			15+	\$6.00				
Quality	815-338-3344	Craig Grant	1 to 5	\$9.00			\$3.76	\$7/bag if 5-15 homes
			6 to 11	\$8.50				participate in same day delivery
			12+	\$8.00				

The SRHA Board does not recommend the use of any contractor over another, nor does the Board guarantee the cost or quality of the services but offers this as information to SRHA members to use as they see fit. Any additional bids for this type of service are always welcome.

2007: Record-breaking Year for Rabid Bats in Illinois

The most common kind of bat found in northern Illinois is the brown bat. Bats are a vital part of our ecosystem, as pollinators and by eating more than 600 insects an hour. It is estimated that only 1 in 200 bats (less than 1%) is infected with rabies.

This year in McHenry County, there has been an increase in rabid bats – 13 to date – but no reported cases of human infections. Rabid bats have been found in Woodstock, Crystal Lake, McHenry, Marengo, and Harvard. Almost double the previous record, the number of cases statewide in 2007 is the highest on record (99), with the bulk of the cases (25) located in Cook County.

Rabies is a viral disease that is transmitted by the bite of an infected animal. Bats, skunks,

raccoons, foxes and other mammals can carry the disease. The virus infects the central nervous system and is fatal if left untreated. After a bite from a suspected rabies carrier, a series of 6 shots should be given to ensure that rabies won't be contracted.

It is unlikely that a rabid bat will attack a person. It is more likely that people who contract rabies are bitten accidentally when they try to help a sick animal. Rabid bats usually fall to the ground when they become sick.

If a healthy bat is flying around your home, you might be able to shoo it out an open window or door. Another removal method would be to wait until it lands, cover it with a coffee can and slide a piece of cardboard underneath before taking the can, still covered with the cardboard,

outside to release the bat. Heavy leather gloves can be worn to protect your hands from bites.

If you aren't confident enough to trap and release your bat or if you find a bat that you suspect might be rabid, immediately call McHenry County Animal Control for capture and testing (815-334-4470).

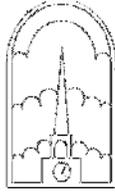
A bat is likely to be rabid if:

- It is active during the day
- It is unable to fly
- It is found in a home, swimming pool or lawn

Bat bites are painful but small and difficult to see so if a bat gets into a room with a baby or someone who cannot communicate that they have been bitten, it is extremely important that the bat be captured for testing.



PLEASE WATCH OUR FOR PEDESTRIANS ON OUR ROADS. SOON IT WILL BE DARK WHEN OUR CHILDREN ARE WALKING TO/FROM THEIR SCHOOL BUS STOPS.



A PUBLICATION OF THE STEEPLE RUN HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Questions? Comments? Have news story? Volunteering? Contact:
SRHA
PO Box 1350
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1350
Email: secretary@steeplerun.org

We've got mail!! (in our post office box)

SRHA
PO Box 1350
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1350

DRIVEWAY LIGHTS



If you have a functional driveway light near the intersection of the right-of-way and your driveway, congratulations! You are in compliance with the Covenants.

In years previous, there was confusion over the various versions of the Covenants that were being distributed by the developer but at all times the requirement to have a minimum of one driveway

light near the intersection of the right-of-way and your driveway was written in every single version. This lighting requirement should not come as a surprise.

If your light is not situated approximately 30 feet from the road or you don't have one at all, please consider having one installed close to the road before the ground freezes. The lights mounted to the sides of

your garage doors are not a substitute for the required driveway light.

Photocells and timers can be easily added so that they can be on from dusk-to-dawn whether you're home or not.

Please take this opportunity to install your driveway lights before the ground freezes. Non-compliance will cause a roadblock to a smooth closing on your home at the time of sale.

'Tis the Season.. . . . for Flu Shots



October and November are prime times for receiving your annual flu shot.

Symptoms of the flu usually include a dry cough, sore throat, high fever, headache, extreme tiredness, muscle aches. Most people recover in 7-14 days. The

flu affects the lungs, throat and nose, but not the stomach and intestines.

People vaccinated as late as December can still benefit from receiving a flu shot because most influenza cases occur in January or February.

The McHenry County Department of Health will be offering flu clinics for adults and children. Call 815-334-4510 to schedule an appointment, call your family physician or watch for flu clinics at banks, pharmacies and other businesses.