

STEEPLE RUN NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE STEEPLE RUN HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume 3, Issue 4

SUMMER 2008

PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Herb L.



The Summer vacation season is here. If you're traveling to distant places or doing a *staycation* this year, have a safe and wonderful summer.



On a special note I would like to congratulate all the Steeple Run school students who have successfully complete another academic year and especially to the 30+ students who are moving up higher in their level of education from grade school thru to the college level.

On another note, as anyone knows the working with local governments can be time consuming and frus-

trating. Sometimes months go by without a final solution to a problem. My wife, Linda, while walking our dog Cody in Steeple Run Estates, noticed that several of the storm drain covers were a potential



safety hazard. Small children could easily get their leg caught in the metal covers and cause serious injury. She attended the last meeting of the SRHA Board and brought the issue up. The Board took her concern to the Algonquin Township Road supervisor Bob Miller. He understood the concern of SRHA Board and was happy to replace several of the drain covers with the more child-friendly inventory he had on hand.



In addition, Algonquin Township was also very co-operative when we requested mulch from their stockpile on Rte 14. They delivered mulch free of charge and several SRHA volunteers spent a Saturday morning making the entrance signs and monuments pleasing to the eyes. I as well as all members of the Board of SRHA encourage this type of involvement in the community. It makes Steeple Run Estates a great place to live and raise a family.

Have a great summer,

Herb L.
President - SRHA

Special Dates of Interest:

- JUNE 30 DEADLINE FOR SRHA DUES (\$85)
- JULY 10 7:30 PM SRHA BOARD MEETING
- JULY 26, 9:30 AM—2:00 PM RADOVENT DEMO IN FRONT OF 4212 STEEPLE RUN

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STEEPLE RUN NEWS

TREASURER'S REPORT by Joe O.

2007-08					
	1st QTR	2nd QTR	3rd QTR	4th QTR	TOTAL
INCOME	6,290.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,290.00
EXPENSES	1,549.75	2,673.27	2,077.64	818.31	7,118.97
NET CASH FLOW					-828.97

EXPENSE CATEGORY					TOTAL
Communications	185.60	143.06	514.58	360.51	1,203.75
Legal	0.00	950.00	310.50	0.00	1,260.50
Maint	1,224.00	282.40	1,040.00	297.90	2,844.30
Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance	0.00	1,109.00	0.00	0.00	1,109.00
Utilities	140.15	188.81	212.56	159.90	701.42
Social	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL- Actual Exp	1,549.75	2,673.27	2,077.64	818.31	7,118.97

Register Balance 7,118.97

A LITTLE UNDER HALF OF THE HOMEOWNERS HAVE PAID THEIR ASSESSMENT. IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY, PLEASE DO SO BEFORE THE GRACE PERIOD EXPIRES ON JUNE 30TH AND EXTRA EXPENSES ARE ADDED.

We closed the 2007-08 Fiscal Year on May 31. The year end bank balance was \$7118.97 resulting in a negative cash flow of \$835.03. This deficit was caused primarily by the costs of surveying the monuments and the related administrative costs associated with the county's requirement to obtain permits for the signs. We did save a significant cost by doing our own mulching for the sign beds this year. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped.

Looking forward to the 2008-09 fiscal year we hope to be more in a balanced budget position. The General Contingency Reserve remains at the \$5000 level as provided in the By-Laws. The remaining funds will be allocated to the Monument maintenance reserve. The only extra-ordinary expense we anticipate is the cost of painting the signs, which has yet to be determined.

As a reminder, the annual Homeowners' Association dues of \$85.00 in now due. If you have not already done so, please send your check to me no later than June 30. Your cooperation is appreciated.

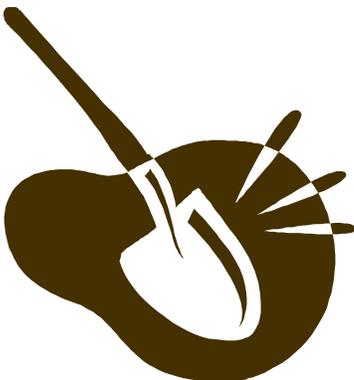
Volunteers Save Over \$800 for SRHA Homeowners

On Saturday May 10th, a group of volunteers performed the spring clean-up and mulching of our 4 monument areas. Ron Ro. and Herb L. worked with Algonquin Township officials to have free shredded mulch delivered to our subdivision, eliminating much shoveling and hauling for our volunteers.

Ron and Herb, along with Linda L., Tom R., David N. and Joe O., worked from 8:30 to noon edging the perimeter of each monument, clearing winter debris and weeds and spreading a foundation of mulch around the monuments and flower beds.

neighbors pitching in to provide a needed service that beautifies our neighborhood and benefits everyone in Steeple Run. Last year, our lawn service contractor charged us \$850 for this service.

Great job, everyone!



NEW LIMITS ON OPEN BURNING IN McHENRY COUNTY

The McHenry County Board is regulating open burning to protect the public health, safety and welfare. An ordinance was passed last December and became effective April 1, 2008. It defines what, when and under what conditions landscape waste can be burned. Even more restrictive rules apply to residents of Crystal Lake and other municipalities.

The complete McHenry County Open Burning of Landscape Waste Ordinance is available for reference, printing or download at the Steeple Run website.

Open burning is limited to the burning of:

- landscape waste (grass, shrubbery cuttings, leaves, flowers and weeds) and
- brush (tree trunks, branches and twigs).

Never permitted is the burning of:

- Garbage (animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food),
- manure (solid and liquid wastes from livestock or poultry) and
- litter (any discarded substance such as garbage, trash, refuse, debris, plastic or paper containers, packaging, furniture, oil, dead animals, construction materials, toxic materials, etc.)

PROHIBITIONS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS, LIMITATIONS

Burning of brush and landscape waste is permitted:

- Only on weekends
- Between dawn and dusk
- During April, May, October and November
- When the wind is not in excess of 10 mph
- Supervised by a person at least 18 years old until extinguished
- A garden hose or water source must be available at the burning site
- At least 100 feet from a habitable structure and 50' from non-habitable structures
- Limited to dry landscape waste and brush
- Limited to the property on which the waste was generated
- Not on easements or roads or create a visibility hazard on roads



ENFORCEMENT

This ordinance will be primarily enforced by the McHenry County Department

of Health, along with local law enforcement agencies and fire departments, with fines varying from \$100 to \$1,000.

EXCEPTIONS

There are exemptions for prairie restoration, outdoor cooking, external fireplaces, self-contained outdoor wood-burning devices and recreational fires (less than 3' by 3' by 3' in size). These fires are not subject to the distance from structures restrictions, dates and times, and wind speed restrictions of the ordinance. It is also not necessary to have a garden hose standing by.

Ceremonial bonfires (greater than 3' by 3' by 3') have the same exemptions IF

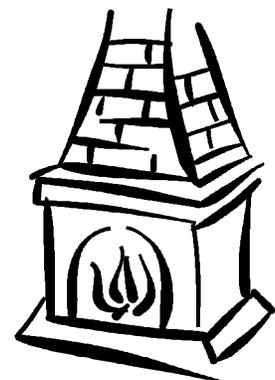
1. Notice has been given to the fire protection district
2. A permit has been obtained from the McHenry County Dept. of Health

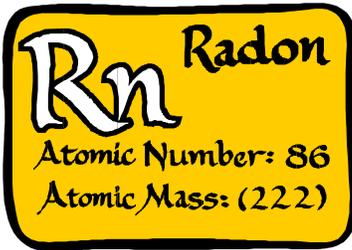
ALTERNATIVES

The McHenry County Solid Waste Manager has been assigned the responsibility to find economical alternatives to open burning. Waste haulers offer landscape waste collection services. Algonquin township has a drop-off site and limited pick-up service for brush.



THE OPEN BURNING OF LANDSCAPE WASTE IS LIMITED TO THE DAYLIGHT HOURS OF WEEKENDS IN APRIL, MAY, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.





**PREFERRED CONTRACTOR PROGRAM:
RADON EDUCATION / DEMO IN STEEPLE RUN**

Saturday July 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Travis Jewell from Radovent will have a booth set up in front of 4212 Steeple Run to present his services and to answer resident questions. Additional information has been provided on the facing page.

Radon is a cancer-causing radioactive gas that is colorless, odorless and tasteless. It seeps into our

homes from under the foundation and poses a danger to our families' health. Radon exposure is the second-leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. Levels over 4 picocuries/liter have been known to prevent home sales in our subdivision; once radon mitigation was done, the radon levels became acceptable and the sales were completed.

Radovent is offering SRHA

members a price break. For every 5th sale, \$50 will be deducted from the cost of basic installation up to a total of \$200 in savings. If 20 SRHA members sign up, the final cost for each home will be \$795.

We are also able to receive a quantity discount on the radon testing, which typically costs \$175-\$185. Be sure to ask the representative on July 26th.

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 information to SRHA members to use as they see fit. Any additional bids for this type of service are always welcome.

PLEASE CONTACT KAREN M. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN A GARAGE SALE IN LATE SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER.

NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE by Karen M.

This year, the neighborhood Garage Sale was another success. Justine and Joe W. were such a big help with the signs. Also, thanks to their contribution, we have new Garage Sale signs for the future. We really appreciate it because our signs were becoming unusable due to wear and tear. Thank you Joe and Justine. The participants this year are

as follows:

WEEK 1
had approximately four garages opened with seven families participating.

WEEK 2
had approximately three garages opened with six families participating.

Another scheduled garage

with two additional families was to have participated the second week but they had to postpone it until June.

Please contact Karen if anyone would like to participate in a fall Garage Sale around end of September or beginning of October.

2008 Steeple Run Neighborhood Block Party by Karen M.

The 2008 Steeple Run Neighborhood Block Party is scheduled to take place some time late September or early October. This will be decided upon the availability of the band. Please

contact Karen if there is anyone that would like to help or participate in the planning of this event.





Crystal Lake Radon Facts

1. Radon is a colorless and odorless gas. Radon is the second leading cause for lung cancer.
2. 42% of homes tested in McHenry County have radon concentrations greater than, 4 pci/L.
3. The EPA recommends reducing radon gas concentrations to levels below 4 pci/L.
4. As of January, 1 2008 Illinois passed the Radon Awareness Act into Law.

*** Testing information was taken from the Illinois state status report for radon.

ABOUT RADOVENT:

RADOVENT, LLC is dedicated to helping Illinois' valued citizens and communities reduce the risk of exposure to harmful radon gas. We design and install the most efficient radon reduction systems available while maintaining the highest standards of quality and appearance. Our experienced techs have performed over 2000 successful radon reduction system installations throughout the US. Unlike other companies, we provide a written guarantee that our systems will reduce radon gas concentrations below the EPA's action level of 4 pCi/L.

- Our systems are painted to match the color of your home.
- We have a 100% success rate in achieving our radon reduction guarantee.
- Our techs are highly trained, courteous and clean.
- Typical radon mitigation service will take 4 hours to complete.

Steeple Run and Associated Communities:

We have designed a radon mitigation promotion for the communities associated with Steeple Run in Crystal Lake. RADOVENT will install the RADOVENT RADON MITIGATION SYSTEM in homes throughout your community bases upon a decreasing price structure. Our price will begin at \$995 for an exterior type radon mitigation system. For every five residence who sign up for radon mitigation service, we will discount every installation by \$50 down to \$795 per exterior type radon reduction system. Most homes require only one radon mitigation system to reduce the concentrations of radon gas to levels below 4.0 pci/L and in most cases results come back well below that level. Some price variables may apply in the event that the home has exposed gravel/earth crawlspace or if the client chooses to upgrade to an attic type installation.

CONTACT RADOVENT™ FOR MORE INFORMATION:

888-698-VENT | www.radovent.com | sales@radovent.com



RADOVENT™ is certified for radon mitigation through the National Environmental Health Association NEHA NHRP ID# 104688RMT as well as Illinois Emergency Management Agency license# RNM2005203

STEEPLE RUN NEWS

DID YOU HEAR.....



The tornado warning sirens in the middle of the night in early June? With windows closed and air conditioning on, many sleeping residents did not hear the new, closer siren on the Beardsley Middle School property. Radar showed a suggestive bow echo and a rotating cloud was spotted near Highways 31 and 176 - a close call.

Tornadoes have spread devastation across the Plains and Virginia this spring and we

are comfortable in thinking that it'll never happen here. Long-time Crystal Lake residents still remember the 1965 Palm Sunday tornado in which 6 people were killed and over 80 homes totally destroyed. In the years since, we have been lucky.

To put together a Tornado Plan:

- Identify a safe place in the basement, away from windows and away from heavy furniture on

the floor above like refrigerators or pianos..

- Get under sturdy furniture, mattress or sleeping bag to protect your head.
- Have shoes, flashlights and whatever else you determine that you need already stored near your chosen spot.



Nickel-sized hailstones, June 2008

Emergency Preparedness: Get a Plan

It seems as if you can't turn on the evening news without hearing about a natural disaster somewhere in the US. Our risk of damage from hurricanes, floods and earthquakes are slim but as the recent tornado warning and the short hailstorm remind us, we are not immune from potentially severe weather in Crystal Lake.

Fire, tornadoes, wind or hail damage, lightning strike,

power outages, blizzards can potentially wreak havoc with our routines.

Think about what your family will do in each of these situations. Share the plans with all family members so each one knows what to do to stay safe. Can you react quickly in the middle of the night? In a fire, do you all know the escape routes? Do you have an assigned family meeting place to do a head count?

Where is the safest place in your basement during a tornado warning? If you have to evacuate, can you quickly get hold of vital prescriptions, supplies and paperwork? Not one plan will suit all—each family is unique. And don't forget to include any pets in your plans.

Summer is the ideal time to run a fire drill. We do them at work and school; why not at home as well?



“SUMMER IS THE IDEAL TIME TO HAVE YOUR REQUIRED DRIVEWAY LIGHT INSTALLED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF YOUR DRIVEWAY AND THE RIGHT-OF-WAY”

COVENANT REMINDERS

- Summer is an ideal time to have your required driveway light installed near the intersection of your driveway and the right-of-way. The driveway light will also increase safety, visibility and curb appeal.
- Please remember to cut the grass on your lot all the way up to the roadways. Grass should not exceed 8" in height, including the grass and weed seed heads.
- Review your copy of our Covenants before you plan any additions or exterior changes to

your home or property, including walks and terraces. Certain restrictions apply and prior approval of plans by the SRHA Board is required before any changes are made. Homes with unapproved, undocumented alterations will be considered non-compliant with the Covenants.

Gypsy Moth Infestation in Steeple Run

One of a homeowners biggest asset is their large trees. They provide curb appeal, shade, and energy savings. They thrive when not stressed by drought, temperature or disease. Our shade trees are now facing a serious neighborhood-wide threat.

Gypsy Moth caterpillars have been spotted in Steeple Run where they have seriously defoliated a mature oak tree. They spread by crawling and by flying on silk thread to nearby trees.



If you see these caterpillars on your property, squish them or collect as many as you can in a trash bag and throw them away. You may need a strong hose stream or power washer to knock them out of the trees. Our neighbors have been successful using SEVIN as an insecticide but care must be used as SEVIN is very toxic to bees and other beneficial insects. The more gypsy moth larvae (caterpillars) you can eliminate, the fewer gypsy moths there will be next year. The most effective time to spray caterpillars with the very safe commercial bt.k (*Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki*) is during the first 4 weeks after they have hatched; that window has passed. The next phase in the gypsy moth lifecycle is pupae after which the adult moths will lay egg masses that will overwinter and hatch next Spring when the oak leaves come out.

REPORT: If you have seen this caterpillar, egg masses or adult moths on your property, call the Gypsy Moth Hotline so that our location can be considered by the IL Dept. of Agriculture for aerial Bt.k spraying next spring. **1-866-296-MOTH.** Tell the SRHA board and your neighbors as well so they can be extra vigilant.

ERADICATE: Spray caterpillars this year with a broad spectrum pesticide (Sevin). Seek

out and consider other options for next year.

ELIMINATE: Hiding spots for egg masses. Cut down dead trees. Store non-essential belongings in the garage.

For the next 9 months, we should carefully inspect our property for the gypsy moth egg masses. Each mass will produce over 1000 caterpillars. They are 1" to 1 1/2" long white cream to buff colored masses that have been described as looking like felt or peanut butter smears. They can be found on branches and tree trunks, in bark crevices, on dead wood, on siding and on a variety of our outdoor belongings such as under patio furniture and playsets, RVs and boats, under bicycle seats, wheel wells, inside bumpers, on rocks and in wood piles.

See the Spring 2007 newsletter page 7 for egg mass disposal methods and photos and additional information.

PROTECT: Defoliated trees need extra TLC (water and fertilizer) this year. They will be weak and susceptible to secondary infections. Remove any dead branches or dead trees in the area to prevent secondary infections and eliminate overwintering sites.

Place Barrier or Collection Bands on your trees in April and May next year. Instructions are in the Spring 2007 newsletter.

PLAN: Arborists and commercial tree services offer a variety of advice and services but there is much the homeowner can do to control the spread of gypsy moth.

CL Park District sprayed an infestation at Veteran Acres Park. They contracted for aerial spraying of Bt.k. but their most effective method was spraying the caterpillars and egg masses with peanut oil to suffocate them. They also put burlap around the trunks and collected the tangled up caterpillars every morning.

McHenry County remains under a quarantine. That means no nursery trees, mulch, firewood or wood products should leave the county. Boats, trailers and camping equipment should be inspected for gypsy moth, egg masses and emerald ash borer before leaving and upon returning home.



Female Gypsy Moth laying an egg mass

“FOR THE NEXT 9 MONTHS, WE SHOULD CAREFULLY INSPECT OUR PROPERTY FOR THE GYPSY MOTH EGG MASSES.”



Thieves: 3 Cautionary Tales



We've had blessedly little crime in Steeple Run but for those affected families, it is no small matter. Here are some cautions from area newspapers.

- From the *NW Herald*: A summertime spike in car burglaries has been noticed in Cary. The Cary Police are advising residents to lock their cars and garages at night. This is good advice no matter where you live. Most of the Cary burglaries were to unlocked cars or garages but a few windows were smashed.

High end electronics were targeted: iPods, GPS units, digital cameras and laptops.

If you see any suspicious activity in Steeple Run, call the sheriff at 911 or 1-815-338-2144 or call CrimeStoppers 1-800-762-STOP. CrimeStoppers pays up to \$1,000 for tips that lead to arrest and convictions; callers need not give their names.

- From the *Daily Herald*: Thieves are crawling into garage attics while the garage door is open.

When residents leave, they lower the ladder and enter the house. (happened in Algonquin). Remember, thieves read the paper, too.

- From a State office: Check for both your license plates. A woman said her son called the police to file a report when he discovered his license plate was missing. They told him that thieves used stolen plates on their cars when they 'pump and run,' leaving your plate on the 'wanted' list.

Replacement Drain Covers



BEFORE



If you have a 'BEFORE' drain cover that has

large unsafe gaps in it on your property and you would like to have it replaced with an 'AFTER' cover, please contact Herb L. He will gladly share his tale on how he handled the replacement of the cover across the

street from his home.



RABID BATS MAKING HEADLINES FOR SECOND YEAR

McHenry County is on track to break last year's record number of rabid bats. 11% of the bats tested in the county this spring are rabid. That number should rise by the time bats migrate in late September or October.

Please remember that if a bat is found that is active during the day, unable to fly, or found in a place where bats

are not usually seen, it is more likely to be rabid. Do not touch these wild animals. If you find a bat in your home, or under the above conditions, do not chase it out an open window; instead, contain it in the room or under a bucket and call Animal Control at 815-459-6222.

Be cautious but don't panic. If you suspect that you may have been bitten, even without a visible bite mark, seek

medical attention. Treatment needs to start within the first 10 days after exposure to bat saliva.

Be sure that your cats and dogs have current rabies shots.

If you have questions, the communicable disease nurses at the County Health Department are standing by at 815-334-4500.



HIGH SCHOOL START TIME CHANGED

The High School D-155 school board voted unanimously to delay the start of the school day on Mondays for the 2008-2009 school year. Starting with the second Monday of the school year, teachers will meet from 7:10—8:10 a.m. for “Course Learning Team Days.” This weekly planning time will replace 8 scattered early release

days and classes will be 5 minutes shorter on Mondays.

Students will need to arrive for class by 8:10 am on Mondays and by the regular 7:25 am Tuesday through Friday.

Bus schedules and school opening times are not affected. Students may use the extra time on Monday

mornings to study, use college and career resources in the Guidance Office, make-up tests, or use the media center or computer labs. Students who drive or receive rides to school can sleep an extra 45 minutes.

Remember, this schedule change goes into effect on the second Monday of the 2008-2009 school year.



NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

In the previous newsletter, the Steeple Run News featured a new column to highlight the accomplishments and milestones of our residents. We need your input. If you know of a family member or neighbor who has earned a big round of applause, please submit the information to webmaster@steeplerun.org for inclusion in the newsletter. We'd love to share the good news. Don't be shy now.

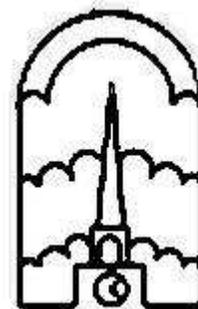
In our Fall newsletter, we would like to shine the spotlight on our new college freshmen. Please let us know where they will be matriculating, and their major if known.

Directory Update

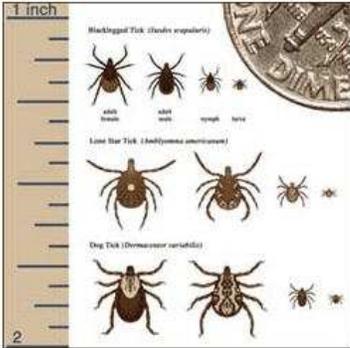
Until another Directory is published, please make the following correction to your Steeple Run Neighborhood Directory:

Jody and Chris Kempa kempa@att.net

Please email or phone SRHA Secretary Tom Rice or Jill Peterson if you need to make any changes or corrections to the Directory. An update form is available on the Downloads page of the Steeplerun.org website.



Backyard pests—more than mosquitoes



Whether the ticks walked over from The Hollows, hitched a ride on wildlife or found our landscaping has matured into their ideal habitat, we now have ticks in Steeple Run. Ticks prefer moist and humid areas near grassy areas and woods, leaf litter and shrubs.

Residents should be performing tick checks on their children and pets, paying close attention to crevices and folds. Treat your pets regularly with a flea and tick formula from March through November. Insect repellent with 20-30% DEET is recommended for adults' skin and

clothes. Permethrin can be used on clothes. Check with your pediatrician for acceptable DEET %s for children.

Ticks grab onto people or animals as they brush up against them. They crawl upwards so it is advised that when you take that hike through the woods, you tuck your pants into your socks, tuck your shirt into your pants, wear a shirt with a collar and a hat. Some ticks are small enough that they can crawl down into your shoes and through your socks. Remember to check your feet and ankles.

Ticks feed on the blood of

animals and birds by inserting their mouth parts into the skin. They are slow feeders (longer than a day). Ticks ordinarily must be attached for at least 24 hours before disease-causing agents can be transmitted. There are at least 10 tick-borne diseases in the US with Lyme Disease receiving the most publicity.

Remove a tick as soon as it is discovered. Firmly grasp the tick close to the skin with a tweezers and steadily pull upward. Avoid crushing the tick's body. Clean your skin around the wound site with soap and warm water or alcohol.

“MOSQUITOES CAN BREED IN A THIMBLE OF WATER SO YOU MUST BE VERY THOROUGH IN YOUR SEARCH FOR STANDING WATER.”



It's difficult to run from car to home without noticing the bumper crop of mosquitoes this year. Because of the flooding this year, Chicago has 5 times the normal number.

Eliminate their breeding grounds by getting rid of standing water on your property. Mosquitoes can breed in a thimble of water so you must be very thorough in your

search for standing water. Consider these locations and situations:

- Remove saucers from under flower pots,
- change bird bath water frequently, at least weekly
- make sure your gutters and downspouts are sloped properly so there is no standing rain water.

- Fill in low areas in your ditch with dirt to correct the slope and restore the drainage.
- Add bird-and-fish safe larvicide to ponds, fountains and bird baths
- Empty watering cans between uses
- Keep the cover on your rain barrel
- Remove saggy tarps

What's the fastest growing component of landfill waste?

Although they shouldn't be in the landfills at all, obsolete electronic products are the fastest growing component of landfill waste. They contain toxic elements such as lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium, beryllium and other toxic materials that pollute our soil

and may leach onto our groundwater—our drinking water. They pose a risk to our health and to the environment.

These electronics should be recycled for their valuable materials—copper, gold and circuit chips which can be recycled and reused. Many

recyclers are listed in the Green Guide '08 Recycling Directory for McHenry County published by the Lou Marchi Recycling Institute at McHenry County College and the Northwest Herald. The guide was distributed as an insert in the NW Herald and can be accessed online at www.mchenry.edu/recycling.



Hint.

JAPANESE BEETLES PROLIFERATE

Coppery metallic green Japanese beetles appear for 6-8 weeks starting in late June and early July and can be seen on our shrubs, eating holes in the foliage and mating. They can fly 10-15 miles attracted to other beetles, damaged leaves and pheromone-baited beetle traps. The other 10

months of the year they live in our soil as C-shaped white grubs that feed on the grass and plant roots.

You can safely manage the beetles by removing them from the foliage every morning. When disturbed, they drop to the ground so hold a

can or jar with a few inches of soapy water under the leaf and they will drop into the water.

The more you remove, they fewer friends they will attract and the less damage your plants and roots will sustain. See more information in the Summer '06 newsletter page 6.



Dispose of Used CFLs and Tubes Properly

Compact fluorescent and the older tube fluorescent light bulbs contain mercury and should be treated with caution. When they burn out, they must be treated as hazardous household waste and not put in with the regular trash. They can be turned in at the Ace Hardware in McHenry, the McHenry County Defenders in Woodstock and the IEPA sites in Rockford, Naperville and Chicago among other places listed in the Green Guide (www.mchenry.edu/recycling). Some Home Depots also accept used CFLs.



BROKEN fluorescent light bulbs require special handling

Fluorescent bulbs contain a very small amount of toxic mercury in the glass tubing. The EPA recommends the following for clean-up and disposal of broken CFLs and fluorescent tubes:

Air out the room

- Have people and pets avoid the breakage area as they quickly leave
- Shut off the forced air heat/AC system
- Open window and leave the room for 15 minutes

Clean up floor and rugs

- Carefully scoop up glass pieces and powder using stiff paper or cardboard and put in glass or metal jar with metal lid or in a sealed plastic bag
- Use duct tape to pick up remaining shards and powder. Add to jar or bag
- Wipe area with damp paper towels or wet

wipes. Place in disposal jar or bag

- ***Do not use vacuum or broom on hard surfaces***
- If vacuuming carpet is needed after all visible remains are removed, vacuum the area and add the vacuum bag to the jar or sealed bag.
- The next several times you vacuum the area, shut off the forced air heating/AC and open a window before vacuuming. Keep the blower fan off and the window open for at least 15 minutes.

Clean up clothing, bedding or other fabrics

- ***If fabric has come in contact with broken glass or powder, the clothing or bedding should be thrown away.*** Do not wash it or you will contaminate

your machine and septic

- Clothing that you wore as you cleaned up can be washed as long as it was not in direct contact with the glass or powder.
- Shoes that have been in direct contact can be wiped off with damp paper towels or wet wipes. Add to plastic bag for disposal.

Dispose of clean up materials

- Immediately place all clean up materials outdoors in a protected area for transportation to McHenry County Defenders or an IEPA Hazardous Waste Collection site.



The McHenry County Defenders and IEPA will accept broken bulbs as long as they're in a metal container. Ace Hardware and Home Depot will not accept broken fluorescent bulbs.



**CONGRATULATIONS,
GRADUATES!**



A PUBLICATION OF THE STEEPLE RUN HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Questions? Comments?
Volunteering? Contact:
Jill Peterson-editor
Email:
webmaster@steeplerun.org

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

**WANTED!
DEAD OR
ALIVE**

**SPOTTED IN STEEPLE RUN:
HAVE YOU SEEN THESE GYPSY MOTH CATERPILLARS?!**



They crawl and are blown on silk threads by the wind to nearby trees.

These pictures are not from the internet; they were taken in Steeple Run last week.



**CALL THE IL Ag. Dept.
GYPSY MOTH HOTLINE:
1-866-296-MOTH**

Gypsy Moth caterpillars have been spotted in the eastern part of Steeple Run where they have seriously defoliated a mature oak tree and have started munching on several others including honey locust and wild cherry. They can defoliate a tree in less than a week and they will eat over 500 species of trees.

For full color versions, refer to the newsletter posted at our website: www.steeplerun.org.

See page 7 of this newsletter for more on what to look for and what to do.

There are additional photos and information in the Spring 2007 newsletter.

It will take all of us working in concert to eradicate this devastating pest from our neighborhood and surrounds. Please share this with others living in the area.