

# HIDDEN TRAILS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

## AUGUST 2008 NEWSLETTER

**Web Site, Input:** Be sure to check out our community web site at <http://www.hiddentrailshoa.com/bulletin.htm>. Email the webmaster with comments or suggestions re our website ([webmaster@hiddentrailshoa.com](mailto:webmaster@hiddentrailshoa.com)). Email me with newsletter ideas or other community information. ([bswanson@semprautilities.com](mailto:bswanson@semprautilities.com))

**Design Review Committee:** The DRC reviews applications for improvements when it meets monthly. The meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM at the Rubio's Restaurant on East Valley Parkway, near Home Depot. Come join us.

**Landscaper Request:** The HOA's landscaper is requesting approval to place a Dumpster at the foot of Oak Valley Ln., beside the pump station, for green trimmings only. This would allow them to spend more time maintaining our landscaping rather than making multiple daily trips to the dump. Please contact HOA president Jim McNair at (760) 743 – 1386 with comments.

**Grove Spraying:** The avocado groves surrounding our community are known as Beacon Hills Ranch. The groves, which were recently put up for sale, are owned by Mr. Frye, and managed by Henry Avocado. Several times a season the grove is sprayed with various chemicals which may drift onto our yards, exposing us to these chemicals.

The government requires that each manufacturer produce a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) describing the chemical, its characteristics, potential affects on humans and treatments.

Last week we received a notification from Henry Avocado about upcoming spraying. The notice didn't provide the anticipated dates of spraying, didn't identify which groves would be sprayed, or the chemicals to be used. Homeowners need this information.

It would be a simple matter to include this information in the notices that we receive. If you agree, you might write to Rick Opel, Grove Manager for Beacon Hills Ranch at P.O. Box 300867, Escondido, CA 92030, and request that homeowners be provided meaningful notice, to include the chemicals to be used, a map of the portions of the groves to be sprayed, the proposed dates for spraying, and MSDS sheets.

**Take the Bite out of Summer:** Mosquitoes are a fact of life in Escondido. Besides causing bumps when they bite us, our mosquitoes can also transmit serious diseases such as *West Nile virus and malaria*. We need to reduce our exposure to them.

Mosquitoes can lay 200 eggs a day during warm weather. They prefer stagnant water, such as that found in backyard flower pots, abandoned pools, or old tires. With the

number of homes sitting vacant it is likely that some spas and pools are turning into mosquito factories.

Our tax dollars fund the vector control program operated by the county Department of Environmental Health (DEH). Vector is the term for creatures that transmit disease from animals to humans. If a person calls DEH, and reports a stagnant body of water on their own or a neighbors property, DEH will contact the owner, and at no charge place mosquito fish in the water. These hungry little fish will gobble up the mosquito larvae and resolve the problem. For larger infestations DEH has other tools to help control the problem. Contact DEH at [vector@sdcountry.ca.gov](mailto:vector@sdcountry.ca.gov) or (858) 694 – 2888.

DEH also can help homeowners control mice and rat problems, identifying where they are entering your home and providing advice and bait stations to help you reduce or eliminate rats and mice in and around your home. Visit [www.sdcountry.ca.gov](http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov) and go to departments (Environmental Health) then see learn more.

**Sounds of Summer - Reminder:** Warm summer days and nights mean that many of us leave our windows open in the evening. This cools our homes while saving energy. Please be considerate when talking on cell phones, playing TVs and radios (which can carry their sounds out the window and into the neighborhood, and during the evenings, even into neighbors' open windows). Please advise your teens' friends not to honk or roar away when departing (especially after dark).

**Go Fish!** The City of Escondido operates two nearby fishing lakes, reknown for record bass. Lake Dixon is located off of La Honda Drive, about two miles from Hidden Trails. Besides fishing, it offers picnicking and camping opportunities. Lake Wohlford, located about three miles away off of Lake Wohlford Road, also offers excellent fishing. Both offer boat rentals. Check the City of Escondido web site, or check the white pages of your phone book for more information on these nearby lakes.

<p><b>HOA Officers (*all are volunteers):</b> President: James McNair (760) 743-1386; Vice-President: Bob Dunbar (760) 741-5334; Secretary/Treasurer: Jane Albo.</p> <p><b>Design Review Committee:</b> Co-Chairs: Marcus Harrel &amp; Darryl Turner; Rick Wood. Adjunct members: Dennis Van Rumund, Brian Swanson.</p> <p><b>Property Manager:</b> Fabiana Lansner (flansner@menas.com), Menas Realty (760) 942-2667 or (858) 270-7870. Please visit <a href="http://www.menas.com">www.menas.com</a> for info on who to contact for billing or repairs.</p> <p><b>Escondido Police Department:</b> 911; non-emergency = (760) 839-4722.</p> <p><b>Escondido Fire Dept.</b> (Fires, fireworks, rattlesnakes): 911; non-emergency = (760) 839-5400 <b>Henry Avocado</b> (grove issues like avocado theft, sprinklers, dumping): 745-6632</p> <p><b>City of Escondido, Public Works</b> (Ryan Park, streetlight issues): 839-4668</p> <p><b>City of Escondido, Code Enforcement</b> (graffiti): 839-4650</p> <p><b>Valley High School</b> (kids in neighborhood during school hours, etc.): 291-3275</p> <p><b>East Valley Community Center:</b> 2245 East Valley Parkway, 839-4382</p> <p><b>Broken sprinklers in HOA landscaping, dead HOA plants:</b> Menas Realty (760) 942-2667</p> <p><b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Homeowner/volunteer Brian Swanson (760) 739-5451.</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.hiddentrailshoa.com">http://www.hiddentrailshoa.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:webmaster@hiddentrailshoa.com">webmaster@hiddentrailshoa.com</a>.</p>
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