



ULMSTEAD GARDENS

Community Newsletter
Spring 2019

Ulmstead Gardens 2019 Board of Directors

2019 Board of Directors

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Josh Fisher, Vice President
Bob Hannon, Treasurer
Celeste Medley, Secretary

Executive Board

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Monthly Meeting

Monthly board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at The Elks Lodge, 931 Lake Drive, Arnold, MD. Please check the community website for more information. All residents are welcome.

Architectural Control

Architectural inspections will be conducted within the next 30 to 45 days. Please take the time to clean up around your home and make all necessary improvements.

Please check the community web site for Request for Review forms and information on colors for property located in the Brenadean section of Ulmstead Gardens.



Community Reminders

Please Slow Down, the speed limit is 10 mph for our courts. There are children in the community, as well as walkers, jogger and bikers. Slow down & stay alert.

Please pick-up after your pets, not only is it the law, it is the right thing to do. We now have convenient Pet Stations located through-out our community.



Trash cans shall be of plastic construction and bear the unit's number. Trash cans shall not be placed on Association common property prior to dusk on the night before pick-up for the court and must be picked up within one day after trash pick-up. Trash containers are not to be left on common property. Any container left on common property one day after trash pick-up is subject to be removed and taken to the county dump. Trash shall not be stored in front of a unit but must be placed at the immediate rear of a unit in container(s) approved by Anne Arundel County (plastic construction) and the rules of the community. Trash or trash containers shall not be stored on the front stoop of any unit.

Those residents violating any of these rules will be fined and/or subject to legal action.

Be Courteous and Respectful of your neighbors. This includes the maintenance and overall outside appearance of your home and grounds and the actions of residents, homeowners, tenants and their visitors.

Contact the Police with any suspicious activity, vandalism or any conduct that is questionable.

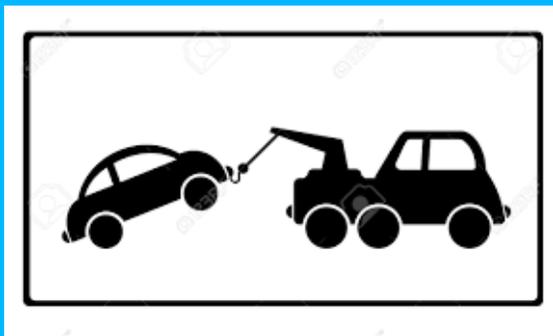


Did you know Ulmstead Gardens has a Facebook Community Group? You can find a link to join the group by visiting Facebook.

The Facebook page is not an official UGCA page, but it is very useful and a great way to stay in touch with your neighbors.

Parking

Every residence is allocated two assigned parking spaces. If you are using any other residence's parking space without permission, you must cease using them. Unauthorized use of another homeowner's parking space is subject to fine and/or towing.



Guest spaces are not to be a permanent parking space for your vehicles. If a car is found to be parked in guest spaces for an unauthorized use of time, it will be fined and/or towed.

If you are unsure of your assigned parking spots,

please contact the Association for assistance.

Upcoming Events Communications News

Two new park benches and a new picnic table have been installed. Two more tables will be installed. The basketball hoops will be replaced. The delivery and installation of mulch is scheduled. Yard Sale May 4 – Rain Day May 5
Dumpsters May 4 – Removed May 6

Your Dues at Work

Your dues cover more than just the everyday expenses of running our community. Here is a list of just a few items that have been done or are scheduled to be done with our dues.

- Repairs to the community sidewalks
- New community sign with new landscaping
- Trimming of trees around street lights on the courts
- Sealing the parking lots
- Storm drain repairs
- Sink hole repairs on a few of the courts
- New picnic table for the playground
- New park benches for the playground
- Mulch for the playground
- Dog waste stations/waste bags
- Trimming and/or removal of trees on common areas
- Plantings
- Dumpsters
- Towing of cars in violation of our rules and regulations

Ulmstead Gardens is over 30 years old which means we are going to have to address many costly issues that are sure to continue to come. More trees will need to be removed which means we will need to think about planting new ones. Our streets will need to be completely shaved down and paved within 3 to 5 years

due to their age. More sink holes will require us to pay for the repairs. We need to be ready to cover the cost of the aging storm drains on our courts – we as a community are responsible for those repairs – not the county.

We all have a responsibility in keeping up with the needs of our community.

Ulmstead Gardens is one of the nicest, well sought out communities in Arnold – Let’s work to keep it that way.

HERE COMES SPRING – WE HOPE!

Here are 5 reasons to maintain your lawn from Meyers Landscaping Services and Nursery found on the internet.

1. BOOST CURB APPEAL, GAIN VALUE

Even if your grounds are less elaborately landscaped than a Better Homes and Gardens contest winner, keeping your lawn maintained adds to your home’s curb appeal. If you’re planning to sell the house at some point, buyers will take a greater interest in a home with well-tended surroundings. A weedy, unkempt lawn could lower the value of not only your house but the surrounding homes too.

2. WEEDS AND THEIR RELENTLESS SEEDS

Ignoring the weeds that naturally find a cozy home in a poorly-maintained yard makes it considerably more difficult to eradicate them once you make time to bring the lawn up to speed. If allowed to grow to maturity, weeds put out thousands more seeds to anchor in your ground and blow around the neighborhood. Before long, the weeds will overtake the turf, and the grass will face a mighty struggle to reconquer its territory.

3. TIRELESS ARMIES OF PESTS

Even if you perform the basic lawn care chores of watering and mowing, insects love to burrow in and eat your grass from the roots up. It’s the go-to place for overwintering beetle species and other pests.

Mosquitoes and ticks proliferate if not tamped down with regular pest control. Lawns should receive the proper applications of insecticides at the first sign of their presence.

4. HUNGER STRIKES LAWNS EVERY YEAR

To keep the turf lush and thriving, every lawn should receive a hearty meal twice a year. Don’t forget the trees and shrubs as well! Since most residential lawns have too thin of a layer of suitable topsoil in which to grow, the vegetation eventually depletes the nutrients in the soil then begins to thin out and fail to flourish. A good feeding in the spring and a pre-winter booster application in the fall will satisfy your turf’s appetite each year.

5. COLOR SPRINGS FROM FALL PREPARATION

Having the first of the gorgeous bulb flowers bloom on your block in spring will please your winter-weary soul and those of your whole neighborhood. But the spring plan happens in the fall with carefully chosen, planted and nourished bulbs. If you already have nice beds of crocus, tulips, daffodils and iris, you need to dig in, thin and fertilize the bulbs every couple of years or so to continue producing large, lovely blooms.



It's best to mow frequently during the growing season. The rule of thumb is to never cut off more than a third of the grass plant at once -- it's bad for the plant to lose a lot of its photosynthesizing ability suddenly. One common mowing mistake is cutting the grass too short. It's best to keep cool-season grasses at about 3 inches (7.5 cm) high or taller, and most warm-season grasses do well at about 2 or 2.5 inches (5 to 6.5 cm) high. You may want to vary the mowing height throughout the year. In fall, winter and spring, you can mow closer because temperatures are cool and water is more abundant. In the summer, let the grass grow longer. The shade will help cool the soil.

HOW GRASS WORKS by Tom Harris

Watering is simple. The general rule is to water heavily, when the lawn really needs it, rather than watering lightly more frequently. If you water lightly, the water won't make it down into the soil so it won't do much good. You should water enough to soak 6 to 8 inches (15 to 20 cm) deep, encouraging the roots to grow deep into the ground. Watering recommendations vary between different soil types, but as a general rule, water until there is about an inch of water (2.5 cm) over the ground surface.

Water as soon as the grass starts to dry out. Its color will change from green to bluish grey, and it will lose some of its bounce. If the grass doesn't spring back a few seconds after you step on it, it needs water. The best time to water is in the early morning; the water won't evaporate as easily as in the afternoon, and it will cool the lawn down as temperatures start to climb.

Mowing reduces the workload on a grass plant's root system. A large culm above-ground requires more water and nutrients from underground. It's easier for the roots to provide for the plant if the culm is smaller. Mowing also encourages the grass plant to expand. When the blades cut down the leaves, the plant has to grow new leaves to absorb sunlight. This helps build a thicker, heavier lawn, which is more resistant to weeds and disease.

Lawn care experts recommend varying your mowing pattern. That is, push the mower north and south one week and east and west the next week. Sharpen your mower blades a couple of times a year to ensure a healthy, clean cut. If you have a mulching mower, you can leave the clippings on the lawn to help fertilize the grass.

