

# RIVER'S EDGE ESTATES ASSOCIATION



JUNE-JULY 2024

## RIVER'S EDGE COMMUNITY NOTICES

### BOARD MEETINGS

June 19, 2024\*

July 17, 2024\*

August 21, 2024\*

September 18, 2024\*

October 16, 2024\*

November 20, 2024\*

November 2, 2024-Annual Meeting

\*Board Meetings are held at the HOA Office at 4:00 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month unless otherwise notified. Please call the HOA office if you plan to attend a meeting to allow Linda time to add additional seating if necessary.



### KEEPING UP WITH THE BOARD

**The Spring chipping season is over. While the Board is excited to see the enthusiasm for yard and common area cleanup, it also would like to remind you that there are usually two times a year that we pay to have the tree debris cleaned up, spring and fall. Currently, we have several piles of tree debris sitting around the neighborhood which can become homes for snakes, foxes, rats, rodents, and other unwanted animals, not to mention they are unsightly. Please limit these piles to Spring and Fall for the beginning of the chipping or you will be required to remove it at your own expense.**

#### HOMEOWNERS RIVER'S EDGE

25 Blackberry Mtn. Dr, #8101  
Ellijay, Georgia 30536

No short term rentals allowed

#### OFFICE MANAGER

Linda Black

Phone 706-273-3100

Fax 706-273-3201

After Hours Water and  
Gate Systems Emergencies  
(leave name, phone #  
and message)

#### E-MAIL

riversedge@ellijay.com

#### WEBSITE

Webmaster:

Penni McDaniel

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Ratner, President

Tom Ostby, Vice President

And Water Manager

Jim Carr, Treasurer

Dave Schmitt, Secretary

Byron Trotter, Member at Large

#### DESIGN COMMITTEE

Dave Schmitt, Chairman

Esther Lax

Jim Carr

#### Firewise Coordinator

Byron Trotter

Newsletter Editor

Judy Carr

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Inclusion is neither an endorsement  
nor recommendation. Participation  
is a personal choice based on your  
own evaluation.

Continued from page 1 – Keeping Up With the Board

**I hope everyone noticed that the new larger sized package boxes have been installed and are in use at our Lazy River gate mail area.**

**SUMMER REMINDERS FROM THE BOARD**



We want to thank everyone who has submitted their plans for their summer projects. We have noticed an increase in following the procedure and it is appreciated. Just a reminder again of the procedure:

**\*\*\*If you are planning to work on a PROJECT, you need to pick up the required paperwork from the HOA office, fill it out and return it to the office BEFORE starting your project.**

Projects include, but not limited to, structure painting, structure additions including decks/porches, tree removal, and landscaping projects. Please allow up to 2 weeks for your approval. Most project approvals will not take that long, however, some projects may need research, go in front of the whole board, or our board members may be out of town. We would hate to slow up the start of your project because you did not take into consideration the approval time. If you have questions concerning projects and their requirements, please contact Dave Schmitt.

**While it may seem like a long way off, now is a good time to start thinking if you would like to run for a Board position at the Annual Meeting in November!**

**\*\*\*OUTDOOR burning ban remains in effect for River's Edge, but also starting May 1 and continuing until September there is a state-wide ban.**

**\*\*\*SHORT TERM RENTALS PROHIBITED. No short term rentals are allowed. Minimum rentals are six (6) months or more. Anyone engaged in short term rentals will be fined up to \$500 per day.**

**\*\*\*SUMMER WATER CONSERVATION. Since we are having beautiful weather and everyone wants to be outside working in the gardens or washing their cars, just a reminder that we are on shared wells and that our wells cannot sustain a continued water depletion. Please limit the water usage and keep in mind that heavy water usage could disrupt the quantity or quality of your neighbor's water and the risk of running out of water on your well completely. Also, please remember that if you are pressure washing your home, driveway or filling a hot tub, you are required to have a water truck bring in the water to do so.**

**\*\*\*SPEED LIMIT, SPEED LIMIT, SPEED LIMIT. Please observe our speed limits and tell your guests and service vehicles to do the same! While mentioning service vehicles, please remind them to enter via the Lazy River or Timber Falls gate.**



**There is still a Facebook page out there that suggests it is an official product of the River's Edge Community, The Board has not been asked to have an official site, nor does it share in the many opinions expressed by its participants. Whatever is out there, is totally the opinions of whomever posted on the site and is not sanctioned by the Association!**

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

If you have ideas, information or just want to write an article for the newsletter, please call or text me at 706-889-2393  
 Judy Carr

**With MEMORIAL DAY almost in our rear-view mirror, that means the summer season is in full swing and once again our office gate area off from Mulkey Road will be inundated with river tourists!**

**Blackberry Mountain and River's Edge jointly hire a security guard to help with the confusion and make it safer for all. His duties include keeping the river tourists off our communities' property and if he suspects a car is not supposed to be inside the gate, he may stop and question them. Likewise, if you do not have your River's Edge sticker located on your car, he may stop you also.**

**PLEASE BE AWARE that there are crazy drivers out there as you pull onto Mulkey Road. It is better to be slow and safe than to be hurt or hurt someone else even though you may have the right-away!**

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER**

**FIREWISE**

by Byron Trotter

**Summer Fire Prevention Tips**

Most home fires occur during the late fall and winter months, however, there are summer activities that are linked to outdoor property fires and to a slightly lesser degree home fires. Being careful during those summer activities will go a long way towards helping to keep your property, home and community safe. Some of those safety tips will be mentioned below.

**\* Summertime Grilling**

- a. Whether you're using a gas or charcoal grill, if you are grilling on your deck, make sure the grill is several feet away from both your house and deck railing and that you have a fireproof pad underneath the grill.
- b. Make sure that the fire is always supervised by an adult from start to finish; keep small children and pets away from the grill at all times. It is possible that they will bump against the grill, get burned, and aside from being injured, in a panic they can knock over a charcoal grill potential causing a deck fire or causing the hot coals to ignite dry yard debris that may be under or around the deck.
- c. Make sure to keep a fire extinguisher (preferably a type ABC) handy when grilling. You should always have one in your kitchen, and every floor of your house if possible. The image below describes the different types of fire and fire extinguisher effectiveness.
- d. When turning off a gas grill always close the valve on the propane tank or gas line prior to turning off the front facing knobs. This cuts off the fuel at the source and ensures there will be no fuel that can leak back into the main grill.

**\*\*Using Wood Burning Fire Pits\*\***

If you are using (or plan to build) an in-ground, brick fire pit on your property, make sure it's at least 20 feet away from your home or anything that is flammable. It must have a wire mess spark screen to prevent embers from escaping!

		Ordinary Combustibles	Wood, Paper, Cloth, Etc.
		Flammable Liquids	Grease, Oil, Paint, Solvents
		Live Electrical Equipment	Electrical Panel, Motor, Wiring, Etc.
		Combustible Metal	Magnesium, Aluminum, Etc.
		Commercial Cooking Equipment	Cooking Oils, Animal Fats, Vegetable Oils

- in the air and igniting trees or your home or the homes of your neighbors.
- b. Avoid using portable wood burning fire pits on your decks—particularly decks that have a roof or some other type of overhead structure. The heat generated by fire pits is fairly intense and could cause a fire on your deck or damage your home. There are fire pit mats that can be placed underneath the fire pit that can withstand the heat, but the pit should also be 20 feet away from your home and most wrap-around decks don't meet that criteria.
- c. Always have a way to quickly extinguish your fire in case of an emergency such as: a portable pit is knocked over or a sudden gust of wind causes excess embers that are making their way through your spark screen. A water hose or bucket of water or sand should be sufficient.
- d. Avoid using any type of fire pit on days when the relative humidity is 25% or less and/or sustained winds are predicted to be 8 MPH or greater. That's a California standard and you see how many fires occur there. Gilmer County Emergency Management issued a Red Flag warning in early May, when humidity was between 22-25% and winds were 15- 20 MPH.
- e. Refrain from using an accelerant to light your fire pit.
- f. Make sure that any active fire pit is always attended by a responsible adult. keep small children away from a burning fire pit.
- g. Always extinguish the burning embers once you've finished using the fire pit.

**Please remember to be considerate of your neighbors. When walking your dogs, they must be on a leash! When a dog "poops" near or on your neighbors' property or the common areas, please clean it up. Remember to treat your neighbors as you would want to be treated and if you don't mind walking in dog poop, then please keep your dogs close to your yard!**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE PONDS ARE PRIVATELY OWNED AND YOU NEED PERMISSION TO GO TO THE PONDS AND THE SURROUNDING PRIVATE PROPERTY.**

## WHEN THUNDER RUMBLES THIS SPRING & SUMMER

**There are a few things that you should immediately avoid doing in your home!**

**A clap of thunder means dangerous lightning is within 10 miles of you. And contrary to what you might think, being inside your home does not necessarily keep you safe. In fact, some seemingly harmless activities put you at risk of being struck by lightning inside your home. They include:**

**Showering Taking a bath Washing dishes in the sink Washing your hands Laundry**

**The source of danger in all these activities is the same: PLUMBING. Lightning can make its way to you via your home's plumbing. While the risk of lightning traveling through plumbing might be less with plastic pipes rather than metal pipes, it is best to avoid any contact with plumbing and running water during a lightning storm to reduce your risk!**

**Talking on a corded phone is another activity you should avoid, as lightning can travel through the cord and the phone to zap you. Talking on a cellphone or cordless phone is fine as long as it is not attached to a charger and plugged into an outlet. Stay off and away from electronics such as computers, laptops, game systems, stoves and washers and dryers. Avoid standing in front of windows and doors, stay off porches and balconies, and do not lay down on concrete floors or lean against concrete walls. The metal bars and wires incorporated into those floors and walls may shock you.**

**You may ask why do I put so many articles concerning lightning into the newsletter? More than a handful of homes in this community, including "us" have been struck by lightning. It is an emotional, time consuming and expensive experience that I hope you don't have to experience.**

### The BABY FAWNS are back!!

We are at the time of year where we start to see the little baby fawns. Deer deliver their newborns in the strangest of places! Residents will see them and be concerned about a newborn deer on their lawn, in their garden, under the azaleas (who has azaleas when we have deer in our yards-but you get the idea), etc. Most people call an agency because they think the fawn is in peril and Mom is nowhere to be found. Well, Mom is actually off feeding and helping to keep predators away. Those who call ask what they should do for the fawn...Leave it alone, do not touch, move, or attempt to feed it. Here's the scoop. Deer are NOT like horses. They do not have their walking legs under them immediately and need time to rest after birth. Horses get up and go, that's the sign of a healthy horse. A healthy fawn will curl up, nap most of the day and move their heads. They have no scent and predators cannot find them unless humans interfere. Mom leaves during the day for two primary reasons: to feed and to keep her scent a distance from the fawn. Mom will come back (unless something tragic happens to her), but don't expect her until dusk and certainly don't expect her if humans are hovering around. If you are fortunate enough to have the gift of a fawn, please, enjoy the experience, respect Mother Nature and let the Mom do what comes naturally. She will move the fawn daily so you may see it in different locations!



**AND, bears have become more active lately! Please protect your birdfeeders and garbage containers!!**



**FUN STUFF NEAR US!**

\*\*\*SPRING ARTS IN THE PARK-Memorial Day Weekend, Downtown Blue Ridge, Saturday & Sunday May 25 & 26, 10:00 am -5 pm, Admission \$5

\*\*\*APPLE BLOSSOM FESTIVAL, May 25-27, 9-6 pm, FREE, 63 Talona Mountain Rd near Panorama Farm Market.

\*\*\*Acoustic Blends is one of the oldest running open mic formats in Ellijay. Join them for an evening of music by local, regional, and visiting musicians. It's always a surprise to see who is entertaining each month on the third Friday at 6:30 pm at The Playhouse!

\*\*\*Ellijay Farmer's and Artisans Market, next to the Gilmer County Courthouse. Every Saturday from now until September 30, 8:30 - 12:30

\*\*\*The Pinball Museum, come play Georgia's most interactive museum and play dozens of vintage pinball machines from the 1930s to the 1990s. Located 5 miles south of Blue Ridge next to Expedition Bigfoot.

\*\*\*Happy Together Tour 2024, Friday /June 7<sup>th</sup> from 7 pm to 10 pm (gates open at 6 pm), Anderson Music Hall, GA Mountain Fairgrounds, Hiawassee. The tour features The Turtles, Jay & the Americans, The Association, Badfinger, The Vogues, and the Cowsills.

\*\*\*Blue Ridge Community Theater is presenting "Live Music is Better: Forever Abby Road", June 8. A collection of successful Nashville musicians creating a unique show demonstrating what the Beatles might sound like with today's technology. Tickets are \$45.

\*\*\*"THE WALL" is coming back! After being in Ellijay in 2014 and 2018, the VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL is returning to ELLIJAY June 19-24 at the Lions Club Fairgrounds. It will be open 24/7 with security provided and it is FREE.

\*\*\*Hiawassee Rod Run, presented by Kahr Motorsports & the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds, June 20, 21, & 22, 9 am - 5 pm daily. Hiawassee Rod Run is open to any 1979 and earlier car, as well as any 1999 and earlier truck. Any performance or sport domestic vehicles welcome. Music performed by The Silver Travis Band. Admission \$10.

\*\*\*The Marshall Tucker Band, Friday June 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 7 pm at the Anderson Music Hall, Ga Mountain Fairgrounds, Hiawassee.

\*\*\*MADE IN GEORGIA FESTIVAL 2024: June 29. Saturday 10-5, Young Harris. Over 75 vendors with a wide variety of products: pottery, paintings, olive oil, pecans, chocolate, dog products, wreaths, log furniture, teddy bears, mushrooms, plants, jewelry, sugared peppers, cheese straws, woodwork, soap, array of food products and home décor. Also includes the Farmer's Market and Birds of Prey with GA Mountain Falconry.

\*\*\*Old Fashioned July 4<sup>th</sup> in McCaysville. Parade at 1 pm and Fireworks at dusk Saturday night. Add to the fun and ride the train to McCaysville!