



JUNE-JULY 2026

## RIVER'S EDGE COMMUNITY NOTICES

### BOARD MEETINGS

July 15, 2026\*      September 16, 2026\*  
November 18, 2026\*  
November 7, 2026-Annual Meeting

Before October 2022, our Board Meetings were held every other month. The Board has decided to go back to that schedule. If an additional meeting is required, the Board will notify the community. Board Meetings are held at the HOA Office at **4:00 pm** on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month unless otherwise notified. Please call the HOA office if you plan to attend a meeting to allow Jeannie time to add additional seating if necessary.

If it is easier for you to read this on the website, Penni McDaniel puts every new edition on our website-<https://riversedgeofellijay.com>



## KEEPING UP WITH THE BOARD SPRING CHIPPING PROJECT!

**TO our community members! Thank you for all of your sprucing up this year! We had a great spring chipping event. This year our Firewise grant helped clear a way out of the subdivision in case of a fire! I'm sure you noticed it on the way to retrieving your mail. The Firewise coordinator asked the McDaniels if we could help clear some of the property close to the road to make a safe passage should we need to get out of the community quickly and safely without fighting fire and endangering lives.**

### HOMEOWNERS RIVER'S EDGE

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

No short-term rentals allowed

#### OFFICE MANAGER

Jeannie Miller  
Phone 706-273-3100  
Fax 706-273-3201  
After Hours Water and  
Gate Systems Emergencies  
(leave name, phone #  
and message)  
706-273-3100

#### EMAIL

[riversedge@ellijay.com](mailto: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  
Penni McDaniel, Member at Large

#### DESIGN COMMITTEE

Dave Schmitt, Chairman  
Esther Lax,  
Penni McDaniel  
Jim Carr

#### Firewise Coordinator

Newsletter Editor  
Judy 'Carr

This newsletter is provided for  
Informational purposes only.  
Inclusion is neither an endorsement  
nor recommendation. Participation  
is a personal choice based on your  
own evaluation.

(The watercolor painting of the Blackberry Falls area on the front page was done by Gaylain Fife)

### **“SPRING AND SUMMER” PROJECTS!**

**In addition to our spring chipping event, you will notice MANY homes are freshening up their exteriors! We have had many requests to power wash and/or paint their homes. Just a couple of reminders:**

- 1. You do not need to permission to power wash your home, however, you cannot do it from your well. You must bring in the water. If you need some suggestions on where to get the water, feel free to talk to your neighbors who have gone through the process and get some referrals. You can physically wash your own home or have it professionally done. Regardless of how you choose to have it done, you must bring in the water!**
- 2. Painting your home~~~~if you are changing the color or your home, you must submit a request to the Architectural Design committee. The committee is usually quick with their response, as long as 2 of the 4 committee members are not on vacations! Along with the paperwork, you need to supply the sample of the paint color as per instructions in your packet. The submission isn't necessary if you are not changing color, however, it is suggested that you let the committee know so they can answer the questions when asked.**

FAWN BIRTH SEASON is upon us-again! Please drive slowly throughout our community so as not to hit our Mama deer or their fawns. Also, as cute as they are, do not approach the fawns. Their moms have a system to keep them safe from predators (human and animal).

**With MEMORIAL DAY 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! 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**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE PONDS ARE PRIVATELY OWNED AND YOU NEED PERMISSION FROM THE HOMEOWNERS TO GO TO THE PONDS AND SURROUNDING PRIVATE PROPERTY. DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED BY THE PONDS UNLESS THEY ARE OWNED BY THE POND OWNER AND STAY ON YOUR OWN PROPERTY!!**

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!



## 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 or in the air and igniting trees or your home or the homes of your neighbors.
- e. 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.
- f. 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.
- g. 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 April, when humidity was between 22-25% and winds were 15- 20 MPH.
- h. Refrain from using an accelerant to light your fire pit.
- i. Make sure that any active fire pit is always attended by a responsible adult. Always extinguish the burning embers once you've finished using the fire pit.

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

If you are using (or plan on building) an inground 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 mesh Spark screen to prevent embers from escaping!

## THE INs and OUTs of RECYCLING IN GILMER COUNTY

(From the Times Courier 2026 Mountain Home Magazine)

Recycling not only helps keep trash out of the landfills, it also conserves natural resources and saves energy in the mining and manufacturing process.

There is no charge for recycling in Gilmer County at the following Ellijay locations:

Cartecay: 4154 Highway 52 East

Coosawattee: 1738 Highway 382 West

Tower Road: 456 Tower Road

### Acceptable Items:

**Paper Products:** Newspapers and inserts, craft paper, shopping paper bags, tissue boxes, paper towel and toilet paper cores, cereal boxes, shoe boxes, magazines, catalogs, envelopes, catalogs, envelopes, phone books, paperback books, junk mail, greeting cards, calendars beverage and cigarette cartons.

**Cardboard:** Corrugated cardboard boxes, pizza boxes cleaned of any food residue.

**Food and Beverage cans:** Steel cans and lids, aluminum cans, baking tins and food containers cleaned of any food residue.

**Plastics:** Plastics with the following numbers- 3 to 7, milk jugs, soda and water bottles and plastic Detergent bottles.

DO NOT RECYCLE plastic bags or glass! Plastic bags can be dropped off at local grocery stores or taken to the Gilmer County Food Pantry (leave in the gray locker at the front door) to be used to send food home with clients.

Glass can be taken to the Pickens County Recycling Center just off Highway 515 at 390 Appalachian Court in Jasper.

## COMMUNITY MATTERS!

**Today I'm talking about the community of Gilmer County and our community needs us! There are lots of places in Gilmer County that need volunteers. People and pets need help. The easy ones to think of are our Food Pantry, the Gilmer County Animal Shelter and Homeward Bound Pet Rescue. But there are also places like the Blair Haven Farm Equine Rescue & Sanctuary, Project Chimps in Morganton, Track Chairs 4 Veterans, hospice centers, Brighter Days Transitional Center, North Ga Mountains History Center, Habitat for Humanity, Gilmer County Warming Center, Gilmer County Senior Center, Gilmer County Chamber of Commerce, thrift stores that are associated with community needs, Meals on Wheels, Gilmer County Library, our schools, hospitals, wellness programs and our voting polls. Whatever your talents and interests are, there's a place that you can help!**



**\*\*\*Gilmer Rodders Cruise in at Shane's Rib Shack in Ellijay. The 2nd Friday of each month, 5:00 to 8:00 pm. All classic cars and trucks are invited to participate. (And there has been a great turnout)**

**\*\*\*Cars & Coffee the last Saturday morning of each month. 9am – 12pm at Burger King in Ellijay. All classic cars, trucks and motorcycles are welcome. Come for breakfast and bring a chair to stay a while.**

**\*\*\*The Ellijay Mountain Cruisers Cruise in at Blue Ridge Walmart, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 10am -2pm.**

**\*\*\*Cooking Classes at Woodbridge General Store in Jasper. Sign up online. Classes are:**

**1) Saturday, June 6th, 2026, 12 pm, Bread 102 with Chef Tony Pisconeri, 3 hours @ \$50.00 Explore advanced techniques for working with specialty flours, flavored doughs, and creative mix-ins**

**2) Saturday, June 20th, 2026, 12 pm, "A Taste of Italy" with Chef Tony Pisconeri. 2 hours @ \$65.00 Authentic Italian dishes—fresh, flavorful, and straight from the Italian kitchen to your plate!**

**3) Wednesday, June 24th, 2026, 2pm, "Brunch Made Beautiful: Sweet, Savory, Simple" with Chef Lauri s, 2 hours @ \$65.00. Stunning brunch spread with easy sweet and savory recipes perfect for any gathering.**

**4) Friday, July 10th, 2026, 12:00 PM, "Flavors of Japan: Ramen From Scratch" with Chef Tony , 3 hours @ \$55.00 Build a deeply flavorful bowl of ramen from scratch—with a rich, savory broth and finishing with perfectly prepared noodles and classic toppings.**

**5) Wednesday, July 29th, 2026, 2pm, "Harvest & Heat: A Summer Dinner Party" with Chef Lauri, 2 hrs @ \$65.00. Seasonal menu with a farm-inspired dinner party featuring vibrant produce, bold flavors, and simple techniques**

**\*\*\*July 3<sup>rd</sup> at Buckley's Independence Party. All day long with fireworks at dusk. Usually there is a group of RiversEdgers who decorate and drive their side by sides to Buckley's as a group to watch the fireworks!**

**\*\*\*Lake Blue Ridge Fireworks and Parade - July 4<sup>th</sup>. Celebrate a Blue Ridge tradition at the Old Timer's Parade, a nostalgic event with classic cars, festive floats, and small-town charm. The fun continues into the night with fabulous fireworks that will light up the night sky near the Lake Blue Ridge Dam. Watch by boat on Lake Blue Ridge, relax at Morganton Point Recreation Area, or Lake Blue Ridge Marina. There's also delicious food available for purchase,**