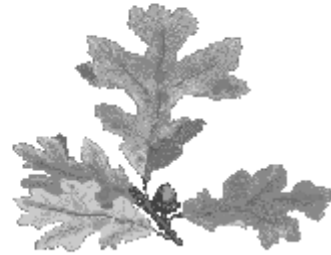




Brookside Estates HOA

FALL 2006

Newsletter



Visit the official Brookside Estates HOA website for news and announcements -

www.Brookside-Estates.org

You'll find meeting minutes, HOA documents, and a link to let you e-mail the board with any questions or concerns.

Current Items of Interest

Brookside Estates HOA is accepting contractor bids for the following:

- ✓ Landscaping
- ✓ Snow Removal

If you would like to suggest a contractor for either of these positions let us know! Please include your name, address and phone number. You can send us the information through the "Ask the Board" link at www.Brookside-Estates.org, or send it by snail mail to -

Brookside Estates HOA
P.O. Box 313
Oxford, Pa. 19363

Deadline: October 13, 2006!

We're looking for volunteers to help create a Brookside Estates Community Float for the Oxford Halloween Parade!

Would you like to help design and decorate a float for the Oxford Halloween Parade? We'd love to hear from you. This will be something really fun for the kids and a great way to get involved in the neighborhood. Send us a message through the "Ask the Board" link on the Brookside Estates HOA website and we'll send your information to the Community Halloween Float crew. The parade is scheduled to start at 7 pm on Thursday October 26.

Make a difference! Join a committee!

We need volunteers for various HOA committees. Being on a committee doesn't mean you have to give up all your spare time. An hour or two a month would be greatly appreciated. Drop us a line to sign up. Whether you want to stuff envelopes or plant trees, we've got a committee spot with your name on it!

A Message from Paul Galdes, President- Brookside Estates HOA

Hello fellow community members. I would just like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and try to bring you up to speed with what is happening in our community and more specifically the Brookside Estates HOA.

First I would like to thank the previous board for their efforts and time served. It is a huge responsibility to have making decisions that will affect your neighbors, friends, and the entire community. That is not easy. I encourage you to stay involved in our community and continue to serve your friends and neighbors. Again, Thank you.

When I was at the September 12th meeting, I heard a lot of frustration from community members about recent decisions made by the previous board. I encourage you to put behind you any frustrations you have with the decisions that the previous board made and look for your involvement in the decisions we as the community need to make going forward. What was done was done in good faith and we need to move forward.

Since the September 12th meeting, the board has met twice to facilitate the transition from the old board and to address areas that need immediate attention. I know not everyone was able to make the September 21st meeting, so I wanted to give you a quick recap of the agenda and discussion.

The first order of business was the announcement of the positions of the new board of directors. The positions are listed in this newsletter. Second, the board announced that the website [is the only web site that the board will recognize.](#) I know that there are other discussion forums out there. These are independent forums and board does not monitor or participate in these forums. If you have a question and want to be heard by the board, you need to send your e-mail through the recognized website link. All current board members will be copied on your e-mail. Next we discussed the concern of what is our future with Mid-Atlantic Management Group. At this time the board is in the process of review. We are still collecting information, documents, and reviewing our options. The board has frozen all fines and violation letters effective September 21st. We felt this was the right thing to do since we did not have a handle on what is outstanding. The assessment of \$62.50 sent to each member of the association billed by Mid-Atlantic Management Group was due on September 1st 2006 and should be paid. Finally, copies of the contract with Mid-Atlantic Management Group were distributed at the end of the meeting. All meeting minutes and documents are available for review on the above mentioned website.

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Two questions and one suggestion were brought up at the end of the meeting. One was the concern over communication to the community from the board. I can tell you that it is this boards desire to over communicate and make information available to you through several different media. We want you to be in the loop and involved. Second was a question about whether there will be a discussion forum on the Brookside Estates web site. At this time there is no discussion forum on the website and the board has taken this suggestion for review. One suggestion was the formation of a committee for a neighborhood watch. We are always looking for ways to improve our community and keep it safe. We are currently looking for committee volunteers and suggestions on what committees you would like to see formed. (You can still serve your community without sitting on the board)

I want to thank everyone in the community for your belief and confidence the board members and me. I have been working with them for only two weeks and I am amazed at what we have accomplished and the commitment to you the community. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting and hearing from you personally.

Regards,

Paul Galdes
President- Brookside Estates HOA

Brookside Estates HOA Board of Directors

President

Paul Galdes - Conducts Board meetings, oversees all Board duties & projects.

Treasurer

Doris Trader-Moulden - Monitors HOA finances

Secretary

David MacQuaid - Records and keeps the minutes for all Board Meetings.

Member

Kathleen Curry - Helps with miscellaneous projects.

Member

Peny Ward - Helps with miscellaneous projects.

Important Dates

October 7, 2006- Voter Registration Deadline

Deadline to apply to register to vote: 30 days prior to each election.

To download a Voter Registration Form go to -

<http://dsf.chesco.org/>

You can pick up a form in person at any of the following:

- All Chester County post offices,
- Chester County Library and its affiliates,
- Municipal buildings,
- Some state agencies
- Some state liquor stores

Thursday October 26, 2006 Oxford Halloween Parade

The parade begins at 7 pm.

Tuesday November 7, 2006 - General Election

"The right to vote...is the primary right by which other rights are protected" – **Thomas Paine**

Thursday November 16, 2006 - Brookside Estates HOA Meeting

The time and place will be posted on the Brookside Estates HOA website:

www.brookside-estates.org

The Recipe Box

Potato and Navy Bean Soup

High in fiber with no added fat, this hearty soup is perfect for cool autumn days.

- 5 or 6 medium potatoes, peeled and cubed*
- 2 -15 oz. cans of Navy beans or great northern beans, drained*
- 1 medium onion, chopped*
- 1 ½ cups diced celery*
- 1 ½ cups sliced carrots*
- 1 TBSP Thyme*
- 2 bay leaves*
- 1 tsp salt*
- ¼ tsp ground black pepper*
- 2 cups water*

Place all ingredients into a large pot. Simmer over medium heat until potatoes and carrots are tender. Serve with warm Italian bread.

In the Garden

Fall is the perfect time to plant bulbs for beautiful spring flowers. Tulips, Daffodils, and Crocus. Some general planting tips from www.hgtv.com:

Choose a sunny location with rich, well-drained soil.

Plant a bulb 2 to 2½ times deeper than the height of the bulb.

When adding bulb food to the bottom of the hole, cover it lightly with soil so the bulb isn't in direct contact with the food.

Water thoroughly after planting to help the roots get established before the plants begin to grow.

Cover with two to three inches of mulch or leaves to protect bulbs from heaving damage. Heavy freezing and thawing can force the top of the bulb out of the ground, exposing it to the dangers of frost.

To plant lilies, dig a hole big enough for the bulb. Space bulbs 12 inches apart. Plant the bulb and cover it with loosened soil. Asiatic and Oriental lilies bloom in early summer.

For tulips, dig out a shallow trench that is 4 to 6 inches deep. Then space the bulbs three to four inches apart. Cover with soil and tamp it lightly. Tulips bloom in spring.

And remember: "For the best effect, bulbs look best when planted in a mass planting. Groups of ten are recommended. When planting, use compost, gypsum (if you have clay soil) and bulb food to improve your soil. Not only is this good for your new bulbs, but anything you plant after that will also be the beneficiary of your forethought and work. Water the bulb bed thoroughly three times over a six-week period. Then in the spring, as the foliage breaks the soil, another application of bulb food will spur on the growth."