



**Brookside Estates HOA
Spring 2008
Newsletter**



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

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



Mark Your Calendar

Monday May 26 – Memorial Day Parade. 10 a.m.

Parade route will be on Third Street - ending at the Oxford Cemetery. A ceremony will be held at the Oxford Cemetery following the Parade.

Thursday June 19 - The Brookside Estates Annual HOA meeting will be held at the Oxford Senior Center (12 East Locust St) on Thursday June 19th. The meeting will start at 6 p.m. Two board positions will be voted on at this meeting. You will be receiving information in the mail within the next few days on candidates running for election. If you will be unable to attend the meeting, but would like to cast your vote, a proxy voting form will be included in the mailing.

Saturday June 21 - The Brookside Estates Yard Sale will be held from 8 am to 4 pm as part of the Oxford Borough Yard Sale. Advertising for the event will be placed by the Borough in local newspapers and on Channel 4, so the turnout should be really good! If you have questions related to the yard sale, please contact Doris at 610 932-3498.



There is a new family program coming to the area - Kindermusik! A new Kindermusik teacher starting classes in Oxford. You can see exactly what Kindermusik is all about by visiting www.kindermusikoxford.com. The site lists free activities available this summer and a schedule of classes for the fall. Events will be held at McCormick Karate Studio in the Oxford Square Shopping Center on June 9 and at the Oxford Public Library on July 7. Call 610-436-9194 for more information



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION



*With warmer weather finally, please be extra watchful of children playing in our community. The posted speed limit on all roads within the Brookside Estates development is **25 mph**.*

Parents - please advise your children that it is not safe to play around the storm drains and wetlands. A word of caution could help prevent an injury.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Brookside Estates HOA Board has been notified of vehicle break-ins occurring in our community. According to the Oxford Police Department the most likely culprits of these crimes are youths who "try" car doors to see if they are unlocked and then remove any valuables that are inside. These are crimes of opportunity. You can keep your property safe by making sure all vehicles are kept locked. Parking your vehicle in your garage reduces the risk. Installing outdoor lighting also serves as a deterrent to thieves. Staying alert will keep your valuables safe.

Would you like to participate in a Neighborhood Watch group for Brookside Estates? Contact the Board via mail at:

Brookside Estates HOA
P.O. Box 36
Oxford, Pa. 19363

or the "Ask the Board" link at www.brookside-estates.org



Borough of Oxford Code of Ordinances are now available online! You can review all ordinances at www.keystatepub.com . Click on the "Codes of Ordinances Online" button on the right-hand side of the page. You can search the ordinances by phrase ("weeds", for example), or by municipality from the drop-down list.





Hot Topic: Controlling Ticks



Our mild winter resulted in an abundance of pests that weren't killed by the cold. The tick population is especially large this year and will get larger as the summer progresses. Protect your family and pets from Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses by following these guidelines from the Pennsylvania State University Department of Entomology.

- ✓ *Wear protective light-colored clothing while outdoors, including a broad-brimmed hat, a long-sleeved shirt, and long pants tucked into the socks;*
- ✓ *Check the body daily for the presence of ticks;*
- ✓ *Children should be taught to seek adult help for tick removal.*
- ✓ *Use tick repellents, DEET, or permethrins;*
- ✓ *Self-examination is recommended after spending time in infested areas. If an embedded tick is found, it should be removed with fine tweezers by grasping the head and pulling with steady firm pressure. The tick should **NOT** be grabbed in the middle of its body because the gut contents may be expelled into the skin. The use of heat (lit match, cigarette, etc.), or petroleum jelly is **NOT** recommended to force the tick out. These methods will irritate the tick, and may cause it to regurgitate its stomach contents into the individual, thereby increasing the possibility of infection.*
- ✓ *Seek immediate medical attention if signs or symptoms or early Lyme disease appear.*
- ✓ *The best way to avoid attachment of a blacklegged tick is to stay out of wooded or brushy areas in known Lyme disease counties. This option is not always realistic. Repellents such as DEET (N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide) offer considerable protection if applied to clothing and exposed skin. Because of recent concern over adverse reactions in a few individuals, sprays with no more than 35 percent DEET are recommended. An effective acaricide, Permethrin™, contains the synthetic pyrethroid permethrin and is applied as a spray to clothing. It is not approved for use on skin. Long-sleeved shirts and long pants tucked into socks also aid in preventing tick bites. Light-colored clothing helps to detect the dark-colored tick provided the wearer inspects for ticks intermittently.*

Removing leaves and brush from around your home will deny ticks a place to live. And keeping grass cut reduces the likelihood of ticks finding their way onto you, your children, or your pets.

NEW SKATEBOARD ORDINANCE IN THE BOROUGH

On March 17th, the Oxford Borough Council amended its skateboard ordinance. Skateboarding is prohibited in the Central Business District and on any roadways within the Borough. Skateboarding is permitted on any sidewalk in residential areas, the Oxford Memorial Park, and on private property with the owner's written permission.

The new ordinance allows the Oxford Police Department to impound skateboards and does provide for fines depending on the number of times a skateboarder is issued a citation. It also provides for a \$100 fine if property is damaged. Helmets and other protective gear are now required.



Brookside Estates Approved for "Tree-Vitalization" Grant

The Brookside Estates HOA Board of Directors has been working with the Chester County Conservation District to determine how the storm basin and wetlands areas should be maintained to keep the area functional and improve its appearance. Last Fall paperwork was submitted on our behalf for the "Tree-Vitalization" program. In mid-April we received notification that Brookside Estates has been awarded funds to obtain 100 trees to be planted around the creek that runs parallel to Route 1. The only "cost" to Brookside Estates members is the sweat equity of planting the trees this Fall. The trees will be obtained from the Octoraro Native Plant Nursery (website: www.octoraro.com) in Kirkwood, PA. They have a wide variety of trees from which to chose. If you would like to be involved in this project please let us know. We need help selecting trees and planting trees. Drop us a line through the "Ask the Board" tab on the website at www.brookside-estates.com or sent a note to:

Brookside Estates HOA

ATTN: Tree Committee

P.O. Box 36

Oxford, PA 19363



The Recipe Box

Sole with Asparagus and Potatoes

Here's a quick and healthy meal idea from lowfatcooking.about.com

Try this wonderfully nutritious fish dish. Asparagus spears are wrapped in sole fillets and baked on a bed of sliced potatoes. It's easy to prepare and uses just one baking pan.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 pound small potatoes, sliced
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 1/4 pounds sole fillets
- 1 pound asparagus, ends broken off
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- Black pepper to taste

PREPARATION:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place potato slices in a 9-inch by 13-inch baking dish. Drizzle oil over potatoes and toss. Spread in a single layer after coating in oil. Place potatoes in oven for 30 minutes, until tender.

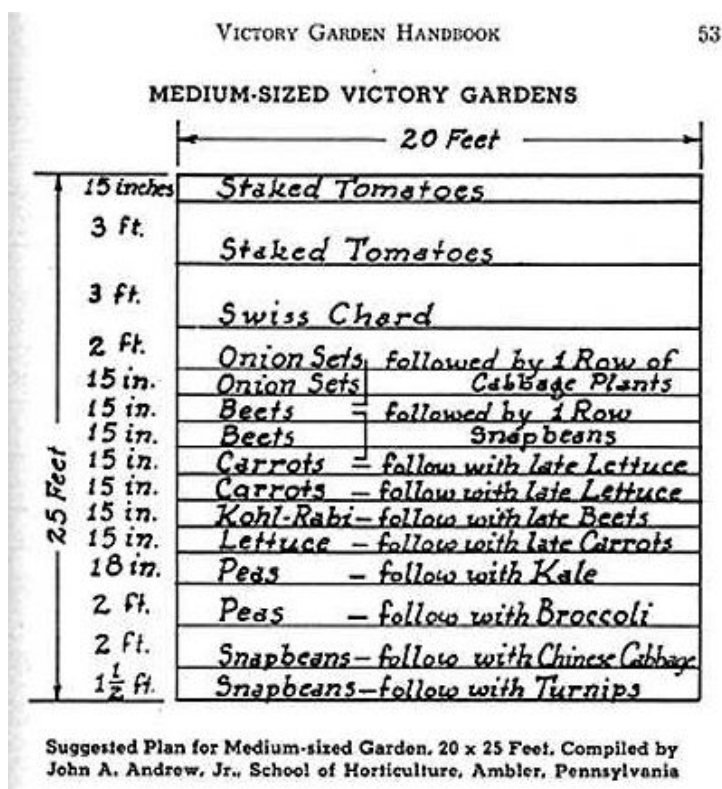
Lay fish fillets on a flat surface. Divide asparagus spears among the fillets before rolling up the fish. Place sole and asparagus roll-ups on top of the cooked potatoes. Drizzle lemon juice over the fish; cover with foil and bake for 15 minutes, until the fish flakes easily with a fork and asparagus is crisp tender.

Serves 4

Per Serving: Calories 246, Calories from Fat 35, Total Fat 3.8g (sat 0.7g), Cholesterol 57mg, Sodium 102mg, Carbohydrate 26.2g, Fiber 4.2g, Protein 26.6g

In the Garden

During World Wars I and II individuals in the United States, Canada, and the UK planted vegetable, fruit, and herb gardens to reduce the pressure on the food supply caused by the war efforts. These were called "Victory Gardens", and a great deal of encouragement was provided to help people manage these projects. One of the handbooks published in Pennsylvania is the "Victory Gardens Handbook of the Victory Garden Committee War Services" published by the Pennsylvania State Council of Defense (April 1944). The entire handbook can be found at www.earthlypursuits.com/VictoryGardHandbook/VGHv.htm. Here's a sampling of the information presented:



With high food prices putting a squeeze on many families, it's not a bad time to consider planting your own "victory garden". It's an activity the entire family can enjoy. A small space can provide a surprising yield and provides a useful and educational experience. Happy gardening!