

The April 2011 HOA Newsletter

SPA will be closed in May for refurbishment. The hot tub needs to be resurfaced for the upcoming year, and this is the only time-frame available for us. The SPA (not the pool) will be closed for approximately two weeks, from May 2nd through May 14th. Certainly, no one will be thinking of sitting in hot water as the weather gets warmer.

Keep your pool key card handy, when at the pool. We're installing card readers on the bathroom doors to minimize vandalism. You'll need to use your pool key card when using the restroom.

Pool Rules Review. In preparation for the coming spring and summer season, homeowner's should review the pool rules. The safety and enjoyment of the residents and guests of Autumn Wood are the primary concerns in the operation of the pool and spa. Only a minimum number of rules are required if courtesy and consideration is demonstrated to others. The pool and spa area is reserved for Autumn Wood homeowners and their guests **only**.

POOL/SPA HOURS:

Sunday through Thursday: 6:00 a.m. -10:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: 6:00 a.m. -11:00 p.m.

The pool gate shall remain closed at all times. Please do not open the gate for anyone other than those in your party. Ask your children to abide by the same rule. We have experienced problems in the past where residents unknowingly, opened the gate to non-residents. This only invites vandalism.

All residents and guests swim at their own risk. No lifeguard is on duty.

All residents are responsible for the safety and supervision of their own families and guests.

While in the pool area, children under twelve must be supervised by an adult over the age of 18. The spa or pool **may not be used by children under the age of twelve (12)** unless accompanied by an adult.

Absolutely no alcohol, glass or breakable objects are allowed in the pool area at any time.

Running, pushing, shoving, pulling in the pool/spa area and/or diving into the pool or spa are not permitted. Horseplay and boisterous conduct causes accidents and may hinder the enjoyment of the pool by others.

Swim boards, scuba tanks or other large objects are not permitted in the pool area. Floatation rings and/or air mattresses should not restrict nor inconvenience other residents in the pool area. Toys such as Big Wheels, skateboards and bikes are not allowed in the pool area. Styrofoam objects are not permitted in the pool at any time as it may cause damage to the filters

Life preserver ring and life saving devices displayed in the pool area should be used only in the event of an emergency. They are not toys.

Loud radios are not allowed. Please use headphones and be considerate of others.

Please use trash containers and keep the pool area clean.

Proper swimming attire is required when using the pool or spa. Cut-offs are prohibited, as the threads cause damage to the filter system.

Please turn off the lights in the bathrooms when not in use.

Pets are strictly prohibited from the pool area.

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Pool Heater Turn-On. It may be a little early to mention this, but the pool heater may be turned on in late-April if the weather's heating trend continues.

Pool Party Rules. Want to have a party at the pool? Before you start inviting your friends, you must coordinate with our HOA manager, who will specify the requirements for you to follow, and will even offer guidance. Generally, a small number of participants is allowed. No BBQs are allowed in the pool area. Allow tables to be used by other homeowners. In addition, be sure your insurance company provides for proper liability coverage, and you, or your insurance agent forwards a 'Certificate of Coverage' naming the Autumn Wood HOA as an "additional insured" for the duration of the festivities. It's important that this certificate is in-place BEFORE the party starts. Remember too, that you can't restrict our other homeowner's from using the pool at the same time. And, of course, no alcohol, no glass containers, no crazy behavior; the established pool rules still govern. Still want to have a party? Here's the number to call: 805-522-0292. Be sure to clean up after the party.

Holiday Lights still up? Generally, holiday lighting should be taken down from exterior view two weeks (14 days) after the holiday.

Lot Maintenance. Spring is on its way. This is a good time to look at your home for possibly a little clean-up/touch up before a long, hot summer. The more typical items that are cited for maintenance include any or all of the following:

Fences in need of repair and/or painting.

Stucco on homes in need of repair and/or painting, or, stucco stains on homes in need power wash.

House trim (including garage doors) in need of painting.

Driveways that need oil and/or rust stains removed.

Shrubs need trimming, or lawn maintenance.

Trash cans not removed to proper storage area after pick-up.

Homeowners may be notified of various exterior areas of their homes that need maintenance. Upon notification, homeowners have 30 days from the date of the notification to correct the problem. If a homeowner fails to respond within those 30 days, the Board of Directors is entitled to levy a fine to stimulate compliance. There is an escalating but capped scale of fines that may be assessed each 30 days that a homeowner remains out of compliance

US Flag Etiquette. Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1, Section 6, *Time and Occasions for Display*, paragraph (a), allows that, "It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness." [ed note: There is no specific lighting requirement – just do not allow the flag to fly in an envelope of darkness. Some official publications suggest that our local lighting is sufficient.]

Paragraph (k), of Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1, Section 8, *Respect for the Flag*, specifies: The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. For further reading, <http://www.senate.gov/reference/resources/pdf/RL30243.pdf>

Lastly, please continue to pay special attention to any suspicious people or activities in our community. Although vandalism to the pool itself is down, other forms of crime in the way of drug use is on the rise. Any suspicious activity should be reported to the Simi Valley Police Department immediately.