
NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Curt Beyer, President CurtBeyer@gmail.com

I must begin this newsletter on a sad note. Some of you may have heard, resident [Fred Donnell](#) of Dali Drive passed away October 13th following a 10 year battle with cancer. I'm sure I speak for all of us in offering our heartfelt condolences to his wife Jacky.

Welcome back to those who have been away! For all of us it is time to take a deep breath as once again we face a holiday season and the year's end. Each of us have a list of things this time of year to do, but as a HOA community we also have a list of things to do. Trees have grown and have become too low for street cleaning vehicles to pass under and have a real need to be pruned / thinned out to once again be safe and to allow winds to pass through. Many of our yards need to be observed as they may begin to appear as over grown or over planted. DG (decomposed granite) may need to be replenished, and maintenance of our watering systems for the lower water demands of the upcoming months. With our drought situation it becomes more important than ever.

It is a good time to critically look at our homes as painting and maintenance projects often sneak up on us. Being proactive always feels better than to have someone else prompt us to take care of these things sooner rather than later. It is important to take a moment to also see how our plantings and trees are affecting our neighbors. When hedges are trimmed be sure to retrieve the cuttings that fall in the neighboring yards or on the exterior perimeter. Some of our gardeners seem not to notice.

We have upgraded the phone system at the gates so they can now connect with cell phone numbers. This will allow an option of not having a 'land line' to your home and having the gate phones connect to what ever cell phone number you have. It is also a great time to let PPM as well as your Board of Directors update your owner information as to phone, internet, and etc. so we can all remain current. An email covering this basic data can be sent to PPM or to me . . . CurtBeyer@gmail.com. We do not share your information. We also invite you to use <https://montage.nextdoor.com> for a more community based network. It is free and you can set your communication preferences not only as to who received your postings but also the posting you want to receive. If you want an invitation you can email me in that regard as well.

JoAnn Horwitz, Welcome Committee Chair, and Michelle Madison, Board of Directors, have arranged a holiday party for all of us at our Mission Hills Country Club on December 7th, from 4 – 6 p.m. This will be our third annual holiday party. There is an article about it further on in this newsletter.

Please remember that our streets are also our sidewalks. Be really careful at corners and leave extra room as you go around them as most are blind corners. There have been reports of cars moving far too quickly and cutting corners. There has already been one accident as well as many close calls. The posted speed limit can be far too fast to travel upon our streets. This is even more

important as more of our residents are back and walking or riding bicycles. Remember too, that parking should be up on the curb with the gutter being spanned by our vehicles to allow water to flow freely and not flow out into the streets.

ARCHITECTURE & LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Robert Fouyer, Chair chateauf@aol.com

Committee members: Dennis Goodman, Steve Clippinger, Adam Tillotson and Jim Dunn

Our Committee completed our semi-annual Montage property inspections on October 17. Out of 128 homes we found mostly trees that need trimming on 23 homes, 5 homes and/or gates are in need of painting, and 5 homes have landscape issues such as dead or infected bushes or trees. Since our inspection we have noticed several homes having their trees trimmed. If your trees need trimming, please do so as soon as possible. There were some that were growing as much as to the middle of the street, which prevents the trash and street cleaning trucks from either picking up your trash cans and/or preventing the street cleaning in front of your home. Year after year it seems to be the same trees that create this problem. We will do another quick drive-by inspection in the next few days to remove homeowners who have trimmed their trees prior to sending out notification letters. Our property management firms charges the association for added communication so we would like to avoid this expense

Desert landscapes have really had a problem this year with *cochineal mealy bugs* infestation that is very hard to control and is recognizable white cottony deposit (mealy bug scale) on your plants. The bug itself is underneath the waxy cottony-appearing mass that it secretes. It can kill your plants if not addressed quickly. Hibiscus, desert spoon and prickly pear cactus seem to be the plants most infected. Many maintenance gardeners working in Montage do not spray insecticide unless instructed to do so, and charge extra. It may be wise not to depend on them addressing the problem. I have found that Malathion to be the most effective in controlling the mealy bug. Malathion is not commercially available at Lowes and Home Depot. It is only sold at the nurseries such as Mollers in Rancho Mirage. Some homeowners have had success with weekly spraying of a homemade mix of Dawn, vinegar and water. Commercially available beneficial insects, such as ladybugs, lacewing and the Mealybug Destroyer (are important natural predators of this pest.



The Committee recently completed the monthly perimeter and detention basin inspection on October 8 with our landscape maintenance company, Conserve LandCare. We found we need to replace a few dead plants as well as replace some perimeter barrel cactus that have been stolen. They seem to be very susceptible to theft. We suspect that someone driving by, either from Montage or other surrounding communities of being the culprits—probably at night or early morning. We have not been replacing them but have transplanted the remaining ones inside the perimeter to hopefully prevent losing any more.

The trees in our detention basin and those on DaVall will have been trimmed by time you read this newsletter. Also being trimmed are some bougainvillea in front of the detention basins that have been colorful but are now a little leggy.

We met with our sign painter to have them refresh the paint on our signage at the Gerald Ford entrance and the corner (DaVall & Gerald Ford) Montage sign. When painted a few months ago the "Montage tree" was painted the wrong color and will be corrected.

Finally, you may have noticed people congregated around our fountains on GF and DV recently. We are in the process of obtaining bids for fountain restoration. They are in need of preventive maintenance as with the exception of replacement of filters and replacement of one of the pumps they haven't had any major maintenance since they were installed by the developers. We hope to have them restored to their original luster and performing as intended when they were installed some 12 years or so ago.

WATER USE REGULATIONS BEGAN AUGUST 1.

Curtis Beyer, President CurtBeyer@gmail.com

Just a reminder . . . The Coachella Valley Water District has implemented mandatory water use regulations in our area. We put full information in the last newsletter (available on the website) and all of us received information in our water bills. We still see watering systems not being reset for the cooler weather and spraying into the street and excessive run off. This excess water is a waste and also damages our streets.

Many of the gardeners/lawn maintenance vendors set automatic systems without regard to the new regulations and often for more water than our properties require. Direct supervision and instruction by homeowners and residents is necessary. Some do not seem to be able to communicate well. Please check your systems and if you need assistance please talk with your neighbors or with someone on the board for help.

The following table provided by the Coachella Valley Water District shows the approximate amount of water different types of landscaping typically need each month. Individual watering times may vary due to soil and other conditions. Gradually reduce the amount of water you're using to find an adequate amount for your situation without being wasteful. Use this guide as a reminder to change your sprinkler system each month. When there's measurable rain, turn your sprinkler system off and keep it off until the ground has dried. Download the full [Irrigation Guide](http://www.cvwd.org/conservation/docs/irrigation_guide.pdf) .
http://www.cvwd.org/conservation/docs/irrigation_guide.pdf

	Water efficient shrubs	Water efficient trees	Non-desert trees	Preferred drought turf grass*
November	.7 gal./day 3 days/week	14 gal./day 3 days/week	44 gal./day 3 days/week	Spray system: 4 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 10 min./day; 7 days/week
December	.7 gal./day 2 days/week	14 gal./day 2 days/week	42 gal./day 2 days/week	Spray system: 3 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 6 min./day; 7 days/week
January	.7 gal./day 2 days/week	14 gal./day 2 days/week	45 gal./day 2 days/week	Spray system: 3 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 7 min./day; 7 days/week
February	.9 gal./day 3 days/week	21 gal./day 3 days/week	56 gal./day 3 days/week	Spray system: 5 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 13 min./day; 7 days/week
March	.9 gal./day 4 days/week	16 gal./day 4 days/week	53 gal./day 4 days/week	Spray system: 7 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 18 min./day; 7 days/week
April	1 gal./day 5 days/week	17 gal./day 5 days/week	59 gal./day 5 days/week	Spray system: 10 min./day; 7 days/week Rotor system: 22 min./day; 7 days/week

Annual Holiday Party

(HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND CHEERS)

Jo Ann Horwitz, Welcome Committee Hostess joannwlv@aol.com

This year our Montage Holiday Party will be held on Sunday, December 7th, at 4PM until 6PM at Mission Hills Country Club. This will give us all a chance to celebrate our holiday event with our neighbors and as we have many new neighbors this year. We will be serving light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. Cocktails can be purchased. We all look forward to seeing you all. Please RSVP no later than December 3rd to me at [760-992-5199](tel:760-992-5199).

LOUD OUTDOOR TV, RADIO & MUSIC

(REPEATED FROM LAST NEWSLETTER DUE TO CONTINUING ISSUE)

Tom Tousignant TD2znot@aol.com

About a month (late August) ago I received a complaint from a Montage homeowner saying that a neighbors TV in the back yard was so loud they could not enjoy their own back yard. I requested that they identify the source of the nuisance and I would have Jennifer Zeivel, our Property Manager at Personalize Property Management; send a notice of the complaint.

They responded, "I just don't want to be "that" complaining neighbor. I can always hope that a reminder would help. :)"

So, this is your reminder. Please be considerate of your neighbors if you have a TV, radio or audio system in your back yard. If it can be heard when you stand by your back fences, it probably can be heard on the other side.

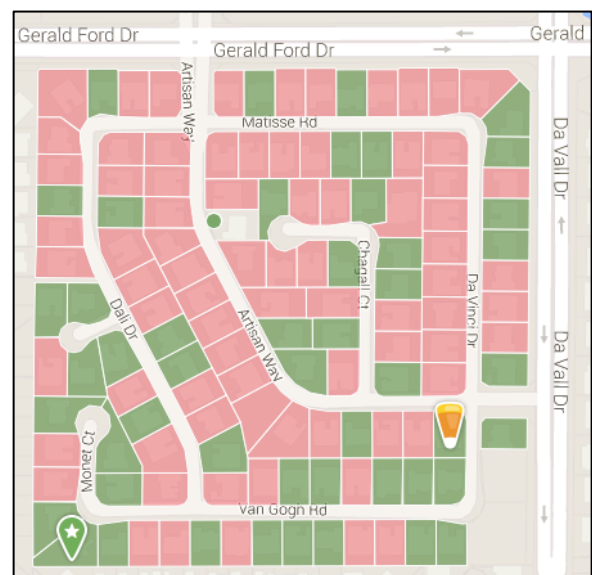
MONTAGE AT MISSION HILLS WEBSITE

Scott Reese scott.o.reese@gmail.com and **Bill Lewis** williamtlewis@comcast.net

Nextdoor Website

The Montage Nextdoor website is a private social networking site for Montage residents only. You must be a resident of Montage and be invited or otherwise verified as a resident to be able to use and participate on the website. Currently about 40% of Montage residents participate (67 Montage residents and 51 households) and the number continues to increase each month. We're looking for new members along the west side of Artisan and the west side of Da Vinci to enhance communications in those areas. The map to the right shows current resident participating on Nextdoor.

Recent postings have helped residents locate landscape and electrical contractors and provide information about subterranean termites.



You may join the Montage Nextdoor community by going to www.nextdoor.com and following the instructions provided there or you may contact Scott Reese scott.o.reese@gmail.com for assistance. Scott will also be able to assist you to simply customize your configuration to narrow the location, type and amount of communications you receive to match your interests.

SECURITY PATROL UPDATE

Tom Tousignant TD2znot@aol.com

A report of the first five months of the Security Patrol Service has been completed with the following results.

Five Month Report

The Month Report										
	June		July		Aug.		Sept.		Oct.	
Vehicles parked in the street overnight		76		86		98		67		60
Homes with cars parked on street		34		28		35		22		26
Out of state licenses		0		(16)		(16)		(13)		(12)
Garage door left open*		1		2		4		5		5
Warnings of illegal parking issued		3		0		0		0		0
Tow warnings issued		0		0		0		0		0
Vehicles towed for illegal parking		0		0		0		0		0

Top 3 homes with vehicles on street for month										
Number 1 – Home on	Artisan	0	Dali	19	Dali	11	Artisan	16	Artisan	5
Number 2 – Home on	Dali	6	Dali	12	Dali	9	Van Gogh	7	Artisan	5
Number 3 – Home on	Dali	5	Dali	7	Artisan	7	Chagall	7	Artisan	5

*When Garage doors are discovered open the Patrol Service calls the phone number(s) for the homeowners **to inform them – they often cannot make contact due to out of date phone numbers.**

If you live on one of these streets and have noticed vehicles parking inappropriately on the street, please politely speak with your neighbors about Montage parking rules. Residents, employees and guests will receive a Warning Notice for non-compliance with the approved regulations. If you have a special circumstance, please contact Jennifer Zeivel at 760.325.9500 or a Board member and explain your situation.

Important Note: The Board has agreed to continue the patrol service at least through the Annual Homeowner Meeting on March 21, 2015. The 2015 Budget includes funding for the service and resulted in a \$4 per month increase to the dues. At the March 2015 a membership vote will be taken as to whether to continue the service or discontinue the service. If the vote is to discontinue the service membership dues will be reduced by the \$4 per month beginning in April 2015.

SPRINKLER VALVES FAILING

Tom Tousignant TD2znot@aol.com

A couple weeks ago my wife returned home from shopping and asked me “How long have the sprinklers been on?” I went outside to find water over flowing from our flower beds and down the street.

One of the plastic valves installed by the developer for the front yard landscaping had failed. I have had my gardener replace both original plastic valves with new brass valves.

A few days later I received a notice that a home on Van Gogh that had a similar valve failure. This makes two to my knowledge within the past two weeks. These failures occur without warning. The plastic valves installed by the developer are now approximately 12 years old and are about at the end of their life expectancy.

Homeowners, especially seasonal residents and those traveling, that have not replaced them to date should consider having their irrigation valves inspected and or replaced with new, longer lasting brass valves as a preventative measure to reduce the risk of water damage and waste.

CATHEDRAL CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES CALENDAR

City of Cathedral City - Recycling, Trash & Energy page www.cathedralcity.gov

To have an R&R Guide and Calendar mailed to your home please contact Deanna Pressgrove with the City of Cathedral City at 760-770-0369 or email dpressgrove@cathedralcity.gov

This publication includes schedules and contact information for local services include:

- Bulky/Large Item Pickup Service
- Community Clean-up Program
- Multi-Family Recycling Programs
- Bottles & Cans Recycling
- Electronic & Tire Weekly Recycling
- Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Program
- Shredding Events
- WaterSmart Landscape Grant Program
- Smart Irrigation Controller
- Medication Disposal Program
- Sharps Disposal by Mail
- Refuse & Recycling Guide and 2014 Calendar
- Citrus Prevention Program
- Edison Rebates
- Recycle Used Motor Oil
- And more in both English and Spanish

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS / NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Jerry Stamper jstamp42@yahoo.com Committee Chair : Michael Gialdini

Work continues toward the formation of a full committee and the plan for this organization to be reworked for the Montage. Anyone interested in assisting in this vital responsibility for our mutual preparedness and security should contact us. We look forward to your involvement.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Curtis Beyer, President CurtBeyer@gmail.com

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, November 13th, 2014 at 3:00 PM at the Offices of Personalized Property Management 69850 Adelina Road, Cathedral City. Meeting notices and agendas are posted on the community message board on the wall at the DaVinci/Van Gogh corner or the web site at least four days before the meeting.

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Property Manager - Jennifer Zeivel jzeivel@ppmInternet.com 760- 325-9500;
A & L Committee – Robert Fouyer, Chair chateauf@aol.com
Welcome Committee – JoAnn Horwitz, Chair -JoAnnWLV@aol.com 760-992-5199
Newsletter – Curtis Beyer, President CurtBeyer@gmail.com
Website – Scott Reese scott.o.reese@gmail.com and Bill Lewis williamtlewis@comcast.net
www.MontageMH.Wordpress.com

CATHEDRAL CITY CONTACT INFORMATON

Cathedral City Emergency 911
Cathedral City Police 760-770-0300
Police Emergency Only 760-202-2411
Fire 760-770-8200