



OAK

LEAVES

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This Saturday, our subdivision will have a work party to plant trees and remove some of the weeds that have accumulated. The party will meet at the Upper Common Area at 9:00 am.

There will be some jobs that require strong arms and backs and there will be some jobs that only need a light touch. Either way, dress for work and remember that "lotsa hands make the work load light!"

Calendar of Events

- ◆ Saturday, Oct 19th at
9:00am:
Tree Replacement Work
Party!
Upper Common Area

- ◆ Sunday, Oct 20th:
CROP Walk
Community Baptist Church

- November 9th:
Annual Turkey Raffle
Warrenville Fire Dept.

Minutes Board of Directors Meeting

Date: September 26, 1996

Present: Andy Gorski, Joe Lanute, Brian Lynch, Paul Koening, Mark Moore, Mamee Sinnott, Bruce Stoller

Absent: No one

Guests: Sandi Gorski

Motion: Bruce made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Paul seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported that expenses to date are as follows:

ANDEN PROJECT	0:00
ANNUAL MEETING	42:00
ENTERTAINMENT	26:00
INSURANCE	233:00
LANDSCAPE	4352:35
NEWSLETTER	57:51
PROP. TAX	75:58
REVIEW	550:00
RIVER WORK	0:00
SERVICE CHARGE	0:00
TREASURER	<u>17:00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5353.46

Motion: Paul made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Bruce seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Entertainment: Brian reported that though the skies were gray, the mood was bright at the Annual "Taste of River Oaks" picnic held on Saturday, September 14th. The prizes this year were especially outstanding due to the efforts of Sandi Gorski, who convinced local businesses to donate all manner of fun items from free food coupons, to a car washing kit, a mini grill, a bottle of wine and a basket with flowers, food

and treats. Great prizes! We want you on the committee next year, Sandi! Thank you to Lois Hitchcock, Linda Saxton, Sandi Gorski and Mamee Sinnott who helped Brian to make this year's event successful!

City Liaison: Mark reported that the City Council approved both extending the sewer line between lots 39 and 40 to the riprap area to prevent future flooding and regrading of the lower bowl to drain property into the Upper Common area. The City is also getting bids for straightening neighborhood light poles. Hopefully this work will be completed this Fall.

Landscaping: A work day is planned for October 19th to transplant Nursery trees into the Parkway, and work on the Street entrance and the main Common area entrance. The work doesn't get done without volunteers so Paul will place a notice in the next Newsletter.

Newsletter: Andy would like to have more articles for the newsletter and welcomes all contributions by homeowners.

Old Business: The Board continues to receive complaints regarding a roaming River Oaks cat. The Board urges all pet owners to be considerate of their neighbors and reminds them that the leash law applies to cats as well as dogs.

New Business: None.

Motion: Bruce made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

*Respectfully submitted, Mamee Sinnott,
Secretary*

The next Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, October 24th at the Lynchs' 2S.572 River Oaks Dr.

COME ONE, COME ALL!

The River Oaks Improvement Association is having a party. A work party to replace parkway trees, and we need your help. The Association has grown enough trees in our own nursery to replace all of the parkway trees which have died.

We'll begin working at 9 am on Saturday, October 19th. All volunteers will meet at the entrance to the Upper Common Area. The planting is hard work and having more people will make the job easier. We'll also be doing weeding and lighter work at the entrance to the Upper Common Area. If you'd like to help but can't plant trees, there will be plenty of lighter work. Please mark the 19th on your calendar and plan to lend a hand.

The following homeowners will receive replacement trees:

Lot 24 - Wierema's

Lot 28 - Stoller's

Lot 29 - Polak's

Lot 53 - Sinnott's

Lot XX - Wilkins'

(Lot 14 will be reevaluated in the spring to determine if it needs tree replacement)

The work will go more quickly if these homeowners would remove

the dead trees and prepare the holes for replanting.

In addition to the parkway trees, there are a few Linden trees ready for planting in our nursery. Anyone who would like to plant a Linden in their yard should come by the Common Area during the work party.



Zinc Speeds Common Cold Recovery

A new study published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* concludes that the duration of the common cold can be cut nearly in half with zinc supplementation. Volunteers began taking 13.3 mg of zinc every two hours within a day of onset of symptoms during waking hours. The median time for all symptoms to disappear was 3.3 days, compared to 7.6 for the placebo group. The research used a lemon-flavored lozenge manufactured by Quigley Corporation.

Annals of Internal Medicine, July 15, 1996.

*[Article submitted for inclusion in the next issue of Oak Leaves, by John Christiansen (393-4946),
ROIA Landscape Committee.]*

FALL TREE CARE TIPS

I. MULCH APPRECIATED!

Right about NOW, before winter sets in, is a good time to check on the state of the mulch protection around your parkway trees, as well as the other trees and shrubs on your property. An informal survey of the River Oaks parkways indicates that a number of our parkway trees have little or no mulch, and many others could use a fresh layer.

WHY MULCH?

Mulching has many benefits:

1. Mulch reduces the likelihood of mower damage to the trunks of young trees;
2. Mulch reduces evaporation and thus conserves moisture needed by the trees;
3. Mulch reduces a tree's competition with grass for nutrients (lawn grass is very greedy in terms of nutrient uptake from the soil);
4. By insulating the soil around a tree's roots, mulch helps prevent root damage due to frost heaves;
5. As it gradually decomposes, organic mulch provides a source of nutrients for the tree.

Remember that the natural environment for most of the trees we find in our parkways is in a forest; the forest floor carries a constantly renewed blanket of natural mulch of old leaves, bark, etc. Our trees will be at their best when we try to duplicate this environment as best we can. Research at the Morton Arboretum has shown that young trees grow **TWICE AS FAST** if they are mulched!

It's perfectly OK to lay down landscape fabric underneath the mulch layer to deter weed growth. Just make sure that the fabric is porous, so water can get through readily -- otherwise you're dooming your tree to death by dehydration.

WHAT MULCH SHOULD I USE?

The best all-around mulch is organic -- examples include pine bark, shredded cypress, etc., available in bags (usually two cubic feet each) at garden centers or in bulk (by the cubic yard) from landscaping services. Grass clippings are not recommended as a mulch; they tend to decompose too fast and can burn a tree's roots. Inorganic mulches, such as gravel, are better than no mulch at all, but they can't provide nutrients for tree growth.

HOW MULCH IS ENOUGH?

For the trees the size of River Oaks' young parkway trees, a circle of mulch extending about two to three feet out from the trunk in all directions ought to be sufficient. Depth should be roughly three to six inches. But don't just pile mulch up around the trunk -- borers and other nasty varmints may crawl through it to attack the tree. Instead, leave the circle within about six inches of the trunk free of mulch. For most of our parkway trees, two or three bags of organic mulch per tree (2 cubic feet per bag) ought to give enough coverage and depth.

II. CAREFUL WITH THE WEED & FEED!

A lot of homeowners give their lawns a weed & feed treatment in the Fall. It is important to remember that the weedkiller herbicide included in these treatments can also be death to trees and shrubs! We're pretty sure that River Oaks has lost more than one young parkway tree since 1992 to accidental poisoning by lawn herbicides. So please be careful to avoid spreading weed & feed directly around the bases of your trees!

III. WATERING: TREES NEED IT TOO!

Because trees are seemingly such permanent parts of our landscape, we may take them for granted and forget their needs as growing plants. But trees, especially relatively young ones trying to get established, need more water than lawns and flower beds. During any extended dry periods, including the Fall, a thorough watering every ten days or so for young trees is recommended. The Arboretum suggests 10 gallons of water (like 5 buckets, or 5 minutes of hose watering) per tree as an adequate amount.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME:

Young 'Winesap' Apple Tree, about 10 ft. tall, very healthy. This is a standard tree (not a dwarf), so will reach about 25 ft. at maturity. It needs another type of apple or crabapple tree nearby as a pollinator for it to set fruit. Help dig it out of our backyard and it's yours! Call John or Becky Christiansen (Lot 19, 2S 600 River Oaks) at 393-4946.

If you would like to include an article, a notice, recipe or any other information in our newsletter, please contact Andy Gorski at 393-0886, or you can drop it off at his home: 29 W 601 Ridge