



DOUGHERTY LAKE NEWS

DES PERES ROAD FENCE UPDATE

The cedar fence along Des Peres Road will be treated again beginning the week of August 8th. The homeowners along the fence have been notified to clear their side of the fence to allow room for the work. This work will take approximately 5 to 7 days to complete, depending on the weather. Everyone's cooperation is appreciated to keep our fence attractive and well maintained.

NEIGHBORHOOD DIRECTORY UPDATE

The Dougherty Lake Neighborhood Directory was last printed in 2003 and since many families have come and gone, we thought it was time to update it. Cindi Stanley has graciously offered to produce them for us at no cost and Carel Reynolds has offered to pull it together for us.

The Neighborhood Service Directory will be distributed ONLY to the residents of Dougherty Lake Subdivision to provide information about various services, hobbies, leisure activities and other interests, which may be shared, for fun or profit in the neighborhood.

Enclosed in this newsletter is a form for you to fill out with your family's information. If you have any questions, call Jim Harris at 966-8404 or Carel Reynolds at 821-1818.

CUL-DE-SAC IMPROVEMENTS COMING SOON

Dougherty Lake has 7 cul-de-sacs with islands. None of the islands appear to need a complete redo, but many need additional plantings. The challenge is to select plants that are low-maintenance and drought-tolerant since the islands have no irrigation. Plans are to add plants to Hollyhead Drive Circle this fall and continue each year to make landscaping improvements in the other cul-de-sac islands. Homeowners who live in these cul-de-sacs may be asked to provide water for new plants until they become established.

DES PERES ROAD EASEMENT

The City of Des Peres street department was asked to remove the dead maple north of our entrance. This has been done, but the city will no longer be providing replacement trees.

South of the Dougherty lake entrance, the area above the retaining wall has been cleared of undesirable growth. During the past year, the City has removed the overgrowth and undesirable, invasive plants, ground out stumps, treated sprouts with herbicide, and spread wood chips over the entire area. In addition, the City has recently removed two non-native Tree-of-Heaven trees.

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LEAF PICKUP

Two Dougherty Lake curbside leaf pickups will again be scheduled in the fall. This service will be provided by Symmetry Landscaping Company as part of our contract with them. Watch for the announcements at the entrance. Remember it is important to rake those leaves onto the easement between the sidewalk and the street. As long as this is done just a day or two before leaf pickup, there should not be a problem with damaging the health of your grass. Leaves that are raked into the street create traffic problems and can be washed into storm sewers. (See related article about storm sewers.) Thank you for your cooperation.

ANNUAL GARDEN WALK JUNE 2

If you saw a happy group of people wandering the neighborhood together on the evening of June 2, it was just garden club members and their guests enjoying their annual garden walk. Each year in June, three members offer their gardens for "walking" while others bring drinks, hors d'oeuvres and dessert for everyone to enjoy.



The garden club also maintains the "Garden by the lake" near the playground, which has been designed to attract butterflies. Members meet monthly from September through May, enjoying speakers and activities related to gardening. You don't have to be an expert gardener to join. Members simply enjoy watching plants grow and getting together to talk about it.

For more information on the garden club, contact Betty Struckhoff at 966-8404 or bettystruckhoff@charter.net.

OUR COMMON GROUND IS NOT SO COMMON

Our small community is fortunate to have a centrally located playground and picnic area, adjoining the woods and just below the dam of Dougherty Lake.

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OUR COMMON GROUND IS NOT SO COMMON (CONTINUED)

On any given day, you can see residents stopping to admire the butterfly garden, children playing on the playground or picnicking on a blanket, older kids



playing at the basketball hoop, or others just enjoying the view from the picnic tables or park benches. To make

this area more attractive and functional, the subdivision recently replaced boards on the park benches, the playground was enhanced with new mulch and the swing-set was refurbished with new stain, swings and tarp.

Kids also enjoy climbing on the large boulders



near the woods. This area is now more accessible after some resident volunteers cleared out a choking thicket of

invasive bush honeysuckle last fall. Since the slope there is steep, it's important that something new be established to prevent soil erosion. In the spring, Garden Club members began restoring the woodland border with a

variety of wildflowers and ferns along with an elderberry bush, a small dogwood tree, spicebush seedlings, and some redbud saplings. Not only will these diverse native plants begin restoring the woodland border with a variety of wildflowers and ferns along with an elderberry plants slow down erosion, they will also be attractive to birds, butterflies and other wildlife, and eventually provide a beautiful view from early spring through fall.

The Garden Club has provided all the plants in the shade garden, as well as in the butterfly garden. The subdivision provides mulch. Garden Club members maintain both areas throughout the growing season.



Some parents of youngsters have expressed concern that the plantings can interfere with children's play in the area. The Garden Club recognizes that "*kids will be kids.*" While they hope children will respect the plantings and enjoy the wildlife they attract, if something occasionally gets trampled it will probably recover just fine.

Our common ground is there for all ages to enjoy. By maintaining the playground and benches, and providing attractive landscaping in our common ground, we enhance the value of our homes. If you have ideas or suggestions for how the common ground is managed, please contact any one of the subdivision trustees.

DES PERES ROAD EASEMENT (CONTINUED)

Tree-of-Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is a fast growing tree, a prolific seed producer, a persistent stump and root sprouter and an aggressive competitor with respect to the surrounding vegetation. Once established, it can quickly take over a site and form an impenetrable thicket. The root system is aggressive enough to cause damage to sewers and foundations.

Once Dougherty Lake is reasonably sure that the undesirable vegetation is under control, the plan is to landscape the area with native shrubs and/or grasses. This is to prevent erosion of the hillside and establish desirable vegetation.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN DOUGHERTY LAKE

Mark your calendars for the *Annual Ice Cream Social* to celebrate the start of another school year. The date is August 17 at 6:00 p.m. at the playground. All school age children and their families are invited to attend. Contact Missy Goodwin at 835-1720 if you are able to attend.



Planning has begun for the *Annual Fall Picnic* which is normally held mid October. If you would like to help Angie Ganninger with the planning, she could use your help. Contact Angie at 821-2264.

WHERE DOES THE STORM SEWER GO?

A common misconception about storm sewers is that they go to a waste-water treatment plant. This is not the case. Storm sewers transport storm water (rain and melting snow) to the nearest river, lake, stream or wetland. In our neighborhood, storm sewers empty into Dougherty Lake. Any debris remaining on paved areas will be washed into the nearest storm sewer during the next rainfall. Any waste deposited in the storm sewer inlets will contribute to pollution of our lake.

We certainly don't want Dougherty Lake (or any body of water) to be filled with oil, antifreeze, soil, litter, pet wastes, fertilizers, pesticides, or leaves and grass clippings. When these materials enter lakes and streams, they become pollutants that pollute the water and kill fish. Leaves and grass clippings pollute the storm-water with nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen. These nutrients promote the growth of algae. Yard wastes can also clog storm drains making them ineffective and causing flooding. Sediment build-up in our lake may eventually necessitate an expensive dredging operation.



What you can do to help:

- Sweep leaves, gumballs or grass clippings off of your driveway, sidewalk, and gutter. Dispose of these materials with our free yard waste pickup.
- Sweep (do not wash) fertilizer and soil off paved surfaces onto the lawn.
- Do not blow or allow your lawn care service to blow or sweep leaves, grass clippings or other waste into the storm sewer inlets.
- Do not use the storm sewer for disposing motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides, paints, or other materials.
- Minimize your use of de-icing materials on sidewalks and driveways.
- Dispose of pet wastes by flushing them down the toilet, by burying them, or by placing them in tied plastic bags for deposit in covered trash cans.

For further information on proper

handling of specific types of wastes, see:

<http://muextension.missouri.edu/explore/wasteman/wm6011.htm>

MEET YOUR DOUGHERTY LAKE TRUSTEES



Jim Harris
President
966-8404



Steve Askren
Communications
965-4721



Jim Gruenewald
Lake/Maintenance
822-4940



Nancy Shaffstall
Landscaping
821-9170



Paul Shaver
Treasurer
821-4688

Our #1 goal is to serve the community of Dougherty Lake. We invite you to visit the Dougherty Lake Web Site (www.doughertylake.org) where we publish all neighborhood activities, comments, letters, and meeting minutes for everyone to see. Contact us any time you have a question or concern.

2005 ANNUAL DOUGHERTY LAKE SUBDIVISION MEETING
TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 15, 2005 – 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT DES PERES CITY HALL

Dougherty Lake Newsletter
c/o Carel Reynolds
12962 Briar Fork Road
Des Peres, MO 63131

**2005 ANNUAL DOUGHERTY LAKE FISHING DERBY
SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2005
THANK YOU KRISTIN FLETCHER FOR ORGANIZING THIS FUN EVENT!**

