

Willow Properties

Summer 2010



Is it Summer Yet??!!



Even though it may not seem like it just yet, it's time to get your lawn equipment out and start planting and making your yard look colorful again.

Controlling Weeds

Now is a good time to control weeds in your shrub beds and gravel. Many people try to spot treat weeds as they see them with a product like Round-Up. Unfortunately, it has no residual life and weeds keep sprouting. If you combine a residual treatment with a spray for standing weeds, you will greatly reduce your weed problems all summer long.

Mowing

Remember to keep a length of 1 to 2 inches. It will reduce the amount of water needed.

Watering

Please remember to turn on your sprinklers later in the evening or early morning.

Clean up

You also need to make sure all bushes are trimmed away from the house. This will help in keeping insects and rodents away from your home. Picking up debris and twigs, and raking dead leaves is another way to help your lawn grow healthy and making your yard look very nice.

Time to Check Your Furnace Filters

If you have a furnace, please take the time to check the filter. It will save you money on your heating bill if you change the filter when it gets dirty or about every three months. Your local hardware store will carry a replacement filter. Take the make and model with you to the hardware store so you can be sure of buying the correct filter. When checking and replacing the old filter, please remember to shut off power to the furnace before you begin and make sure to turn it back on and replace the cover when you are through. This will also prevent filtration lines around the edges of carpets and motors from being overworked. Make sure to also clean return air vents and vacuum out baseboard heaters and wall heaters.



Vacation Time

It's vacation time again and we hope you can enjoy some good times this summer. Please don't forget that your rent is still due by the first of the month. Unfortunately, the owner's mortgage companies don't go on vacation. So if you are going to be gone and you would like to post date a check, we will hold it in the safe for you.

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Some helpful hints to treat carpet stains:

- Coffee - Don't use anything with high alkaline. Blot much of the spill with paper towels, then apply distilled white vinegar to the area.
- Pet Accidents - Pour a liberal amount of club soda on the area and blot right away with paper towels. If the odor is still there cover area with baking soda and let sit for 2 days, then vacuum.
- Kool-Aid or Wine Stains - Use a small amount of hydrogen peroxide and ammonia, wait a few minutes, then apply again. Put a dry towel on the area and apply heat with an iron on top of the towel. You will see the stain intermediately transfer to the towel.

Ranch, Bacon, & Parmesan Pasta Salad www.allrecipes.com

Ingredients:

- ~ 16oz. package of bow-tie pasta
- ~ 1 c. ranch dressing
- ~ 6 slices bacon
- ~ 1/2 c. shredded parmesan cheese
- ~ 1 carrot, peeled and diced
- ~ 1 stalk celery, diced
- ~ 1 red onion, diced

Boil pasta until cooked through but still firm to the bite. Drain well and refrigerate until cool, at least 30 minutes. Cook and drain bacon. Let cool and chop. In a large salad bowl, stir together the ranch dressing, bacon, Parmesan cheese, carrot, celery, and red onion until well combined. Lightly stir in the cooled pasta to coat with dressing, and refrigerate 2 hours to blend flavors before serving.

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