

# Stowe Creek Connection

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- St. Patrick's Day is March 17th
- Welcome Spring! The first day of Spring is March 21st
- Easter arrives April 12th

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## Neighborhood Crime on the Rise

### What is Crime Prevention??

In order for a crime to occur the criminal must have the ability, desire, and opportunity to commit the crime. There is very little you can do about the ability or desire of a criminal to commit a crime but we can work to eliminate the opportunity.

- Crime Prevention is one of the most important tools in fighting crime.
- Crime Prevention is the whole community's responsibility, not just the police.
- Crime Prevention creates a

safer and more secure community by developing partnerships between the community and police.

- Crime Prevention takes commitment.

Take an active role in making your community safe by familiarizing yourself with some basic crime prevention tips to help minimize your chances of becoming a victim. Be aware of your surroundings and vigilant about your personal safety and security. Remember, it only takes a moment for a dishonest person to seize an opportunity presented to him or her.

### How can you help?

- Be alert
  - Get to know your neighbors
  - Get to know our police officers
  - Get involved in the Neighborhood Watch Program
  - Call 911 to report suspicious activity. Be a good witness by writing down suspect and vehicle descriptions
- For more information visit CMPD's website at <http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/CMPD/Prevent+Crime/Home.htm>



## Community Watch Helps With Crime Prevention

Stowe Creek's Neighborhood Watch Program is one of the ways we can help each other prevent crime in our community. Since its inception we have seen a reduction in some of the minor offenses being committed in the subdivision. Of course no area is immune to crime. In the beginning of March alone, we've had three homes get broken into and some other strange activity. I am working with CMPD to keep us safer. But I need everyone involved to make sure we collectively make a difference.

You may ask *how can I help??* Simple...you can be the eyes and ears around you. If you see something that doesn't look or feel right, call 911. Our community CMPD officer, Brian Hofert is working hard to get more officers driving through at random times and keeping a close eye on things through various methods.

In the NW we have two needs. First are the **Block Captains**, who receive e-mails from me when I am alerted to something in the area from CMPD. They will in turn send out an e-mail

to their block which is a section of homes near theirs. For more information, e-mail me at [usomichael@gmail.com](mailto:usomichael@gmail.com).

The second need is simple. Just report things you see that don't look right. If you see strange vehicles lurking around or a moving truck backed into the driveway, call 911 and report it. That is how we can work together and make a difference over all.

Michael Nicely  
Neighborhood Watch Chairperson



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Fly Lady keeps  
it clean.

“Most cleaning  
tasks take 15  
minutes so  
remember to  
stay focused on  
the task.”

## It's That Time Again...Spring Cleaning!

We all dread the activity of spring cleaning, but here are some helpful tips on how to clean your house in 45 minutes.

(Source FlyLady.net).

*Set a timer and spend 15 minutes in each room.*

### Start off with the kitchen

- Clean out your sink and make it shine. Fill the sink up with hot soapy water and start to clear off the left and right counters.
- Empty the dishwasher.

*When the timer goes off, STOP what you are doing and go to the living room.*

Set the timer again and do 15 minutes cleaning off the coffee tables or picking up toys or newspapers.

### Now for the bathroom

- Take 15 minutes to
- Clean the bathroom sink first, then the toilet.
- Pick up towels and dirty clothes and put them in the hamper.

**Now take a break** and walk around and look at what you have accomplished in just 45 minutes. Set the timer for 15 minutes and drink a cup of tea or coffee or whatever you love and just relax. When the timer goes off. You are back in work mode for 15 more minutes.

Most cleaning tasks take 15 minutes, so remember to stay focused on the task, and once that timer goes off STOP. For more cleaning tips go to [www.flylady.net](http://www.flylady.net).

## Springtime Lawn Care



The snow has melted, the clocks have sprung forward and the temp is back into the 70's. It is time to start taking care of your lawn for the coming summer. The month of March is a vital time for you if you want a green, weed-free lawn this year. The key is called Pre-emergents; products that stop the weeds from ever germinating. The cheapest yet

still effective way is to hit your local home store and buy a small bag of **Scotts® Turf Builder® With Halts® Crabgrass Preventer**. One quick spread of this before the end of March and you will get a fraction of the weeds that a non-treated lawn will. The goal of having it down before April 1 is that exactly two months after you put down the

Crabgrass preventer you can, and should, put down another product: **Scotts® Turf Builder® With PLUS 2® Weed Control**. This one-two punch during the spring will give you a green and weed free lawn that with a little water and regular mowing will last you all the way through the dog days of summer.



# Coming Soon To Stowe Creek

Upcoming Events in the Stowe Creek Community

**Thursday, March 19th, 7pm** Neighborhood Watch Block Captains meeting, Steele Creek Library

*If you have any concerns that need to be addressed, please contact your block captain or Mike Nicely.*

**Tuesday, March 31st, 6:30pm** Stowe Creek HOA Public Meeting, Steele Creek Library

*Stowe Creek will now have quarterly public meetings! This will give homeowners more opportunities to communicate with each other and see what is going on inside the community! The Board of Directors is really interested in every homeowner's opinion and want to make sure that everyone has chance to voice their priorities for the neighborhood. Homeowners will also*

*get updates from each committee and will have an opportunity to sign up to volunteer.*

**Saturday, April 11th, 10:00am** Stowe Creek's First Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

*Watch for more information coming at the end of March.*

**Friday, April 24th, 7pm** Community-wide Neighborhood Watch Meeting, Morningside United Methodist Church.

*All neighbors welcome and encouraged to attend to discuss past, present and future crime prevention in the community.*

## Some Thoughts From Our Board.....

Dear Stowe Creek Residents,

When we purchased our home in Stowe Creek many of us really did not understand what a homeowner's association (HOA) was all about. We thought its primary purpose was the management of the pool, holding social events and promoting proper maintenance. While this is partially correct let me refer to our Stowe Creek Declaration of Covenants.

Our HOA was formed to .....

- Insure the attractiveness of the subdivision.
- Prevent nuisances.
- Preserve, protect and enhance the values and amenities of all properties.
- Maintain common areas.

Our HOA is a state regulated association that is legally obligated to collect assessments, enforce rules, assess fees and take whatever legal action is required to ensure the covenants and other governing documents are upheld. If the Stowe Creek HOA and your board fails in its enforcement role we break the law and are subject to law suits. Please understand, the board takes no pleasure in sending out violation letters, delinquency notices and holding hearings. This is not a positive or productive use our homeowners association's limited resources.

Your board looks forward to a future when we won't have to spend so much time enforcing rules. We look forward to a future when we can focus on activities that create a positive sense of community. Together, we can achieve this if every resident embraces their responsibilities as a member of our community.

It all boils down to respect for ourselves, each other, our homes and our community.

We can make this a great community!

Sincerely,  
Ed Runte'

Solution to Word Find on pg. 4

T	U	L	I	P	X	P	A	N	S	Y	R	H
C	A	Z	N	M	B	G	T	L	L	O	P	Y
D	H	W	E	E	L	I	L	Y	G	H	T	A
R	W	R	A	S	D	F	G	H	H	C	T	C
Z	X	C	Y	B	G	R	R	S	T	L	A	I
E	A	R	N	S	G	T	M	N	B	O	B	N
Q	Z	W	E	R	A	T	Y	U	I	V	O	T
S	A	D	F	G	H	N	J	K	L	E	P	H
A	L	Z	X	C	V	B	T	N	N	R	M	M
E	E	R	Z	X	C	V	B	H	N	M	L	K
M	A	R	I	G	O	L	D	S	A	Z	X	B
M	N	B	V	V	A	O	I	T	T	M	G	H
F	D	O	G	W	O	O	D	D	E	E	U	B
S	P	R	I	N	G	T	I	M	E	G	G	M

## THANKS TO TWO GREAT VOLUNTEERS!

We don't say thank you often enough to the volunteers who have served this community over the years. Recently, we lost two volunteers who deserve our appreciation.

Last month, Bill Glass, a current board member and a previous board president resigned.

Additionally, Brian Talley, our pool committee chair and a previous board president also resigned.

Bill and Brian, thank you for all your service to our community!



## Stowe Creek Kids



### Springtime Word Find

Locate these words associated with Spring!

AZALEA  
 CHRYSANTHAMUM  
 CLOVER  
 DOGWOOD  
 HYACINTH  
 LILY  
 MARGOLD  
 PANSY  
 SPRINGTIME

