

RIVER VIEWS – SPRING EDITION – April 4, 2016

Just when it appeared that Spring had sprung...another cold day. Welcome to Delaware! The sounds of lawns being mowed are now becoming commonplace. Many are taking advantage of beautiful days to walk around the neighborhood. We are fortunate to be able to safely explore our neighborhood.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REMINDERS:

- 1) Protect yourselves (and your pets) from ticks. Here are some of the excellent repellants on the market: a) 30% DEET (100% is no more effective and actually doesn't last as long), b) picaridin is a newer product, and c) there are some effective natural products. If you plan to rely on a "home remedy" or natural product, make sure it is effective. Tick born diseases are no laughing matter – prevent them. Clothing can be treated with Permethrin (an insecticide) but don't use it on your skin. The ponds have minnows in them to control mosquito larvae and the state is now spraying.
- 2) Time to start using sunscreens. Prevent sun damage to your skin such as premature aging and even skin cancers by using an **SPF-50 broad spectrum, water-resistant** product – even on cloudy bright days. Higher SPF sunscreens are considered no more effective, but any sunscreen must be reapplied often...and don't skimp. Protect infants under 6 mos from any sun exposure.
- 3) If you are out on the water, or in the water at home, be sure to take appropriate safety precautions. Have life jackets available - please have your children wear them. If your boat capsizes and someone is knocked unconscious, their life will depend on that life jacket.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND RESTRICTION REMINDERS:

- A) Trash containers should not be in view except on collection days. There are a number of ways to hide them from view if you can't keep them in your garage. Bushes or trees may be acceptable or a fence can be installed so they cannot be seen from the roadway. Ask a neighbor to bring in your containers if you are not going to be home until a day or longer after the pickup. This also prevents anyone from knowing or thinking that you may not be home – we sure don't want to encourage a break-in.
- B) If you need to have a boat or RV at your home prior to a vacation or use of that vehicle, please contact the board (bod@riverview-estates.org) to explain your situation. Such items are not to be "kept" at anyone's home but short-term parking is sometimes necessary which is understood. However, we don't want the neighborhood looking like a parking lot.
- C) Please keep yards picked up and neat looking. There are homes for sale in our community and more will likely be offered as the season changes. We all want to get top dollar for our homes when we have to move or sell, so let's do all we can to help others who must sell their homes. Please do your part.
- D) If you have not signed up for the Nextdoor social media program, you are missing out on some really good information sources and useful correspondence within the community. This Facebook-like program is restricted to residence of Riverview Estates. Thus far we have 60 families and 80 individual participating (it changes every week). Questions about vendors to use, lost items and possible crime situations come to our attention very quickly.
- E) Water quality issues have arisen since the Michigan problems. Artesian assures us the water is safe and meets all standards. Lead in pipes was banned in 1986 so none of our homes have any such pipes. If you have concerns, call Artesian (302) 453-2507.
- F) The entryway signs will be replaced this summer and the landscaping will be upgraded. If you would like to help with the landscaping plans, please send notice to the Board at the above email address. We would like to have a landscaping committee formed to oversee this process.
- G) The Board has authorized a \$100 reward leading to the apprehension of the person(s) responsible for damaging the lawn adjacent to the pavilion.

Watch for the May annual meeting announcement. Have a wonderful and safe summer.