



FALL 2008/WINTER 2009

Neighborhood Watch Program Takes Off

We've had a few incidents during the past few years, but our neighborhood is relatively secluded and very safe. We want to keep it that way – so the Board has initiated a Neighborhood Watch Program.

Plans/goals for the Neighborhood Watch Program include:

- Recruit block watch captains who will collect neighbors' emails and serve as a liaison among neighbors, police, and HOA Board.
- Get neighborhood watch signs made for all Autumn Ridge entrances/exits, and possibly other streets.
- Purchase window clings for residents' vehicles so neighbors know which cars belong in the neighborhood ... and which don't.
- Organize block parties next spring/summer so neighbors can get to know each other.

What YOU can do:

- Get involved by volunteering to be a block captain.
- Get to know your neighbors and their schedules.
- Watch out for suspicious persons and activities, especially at night.
- Install motion lights outside your home – or leave existing outside lights on at night.
- When you notice something suspicious, or a crime occurs, call and report it to police and contact your block watch captain, who will inform other neighbors and the HOA Board. (A list of block watch captains will be forthcoming on the website.)
- Sign up for daily, weekly, or monthly email crime alerts with www.crimereports.com or www.kcpd.org, which provide area/neighborhood crime data in near real-time.
- Schedule a free "security audit" for the outside of your home. A KCPD officer will scrutinize the outside of your home and give you some tips on how you can improve security and prevent break-ins. Contact Officer Dan Watts, KCPD North Patrol, to schedule (dwatts@kcpd.org).
- Provide your email to your block captain or the Board so you can receive critical communications.

For more information, please contact Nikki Swartz (nikkiswartz@hotmail.com) or Tiffany Allen (tiffany@kc.rr.com).

REMINDER!

A Block Watch Captain social meeting is scheduled for **7 p.m., Thursday, November 6, at 5416 NW 91st St.** Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to be a block captain! If you want to get involved, contact Tiffany Allen (tiffany@kc.rr.com).

Playground in Need of Makeover

The bad news is that the Autumn Ridge HOA Board recently learned that the playground and equipment are not up to code and, therefore, may be dangerous for our children to use. So, the Board has decided that the cabana area, pool and playground will be closed during the remainder of the fall and throughout the winter months to prevent kids from playing on the equipment. (You may still schedule adult parties in the cabana area, but no children's events, please.)

The good news is that the Board, along with Curry Management, are considering bids and plans for improving the playground and bringing it up to code. Plans include rebuilding the playground space and installing new playground equipment, including new pieces that will be accessible to smaller children and toddlers. We also plan to make the space handicap-accessible. All the needed improvements will not be cheap. The plan is to do a little at a time, beginning next spring, but it may take three years or more to pay for and complete a new playground.



During this time, we ask for your patience and help in keeping kids off the equipment for now to prevent potential injuries. In the meantime, we'll definitely keep you updated on our progress toward a new-and-improved Autumn Ridge playground!

Autumn Ridge HOA Contacts

Tiffany Allen, President – 468-8188 or tiffanya@kc.rr.com

Earl Jameson, Vice President – 726-1238

Melissa Goslee, Secretary – 436-4504 or mgoslee1@gmail.com

Nikki Swartz, Treasurer – 420-8314 or nikkiswartz@hotmail.com

Carolyn Vellar, Board Member – 436-0561 or cvellar@kc.rr.com

Also, please feel free to contact our property manager at Curry Management (www.curryre.com), Shannon McCant (414-5306, smccant@curryre.com), or Jennifer Simonetti (jsimonetti@curryre.com) if you have any issues that need attention.

2009 HOA Dues

The HOA dues will remain the same – \$400 – for 2009. Dues must be paid by February 1. Curry Management collects dues, which can be paid online or via mail. Look for a reminder letter from Curry in early November. You will receive a bill in early January. The late fees will change for 2009, so please note the new fee structure: Dues 30 days late will be assessed a \$25 fine; dues more than 30 days late will be assessed a \$65 fee. Thank you in advance for paying your dues on time. We have many exciting improvements planned for next year, and they cannot be accomplished without everyone's HOA dues.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS & REMINDERS

- **Fall Leaf & Brush Collection:** KCMO will pick up leaves and brush Thursday, Nov. 20 and Thursday, Dec. 18. Just put your leaves and clippings in a paper sack and set next to your trash and recyclables on those days. As a reminder, you now need to make an appointment for any bulk items that you want the city to collect. Call the KCMO Action Center at 311 or 513-1313 to schedule an appointment. Pickups for our area are made every third collection day of the month. You cannot leave any bulk items on your curb for longer than 24 hours before a scheduled pickup.
- **Property Changes & Additions:** Planning ahead to repaint your house, landscape your yard, build a new deck, or any other significant home improvement project next spring? If so, please remember to fill out and submit an Architectural Control Committee request form. You can obtain a form from Jennifer at Curry Management (jsimonetti@curryre.com).
- **Covenants & Bylaws:** If you do not have a copy of the Autumn Ridge Covenants & Bylaws, please contact Jennifer Simonetti (jsimonetti@curryre.com) at Curry Management or one of the HOA board members. You also can find them at www.autumnridge.ws/covenants/covenants.htm.
- **Check the Website for News & More:** To save money, we are no longer printing paper copies of the newsletter. Newsletters will now be posted on our website – www.autumnridge.ws – and sent via email to neighbors whose emails we have. If you'd like a paper copy, or if you'd like to provide your email address so that you can receive future newsletters and other Autumn Ridge communications via email, please contact Nikki Swartz (nikkiswartz@hotmail.com).
- **Talk to the Board:** If you have a neighborhood-related issue or proposal you would like to bring up before the Board at a future Board meeting, please contact Tiffany Allen (tiffany@kc.rr.com).
- **Special Thanks:** Thanks to Cody and Caleb McKinney for mowing a section of the new entrance (off Ambassador) to Autumn Ridge as a service project. Great job, guys!

Autumn Ridge Christmas Social Event



Thanks to everyone's efforts at the Summer Party raffle fundraiser, we are happy to bring you an Autumn Ridge Christmas Social this year! We are combining this with our annual Autumn Ridge charitable contribution effort. This year, our chosen organization is The Shepherd's Pantry, run by volunteers at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on North Oak Trafficway. If you can't make the Social but would still like to be a part of this worthwhile endeavor, please contact Social Committee Co-Chairs Katie Barges (kattdominique@yahoo.com, 436-6716) or Jessica Barnard (jbarnard@hmccah.com, 468-5586).

Bring the family, your camera, and a non-perishable donation to 8777 N. Hull at **3 p.m., Saturday, December 13**. With games, a bonfire, marshmallow roast, cider, and hot chocolate, this promises to be a fun time for the whole family. With a little luck, maybe we'll even have a surprise visit from Santa himself!