





COMMUNICATOR

Volume 2 Issue 3

www.belairneighborhood.com

July/August 2014



Mosquitoes

It is important to protect our families and ourselves from mosquitoes. Maricopa County Environmental Services Department would like to remind people to take precautions against West Nile virus (WNV).

"Prevention is the best tool we have," said John Kolman, Director of the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department. "We need to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes and also prevent mosquitoes from breeding," Kolman added.

The Maricopa County Environmental Services department conducts year-round surveillance of mosquitoes: more than 700 mosquito traps are set throughout the county.

"The more we can control our mosquito population, the more we can control this virus," said John Townsend, Environmental Services Department Vector Control Divi-

sion manager. "This is why it is very important that we all do our part and prevent mosquitoes from breeding in our yards and neighborhoods," said Townsend.

WNV is transmitted to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito. Approximately 20 percent of people infected with West Nile virus will feel flu-like symptoms occurring three to 15 days after the mosquito bite. Symptoms may include fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, swollen lymph glands, and skin rash.

A small percentage of people who are infected with WNV will experience severe symptoms such as meningitis, encephalitis, paralysis or even death. Persons over the age of 50 are generally at a higher risk for severe symptoms. If a person thinks he or she has WNV symptoms, he or she should consult their health care provider.

Take these precautions to prevent WNV infection:

- Eliminate mosquito-breeding sites around the home by removing standing water in potted plants, tires, bird baths and other containers where water may collect
- Remove unnecessary clutter
- Repair window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out of the home

Make sure pools and decorative ponds are properly maintained and operational

"After you've mosquito proofed your home, work with your neighbors to clean up their yards,"

Townsend recommended.

Wherever you may be this weekend, bring your insect repellant along and follow label instructions, especially for use on children. Share your insect repellant with those around you. Additionally:

- Wear light colored clothing with long sleeves and pants
- If possible, avoid outdoor activity before dawn and after dusk when mosquitoes are most active

Use protective clothing and insect repellant when exposure to mosquitoes cannot be avoided

For more information on West Nile virus, to set-up an appointment to obtain mosquito eating fish at no cost to you, to report green pools, file any mosquito related complaint, register on the Fogging Notification System or for WNV materials or presentations for your group/organization, please call the West Nile Virus General Information and Help Line at (602) 506-0700, or visit http://www.maricopa.gov/wnv.

- Mosquitoes
- Neighborhood College
- Simple Solutions
- Operation Identification
- Achievements
- To Condition your Air
- Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol Training
- Workshops
- Treasurer's Report
- Ready Set Grill





GRAFFITI 101

Have you ever been curious about the different types of graffiti you may see in your neighborhood and the meaning behind it? Are you interested in learning how the city fights back against graffiti and how you can make a difference in those efforts? Now's your chance! Learn the history of graffiti, links between graffiti and crime, the penalties associated with graffiti, resources for removal, and much more!

Instructor: Phoenix Police Detective Tim Reese

When: 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 24

Where: Mountain View Police Precinct, 2075 E. Maryland Ave.

To sign up for the free "Graffiti 101" workshop, call 602-534-4444 ext. 4, email neighborhood.college@phoenix.gov or register online at: phoenix.gov/nsd/neighborhoodcollege.



Simple Solutions by Virginia Anders

Any homeowner loves to clean house, right? Maybe not. The available commercial products are chemicals soups, which can be as problematic for the people and pets who share a home. There is a small list of everyday items that can replace many of these products: wash cloths, white vinegar, salt, baking soda, coffee beans, old tea bags, powdered oxygen cleaner, toothpicks, pumice stones, Bon Ami, baby wipes, For example...

Salt: Remove perspiration stains Put a handful of salt in a quart of water, soak the item for an hour

Sprinkle salt on garden slugs to dissolve them

Clean drains of grease & bad smells by pouring a strong solution of salt & hot water down the sink drain every week or so. If something spills in the oven, sprinkle with salt immediately. When the oven is cool, brush off burnt food and wipe with a damp sponge.

Any time your washing machine overflows from too many suds, sprinkle with salt. Suds will disappear.

For red wine spills, sprinkle the spill immediately with lots of salt. Dunk into cold water & rub the stain out before washing. Gargle with a teaspoon each of salt and baking soda in hot water

Vinegar: Clothes feel soapy after washing? Add vinegar to the rinse

Vinegar cleans out narrow-necked bottles or vases. For stubborn jobs, put some rice or pebbles in the vase/bottle and shake it up

Spray undiluted white vinegar around doorways and window sills to discourage ants.

A small dish near fruit bowls repels fruit flies.

Equal parts vinegar and water will clean windows and other glass surfaces.

Boil the mixture to loosen residue in microwave ovens.

Pour undiluted vinegar inside toilet rims during a flush to clean and remove rings.

Fill a spray bottle with vinegar and add3 tablespoons of salt. Spray solution liberally on copper pot. Let set for awhile, and then simply rub clean.

Add a few tablespoons of vinegar to the cheapest brand of dishwashing detergent when you wash your dishes. The vinegar cuts the grease and leaves the dishes sparkling clean.

Remove spots on stainless steel with white vinegar

To prevent mildew from forming, wipe with vinegar. The acid kills the mildew fungus.

Clean your washing machine by filling it with warm water and pouring in a gallon of distilled vinegar. Run the machine through an entire cycle. The vinegar will cleanse the hoses and unclog soap scum from them.

Add 1 cup of with vinegar to the rinse cycle. This will help dissolve the alkaline in soaps and detergents. Plus, it will give your soft and sweet smelling clothing for just pennies.

If you burned something, wet a washcloth or small hand towel with vinegar and twirl it around in the air awhile. Place bowls of vinegar in each room to absorb any odors.

Baking Soda: Sprinkle burnt pots liberally with baking soda, adding just enough water to moisten. Let stand for several hours. You can generally lift the burned portion right out of the pan.

Stubborn stains on non-stick cookware can be removed by boiling 2 tablespoons of baking soda, 1/2 cup vinegar and 1 cup water for 10 minutes. Re-season pan with salad oil.

Coffee or tea stains can be scoured out with baking soda

An open box of baking soda will absorb food odors for at least a month or two.

Bread as cleaner: Use a slice of white bread to gently rub scuffs, fingerprints and other marks off non-washable wallpapers and non-glossy paint surfaces. Cut off the crusts so no color transfers.

Static no-cling: A rolled-up ball of aluminum foil will reduce static cling effectively.

Bleach water: A 5 to 1 solution of bleach water sprayed on walls kills mold spores. This is important to consider for monsoon season. Make sure you leave the house for an hour or so while this is on the walls.

Tea: For vanished floors or woodwork of any kind, rub with cold tea.

Lemon aid: Use the juice of a lemon to dissolve soap scum and hard-water deposits, or mix with baking soda for a paste to clean brass and copper. Mix ½ cup lemon juice with 1 cup olive oil to polish hardwood furniture. Test first.

Toothpicks can dig dirt out of nooks and crannies

Bon Ami is an all-natural scouring powder

Pumice stones remove stains in toilets and other highly polished surfaces found in bathrooms and kitchens.

Coffee beans: Place a bowl of coffee beans in a room to absorb odors.

Operation Identification

A burglary prevention tool

What Is Operation Identification?

Operation Identification (Operation ID) is a citizen's burglary prevention program for use in homes and businesses. The Operation ID program involves marking property with an identifying number as a means of discouraging burglary and theft. It also provides police with a way to identify property should it be stolen and recovered. In communities where it has been properly implemented, Operation ID has shown dramatic results in burglary reduction.

Operation ID Has Two Basic Components

First:

Engrave your valuables with your driver's license number (or any number that is of importance to you) so your property can be easily traced and identified as yours. Please note—if your driver's license number is your Social Security Number, we strongly recommend you DO NOT USE YOUR SS#: a) obtain a new license with a new number, or b) obtain an Arizona State Identification Card, which has a generic number and does not expire. Engrave as follows:

AZ###### 09 (year of expiration)

Engrave in two locations: 1) one that can easily be seen, and 2) one that cannot easily be seen.

Photograph or videotape items and keep the photos/tape in a fireproof safe or safety deposit box. Jewelry should be photographed with an ID card and ruler next to it to show ownership and size.

Second:

Display a sticker that tells would-be burglars that your property has been marked.

Note: Electric engravers can be purchased at hardware stores, or large department stores in the "tools" section.

What Makes Operation ID So Effective? Marked property is difficult for a burglar to dispose of—it can be traced to the rightful owner with relative ease. And, if a burglar is caught with marked property, it is solid evidence of possession of stolen goods.

After marking your property, make a list of your valuables, and keep a copy of the list in a safe place. If you should become a burglary victim, you will be able to quickly describe the stolen property from the list. This will be of great help to police in their attempts to recover stolen possessions.

Once property has been marked and a list made, display the Operation Identification sticker on doors and windows that could be used for entry. By advertising your participation in Operation Identification in this way, you are announcing that your valuable property has been marked and will be difficult for a burglar to sell. Often, the presence of the sticker alone is enough to deter a burglar.

Suggestions:

Mark These Possessions or have serial numbers available:

The items listed below are those most commonly stolen from homes, cars, and businesses:

Mag wheels Laptops

Bicycles Microwaves

Binoculars Ipods

Camcorders Musical Instruments

Cameras Outboard Motors

Car audio systems Radio

Computer equipment Stereo equipment

DVD players Ipads

Fishing rods, reels Cell Phones

Golf clubs Tools (hand/power)

GPS System Vacuum cleaners

Guns Video games & gaming systems

Kitchen appliances Wheel covers

Flat screen televisions

Need help getting organized? Log onto www.phxblockwatch.org for a property information form which will assist you in recording your valuables.

Information provided by the Phoenix Block Watch Advisory Board In partnership with the Phoenix Police Department www.phxblockwatch.org or contact@phxblockwatch.org

Achievements at an Advanced Age by Virginia Anders

At 100, Grandma Moses was painting.

At 94, Bertrand Russell was active in international peace drives.

At 93, George Bernard Shaw wrote the play "Farfetched Fables."

At 90, Pablo Picasso was producing drawings and engravings.

At 89, Arthur Rubenstein gave one of his greatest recitals in New York's Carnegie Hall.

At 89, Albert Schweitzer headed a hospital in Africa.

At 88, Michelangelo did architectural plans for the Church of Santa Maria degli Angeli.

At 85, Coco Chanel was the head of a fashion design firm.

At 84, W. Somerset Maugham wrote "Points of View."

At 82, Winston Churchill wrote "A History of English speaking Peoples."

At 82, Leo Tolstoy wrote "I Cannot Be Silent."

At 81, Benjamin Franklin effected the compromise that led to the adoption of the U.S. Constitution.

To Condition your Air

Summer means sunshine, hot days and nights, swimming pools and buckets of iced tea and water. When the temperature spikes, most of us wait it out inside. But if your house isn't cool, a lazy summer day becomes a meltdown.

The expected source of the problem is the air conditioning unit, but not necessarily. Here is a checklist to try before losing your cool.

Seals: Are your windows and doors sealed well?

Insulation: How effective is your house's insulation?

Thermostat: You may simply need new batteries (look for a blinking indicator light on the panel).

Outdoor unit: If the blower is still working, you should be able to see and hear the fan.

Outside air: Is it hotter than usual? An older unit may not be able to keep up.

Drain line: Ice on your coil or other liquid you can't identify the source for means call for a professional inspection

Air filter: A dirty filter causes the unit to run constantly, while still not cooling the house: change the filter.

Breakers: Sometimes a high-voltage breaker can trip and cause the unit to stop working: try flipping the breaker back.

If none of these issues are relevant you might call your heater/air conditioner company for an energy audit.

Researched in Angie's List June publication



Keep Bel Air Beautiful!
Please pull those pesky weeds
in the sidewalks in
front of your home!

Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol Training

July 12, 2014

Mountain View Precinct

2075 E. Maryland Ave

(between Glendale Ave & Bethany

Home Rd)

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

Class 8:00 a.m.—Noon

RSVP to

deborah.iodice@phoenix.gov

Seating is limited to 45 people.

BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

PERIOD COVERED: 03/31/14 - 06/30/14

GENERAL FUND REPORT

Who are you going to call?

City Council-District 4 602.262.7447 Bus route & schedules 602.253.5000 Light rail information 602.254.7245 Discount fares 602.261.8506 Dial-a-ride

602.253.4000

Barking dogs 602.262.6466 Abandoned vehicles 602.262.7844 Trash in alley 602.262.6151

Upcoming Neighborhood Service sponsored workshops...

July 2014

Paint Sprayer Training (Hands on!)

Saturday, July 12 8:00-9:00 a.m.

NSD West Facility 3325 W. Flower St.

Landlord/Tenant Workshop: Know Your Rights

Thursday, July 17 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Phoenix City Hall, 200 W. Washington Street

Treasurer's Report

DATE	ACTIVITY	EXPENSES	INCOME	BALANCE
3/31/2014	BEGINNING BALANCE			\$873.89
	AD REVENUE		\$28.00	\$901.89
	5/19 GENERAL MTG DONUTS	\$19.47		\$882.42
	GENERAL MTG SUPPLIES	\$5.01		\$877.41
6/30/2014	ENDING BALANCE			\$877.41

Ready - Set - Grill

Do you like grilled steak, fish, or chicken? How about grilled vegetables? Actually, outside cooking is fun and the fragrance makes me swoon. But there is more involved than simply lighting the fuel and throwing on the raw meat for a while. Good preparation makes sense. Here is a checklist for a safe, healthy evening of kabobs and corn.

Clean the grill: Soapy water and a grill brush used vigorously, starts the process. If you take off burners and gas tubes to do this, be sure to cover the connection points with aluminum foil in the meantime. Dry the grill with a towel.

Prevent rust: Paint the exterior with a rustproof

Coffee with a Cop
8:00-9:00 a.m.

July 9, 2014

Join us for coffee and conversation

Location

To Be Determined

metal paint after scrubbing off any existing rust with steel wool. Replace parts (handles, knobs and wheels) if necessary. **Stock fuel:** Don't risk running out of fuel in the middle of your barbecue. Before you heat the grill, fill the tank and have a backup tank ready.

Clean grease traps: Meats drip fat during cooking, which collect over time. A dirty grease trap on a home grill is as dangerous as a grease fire in a commercial kitchen.

Cover the grill: A fitted grill cover made of vinyl and cloth or one made of wood will protect your grill from rain, Arizona sunshine, dirt, and wind. Protect your investment of a good cooking device with such a cover.

Clean up: No one likes to clean up, so do it after every grilling and set up for the next occasion becomes much easier.

Researched in Angie's List June publication

AMERICAN LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL & DAYCARE CENTER

1830 W. Glenrosa Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85015 (602) 275-9978

Monday - Friday, 6:00a.m. - 6:00p.m.

- Nutritious food program for each child
 - Ages 6 weeks to pre-K
 - Christian-based program
 - Creative curriculum
 - DES Approved / DHS LICENSED



