

Ashley Ridge Informer

APRIL 2009

ASHLEY RIDGE HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

WWW.ASHLEYRIDGEHOA.ORG



Meet the Easter Bunny and participate in the Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Bunny is Coming!

Meet the Easter Bunny in Ashley Ridge on Saturday April 11

The Easter Bunny will be arriving in style on Saturday April 11 courtesy of the Nokesville Volunteer Fire Department. The Easter bunny will meet and greet the children in two locations this year - at 9:00 AM in the cul-de-sac at the end of Rain Slicker Place and at 9:30 AM in the cul-de-sac at the end of Aqua View Court.



Bring Your Camera. The Easter Bunny will pose for photos at

both locations. Please visit only one of the two locations to meet the Easter

Bunny to allow enough time for all to have their photos taken.

Easter Egg Hunt. Immediately following the Easter Bunny, the Ashley Ridge Annual Easter Egg Hunt Begins. Here's the information:

1. Hide plastic eggs filled with non-melting candies by 9:00 AM on April 11. Please hide them only in the front yard. The suggested number is 5 dozen eggs per participant household.

2. Decorate your yard if you wish and place balloons on your mailbox to identify your house as a participant.

3. If your child participates, please encourage them to only take 2-3 eggs per yard to ensure that all kids have a

chance to collect eggs. Please provide the child with a basket or container to hold their eggs.

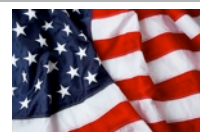
Saturday April 11 - The Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Meet the Easter Bunny

4. If your child participates, please ensure that you hide eggs in your yard so that there are plenty of eggs for everyone.

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Visit www.AshleyRidgeHOA.org



The Easter Bunny is Coming

5. Hide your eggs with varying degrees of difficulty so that the younger children can find them. In the past the younger kids went before the older kids. Be prepared for two waves of hunters.

Special thanks to the Stone Family for arranging for the Easter Bunny to visit Ashley Ridge again this year!



If you have any questions, please contact Reggie Matthews at 10237 Aqua View Court or email

him at board@ashleyridgehoa.org.

ORIGIN OF THE EASTER BUNNY

What is the origin of the Easter Bunny? (this is not a religious endorsement - just a web search on the origin)

According to allaboutjesuschrist.org "the origin of the Easter Bunny has roots that go back to pre-Christian, Anglo-Saxon history. The holiday was originally a pagan celebration that worshipped the goddess Eastre. She was the goddess of fertility and springtime and her earthly symbol was the rabbit.

Thus the pre-Christian Anglo-Saxons worshipped the rabbit believing it to be Eastre's earthly incarnation.

When the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity, the pagan holiday, which occurred around the same time as the Christian memorial of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, was combined with the Christian celebration and given the name Easter.

Originally, there were some very pagan practices that went along with the Easter celebration. Today, Easter is often commercialized, with all the focus on eggs, the Easter bunny, etc. "

Spring Yard Sale - April 25



Yard sales are a great way to get rid of items that you no longer need and make a few dollars at the same time.

Community Yard Saturday April 25

Ashley Ridge will be holding its Spring Cleaning Yard Sale on Saturday April 25 from 7am to 1pm. This is the same day that Braemar is holding theirs. This usually means a great turnout. In addition, the HOA is running an ad in the Bull Run Observer. Here are some helpful hints to make your yard sale a success.

Have your tables and displays set up early. Many sales are made even before the 7am official start time. At worst case, be ready right at 7 am. Most of the serious yard sales shoppers like to hit their favorite communities first thing in the morning.

Make sure you have plenty of change available. Stop by the bank and get plenty of \$1 and \$5 bills. Have plenty of coins, especially quarters, on hand as well.

Tag your items in advance with the prices or clearly mark the tables with

prices. Shoppers tend to get frustrated and don't shop as much at a yard that is not clearly marked.

Have plenty of plastic bags or paper bags available to bag up the sales. This is greatly appreciated and makes everyone's life easier.

Be prepared to bargain. That's the fun of yard sales. If your goal is to get rid of items you no longer need, who cares how much you sell it for. If you can't sell it for the price you want, think about donating it to Goodwill or some other charity and take tax benefits (if applicable).

Be organized. One method is to keep like items such as baby clothes in one area, housewares in another, etc. Make it easy to make a sale. Good organization includes keeping safety in mind. Make sure it is easy and safe to get through your sales tables and items laid out in the drive or yard.

Keep prices low. Yard sale shoppers are looking for a bargain.
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Spring Yard Sale April 25

Mark things as low as possible to get them to move. \$1-\$3 is a good target price for most items. If you want more for your items, consider renting a booth at a flea market. The bargain hunters there are usually in a different price category. Again, higher priced items that do not sell are a good candidate for a charity.

Park your car in the garage or your extra cars at the local shopping center for the day. Use your driveway as part of your presentation. Also, make room in front of your house for shoppers to park.

HOW MUCH CAN YOU MAKE?



GOT STOP SIGN?



Ashley Ridge Roads just got safer.

It's finally here, the second of three all way stops in the neighborhood. The newest intersection to become all way is the corner of Serenity Place and Puddle Place. It joins the intersection of Rain Slicker Place and Breezeway Drive to help keep speeds down in the development and help make the school bus stops safer.

The Board of Directors has been working with State and County to have these new all way stops installed in the development in an effort to keep vehicular speeds down and make the bus stops a safer place. The first one that was approved is located at the corner of Rain Slicker Place and Breezeway Drive. The third location is planned for the corner of Breezeway Drive and Serenity Place. This will cover three of the four bus stops in the development.

If you have any suggestions on how to keep our community safer, please contact the Board of Directors at board@ashleyridgechoa.org or attend one of the Board of Directors meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SCHEDULED MEETINGS

May 12 - Victory Elementary School in the Cafeteria
June 9 - ANNUAL MEETING - Victory Elementary School in the Library
July 14 - Crossroads Community Clubhouse
September 8 - Victory Elementary School in the Library
November 10 - Victory Elementary School in the Library

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD SCHEDULED MEETINGS

The ARB meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm at Caribou Coffee located in the Braemar Shopping Center.

The community is encouraged to attend and participate in all community meetings.

No Trespassing Please

Throughout last year, one theme seemed to resonate with residents – the lack of respect for their property.

Whether it was pet owners allowing their pets to defecate on someone else's property without cleaning it up or using others' property as a cut-through, it's not very polite and it is trespassing.

With the completion of the new walking and biking path on Linton Hall Road that runs from Braemar to the shopping center, our neighbors now have a safe and convenient way to travel by foot or bike between these destination.

Please inform the younger ones to use the new path rather than cutting through a neighbor's yard. While our neighbors are tolerant, there is point in which any neighbor no longer feels neighborly.



Ashley Ridge 4th Annual Free Fishing Day

Coming June 6, 2009

Another winter has come and gone. To help welcome in Summer, Ashley Ridge will be holding their 4th Annual Free Fishing Day on Saturday June 6, 2009.

Ashley Ridge's Free Fishing Day coincides with Virginia's Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Free Fishing Days on June 5, 6, and 7. During these three days, adults do not need a Virginia Freshwater Fishing License to legally fish in the Commonwealth. This is a great time to try you hand at fishing or take the kids fishing for the first time.

The event is held at the pond located at the end of Aqua View Court. It will start at 7 am June 6 and continue until 11 am. The Board of Directors provides cane fishing poles, fishing line, bobbers, hooks, and baits. Snacks and beverages for the participants are also included.

The pond holds numerous fish with bluegills and other sunfish being the most abundant. The pond also holds some largemouth. For this event, we will be

focusing on the bluegills and sunfish using live bait.

For those who wish to bass fish, please bring your own equipment and gear. Instructions and techniques for bass fishing are available

Throughout the event, we will be raffling off numerous fishing related gear and prizes. You must be present to win the raffle prizes.

Whether you are an experienced angler or just learning to fish, come out and enjoy a relaxing morning of fishing.

Assistance for the event is always welcomed - no experience required. Please contact Mike Barber at mike.barber@comcast.net or (571)436-1114.



To find out more about fishing, please visit the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries website at www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing.

Remember - Take a kid fishing



TAKE A KID FISHING

The Ashley Ridge Ponds Are Now Catch Release Only

The two large ponds in the Ashley Ridge Community are now catch and release only. What this means is that all fish must be returned to the ponds immediately after hooking and bringing in the fish. No fish may be kept or killed. Signage indicating the new rules should be installed shortly.

The ponds may appear to provide endless numbers of fish but they do indeed only support a finite number of fish. The largemouth bass in particular are limited in numbers and the population can be decimated in short order if they are kept and killed. Over the past couple of years both residents and their guests have loaded coolers full of kept fish from the ponds. Please remember that the fish and ponds are for the enjoyment of the entire community. No trespassing signs will also be installed at the ponds to deter those outside the community from fishing the ponds.