



## COVENANT'S CORNER

### Ready for FALL

Hello again and WELCOME to late summer covenant comments on Glenhurst's website.

The Covenant Committee is **all volunteer**, as are all offices of our HOA, and we serve with only the best aim, to keep our neighborhood beautiful and up-to-date with Oklahoma City codes and requirements. For each of our residents who have received a letter asking that an issue be resolved, and who have very graciously taken care of the matter, A BIG "THANK YOU" is always felt by your neighborhood. Your efforts are so very much appreciated ! If you receive a letter from the Covenant Committee and you don't understand the issue at hand, please feel free to contact us; we'll be happy to discuss it with you.

As we know through experience, keeping our property in good shape takes time, effort, and lots of seasonal care. Whether or not our homes are extravagant isn't important, what matters is that they are well cared for, with well-maintained lawns and garden beds

where weeds don't rule, and where our trash bins, garden tools, discarded pieces of furniture and other paraphernalia are not stowed along the outside walls of our houses.

To maintain a high standard of quality and care is important as it contributes significantly to the value of your property, and when all of us do it the desirability and value of the entire neighborhood stays high.

### **Most Common Covenant Issues:**

**TRASH & RECYCLE BINS** – It is important for us to keep our bins put away – out of sight of neighbors and the street - before and after trash pickup days. Most home owners keep them in the garage or in a special niche behind the fence until time to put them by the curb.

**LAWNS AND GARDEN BEDS** - By summer's end our lawns and gardens are for the most part looking great! Those pesky old weeds have mostly disappeared and our beautiful flowers, shrubs, and lawns show the consistent care they've received throughout the year. **GREAT JOB NEIGHBORS !**

**IF** you have weedy, grassy garden beds and/or weeds thriving in your yard, more than likely you have received or will receive a letter requesting that those issues be remedied. Members of the community may call or email our committee asking that we notice particular addresses, **OR** as our committee members regularly drive through the neighborhood, we write down the issues(s) and the location(s). Before letters are submitted, however, we try to double check to see whether or not the issue may have already been remedied, in which case no letter is sent. As noted earlier, those issues are typically attended to and it is **VERY MUCH** appreciated !

**DEAD TREES** - It's always frustrating when our once healthy, beautiful tree dies. We may not know why or how it happened, only that it is dead, and **NOW** what to do ??

Our covenants require that dead trees should be replaced by the homeowner. The homeowner can cut down the tree themselves or they can pay to have it cut down and removed by a professional, but a dead tree that dominates the front yard is not only unsightly for that home, it's generally unwelcomed by neighbors within our community. If you have a dead tree in your yard it is important that it be cut down.

There are many ways that we can be helpful to our neighbors and our neighborhood:

**IF** you see that your neighbor's garbage or recycle bin(s) are consistently left out, a little reminder usually is well received, or you might even check that your neighbor is well. You may be able to be of help now and then by offering to place their bins behind their fence after the collection time.

**IF** you don't know what to do about an abundance of weeds in your yard and garden beds, or your trees or shrubs are dying, just look around the neighborhood where you'll see a wide variety of signs in yards with the names and phone numbers of lawn care companies that you can contact for information regarding care for your lawn, gardens, trees and shrubs. **Also** ask your neighbor if they have suggestions. With a little effort, help and information is usually easy to find.

***After a good rain***, when the ground is softer than usual, is a perfect time to use a hand spade or narrow shovel to dig up weeds from our yards and gardens. The same is true for removing grass from garden beds; dig up the grass with the roots. After removing the grass and roots from the bed, cover the dirt in the beds with approximately 3 inches of mulch which will be very important to prevent weeds or grass from becoming re-established in those areas. If those pesky things reappear, their root systems will be shallow and easily removed because the deep mulch is loose and the weed roots have nothing firm to attach to. You can easily remove them by hand or even spray them with weed killer if preferred. ***However, for the sake of birds, bees, butterflies and other helpful insects, weed killer is devastating to their population because it also kills these living and extremely helpful creatures.*** When trees and/or shrubs appear to be sick or dying and you don't know what to do, cut off a sample and take it to a good nursery like TLC, or to the OSU Extension, to get help from an expert. Their information is free and they can also lead you in the best direction for either care or removal of the item. If one of your trees or shrubs has limbs that are dead with the remainder of the item still in good health, simply remove the limb(s) with a sharp pair of loppers. If you have no loppers, they can be found at Lowes or Home Depot, hardware stores, or nurseries, usually priced around \$20- \$30 depending on the brand. Then take the dead limb, along with clear pictures of the trunk and another of the entire tree or shrub, to an expert at

one of the locations mentioned above to see if they might be able to determine the problem. Their help may be all that you'll need.

## **PREPARE FOR THE CHANGE OF SEASON**



The beauty of autumn will soon be upon us, along with the weather changes that come our way. Now is the best time to get those odd jobs completed so that your house and property are ready for the inevitable storms and strong winds that accompany those changes in weather. A few things to keep in mind :

1. Roof leaks checked and repaired
2. Windows caulked
3. Take care of any outdoor painting or repairs
4. Garden beds cleared of weeds and prepared for the coming cold weather
5. Check heating and air units
6. Check that your chimney is clear of debris and/or creosote that can cause a chimney fire. No loose brick work, and that your chimney cap is secure.

**BE GOOD TO AND ENJOY YOUR HOME, YOUR NEIGHBORS, AND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD**

