



Blackberry Juice

MARCH 2018

BLACKBERRY MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION

OFFICE MANAGER

Becki Taylor

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After Hours Water and

Gate Systems Emergencies

(leave name, phone # and brief message)
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MAILING ADDRESS

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EMAIL

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WEBSITE

www.BlackberryMountainAssociation.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Galusha, President

Dave Teffeteller, Vice President

Carolyn Sewell, Treasurer

Rich Baker, Secretary

Dolly Vantrepotte, Member at Large

DESIGN COMMITTEE

Barbara Dunson

Jennifer Fontenot

Dave Teffeteller

Blackberry Mountain is an architecturally controlled community, established to protect and preserve the beauty and integrity of the environment and property values of the property owners by maintaining architectural standards and aesthetic harmony among the lots and structures that make up the community.



Spring Clean-Up

The clean-up of Blackberry's roadways and common areas will begin in April. Workers will be mowing, trimming trees and removing debris from the roadways, ditches, check dams and rights of way. PLEASE SLOW DOWN and use extra caution when driving on Blackberry's roads during this time.

This is also a good time to consider cleaning up our lots as well. If you would like to have your property cleaned up during this time and take advantage of group rates, contact the office before March 30.

Throughout Blackberry there are fallen trees, branches, neglected plant containers, dilapidated fences and forgotten surveyor's tape and markers that mar our community's appearance and reduce property values. Likewise, several residents' street address signs are either missing or need of repair and repainting.

If owners continually neglect the maintenance of their property, the Association has the responsibility and authority to perform the necessary maintenance at the property owners' expense.

Please remember that any tree work other than removing downed trees, branches and debris from your property requires Design Committee approval. Tree services are not permitted to perform any cutting or removal of standing trees and vegetation without this approval.

Homeowners' properties should be maintained in a manner that will not cause unreasonable embarrassment, disturbance, or annoyance to other owners in the enjoyment of their property.

All owners are required to keep their property clean and in an orderly condition that will not be offensive to neighboring property. Clutter, trash, tools, building materials, dilapidated structures and abandoned vehicles must be removed.

Annual Well Chlorination

Blackberry's community wells will receive their annual chlorination during the week of April 16th. The shock chlorine treatment is not harmful but may cause a slight taste and odor. Depending on the volume of water used, the odor should dissipate within 24 hours.

You may wish to drink bottled water and refrain from washing clothes while the odor of chlorine is present.

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Replanting Blackberry

Because of Blackberry's overpopulation of deer (caused for the most part by a few residents who persist in feeding them), much of the natural understory of new plant growth is continually being destroyed. When deer populations are



high, as in Blackberry, they will even feed on plants that they usually ignore.

Many residents and gardeners are continually frustrated in their efforts to find

plants that are deer resistant. Some have found success with planting strong-scented plants like lantana, catmint, chives, mint, sage or thyme adjacent to plants that deer frequently browse. Deer also usually shy away from plants with prickly or rough leaves and plants with a bitter taste.

Sometimes, deer browse new plantings or established plants with tender new growth, then avoid those same plants when their leaves are mature. Therefore, protecting new plantings is essential.

Over the years, wildlife organizations, universities, botanical gardens and garden writers have constructed many lists of deer-tolerant and deer-susceptible ornamental plants. Because most of these lists are constructed from observational trial-and-error data instead of controlled scientific studies, they are open for criticism.

Nevertheless, here is a short list of a few native trees and shrubs suitable for Blackberry's hardiness zone that have been found to be somewhat deer-tolerant.

Trees

Carolina Silverbell *Halesia carolina*
 Eastern Hemlock *Tsuga canadensis*
 Eastern Red Cedar *Juniperus virginiana*
 Flowering Dogwood *Cornus florida*
 Loblolly Pine *Pinus taeda*
 Longleaf Pine *Pinus palustris*
 Pawpaw *Asimina triloba*
 Sugar Maple *Acer saccharum*
 Sweetgum *Liquidambar styraciflua*
 Tulip Poplar *Liriodendron tulipifera*
 Virginia Pine *Pinus virginiana*

Shrubs

Bottlebrush Buckeye *Aesculus parviflora*
 Button Bush *Cephalanthus occidentalis*
 Common Witchhazel *Hamamelis virginiana*
 Drooping Leucothoe *Leucothoe fontanesiana*
 Gallberry *Ilex glabra*
 Viburnum *Viburnum spp.*
 Winterberry *Ilex verticillata*

Office Renovation

The office shared by Blackberry Mountain Association and Rivers Edge Estates is in the process of being renovated. Please use caution when driving and walking in that area.

Assessments

The second quarter assessments are now due and payable, please remit your payment to:

Blackberry Mountain Association
 25 Blackberry Mountain Drive #8101
 Ellijay, GA 30536

Hemlock Treatment

Blackberry's hemlock trees are being treated for the invasive insect, the hemlock woolly adelgid. The chemical treatment is injected into the ground around the trees' trunks and

is not harmful to pets and wildlife. However as a courtesy to the workers, please keep your pets indoors when the workers are present.

Gate Attendants

Blackberry Mountain and Rivers Edge will employ off-duty, uniformed Gilmer County deputies to patrol the office and bridge property during the summer weekends. Please remember that any vehicle parked at the office/post box area without a Blackberry windshield sticker or guest pass is subject to being towed.

Fishing Permit

To address trespassing and poaching problems, fishing in BMA ponds is now by permit only. Each person wishing to fish, whether a resident or a guest of a resi-

dent, is required to apply for a permit and have the permit with them when fishing. There will be no charge for these permits, but all Georgia fishing regulations including license requirements must be obeyed.

Mark Your Calendar

Annual Well Chlorination

Week of April 16, 2018

2nd Quarter Assessment Due

April 1, 2018

3rd Quarter Assessment Due

July 1, 2018

4th Quarter Assessment Due

October 1, 1988

Annual Meeting

December 1, 2018