

CREEKSIDE HOA NEWSLETTER - Winter 2024

Information for you and your neighbors.



YOUR CREEKSIDE HOA BOARD:

President: Jeannie Tucker

Vice-President: Chris Renner

Secretary: Norma Patteson

Treasurer: Carol Sack

Copper Rose Community Manager:

Stephanie Luellen - (520) 888-0474

Email: StephanieL@copperrosellc.com

Highlights

- Landscape and Irrigation Progress Report
- Snakes are still out!
- Safety and Crime Meetings
- Architectural Review Committee
- Creekside Social Activities
- Creekside Website
- Protecting Cacti & Succulents during the Winter/
Preparing for a Spring Cactus Garden

Creekside Landscaping

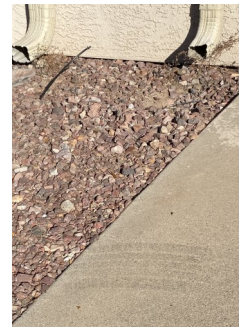
The Landscape Committee is the most active committee of the Creekside HOA. Jeannie Tucker and Stephanie Luellen have met with Santa Rita Landscaping to inspect and repair the new irrigation system. Before starting to replace plants, they wanted to make sure the new irrigation system was functioning correctly. There have been three phases to the plant replacement project. Phase I started in February 2024 in Creekside II.

Phase II started in April 2024 in Creekside I. Phase III focused on the pool area. Throughout the process, some plants died due to irrigation issues. One bush was removed on Charter Oak because it caused a visibility issue. A new irrigation clock was installed in October. Santa Rita will provide the board with a map of all irrigation valves all of which are new.



Reminders from your board

- ◆ Do check our website for paint colors before painting your house, gates, garage doors and grates.
- ◆ Do keep your trees trimmed and roofs clear of debris.
- ◆ Don't feed the wildlife! It's harmful to the animals and promotes dangerous encounters with people.
- ◆ Please don't park in front of your houses—you may prevent access by emergency vehicles or your neighbors' cars.
- ◆ While it's ok to park on your 'apron/driveway', please don't park or drive over rocks. New irrigation lines and valves will break under the weight of your vehicle.



Ft. Lowell Corridor / Tucson Police Department Monthly Community Meetings

Tucson Police Invite you to their Monthly Community Meetings to discuss neighborhood and business problems with crime, homelessness and drug activity.

Get to know police officers serving our area.

Gain a better understanding of police procedures.

WHEN: Third Tuesday of every month from 5:30 to 6:30 PM

Next meeting: 12/17/24.

WHERE: AGM Container Controls, 3544 E Ft. Lowell Rd. (Copper building between Palo Verde & Richey) - Go to Side Entrance.

WHO: All are welcome to attend.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact (email):

MontezumaNeighborhood@gmail.com

WEBSITE:

<https://northdodgena.weebly.com/tpd-flc-meeting.html>



Architectural Review Committee

"Maintaining a consistent and harmonious neighborhood, one that is architecturally and artistically pleasing, confers a benefit on the homeowners by maintaining the value of their properties."

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) walks through Creekside I and II to assess the care, upkeep, and repair of common areas and dwelling units. As provided by the CCRS, the Board "shall have the right to determine

whether or not a Dwelling Unit is in need of maintenance, repair and up-keep, in order to conform to the standards of the general neighborhood of Creekside, and the Board shall use a reasonably high standard to determine whether such

maintenance, repair and up-keep is required so that the Dwelling Units as a whole will reflect a high pride of ownership." CCRS, Section 4.04, A.

Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake Activity in Creekside Neighborhood



With delightful November temperatures in the 70's and 60's, more families at Creekside neighborhood are enjoying walks by Rillito River Wash in the morning, afternoon and evening. Many types of lizards and snakes, including rattlesnakes, are also active hunting for prey at Creekside. This is short overview of Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*) ecology and advice in the event of an encounter.

Diamond-backed rattlesnakes are venomous snakes that get their name from the diamond-shaped markings on their back. They are a vital role in the desert ecosystem by controlling the rodent populations. They do not hibernate during winter. If temperature is lower than 60 degrees, their metabolism slows and they brumate. During brumation, they rest in rodent holes or rocky areas, and are not totally asleep.

with delightful NOVEMBER

They can move about outside in search of water and/or bask on a rock in the sun on a warm day. If winter temperatures are higher than 60 degrees, rattlesnakes actively hunt small rodents. Alternatively, as the temperatures dip toward 50 degrees or lower, they will remain inactive in the mammal burrows to avoid freezing.

ter a rattlesnake this winter, it is likely a young snake. A western diamond-backed rattlesnake is dangerous, aggressive and defends its territory if threatened. If you see one on the bike path, always give it plenty of space and move away.

you find a western diamond-backed rattlesnake in your yard, call an expert, who will capture and relocate it safely. If you are bitten, call 911 immediately and get to the hospital as quickly as possible for anti-venom treatment.

With a current fluctuations in daily temperatures, it is important to be cautious and observant when walking outside near rodent borrows and rocky outcrops. If you encoun-

If you hear a rattlesnake rattling its tail near you, stay still and remain calm. Fast movements will stimulate it to strike. Once you learn where the sound is coming from, move away from the snake slowly. If

The LOOP

If you have any concerns about the Loop you may contact Pima County online

<https://www.pima.gov/2749/Report-a-Concern>

Creekside Social Activities

To encourage a more friendly and pleasant atmosphere in Creekside, the Board invites homeowners to propose social activities to be planned and carried out by volunteers. To support these activities, the Board has budgeted \$400 (FY 2024). The Board welcomes all ideas and will approve them as

long as they conform to community safety and insurance considerations. The Board will also provide support such as outreach to homeowners by email and access to the pool for group activities.

To inspire your ideas, here are a few suggestions:

Group activities at the pool.

Dog Walking Groups.

Chili Cook Off

Neighborhood Block Party

Garden Tour

Please submit your proposal to Stephanie by email at:

StephanieL@copperrosellc.com



Creekside Website creeksidehomeownersassoc.com

How Familiar Are You with our Website?

- 1) The Creekside HOA Reserve Study outlines 16 capital projects for repair or replacement. T or F
- 2) Creekside Rules & Regulations specify replacement garage door designs. T or F
- 3) Architectural Improvement Applications require input from your neighbors. T or F
- 4) Creekside Community Maps are posted. T or F
- 5) Dunn and Edwards at 4320 E. Speedway is the only place to buy paint that conforms to our rules. T or F
- 6) Forms for Homeowners includes the HOA Certificate of Insurance (that you may need for your mortgage lender) T or F



Protecting Cacti and Succulents for Winter Preparing a Cactus Garden for Spring By Chris Renner, Board Vice President

In the desert, it's winter once again. When the nights are chilly and temperatures can drop dramatically over a few hours, as soon as the sun sets on the Catalina's. Did you know that in climates that experience wind and notable drops in temperature but little or no snow, cacti can become frostbitten? Here are a few tips to keep your cactus and succulents happy and healthy during the winter months.

Drape succulents with frost cloth (sold at nurseries) or old bed sheets. Avoid plastic, which traps moisture, doesn't let plants breathe, and intensifies sunlight. -- Remove collapsed leaves only if it's likely they'll stay moist and decay.

Cacti can withstand temperatures from 45°F to 85°F without complaint as long as they are dry. To prevent damage from the cold, they can also carefully be covered with burlap as late in the season as possible. The burlap allows the plants to breathe while protecting them from sun, ice and wind. During rainy winters, a structure, such as a canvas tent, can shelter them from excessive moisture.

Most succulents survive freezing temperatures best if the soil around them is dry. Cacti can withstand lowered temperatures but with columnar cacti, such as silver torch, or Mexican fence post, they are most vulnerable on the tips. The tip can be covered with a frost cloth, or Styrofoam cups, but

take care not to remove spines if possible, since they do not regenerate.

Most cacti and succulents go dormant by the time fall arrives and will stop growing as temperatures and daylight decrease. During winter, they only require occasional watering. Overwatering can easily lead to root rot and appears as browning or blackening on leaves, stems and at the base of the plant. Extensive damage from root rot may be too difficult to reverse.

Make cacti or succulent happy by placing the dormant plant in an area where it will thrive. For best results, make sure the plant receives at least three to four hours of bright light a day.

Spring is an excellent time of the year when cactus plants grow actively. Early summer is also an ideal season to develop your cactus garden.

It helps to know the difference. All cacti are succulents—plants that can store water in their roots, stems, and leaves—but not all succulents are cacti. It's sometimes difficult to tell which succulent is really a cactus, but there's one identifier you can always look for. All cacti (and only cacti) have spine cushions, called areolas, which appear as small bumps on their flesh. These bumps are where spines, branches, leaves, and flowers will eventually grow on the plant.

A good formula for cactus soil is one-third horticultural sand, one-third cactus compost (regular potting mix with wood or twigs removed can also be used), and one-

third grit in the form of pumice, perlite or porous gravel. These ingredients should be mixed together thoroughly before planting and used for both in-ground planting and potting. Cacti and other succulents don't require large amounts of fertilizer, but can benefit from a low-strength feeding during their growing season, which runs spring through summer. You can also transition cacti grown indoors to the outdoors beginning during the summer when nighttime temperatures are at least 65 degrees. Start their outside stay in a protected spot then gradually move them to an area with more sun. When transplanting cacti or succulent from a pot into the ground, the plant's roots need time to heal and will be susceptible to root rot, so waiting a few days to water is best. Happy Gardening in Tucson!!

(information compiled for article from internet sources)



Creekside Homeowner Board Meetings (Zoom)

Stephanie Luellen

Association Manager

Copper Rose Community Management

520-888-0474

Every month on the Second Thursday, until May 8, 2025

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZIpdyprTotE9Krz53bowQGItH2lWrGCAwm/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGuqjsvG9eUtxCBRpwABoigZ-vztn5aj_p2jgWwUCJcdTLRH_ZKYL5IAv_z&meetingMasterEventId=AhNSDEYVSeOUIbAkczi mA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86405131796?pwd=354GZZFFic1dWeHuiYWOU2yyt6lYcZ.1>

Meeting ID: 864 0513 1796

Passcode: 285980

One tap mobile

1-669-900-6833

All homeowners are invited to attend!