



**HI NEIGHBOR:** The dictionary defines a “neighbor” as someone who lives next door or close to somebody else. In developments like ours where the houses are so close to each other it is important for everyone to be a good neighbor.

There are a few new families moving in and I hope if you live next to them you will introduce yourself and welcome them. If you live next to a home that has been abandoned I hope you will pick up the phone books, newspapers, ads and other articles left in the yard and throw them away.

If homes look abandoned then we are welcoming more vandalism and truancy. Pasco County has experienced unprecedented loss in home values and anything that can be done to keep our values high, especially simple things, should be done.

**OPEN POSITION:** There is currently a vacant position on the Twin Lakes association board. Experience is not necessary but a strong desire to help improve things is desperately needed. It only takes a few hours a month and you can make a positive difference in the community. Please contact Bill Sanborn at 813-433-2000 to volunteer.

**YARD CARE:** Have you noticed some yards look exquisite and others do not. If your yard needs help and you don't have a clue where to start, one resident recommends [www.scotts.com](http://www.scotts.com). Just enter your zip code and find out how to care for your lawn. Learn how to treat bugs, when to fertilize and more. It may save you from costly resodding. and can help in treating bug damage.

**DOGS:** While the majority of dog owners in the neighborhood seem to be very courteous and very good owners, there are a number that don't seem to be quite as courteous towards their neighbors.

There are three areas of concern. The first is several people are allowing their dogs to roam without a leash. This is in direct violation of our deed restrictions.

Also, a number of dog owners allow their dogs to "do their business" in other people's yards and not clean up after them. This too is against association rules.

Lastly, is barking. While a barking dog is a crime deterrent when they bark at strangers, there are some residents that leave their dogs either chained up outside or let them out on porches and allow them to bark incessantly throughout the day. This can be especially annoying because neighboring residents can't enjoy being in their own yards. So “dog-gone-it” let's be respectful of each other. If you would like to make an animal complaint the Pasco County Animal Services phone number is (813) 929-1212.

**NOTE FROM THE TREASURER:** Last year the Florida Legislature changed the law regarding recovering money past due because of foreclosure. Financial institutions don't want to make payment unless there is a lien in place. So the association is acting quickly

to preserve our right to receive the money when foreclosed homeowners stop paying their dues.

**POOL/SECURITY:** Summer vacation is upon us. For the safety of your family, please make sure your children follow the pool rules posted near the bathrooms. Also, the pool closes at 10:00 p.m. If you see anyone inside the pool area after 10:00 p.m., or if you see anyone vandalizing property please call the sheriff at (813) 929-1204 and report it.

Since the March newsletter several autos have been broken into and some residents have seen suspected drug activity, so it is important that if you see suspicious activity to promptly report it.

**TRESPASSING:** The property owner of the land between our neighborhood and Highway 54 requests that residents refrain from using this property for any activity.

**MAILBOXES:** One quick way to enhance the curb appeal of your house is to install a new mailbox. Many mailboxes are in disrepair and need either fixing or replacing. Since white or light colored posts will mildew quickly in Florida, try black for something long lasting. Those who have been a victim to mailbox baseball, recommend a solid steel post surrounded with concrete and topped by a well-installed vinyl mailbox. Don't like the steel post, try a wooden 4"x4" or try growing a shrub entirely around the mailbox. It doesn't have to be a concrete monolith. It simply has to look nice.

**STORM SEASON:** June 1 was the beginning of storm season. If we are affected by a hurricane this season your best bet is to have a family disaster plan in place. You can get a personalized plan at the state emergency response team (SERT) web site: [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org). Be sure to plan ahead for your pets and for any specialized medicine you require. Establish a safe contact (often a relative or friend) outside of your immediate area that household members can contact or where you can meet in case of separation. And it is always a good idea before a storm to photograph or videotape the rooms in your house for insurance purposes. After a storm try communicating via text messages. They are more likely to go through than a voice message since it uses less bandwidth.

Have a safe summer.

Sincerely, the Twin Lakes Board of Directors