

Orchard Lake Newsletter

June 2020

Credit: Anna Doll, 2020



Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless. Mother Teresa

Credits: Clete & Ashley Blackwell, 2020

Get in touch!

<https://www.orchardlakecommunity.com/>

<https://pmi.cincwebaxis.com/orchardlake/home/>

OrchardLake30028@gmail.com

Have some great pictures you'd like to share in our newsletter?
Please submit to OrchardLake30028@gmail.com



It's a wonderful day in the neighborhood!

Phyllis Moy, HOA President



Mosquitos be waking up from winter saying..."Where y'all at?"

We have some COVID-19 Neighborhood FAQ that discuss the latest – we will have additional news as it evolves and feel that the best way to share this with you is via our website <https://www.orchardlakecommunity.com>

Moving forward, we will continue to use the facebook page for posting social events, but for other topical information please check our website <https://www.orchardlakecommunity.com> Additionally, if you have questions regarding board related topics please direct those to orchardlake30028@gmail.com

Q. What did the exhausted guy say when he gave up on mowing the grass?

A. I fought the lawn and the lawn won!

Landscaping News – While this is Charles Smith, our landscaping chairman's group, we worked together to get a new company in place. The new company is Crabapple LandscapExperts. They are doing an excellent job catching up and getting our beautiful neighborhood back to where it needs to be. We have 18 acres of common ground, so it is no easy feat. If you have any questions or concerns about our landscaping or our new company, please direct those to the board at orchardlake30028@gmail.com. Please note that the landscaping crew take their orders from their foreman and are not allowed to take direction from residents.

The firepit poll revealed a slight edge towards remodeling the firepit. This would be a great place to hang out and get to know each other better. We have a few volunteers – we just need a leader. Raise your hand and let us know if this speaks to you – we will provide the list of volunteers and ideas that have been submitted.

Being a good neighbor is an art which makes life richer. Gladys Taber

I would like to thank everyone for the continued support and patience. From food trucks, ice cream vendors to improved landscapers we have made every effort to be an effective HOA Board. We appreciate any feedback and welcome your ideas, thoughts, and suggestions. I want to encourage each resident to be involved as much as you are able. It is a great way to meet your neighbors while building a strong community. I am honored to serve as your president, and I look forward to seeing you around the neighborhood.

Social Committee

The Social Committee has been busy thinking of ways to be social while social distancing! We have brought in several food trucks, including an ice cream truck a couple of times and an Italian Ice Trailer.

We look forward to making some plans for community get togethers when that option becomes available. If you would like to be a part of the social committee or have ideas for fun social events, please email us at orchardlake30028@gmail.com .



The Safety & Security Committee has several items they are currently working on; however, the social distancing and current restrictions have put a slight dent in our plans as I'm sure most of you can understand and relate to. The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office Neighborhood Watch meeting is still on the agenda, but we won't be able to proceed until the current restrictions and rules are rolled back. We are also closely monitoring the Governor's executive order and plan on working with the Pool Committee to enhance the safety of the pool area.

As always, we ask you to remember to lock your doors and secure your valuables. We have not had any reported issues in the neighborhood for quite a while and wish to keep it that way. Also, please keep garage doors closed overnight, as that is an easy way to protect your belongings. Please stay safe and stay healthy.



Architectural Review Committee

Springtime (and quarantine) brings out the desire to get out and do something, right? Whether it's building a fence, extending or covering a patio, repainting the outside of your house, planting new bushes or trees, even putting in a pool in your backyard...all of these projects require review and approval from the Architectural Review Committee.

Why is this necessary? When we purchased our home, we received and agreed to abide by the [Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions \(CCRs\)](#) for Orchard Lake. The CC&Rs provide a framework for any written guidelines and recommendations adopted by the ARC and serve as the "final authority" in issues of exterior architectural and landscape control in our community.

These covenants, conditions and restrictions exist so that the overall aesthetics, congruity, appearance and safety of the neighborhood would be maintained in such a way that the homeowners can live in harmony. Each homeowner is assured, to some degree, that basic guidelines are in place to support the quiet enjoyment of their home and property, and to protect the value of their investment. The ultimate intent of the CC&Rs is

not to create a rigid set of controls that limit personal freedom or property rights, but rather to create and maintain a self-governing community where members of the Homeowners Association tend and protect their investment through active participation in committees and other activities that support the life and growth of our neighborhood.

What happens if I don't submit an application for my project? If your project requires review and approval from the Architectural Review Committee, you could be subject to a possible fine of \$25 per day if you start an unapproved project. There is also a possibility you may be required to remove your project if it violates the rules. Yikes!

How do I get the process started? Get your copy of the [ARC Guidelines](#) on the Orchard Lake website and review what are the requirements for your project. Then fill out your [ARC Request Form](#) and submit the completed application and attachments (including site plans and specifications) to the ARC. Applications must be emailed directly to support@pmineatl.com. The ARC committee will meet to review your request and may ask for additional information prior to making a decision. The ARC committee is committed to helping us maintain the beauty and value of our homes!

Orchard Lake Landscaping
Committee
presents
Yard of the Month!

Special Thanks to Larise & Tim Jackson, the Moy Family, Bob & Jennifer Klein, Bob & Rita Tracey, and Susan Holliday for their hard work!



The Yard of the Month competition for the Orchard Lake Community will start on June 1, 2020. The Yard of the Month Program will be managed by the HOA Board. Each month the HOA Board will choose from no more than (5) homes nominated by the last day of the month for each month. [Nomination form](#) can be found on the Orchard Lake Community website under Resources/Landscaping. The Committee members will review each nominee yard and a vote will be taken. The yard receiving the most Committee votes wins. These rules will stand in place until the end of the year and cannot change in the middle of a competition year. The rules will be reviewed for possible changes at the end of each competition year based on the results of that year.

Criteria:

Owner must be in Good Standing with the Association.

Yard must follow authorized landscape requirements in Architectural Guidelines.

Lawn should be consistently mowed, trimmed and weed-free. Driveway, walkways, curbs and beds should be nicely edged.

Shrubs, Bushes, and Trees should be healthy, neatly pruned, and in proportion/scale with home and terrain.

Unique landscaping or originality/creativity a plus!

Colorful (green grass, colorful live plants, mulch or other landscape design material) and enhances the appearance.

House and driveway appearance is clean (no unsightly debris, broken gutters, etc.)

Pleasant and overall appearance, which makes the property an asset to the community.

Front yard to midpoint sides of yard will be judged.

Winning yard prizes:

- (1) Winning yard will have photo taken and published to Orchard Lake Facebook site and newsletter.
- (2) A Yard of the Month sign will be placed in the winning yard for the duration of the month.
- (3) \$25 Gift certificate to a local nursery will be awarded, provided by local business owners.
- (4) Participants may win as often as they are selected. Should a homeowner decline to participate upon notification of winning, the second place house will become yard of the month.

Common Areas

A reminder: Do not cut, trim or clear vegetation or trees in common areas, and especially in the conservation areas around the lake shore. Article VII, Section 28 of our [CC&Rs](#) states "Land-disturbing activities shall not be conducted within twenty-five (25) feet of the banks of any stream within the Community, as measured from the point where vegetation has been wrested by normal stream flow, except with prior written approval under this Article VII and compliance with Georgia law, including without limitation, the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, O.C.G.A. §12-7-1, et. seq., as amended from time to time." This also includes any efforts to "control the growth and eradication of plants, fowl, reptiles, animals, fish and fungi in and around any wetlands and streams within the Community."

Please keep our lake clean!