

AUGUST 2007

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The Summer Fiesta needs you!!

Please help plan the summer fiesta. Without your help we can't hold this event. Contact Chris Hane at 509-7195 to volunteer

HRB MINUTES - July 3rd 2007

Attending HRB Members: Chris Hane, Mostafa Eldefarwy, Sukumar Pal, Mike McNally.
ICHA staff was not present due to the holiday.

The HRB is still looking for a volunteer to fill the one remaining open position. If you are interested in helping your community by serving on the HRB please contact Chris Hane, 509-7195.

Dog Barking

In addition to quite a few emails on the list-serve, one resident brought a written complaint to ICHA about a neighbor's loud dogs. The HRB felt the complaint was substantial enough for the HRB to contact the dog owner to seek a solution to the problem. While the community does not have a policy for this specific situation, we do limit construction activity and other noise before 7am. Also, it seems dog noise is more often a problem when owners take long trips and rely on sitters. If your dogs get excessively loud when you are away, please consider kenneling them.

Park Usage

The HRB will ask ICHA to place a sign at the Gabrielino Park indicating that the half-court basketball area is prioritized for children. This should help keep this area free for kids and prevent adult games from spilling over when children are present.

At the field and full basketball court, UHills residents have priority only for scheduled events.

Security

The HRB is troubled by the recent events where young girls were inappropriately approached in two separate events. UCI Police are following up on both events. Please be watchful and attentive as you walk and play in the neighborhood. We know we are a relatively safe community, but events like these show we are not isolated.

The HRB is looking into participating in National Night Out, and/or starting a neighborhood watch organization. (After the meeting we found out National Night Out is August 7th. This seems too soon to coordinate a party since many HRB members and others are on vacation but we are still looking to integrate this into the Summer Fiesta planning.)

ELECTRICAL THINKABOUTS

Homeowners are reminded to remain vigilant in their watch for electrical hazards. The following offers advice to help avoid common causes of electrical accidents. Most electrical accidents occur because of unsafe equipment, installation or improper use. At least one fire on the Hill resulted from not observing one of the points posted below. Here are some tips to keep your home safe:

- It is better to not use extension cords. If you feel you must use one, make sure that it is not frayed or worn; do not run it under a rug or twist it around a nail or hook.

- Never overload a socket. Avoid using "octopus" outlets; outlet extensions that accommodate several plugs are strongly discouraged.
- Do not use light bulb wattage that is too high for the fixture. Look for the label inside each fixture, which tells the maximum wattage.
- Check periodically for loose wall receptacles, warm to touch cover outlet and switch cover plates, loose wires, or loose lighting fixtures. Sparking means that you've waited too long.
- Allow air space around the TV to prevent overheating. The same applies to plug-in radios and stereo sets, and to powerful lamps and electric-powered equipment.
- If a circuit breaker trips or a fuse blows frequently, immediately cut down on the number of appliances on that line.
- Be sure all electrical equipment bears the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) label.
- Overloaded electrical systems invite fire. Watch for these overload signals: dimming lights when an appliance goes on, a shrinking TV picture, slow heating appliances, or fuses blowing frequently. Call a qualified electrician to get expert help.

Remember, only state licensed electrical contractors and qualified electricians should perform electrical system repairs, modifications and upgrades.

UCI ARBORETUM EVENT

The UCI Arboretum hosts its next weekend plant sale on Saturday, August 18 from 9 a.m. to noon. Featured at this event will be summer-blooming bulbs such as pineapple lily, Gloriosa lily, and Crocosmia, and summer-blooming perennials. We sell unusual plants for many different specialty situations, such as shade plants, hummingbird attractors, and an excellent selection of succulents.

The UCI Arboretum is located just south of the corner of Campus Drive and Jamboree Road on the UCI North Campus. For more information call (949) 824-5833.

LANDSCAPE WATERING TIPS

Below are some suggested guidelines for efficient watering of your yard. These are guidelines only, and exact times and cycles will vary according to the slope of your property, sun/shade, and plant types. You will also find useful landscape water-use guidance by visiting [bewaterwise.com's](http://bewaterwise.com) new [watering calculator](#) or [watering index](#).

Suggested WEEKLY Watering Schedule by Month for spray-head irrigation systems:

Month	Turfgrass	Trees, Shrubs, Groundcover	Notes	% Option***
January	2 days, 2 cycles* of 2 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes	Turn water off before rains and let soil dry before turning water on again.	30%
February	2 days, 2 cycles* of 2 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes		30%
March	3 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes	March/April is the most active growth period for turfgrass and other plants. Be sure to water adequately. March/April is the most active growth period for turfgrass and other plants. Be sure to water adequately.	50%
April	3 days, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes		70%
May	3 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes	2 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes		80%
June	3 days, 2 cycles* of 5 minutes	2 days, 3 cycles* of 3 minutes		100%

July	4 days, 3 cycles* of □3 minutes	2 days, 3 cycles* of 4 minutes	100%
August	4 days, 3 cycles* of □3 minutes	2 days, 3 cycles* of □4 minutes	100%
September**	4 days, 2 cycles* of □3 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes	70%
October**	3 days, 2 cycles* of □3 minutes	2 days, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes	50%
November**	2 days, 2 cycles* of □3 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles* of 4 minutes	40%
December	2 days, 2 cycles* of 2 minutes	1 day, 2 cycles* of 3 minutes	30%

*By "cycling" your irrigation timer to turn on for the suggested number of minutes an hour apart, you reduce runoff and gain deeper watering and healthier root growth. Start with this weekly schedule and increase the times only if your plants show signs of stress. If stress occurs only in isolated area, check your irrigation system before increasing the time.

**In September, plants water needs drop by approximately 30 percent even if the temperature is hotter, for two reasons. First, the days are shorter, so evaporation decreases. Second, plants begin to go into a dormant phase where they need less water. In some years, humidity is also higher, decreasing plant water needs as it slows the rate of evaporation. This rapid drop in water needs will continue in October and November.

***Some irrigation controllers have a feature by which the watering time can be set by changing the percentage instead of specifically entering the days, cycles and minutes.