



FOOTNOTES Newsletter

CATALINA FOOTHILLS ESTATES No. 7 ASSOCIATION

www.CFE7.org

P.O.Box 64173, Tucson, AZ 85728-4173

520-323-9299

Oct 2011



Welcome Our New Neighbors

Kenneth and Brenda Ellis
1355 E Via Soledad

Edward Oglesby
5130 N Calle La Cima

Ronald and Patrice Brown
1305 E Via Entrada



Has your telephone number and/or e-mail address changed? Please let us know by phone (323-9299) or e-mail (jhoffmannj@hotmail.com) to update your information.

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Mailboxes and Lamp Post

Every resident should have a lamp post on his or her property, since it is one structure that is consistent throughout the community and was initiated when Cat 7 first began. Through the years many of the lamps have ceased to work and are in need of repair as well as a fresh coat of paint. The electric wiring for the lamp post in many cases has been found to be simply buried underground and not run through a conduit from the house electrical box to the lamp, which gave it exposure to those chewing packrats and other creatures. Specifications on how the lamps are wired at the post are on our website (cfe7.org, click on covenants, then mailbox and lamp post) for those who wish to rewire their lamps. Some residents have resorted to solar lights, avoiding the headache and cost of rerunning the electric.

The other feature on the lamp post is the mailbox. The original and *only* allowable mailbox up until 2009, per our CC&R's, was a jumbo mailbox often referred to as a No. 2 US Postal mailbox. The approximate dimensions of the No. 2 box are 11.5 inches wide, 23.5 inches deep and 15 inches tall. It is black in color. It is mounted to a platform that is attached to the lamp post. Drawings for the mailbox can also be found on the website.



Approved Original

The alternate mailbox that was accepted and approved in 2009 for Cat 7 is a black, metal, lockable mailbox with smooth, untextured flat sides and top with the following dimensions: 18-24 inches deep X 15-20 inches tall X 11-14 inches wide. They mount on the side of the current lamp post (in place of the current mailbox). The postal carrier deposits mail and small packages in the unlocked upper "hopper" and closes the door. The mail falls to the lower, locked bin for retrieval by the homeowner.



Approved New Style

con't pg 6

How to be Safer in Cat 7:

by Susan Litvak

If you have a security system, use it. June LeClair-Bucko, who is in charge of our Neighborhood Watch, presented statistics at our Feb 2011 general meeting showing that security systems are effective. Turn it on when you leave your home, no matter how short a trip, and at night.

Keep your garage door closed. There was a serious incident in Shadow Hills recently because the homeowner had left his garage door open. And if you see your neighbor's garage door open, you may want to call him or her as a common courtesy and to help ensure a safer neighborhood.

Join Neighborhood Watch. If there isn't one in your immediate area in Cat 7, start one by calling June LeClair-Bucko at 577-0989. It's a great way to stay on top of what's going on in our neighborhood by being notified of incidences and helps prevent you and your neighbors from being a victim of a crime.

Notify your immediate neighbors if you're going on vacation, etc. Stop your papers or have your neighbor or housesitter pick them up after delivery. Leaving them in the driveway is a sure sign of a homeowner's absence.

Recently, there were thefts from some Cat 7 mailboxes so better options may be to get a locking and secure mailbox or sign up for a P.O. Box at our local post office on River between Campbell and Via Entrada. Rifling through mailboxes is an easy way for the bad guys to get information for identity fraud. If you're going on vacation, you can always stop your mail with the local post office by filling out a form (currently, a yellow card) and returning it to the staff at the post office.

If you have visitors new to the area, you may want to mention that Via Entrada is a two-way street with a median between. We've seen traffic on the wrong side of the road because the driver apparently wasn't aware of that.

Don't speed on our roads. There are too many of us running and/or walking, bicycling, exercising pets, and pushing baby carriages to risk an accident. We had a scare just the other night walking on Via Condesa....it was much too close for comfort.

Walk facing traffic on the left side of the road. Safety is often about expectations, and drivers generally don't expect walkers on the wrong side of the road, especially on the blind curves. If you walk or run with headphones, then it's nearly impossible to hear oncoming traffic.

Open Board Meetings

The Board generally meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month (Jan. 6th, Feb. 2nd, Mar. 2nd, Apr. 6th, May 4th, June 1st, July/Aug. *no meetings*, Sept. 7th, Oct 5th, Nov.2nd, Dec.7th, 2011, Jan 4th, 2012)

Holidays and vacation schedules sometimes result in the rescheduling or cancellation of a particular meeting, so please check with the secretary, 323-9299, to confirm a meeting time.

At the beginning of our meetings, we allow a ten minute period for "Resident Related Issues" – these must be scheduled with the secretary two weeks before the meeting.

Articles for the newsletter are welcomed and should be mailed to Catalina Foothills Estates #7 Association, P.O. Box 64173, Tucson, AZ, 85728-4173 or e-mail to CFE7News@msn.com. Deadline for April publication is Mar.18th and October's is Sept. 17th and January's Dec 16th.

Board Members and positions change February of each year. Information can be verified on-line at www.CFE7.org.

2011

CFE # 7 Board of Directors

President	John Bowers	529-3099
Vice-president	Jeff Mundt	299-5194
Treasurer	Joanne Robinson	615-1938
Secretary to the Board	Jane Hoffmann	323-9299

Architectural Review Committee

Chairperson	Phil Matthews	299-8886
	John Bowers	529-3099
	Joel Henness	204-1513
	Yale Palchick	408-9334
(Res.)	Jerry Bishop	615-5402

Covenants Committee

Chairperson	Bob Sommerfeld	577-0520
	Jeff Mundt	299-5194
	Tom Hicks	615-4930

Welcome Committee

	Susan Litvak	
	susancfe7@comcast.net	
	Jeff Mundt	299-5194

Nominating Committee

	Joel Henness	204-1513
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Landscape Committee

	Jeff Mundt	299-5194
(Res.)	Dave Elwood	

Media Committee

	Susan Litvak	susancfe7@comcast.net
<i>Newsletter</i>	cfe7news@msn.com	
(Res.)	June LeClair-Bucko	577-0989
<i>Web</i>	www.cfe7.org	
(Res.)	Mike Simons	742-7737
	Tom Hicks	615-4930

Neighborhood Watch	CFE7NW@msn.com	
	June LeClair-Bucko	577-0989

Have You Seen Our Website?

by Tom Hicks



Catalina Foothills Estates #7 has had a web presence since 2003 at www.cfe7.org. On the website you will find a variety of information about our neighborhood and the Homeowner's Association, plus links to other important regional sites.

Starting from the Home page, you can find the dates and times of the monthly HOA board meetings, learn more about the HOA committees and how to contact them, read a brief history of the CFE#7 neighborhood, and

download the latest (or any previous) Association newsletters in PDF format.

Most web pages are decorated with beautiful pictures taken by our neighbors of the local flora, fauna, scenery, and landmarks. On the Nature page you can find articles on the plants and birds of the area written by our resident experts. The Nature page also contains a location map by lot #, a collection of eleven suggested nature walks through the neighborhood, and links to important nature-related, local websites. Many of the past Newsletters also contain articles on our (non-human) wild neighbors, including information about their behavior and tips for keeping your pets safe. As a pertinent example, the Fall 2008 newsletter contains information on living with some of the larger wild critters, information which bears reviewing in light of a recent bobcat vs. dog skirmish in the neighborhood.

Another important part of the website covers the protective covenants, which play a critical role in maintaining the natural beauty of our area. On the Covenants pages, you can download PDF copies of the Covenants, Board resolutions, Architectural Review forms and instructions, and additional documents on native plant protection, trash container rules, external lighting restrictions, and approved mailbox specifications. As our covenants are up for renewal in 2015, the Covenants page also contains an email link for residents who wish to send change suggestions to the ongoing Covenants Re-statement Project.

Finally, the Useful Links page of the website contains useful links to other nearby homeowners' associations, local government organizations, and relevant realtors' associations.

As informative as it is, the CFE#7 website is rather static. Recently, the Board has been looking into alternative websites which could provide a more interactive experience for our residents. Among the features being considered are discussion forums, which would allow residents to start discussions on topics of neighborhood interest and group mailing lists, which could provide timely notice of important events to those residents who sign up to receive them. A mailing list could, for example, be used to remind residents by email when a new Newsletter is available for download from the website. If enough residents volunteer to receive their Newsletter online, significant printing and postal costs could be saved. If you have strong feelings (pro or con) about these matters or you would like to suggest ways that the CFE#7 website could be improved, please write to: webmaster@cfe7.org.

President's Message

Well, I hope this issue of the newsletter finds everyone enjoying our great weather, here in Tucson or elsewhere. I know that those of us who "summered over" appreciated the monsoon rains (although not to the extent of some prior years) and their accompanying sunsets. It appears that our White-Winged Dove population has slowly straggled back to Mexico — a sure sign that the saguaro blooming season is well past and that "cooler" Fall weather is on the way.

Our last newsletter had an article on water line maintenance, which noted that the Tucson Water Department had not been responsive to a couple of letters sent by our past President, Mike Simons, regarding the deterioration of water lines in CFE#7. Sometime after publication of that newsletter, I received a call from Tucson Water's Public Information Officer, who had seen the article. He apologized for the lack of response and told me that a Capital Improvement Project was underway to address what he called "small mains" in the Via Entrada/Entrada Segunda area. He informed me that survey, archaeological, and environmental requirements had been scheduled so that work could begin in July and be completed before or during September. I contacted him when work had not begun in July and was told that the project had not yet been put out for bid, as there were delays "due to additional County permitting." Work is now "tentatively" scheduled to begin in December. To its credit, Tucson Water has been relatively prompt in repairing a couple of leaks in mains in CFE#7 over the summer.

In an effort to keep everyone better informed of what's going on in CFE#7, you will see an additional issue of the newsletter each year. We hope the contents are interesting and useful to all of our residents. Many thanks to all who have contributed articles to the newsletter. Please know that articles from residents are always welcome; if you have anything you'd like to contribute, please contact anyone on the Media Committee or any Board Member.



Enjoy the cooler Fall temperatures.

John Bowers, President

Report on the Covenants Review Project

By Mike Simons and Jerry Bishop

At the 2011 Annual Homeowners Meeting, as well as in the Fall 2010 Newsletter, feedback was requested of homeowners in Catalina Foothills Estates #7 regarding our Protective Covenants. Four open-ended questions were posed to all property owners:

- 1) What do you like most about CFE #7 and our Protective Covenants?
- 2) What would you change about our Protective Covenants and neighborhood, if anything?
- 3) What changes are you least willing to support or allow?
- 4) What new rules should be added, if any?

A total of 61 responses have been tabulated (19% of properties). The responses were categorized and counted, as follows (# of responses):

- Like the natural appearance of the neighborhood (35)
- Location (10)
- Like the wildlife (9)
- Like the architectural control (11)
- Wish to further restrict removal of native vegetation (24)
- Like that the Covenants don't expire, strength of covenants (18)
- Support increase or like uniform restrictions on home size, height, appearance (13)
- Support white roofs when not visible - remove restriction on white roof color (13)
- Support solar photovoltaic - revisit rules regarding solar panels (18)*
- Support water harvesting – create rules (10)
- Enforce rules regarding tree height (blocking views) (2)
- Protect views (6)
- Protect home values (5)
- No known needs for change in Covenants (2)

- Shield from neighbor's equipment (2)**
- Keep the backdoor garbage collection (5)
- Negotiate curb side trash collection for CFE #7 (3)
- Include median maintenance in the CFE #7 budget (5)
- No new rules! (1)
- Keep setback requirements (2)
- Keep restrictions against two story homes (3)
- "One lot – one vote" (4)
- Speed restrictions (1)
- Allow clotheslines (3)
- Allow individual choice of mailbox (1)
- Suggest more environmentally friendly driveway finishes (1)
- Disallow rentals (1)
- Action regarding barking dogs (2)
- Enforce lighting rules (2)
- Disallow gates (1)
- Support Annexation by City of Tucson (1)

**Please see Covenants section of www.cfe7.org for most current Solar Guidelines*

***This is an existing Covenant; existing violations can be remedied between residents or brought to the attention of the Board.*

"Our Protective Covenants (Clause III, Paragraph 1, Page 10) require a vote by 51% of the 'front feet of the building sites' in order to make a change or modification to the Covenants. Due to the inequity of this provision, based on 'front feet', the first amendment proposed by the Covenants Review Committee will be to change to a one vote per lot provision with a two-thirds majority required for approval."

We look forward to further discussion on the Covenants Review Project at the Annual Meeting in 2012!

Committee Reports



Architectural Committee

All residents must obtain approval from the Architectural Committee prior to any construction, modifications, or building alterations.

This includes Solar and Water Harvesting Installations.

It is suggested that residents not make any down payments with contractors until the project is approved.

Forms and/or any information can be obtained from the Architectural Committee or Office Secretary or our web site (www.CFE7.org).

The committee works diligently to review your request and enable you to complete your work project in a reasonable, timely fashion.

Architectural Review March to Sept. 2011

	Approved	Pending	Comp.	Disa.	Wdrn
Addition	1	1			
Equipment	1	1	1		
Gate	1	1			
Garage/ Carport	1	1	1		
Landscape	1	1			
Lighting					1
Painting	3	3	1		
Patio	1	1			
Replace Door/Windows	3	3	1		
Remodel	1	1			
Roof Work	7	7	4		
Screening	1	1	1		
Solar	1	1	1		
Wall/Fence	2	2	1		
Water Harvest	1	1			

Covenant Review March to Sept. 2011

	Review	Pending	Rectified	Red Tag
Debris	1	1		
Mailbox	1	1		
RV	2		2	
Signs	2	2	1	
Solar	1	1		1
Trash Containers	3	2	3	
White Roof	2	2	1	
Vegetation	2	2		1
Vehicle	1		1	

Home Sales in CFE 7

Mar 2011 to Sept 2011
 Active - 7
 Active Contingent - 1
 Pending - 1
 Sold - 4
 Avg Selling Price 452k



Brought to you by Patty Inouye at Long Realty

Exploring the Cost of Solar.

The cost of installing solar varies. Each location has its own protocol for metering permits and rebates. Dave Llorens, chief executive and co founder of "one block off the grid", a group-buying website for green home improvements, has the ability to estimate specific to your home. At their site 1blog.com/solarestimate, plug in your address and a google satellite map of your location pops up. The tool then asks you to outline your roof and estimate where the solar panels would go. You also can plug in roof dimensions. Afterwards you get a cost estimate that is matched with local solar installers based on that estimate.

Also, on the TEP website at www.tep.com, click on the bar at the top called Your Home, then click on Energy Calculators, and then at the bottom of the page, Solar Calculator. You input your monthly cost to see how much you want solar to reduce that cost. It will then give you an estimated cost.

If you plan on installing solar for home, hot water heater, pool/ spa, etc., it is important that you contact our Architectural Review Committee for *approval prior to installation*.

Even better, contact the Architectural Review Committee first to verify the location of the installation and review the requirements of the HOA prior to signing a contract.

Suggestion for Welcoming New Neighbors

Even though the housing market is slower than usual, we have welcomed many new homeowners over the past year. The Cat 7 Board distributes a welcome packet to our new neighbors, which provides them with copies of the covenants, maps, and other useful information. Recently, several of our homeowners have suggested that we make a point of welcoming our new next-door neighbors by introducing ourselves, since most of them are moving here from out-of-town or out of the area. Also we may be able to help out with general questions that our new neighbors may have.

Some Useful Numbers

Emergencies	911
Foothills District.....	351-6311
Police Information Line.....	351-4600
Barking/Loose Dogs.....	243-5900
Dust Violations.....	740-3340
Illegal Dumping.....	622-5800
Pima Cty Graffiti Abatement...	792-8224
Pima Cty Road Condition.....	547-7510
AZ Fish & Game.... Tucson....	628-5376

Neighborhood Watch

The Neighborhood Watch for Cat 7 and surrounding neighborhoods had a very busy summer season. When we began our Neighborhood Watch five years ago, we dramatically dropped the incidences of crime. Unfortunately, the last two years are starting to show an upward trend which worries me.

Having a Neighborhood Watch can't stop crime completely but should be a preventive force to keep crime at a minimum. There are many reasons why we are seeing crime rise, but I can only work on what might be needed in our community.

Our community is still not 100% involved. New residents need to be welcomed and introduced to their neighbors. Block Leaders and I need to communicate better and stay on top of resident changes. Block groups need to meet occasionally. Residents need to educate themselves on prevention for their home and person. Participants should go to their annual Neighborhood Watch meeting, and we must remain diligent in reporting any suspicious behavior to 911.

The success of keeping crime to a minimum is up to you. Getting reports does make you aware, but to stop crime, we must practice prevention. Police depend on us as eyes and ears of the community because we know it best. Not staying aware of your surroundings and not practicing security measures all the time leads to an increase in crime. Communication with your neighbors, Block Leader and Area Leader, and police is crucial to prevention.

The Holiday season, our usual peak season for crime, is just around the corner. Please take the time to refresh what is going on in your groups, organize a group if you don't have one, and ensure you are not giving anyone the opportunity to make you a victim.

Be Aware Be SafeJune

Use the Home Security Check List to check your home for safety measures. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that your home is targeted.

Home Security Checklist:



Exterior Doors

- All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house - even if it is just for a few minutes.
- Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.
- Doors feature wide-angle viewers at heights everyone can use.
- If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered.
- All entryways have a working keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.
- Spare keys are kept with a neighbor.

Garage and Sliding Door Security

- The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed lock and deadbolt.
- The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security.
- Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house.
- The sliding glass doors have a strong working key lock.
- A dowel or pin has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted out of the track.
- The sliding door is locked every night and each time you leave the house.

Protecting Windows

- Every window in the house has a working lock or is securely pinned.
- Windows are always locked even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation.

Outdoor Security

- Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place to hide.
- There are no dark areas around the house, garage or yard at night that would hide prowlers.

- Every outside door has a motion-sensored, bright light to illuminate visitors.
- Motion-sensored floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.
- Your house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.

Security When Away from Home

- At least two timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence when you are away from home for an extended time period.
- Turn on a radio while away or have one on a timer to be turned on and off in a logical sequence.
- The motion detector or other alarm system has been activated.
- Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements have been made for a neighbor/friend to pick them up.
- A neighbor or housesitter has been asked to tend the yard and watch the home when you are away.

Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property

- Gate latches, garage doors and shed doors are all locked with high security laminated padlocks.
- Gate latches, garage doors and shed doors are locked after every use.
- Grills, maintenance equipment and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed; if left in the open, they are hidden from view.
- Every bicycle is secured with a u-lock or quality padlock and chain.
- Bikes are always locked even if we leave them for just a minute.
- Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.
- Valuable items such as televisions, stereos and computers have been inscribed with identifying marks.
- A home inventory is up to date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house.

Community

Putting the Old PC or Laptop to Pasture.....

When it comes time to donate or recycle your old ware, it's important to first wipe your computer of all things personal. If you are OK with someone finding medical records, browser history, login info for your bank account, past emails, etc., then you are in the clear. Otherwise, you need to wipe it!

These days it is not enough to simply delete old files (in fact, you may be surprised to learn that the delete button doesn't actually delete). Follow these steps to ensure you are truly wiping your hard drive clean so you don't unintentionally pass on your documents, photos, passwords and personal data when you send your old computer to pasture.

Step 1- Back up your data. Before you wipe your computer's hard drive, make sure to back up all of your information to your new computer, an external drive or web service.

Step 2- Don't just delete. The most common mistake is that people delete the items and empty the recycle bin. It appears the files are gone but often these files are simply hidden. Data recovery programs can recover these hidden files.

Step 3- Use a program to wipe your drive. There is a free application called DBAN (Darik's Boot and Nuke) which can wipe an entire hard drive in about an hour. This program permanently

erases your hard drive. There is little chance of getting anything back and data recovery programs *will not* be able to recover documents. Download DBAN from its website, follow the instructions, and turn off your computer once the procedure finishes.

Step 4- Use what the government uses. If you want a super-strength program to wipe your hard drive, you can purchase WipeDrive, which is approved by the Dept. of Defense and used as its primary disk-wipe utility. You can also use the program to wipe smartphones, thumb drives and basically any device that has data on it.

Step 5- Physically wipe your drive. If you want to double ensure that your hard drive is really wiped, you can take additional measures by physically wiping. Take out the hard drive and take a rare earth magnet to it. *This should be done after using DBAN or WipeDrive.*

No matter what kind of data you had on your computer before you decided to donate or recycle, it pays to play it safe. Wipe the hard drive like the pros and avoid the risk of someone accessing your old data.

From Cybercrime News

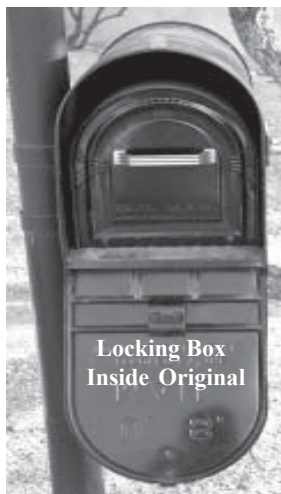
Mailboxes and Lamp Post *con't frm pg 1*

The maintenance for each lamp post and mailbox is the responsibility of each homeowner, whether it needs repair, paint or installation. There are a number of them that are in desperate need of all of the above.

The locking mailboxes were approved due to the increase in mail theft. There was a homemade modification for the original mailbox that created a slot in the door and enabled the use of a padlock. It stopped mail from being quickly taken from the box but it wasn't a highly-secure feature and could be easily pried open.

If you choose to change your mailbox to a locking mailbox, be aware that they are not all alike. The difference in metals (aluminum vs. steel) and the difference in the gauge of steel used by the brand are a few security differences. Also the type of locking mechanism and the amount of space used to insert mail or a small package are different. Pay attention to what each company is advertising for its security features. Many of these different brands are carried by the big-box hardware stores, Ace Hardware and Grant Lumber, for your inspection.

Another alternative that a few residents chose was to insert a locking mailbox *within* the original No. 2 US box. These residents did not want to change the look of the original box and also did not want to promote they had a locking mailbox. It was verified with the Postal Service and it isn't a problem. They purchased a locking mailbox from Grant Lumber and inserted it into the original No. 2 mailbox (also available there) and screwed it down on the sides with sheet metal screws. (Steve Hauret at Grant Lumber is familiar on how this is done.)



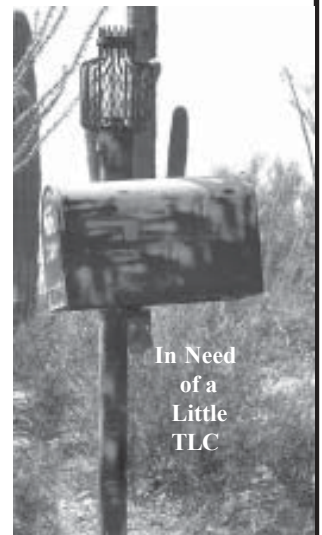
Mail theft was a very big issue for us and the Postal Service this past summer. Organized crime rings hit neighborhoods in hopes of capturing important personal information, causing Arizona to be at the top of the list for identity theft. Any time you are a victim of mail theft, you should report it to the Sheriff's Dept. and US Postal Inspector (both can be done online) and continually and periodically inspect financial records and credit reports.

Mail is usually delivered around the same time each day unless your carrier is not on his or her normal route. Because picking up your mail ASAP is important, there are wireless devices that attach to your mailbox door to send an alarm to you when the door is opened. And there is always the option of renting a US Postal Service mailbox to secure important incoming mail.

Never mail anything important from your home mailbox. Outgoing mail should be mailed at a U.S. Post Office or at outside U.S. Post Office receptacle close to pickup times.

Unfortunately, today there is always the threat of mail theft, but minimize being a victim by taking preventive steps for securing your mail. Be aware there are only **two** different styles of **approved** mailboxes that are allowed by our CC&R's, as there are a number of mailboxes that are not in compliance. And give your mailbox and lamp post a little TLC, since there are a number of them in need of care. We all take time to care for our homes, cars and yards, so please don't forget your lamp post and mailbox.

Visit our website for approved mailbox specifics and lamp post wiring.
www.cfe7.org/covenants



Plants

Feel like Time is Passing You By...

After having a "BIG" birthday this summer, my dear friend put age into perspective for me so I'd like to share it with you.....
From George Carlin's view on aging.....

Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids?
If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions.
"How old are you?" "I'm four and a half!"

You're never thirty-six and a half. You're four and a half going on five! That's the key.

You get into your teens; now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number or even a few ahead. "How old are you?"
"I'm gonna be 16!"

You could be 13, but hey, you're gonna be 16! And then the greatest day of your life comes.
You become 21. Even the words sound like a ceremony.
You become 21. YES!

But then you turn 30! Ooooooh! What happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk! He turned; we had to throw him out. There's no fun now. You're just a sour-dumpling. What's changed?

You become 21, you turn 30, then you're pushing 40. Whoa! Put on the brakes! It's all slipping away. Before you know it, you reach 50 and your dreams are gone.
But wait! You make it to 60. You didn't think you would!
So you become 21, turn 30, push 40, reach 50 and make it to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you hit 70! After that, it's a day-by-day thing. You hit Wednesday!

You get into your 80's and every day is a complete cycle.
You hit lunch; you turn 4:30, you reach bedtime. And it doesn't end there! Into the 90's, you start going backwards: "I was just 92!"

Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over a 100, you become a little kid again. "I'm 100 and a half!!!"

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!



"Remember when shake, rattle and roll meant more than just getting out of bed?"

Planting Tips from Fall to Winter

OCTOBER

- Reduce watering to help plants harden-off for winter
- Adjust irrigation clock for less frequent watering
- Plant cool-season annuals, vegetables, and herbs
- Continue to plant trees and shrubs
- Plant hardy cactus & succulents
- Move adeniums, Madagascar palms, stapelias, and other cold-sensitive succulents indoors
- Prepare frost cloth and cactus-covers for the arrival of frost

NOVEMBER

- Begin checking the forecast for freeze warnings
- The average first frost arrives mid-November
- Prepare to cover and protect sensitive plants when temperatures drop below 28°F
- Bring potted succulents indoors when in doubt about cold sensitivity
- Further reduce watering and irrigation
- Sow winter annual wildflower seeds and water them in
- Harvest Mexican limes

DECEMBER

- Check weather forecast for freeze warnings
- Cover the tips of sensitive columnar cacti with styrofoam cups
- Use frost cloth or a blanket to cover aloes, citrus, and other sensitive plants when temperatures drop below 28°F
- Reduce watering and irrigation frequency to a minimum, but water thoroughly when needed
- Water annual wildflower seedlings once a week during dry winters
- Plant bare-root roses and fruit trees

From Tucson Botanical Gardens

Gardening and Plant Events

Tucson Botanical Gardens www.TucsonBotanical.org

- Delicious Recipes for Desert Plants: Saturday- Oct 29th
- Gardening for New Comer: Monthly- 1st Thursday & 3rd Saturday
- Xeriscape: Monthly- 2nd Saturday
- Successful Plants for Tucson Gardens: Monthly- 1st Saturday
- Rain Water Harvesting: Monthly- 4th Saturday

Tohono Chul Park www.TohonoChulPark.org

- Gardening and Plant Events
- Connecting Plants and People: 1st Saturday of the month
- The Great Xeriscape: 3rd Saturday of the month
- Fall Plant Sale: Oct 15th & 16th

The Contained Gardner Classes www.thcontainedgardener.com

- Low-water Potted Plants: Oct 29th
- Planting Cactus Garden in Pots: Oct 29th

UA Pima County Cooperative Extension

- <http://extension.arizona.edu/pima>
- Fall Plant Sale: Oct 29th - Campbell Ave.
- Desert Wise Landscaping, Principals of Xeriscape Design: Oct 12th -Call 626-5161

Desert Survivors Desertsurvivors.org

- Fall Plant Sale: Oct 8th & 9th

Some of the events have a fee.

Wildlife

Lion vs. Cat

The past few years there have been a number of calls on lost pets, cat sightings and concern on what one should do if they encounter either a Mountain Lion or Bobcat. The first confusion is identifying which cat you are observing. Yes, both have been seen in our community, one a bit more than the other. Hopefully, some of the facts and helpful information below will help you identify which cat you are encountering and what to do when you encounter either species.

Mountain Lion: also known as cougar, puma, catamount, and panther, is the largest cat native to North America. Mountain Lions can be found throughout all portions of Arizona. They are most common in rocky or mountainous areas. Because Mountain Lions are shy and elusive, people don't often see them. However, the Arizona Game and Fish Department estimates the state's Mountain lion population at 2,500 to 3,000. Mountain Lions are usually solitary, except females with young. Signs of Mountain Lion presence include large tracks (3-5 inches wide) without claw marks; large segmented, cylindrical droppings; food caches where a kill has been partially eaten and then covered with brush and dirt; and scrapes in soft dirt or leaf litter.



Description and Habits

- Tan or reddish brown to dusky or slate gray coat
- 24- to 36-inch tail, about 2/3 of body length, white underneath with a dark brown or black tip
- 70-150 pounds (males usually larger than females)
- 25-32 inches tall at the shoulder (similar to a German shepherd dog)
- 5 1/2 to more than 8 feet long
- Average litter of two kittens, which are yellowish brown with irregular rows of black spots
- Kittens stay with mother for up to 18 months
- Live up to 13 years in wild, up to 20 years in captivity
- Can jump 20 feet vertically and 40 feet horizontally in a single leap
- Rarely make vocal noises unless during breeding season or when threatened
- Territory sizes range from 10 to 350 square miles; males range more widely than females
- Diet includes primarily deer but also a wide variety of other animals including javelina, elk, and even smaller species like rabbits.

Possible Conflicts with Humans and Pets

Urban sprawl and shrinking habitat are increasing incidences of conflicts between humans and Mountain Lions. Conflicts can occur when a Mountain Lion becomes accustomed to people, such as when a lion hunts near where people live or recreate and when lions kill livestock or other domestic animals. Although uncommon, Mountain Lion attacks on humans occasionally occur.

What Attracts Them?

Mountain Lions are often just passing through but may visit an area to get food, water, or shelter.

- Food found near people's homes includes deer, javelina, rabbits, unsecured domestic animals, or livestock.

- Water for drinking can include a swimming pool, fountain, puddle, or pet's water bowl.
- For shelter, mountain lions might make use of cave-like areas beneath sheds, unused buildings, and storm drains.

Other influences that may contribute to Mountain Lion presence around humans include:

- Drought - Animals will come in closer to humans to search for food and water.
- Wildfires - Arizona wildfires damage vital habitat and force animals into new areas.
- Habituation to humans through close contact, exposure, and increased development near wildlife habitat. Humans feeding Mountain Lion prey, having livestock adjacent to wildlife habitat, and related activities create familiarity.

What Should I Do?

Mountain Lions are predators capable of killing or seriously injuring humans, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department is committed to public education to help people learn how to behave responsibly and live safely in proximity to lions. The risk of attack by a Mountain Lion is small, but real; children are most at risk. Mountain Lions may return repeatedly if food, water, or shelter is available. However, Mountain Lions use natural areas, such as washes, to move through populated areas to more remote areas, and such movements are necessary to prevent problems with inbreeding and local extinction associated with habitat fragmentation. If food, water, and shelter are not available, Mountain Lions generally move on to other areas more quickly. If you live or recreate in lion country, remain aware of your surroundings and take steps to minimize risks to yourself, your family, and pets.

If you encounter a Mountain Lion:

- Do not approach the animal. Most Mountain Lions will try to avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.
- Stay calm and speak loudly and firmly.
- **Do not run** from a Mountain Lion. Running may stimulate a Mountain Lion's instinct to chase. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact.
- Appear larger. Raise your arms. Open your jacket if you are wearing one. Throw stones, branches, or whatever you can reach without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly. The idea is to convince the lion that you are not easy prey and that you may be a danger to it.
- Maintain eye contact and slowly back away toward a building, vehicle, or busy area.
- Protect small children so they won't panic and run.
- Hike or walk in groups.
- Make noise when you're outside.
- Closely supervise children whenever they play outdoors, especially in rugged country between dusk and dawn. Talk with children about Mountain Lions and teach them what to do if they encounter one.



Wildlife

- Keep dogs, cats, poultry, rabbits, rodents and other domestic animals indoors or in a secure enclosure with a sturdy roof. Always walk pets on a leash. Roaming pets are easy prey for hungry Mountain Lions and coyotes.
- Do not feed pets outside and keep their food inside; the food can attract javelina and other Mountain Lion prey.
- **Avoid feeding wildlife.** By feeding deer, javelina, or other wildlife in your yard, you may inadvertently attract Mountain Lions, which prey upon them.
- Trim landscaping around your home. Remove dense and low-lying vegetation that can provide good hiding places for Mountain Lions and coyotes, especially around children's play areas.
- Install outdoor lighting. Keep the house perimeter well lit at night, especially along walkways, to keep any approaching lions visible.

Fight back if attacked. Many potential victims have fought back successfully with rocks, sticks, caps, jackets, garden tools, their bare hands, and even mountain bikes. Since a Mountain Lion usually tries to bite the head or neck, try to remain standing and face the animal.

Report all Mountain Lion attacks to 911. Report all Mountain Lion encounters and attacks, plus sightings in urban areas, to your local Arizona Game and Fish Department office.

Bobcats

Bobcats are common throughout Arizona at all elevations, especially in rim rock and chaparral areas and in the outskirts of urban areas where food is readily available. Bobcats are generally seen alone, but groups may consist of mating pairs, siblings, or mothers with kittens. Bobcats are most active around sunset and sunrise, and it is not uncommon to find one napping under a shrub in a brushy backyard. Individual Bobcats will defend a territory of one to 12 square miles.



Description and Habits

- Tan with dark spots on coat
- Short tail with black tip on top side
- 15-35 pounds (males are larger than females)
- 18-24 inches tall
- 24-48 inches long
- Mate February to March
- Average litter of two to three kittens, usually born from April to early June
- Kittens stay with the mother seven to 12 months
- Live 10-15 years
- Able to jump as high as 12 feet
- Are carnivorous and generally feed on small mammals and birds (includes domestic birds and rabbits); will also eat lizards, snakes, and small pets, including house cats.

Possible Conflicts with Humans and Pets

If you see a Bobcat near your home, there is no need to panic. Bobcats rarely attack people. However, if a Bobcat does attack a

human, it generally will have symptoms of rabies. Bobcats may be attracted to a yard that has abundant wildlife, domestic birds, small pets, water, and shade or other shelter. Small pets need to be protected from Bobcats and other predators. Keep small pets indoors, in an enclosed area with a roof, or on a leash when outside. Domestic birds should be kept in an enclosed area with a sturdy roof (a 6-foot tall fence is not necessarily good protection), and do not spread seed that attracts other wildlife. Do not feed Bobcats, as this can encourage them to become too comfortable around humans.



What Attracts Them?

Bobcats may visit an area to find food, water, shelter, or the space they need to live.

- Food may include birds, rodents, rabbits, small unattended pets, poultry or other domestic birds, and other small livestock.
- Water in pools, birdbaths, fountains, and pets' water dishes can attract Bobcats. They will sometimes defecate in shallow water (such as pools and fountains).
- Shelter for Bobcats can include rooftops, attics, and the space underneath decks. Other small spaces can make attractive dens also, and Bobcats will sometimes rest during the day or bask in the sun. This makes them attracted to thick brush, shade, and unoccupied yards.

What Should I Do?

You may choose to watch and enjoy a Bobcat or Bobcat family sharing your yard. However, if you have small pets or livestock, you may want to discourage the Bobcat from coming onto your property. Remember, your neighbor may think differently, and it is always a good idea to keep wildlife wild.

To discourage a Bobcat, immediately:

- Scare off with loud noises or spray with a garden hose.
- If the animal is confined, open a gate, have all people leave the area, and allow it to leave on its own. If it is still confined the following day, or trapped inside a residence, contact a wildlife control business or the Arizona Game and Fish Department.
- Check for kittens in the area, and if kittens are there, then consider tolerating them for a few weeks until the kittens are large enough to leave the area with their mother.

In an emergency: In the rare occasion that a Bobcat bites a person or appears hyperactive, there may be some health concerns. Take the following actions:

- Contact your county animal control office.
- Fight back if it has attacked.
- Avoid the area and stay indoors.

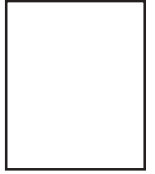
Remember, removal is usually a last resort for both of these species.

From AZ Fish & Game website on "Living with Wildlife".



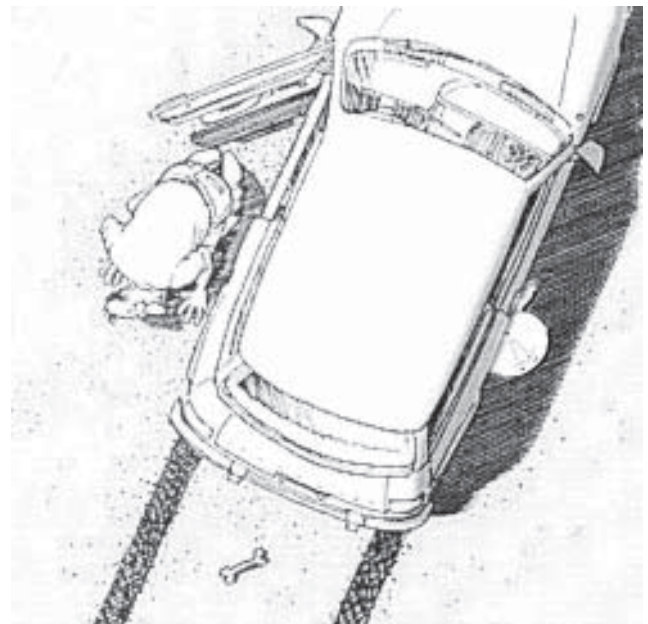
CATALINA
FOOTHILLS
ESTATES No. 7
ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 64173
Tucson, Az 85728-4173



As the weather is cooling, many residents are out running and/or walking, bicycling, exercising pets, and pushing baby carriages

Please watch your speed.....



You just might run into your neighbor!!!