

# hello.

## The Official Newsletter of the Hidden Lake Estates HOA

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### New Mail Box Info

Springs is here and time to take a look at sprucing up your outdoors including your mailbox post. Good news! Except for the new homes built in the past couple of years, everyone else will be getting a new mailbox sometime this summer. We need every homeowner to take a look at your mailbox post to determine it just needs a coat of paint or replaced.

For those who need to get a replacement post our exclusive provider, Otto's Streetscape Solutions, is providing a special discount for one week only 10 – 14 May 2021. Please see flyer for details and savings!

Please remember that if your mailbox post needs painting, the authorized color is "Sagebrush" and also comes from Otto's. (So everyone doesn't have to go out and obtain paint, the Board has purchased paint. Please contact [HLEBoard@hleindy.com](mailto:HLEBoard@hleindy.com). to schedule a time to come by and obtain enough paint for your post. Brush and labor not included)



### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW CHANGES

Spring is here and a new year has begun. Homeowners considering changes they would like to their properties. If you are considering making any changes to your properties, from what currently exists, please complete the Request for Architectural Review Form and submit it to the Hidden Lake Estates

HOA Board for approval. This can be found on our neighborhood website [www.hleindy.com](http://www.hleindy.com) under the information tab. You will also find many helpful guidelines and other things that will help you through your process.



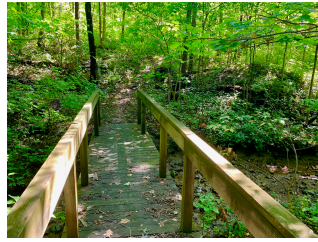
### BUS STOP ETIQUETTE

Parents and students, please be mindful that when you are waiting for the school bus, at the designated bus stops, please **do not** use it as a trash dumping area. The Board has been notified that un-eaten breakfast, utensils, soda cans and other trash is being left at bus stops for homeowners living by the bus stops to pick up. Your neighbors should not be made responsible to pick up your discarded trash. Keeping our neighborhood looking clean and respectable is a responsibility of everyone that resides in it.

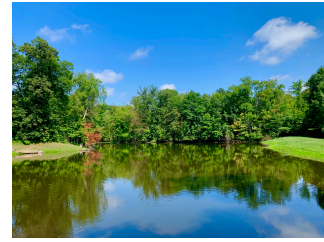
Check your Rule and Regulations found [HLEINDY.com](http://HLEINDY.com) at Information page — all current now will be enforce this year — ANYTHING past, present or future included paint, roofs, sheds, shutter ect. - any questions email at [HLEBoard@hleindy.com](mailto:HLEBoard@hleindy.com).

## TRASH BINS AND VEHICLES

Please remember that our neighborhood bylaws require Trash Bins be put away in the garage or around the back of the home on the day the trash is picked up. Also, please make sure all vehicles are parked in the garage or driveway on a nightly basis as not to impede upon emergency vehicles. You may contact the Board with any questions at [HLEBoard@hleindy.com](mailto:HLEBoard@hleindy.com).



## Take a hike!



## TREE SERVICE

The Board of Directors is asking our community to notify them of trees in commons areas (not on private property) that are dead or dying. Give us your name, address, a phone number and the location of the tree(s). Once we've compiled a list we'll contact a tree service to help survey these and other trees that might need to be cut down. You can send an email to [HLEBoard@hleindy.com](mailto:HLEBoard@hleindy.com) with a subject line that reads: Trees: followed by your Address. We plan on bringing a tree service in by the end of August. Thank you for your help!

Now that spring is here, it's time to get out and enjoy some fresh air. There are a few trails that you can get to quite easily from Hidden Lake Estates.

The first is, of course, the trail around hidden lake. It is an easy trail, and not very long. The trailheads are off Woodland Trail Drive, just a couple houses south of Bear Hollow Way. Look for the signs that say, "Private Property For Use By Hidden Lake Estates Residents Only." Enter the trail next to either of the signs, and loop around the lake until you come out by the other sign. But please note that the trail runs just behind a few properties, and the trail is not marked around the south end of the lake. So make sure you stay on the trail, or near the lake, and don't wander up into resident's yards.

The second trail is through Paul Ruster Park. You can enter the trail off Woodland Trail Drive, just a couple houses south of Clearspring Way. The trailhead is not marked, but just look for the fire hydrant by the road. The trail starts just across the sidewalk from the hydrant. There are a few downed trees you'll have to climb over, and a stream you may have to ford, but it isn't that difficult. You can stop at the park for a picnic, or enjoy the playground, or let your dog run free in the dog park. There are a few different trails you can explore from the park, and none of them are very long. The third trail is the Pennsy Trail. This is a paved trail, which is great for biking. You'll find the trail about a quarter mile north of Hidden Lake Estates on German Church Road. It runs in either direction. If you head east, the trail runs alongside the Meijer driveway, and you can read about our solar system along the way. The trail extends 3 miles and ends at Mount Comfort Road. A couple years ago, a branch was added, traveling north along the Buck Creek to Lions Park. And this last year, the trail heading west was completed, which covers 6 miles to Audubon Road in Irvington. We've been shut up in our homes long enough! Let's get out of the house, and take a hike!

## SPRING LAWN CARE TIPS

As the world outside finally begins to turn green after a long winter, it's time once again to pay attention to your lawn. Spring is a sensitive time for your yard – the soil is spongy, the plants are tender, and the weather is unpredictable. Your lawn will thank you for being gentle this time of year, but it will also thank you for addressing a few important spring tasks. Here's how to go about taking care of your lawn in the spring.

### Types of Grass

Spring lawn care depends on the type of grass you are growing: Cool-season grasses include fescue, bluegrass, and rye. They have two growth spurts – a moderate one in the spring, and a big one in the fall. They go dormant and can struggle in hot summer months, so the focus of spring care is strengthening the plants for summer. Warm-season grasses—such as Zoysia, St. Augustine, centipede, and Bermuda—thrive in the heat and go dormant during winter. They begin growing after the last spring frost and really get going by midsummer. Understanding the type of grass you have and its peak growing season will help you address lawn care tasks at the correct time.

### Controlling Weeds

Spring is the best time to prevent weeds by using pre-emergent weed control, which work by preventing weed seeds from germinating. Your first application of a pre-emergent herbicide should occur just as the forsythia bushes finish blooming in spring – that should stop crabgrass and other weeds before they have a chance to grow. Both cool-season and warm-season lawns benefit from weed prevention in the spring. Pre-emergent herbicides work for about three months, so plan on a second application during the summer.

### Seeding and Planting

In the spring, gardeners have to choose between weed control and lawn seeding. Pre-emergent herbicides prevent grass seed from sprouting too, so you can't do both – the herbicide will be active for up to 12 weeks, which means you'll miss the spring planting season. If your focus this spring is on filling in bare spots or establishing a new lawn, time your activities according to the type of grass: Cool-season grasses can be planted as soon as the air temperatures get into the 60s and soil temperatures are in the 50s. Plant as soon as temperatures allow to give the seedlings a chance to get established before hot weather hits. Fall is a better time to plant cool-season grasses, so use spring planting for patching bare spots, and be prepared to keep your lawn well-watered during the summer. Warm-season grasses can be planted when air temperatures are in the 70s, soil temperatures are in the 60s, and all danger of frost has passed. Late spring is the best time to plant warm-season grasses.

### Fertilizing

The type of grass you have also influences when and how you should fertilize your lawn: Cool-season grasses: Resist the urge to heavily fertilize your lawn in the spring. Spring feeding encourages rapid tender growth that will struggle to survive the heat of summer, particularly in drought-prone areas. If your lawn is in bad shape, fertilize lightly in spring with a balanced, slow-release fertilizer. Save the heavier feedings for fall, when cool-season grasses are at their peak growing season. Warm-season grasses: Fertilize in late spring as soon as the lawn "greens up" and begins actively growing. This is usually in April or May, after the last frost.

### Other Spring Lawn Tasks

**Aeration:** is best done during your lawn's peak growing season. For warm-season grasses, this means early to mid-summer. For cool-season grasses, aeration is best saved for fall but can be repeated in spring if the soil is extremely compacted. Wait until your lawn has been mowed 2-3 times in the season, so you'll be sure it is growing fast enough to recover from the aeration. **Dethatching:** is also best done during peak growing season, right before aerating. **Mowing:** Begin mowing as soon as your lawn needs it – grass blades do best when you cut no more than a third of the blade's length at a time. **Watering:** Once your grass starts growing, you'll need to make sure your lawn gets at least 1" of water per week. Until then, you can water less frequently but remember that cold air is very drying to plants and lawns. **Insect Control:** Spring is a good time to address problems with fire ants. Many other insects, such as grubs and mole crickets, may also cause damage to your lawn in spring but are more effectively controlled later in the summer. **Lawn Equipment:** Sharpen the blade and tune up your lawn mower, as well as other lawn equipment, to make summer mowing a breeze!

**Following these tips will make your yard the envy of the neighborhood!**