

THE RIDGE RAMBLER



Please use extreme caution and permitting is required for burning brush.

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The Newsletter for the Rambling Ridge Community

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Lots of Wind + Rain
+ Old Trees = a BIG mess on
Ramblewood last month!

With a rainfall of 6-7 inches, a large tree came down and with it, breaking a water pipe. Water was gushing out at an enormous rate causing a mudslide and a possible sink hole on Ramblewood. Aqua came out quickly to repair the leak temporarily until DOT could properly replace the pipe. Unfortunately to stop the gushing, they had to turn off our water for 24 hours. The break was along the main line that fed both sides of Rambling Ridge. Just this past week, DOT replaced the broken 16" pipe with a 24" pipe, fixed the drain and stabilized the road.



Were you prepared for a water outage?
Many were not but neighbors helped each other by
sharing and making trips to the store.
What could we do to better prepare?
See page 2 for a few ideas....

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Emergency Water Strategies to Consider

Contributed by Tom Baugh, Rambling Ridge Neighbor

In uncertain times it is always good to have a little bit extra of all the things you might need. Food, medications, hygiene products. An extra can or bottle of this or that is never a bad idea, in fact, make that two. As anyone who lives on the Ridge knows, the rule of 'extras' certainly applies to water. Our water system here on the Ridge is, at best, problematic and a frequent challenge to many if not all of us. I'm sure that anyone who has lived on the Ridge for even a short period of time knows to keep a healthy supply of bottled water on hand. But what about those other aquatic needs? Humans are mammals and that food and drink we so enjoy produces bodily wastes. It doesn't take long for that waste in the commode to become annoying. A couple of buckets of flush water, drawn from a rainwater tank can solve the waste disposal challenge very quickly. What about that other mammalian problem that causes us to turn up our noses when we get too close to each other after several days without a bath or shower? There are a number of solutions to this. Outdoor stores often carry portable showers used by campers. However, a clever, inexpensive solution involves the use of garden sprayers filled with several gallons of water heated on your stove (if you still have electricity) or your propane camping stove if you don't. Pressurize the tank and spray yourself in your home shower. Several safety tips are also worth considering, make sure you've not used that shower sprayer for anything else, like weed or insect killer. Also, make sure the rain barrel is not full during the winter months, it may freeze and crack. And make sure that tank is fully covered. We don't want to add the irritating bite of mosquitoes to that problematic water system.

Finally, whatever the concern, those of us who are caring for friends and family with special needs must make sure those needs are provided for, first.

Tom Baugh
Hidden Springs

Have you met Ivy?



"Ivy" is a 50 gallon rain barrel designed to collect roof runoff water to reuse it for your lawn, plants and emergency (non-drinking) water for flushing toilets during an outage. It is estimated a rain barrel can save 1300 gallons a year, which saves money on your water bill!

Hendersonville has a Rain Barrel program available and for a limited time at a discount. You can read all about it on their website:

<https://www.rainwatersolutions.com/products/hendersonville>



If the video doesn't play, click [HERE](#) to view

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**Mark your
calendars for
our Spring
Meeting! Sat.
May 18th!**

Board Meeting Notice:

The HOA board of directors will be meeting via Zoom on Monday, March 11th. If you have an issue to be discussed, please send an email to

ramblingridgehoa@gmail.com

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, February 14th at 11:30

THE BOHEMIAN

192 W. Main St. Brevard, NC
828-884-8402

Click here for [Lunch Menu](#)

RSVP by February 12th to Linda Heller
ramblingridgehoa@gmail.com



RAMBLING ROWDIES GUYS NIGHT OUT

Wednesday, February 7th at 6:00

Booda's Brewing Company

120 E Barnwell St. in Hendo
828-435-2727

Burgers, Flat Breads, Wings & More

Rsvp to mattheller2668@gmail.com



Rowdies night out is open to all RR guys over 21

Late February in the Garden: NC Cooperative Extension

- ☐ Prune crepe myrtles, butterfly bush, lantana, nandina and summer blooming bushes.
- ☐ Apply pre-emergence herbicides for crabgrass
- ☐ Tune up lawn mowers, sharpen blades and changing oil
- ☐ Buy your bulbs while they are less expensive and plant when at least 55 degrees
- ☐ Cut back ornamental grasses
- ☐ You can start some veggies this month, too! See the whole article at the NC Coop here:
<https://wayne.ces.ncsu.edu/2022/01/february-gardening-tips/>

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Rambling Ridge received our 2024 Firewise accreditation! Thanks for all the hard work from neighbors and committee members.

We are almost full for chipper day! This will be the last call for those wanting to participate.

It's so great to see piles out already – great work! Chipper Piles should be ready for pick up by **March 4th** but as we remember from last year, it was about 3 weeks later due to the chipper crew schedule. We will keep everyone posted via email for the firm date.

Remember to keep sending me any hours you work or spending you do with hired tree or landscape companies. We can submit those for help with future funding!

What types of items can be tracked?

- removal of flammable materials under deck/porch
- removal of debris and leaves in gutters
- inspection of roof & shingles as needed
- chimney inspection/spark arrestor installation
- removal of fallen limbs (yes, chipper day counts!)
- trimming tree limbs near house
- raking/removal of pine needles & leaves
- clearing of vegetation around propane tanks

You get the idea! If you are spending time doing things to help reduce fire ignition, keep track of your hours and email it in!

Kenny Perry, Firewise Coordinator

Email: kpfasure@msn.com Cell: 248-408-7379

Chipper Day is free for HOA paid members

non-members pay \$60

or join the HOA for \$60 to participate.

It's a win win to join and support our volunteers who work to keep our neighborhood values up!

To pay dues, mail a check payable to Rambling Ridge HOA to our treasurer: Chris Frey, 124 Eagle Rock Tr. Hendersonville, NC 28739 or [click HERE for paypal](#)



Most piles aren't as neat or small as this one but keeping the cut ends to the front of the pile helps the crew pick up more easily.

CHIPPER DAY GUIDELINES

- Brush piles can be no larger than what you can put in the back of a pickup truck (roughly 8 feet long by 6 feet wide). The crews will not take anything larger*
- Brush will need to be out by the side of the road in a neat pile but not in the way of traffic or plows. Ends facing out helps the crew pick up easily.
- Brush and branches can be no larger than 6" in diameter.

Absolutely NO construction debris, vines, finished lumber, bamboo, stumps, potted plants, flower bushes or stems/plants with thorns. This is for the protection of the workers as well as the equipment.

*If you have a substantial amount of brush you can contract separately with the company we will be using. Let us know in advance!

Our RR Firewise volunteers will drive through the neighborhood and spray paint a mark on the piles to indicate to the chipper crew who is paid.

Thank you for helping out in this important event to keep our neighborhood clean and safe!

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Neighbor Spotlight: Meet Jay & Patrice Wiggins

How long have you lived in RR and how did you find us?

We moved here in 2013 from New Jersey—best move of our life! Our older son went to school at UNC-Chapel Hill and we liked the state but needed the mountains. The Blue Ridge Mountains called to us.

Are you still working?

Our motto is “Work hard, play hard”. We’re trying to retire from careers in clinical research but we’re not very good at retiring, it seems. We’ve loved our careers and loved working together for a lot of that time. Plus, being on the cutting edge of science has always been exciting so it’s hard to walk away from that.

Do you have a favorite restaurant?

Posteros, Falls Landing or the Pisgah Inn.

What do you enjoy most about this area?

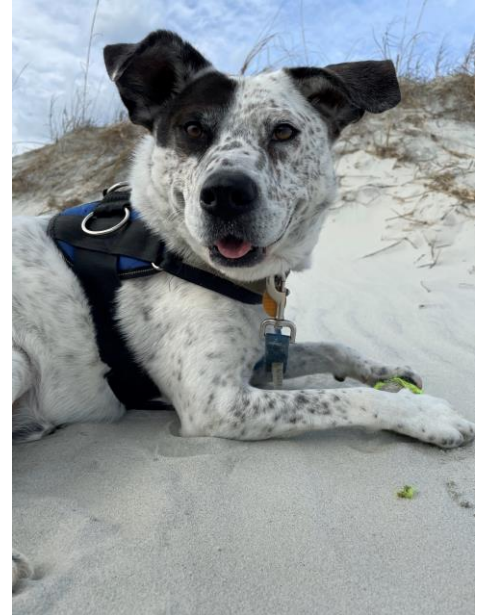
Besides the parks and forest, we love the Flat Rock Theater and NC Stage.

Favorite places to travel?

The Galapagos Islands, but we’ve blown that budget! 😊

What do you like to do in your free time?

We are avid birders and hikers. We hope to get to all 158 waterfalls in WNC! Right now much of our free time goes to playing with our grandkids. When Jay finds time, he enjoys woodworking. Patrice can often be found in the garden and playing ball with their dog, Wink.



What do you like most about RR?

The people – we have found our people. This is the most caring and giving community we’ve ever been a part of!