



Deerfield Village Voice

Keeping the Homeowner Informed

Volume II, Issue 4

<http://deerfield.ekota.net/index.html>

Mowing Guidance Gas Prices are high and Keep Maintenance Costs Down!!

Debbie Crouse provided the following recommendations:

- Do not mow unless the grass is at least 6-7 inches tall.
- Mow the front orchard sections and along the walking trail more frequently than the rest of the orchard, these are the desirable areas to keep trim.
- Make sure the clippings are blown away from the property/children while mowing property lines.
- To save on mower repairs and maintenance, use a broom, blower, a glove etc. and wipe the grass off the deck and around the belts.
- Please fill the tank when done mowing AND/OR offer to take the gas cans with you the next time you go to fill up your car. Jimmy Williamson has a petty cash fund that is used to reimburse people who purchase gas for the mower. Provide Jimmy the receipt.

For those who have mowed, WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOU volunteering your personal time to keep Deerfield Village maintained.

Wildlife: White-tailed Deer

During an ice cream social at Rob Noll's house, a deer bounded over a pickup on the passenger's side, broke the passenger side mirror and the driver felt the wisp of its tail on his arm, which resting on the open windowed door. They are remarkable creatures and it's time to provide a quick summary of what they are all about:



White Tail Deer, *Odocoileus virginianus* adapt to a wide variety of habitats.

- **Coat:** reddish brown in spring, gray to brown in fall,
- **Males:** also known as bucks and can weigh 120 - 220 pounds,
- **Life span:** six to 14 years
- **Females:** also known as does and can weigh 90 -130 pounds,
- **Antlers:** males get them at one year old or older; 1 in 10,000 females gets them; inside spread is about three to 25 inches grow in late spring and are covered with a vascularized tissue (called velvet) that deer rub off using trees; antlers fall off when all females are bred between December and February.
- **Breeding:** Females mature in one to two years and typically enter estrus, or rut, in late October, early November, sexual maturation depends on how many deer are in the area; dominant male, determined by sparring are bred with the females. Gestation period is about 7 months.
- **Birth:** Females give birth between one and three spotted fawns in late May or early June, fawns weigh between 45 - 77 pounds before the first winter
- **Communication:**
 - Use scents, sounds, body language and markings;
 - ▶ **Sounds:** fawns bleat (high-pitched sound); the does bleat and grunt (guttural sound that attracts attention of nearby deer); bucks grunt, snort and wheeze to show aggression and hostility;
 - ▶ **Body Language:** all deer raise their white tails (called flagging) to warn others of nearby dangers; ears flick at the sense of danger
 - ▶ **Glands:** produce scents detected by humans; three types: *orbital* - found on the head, this scent is deposited by rubbing the head on hanging twigs, often the area around the eyes; *tarsal* - found on the lower outside of each hind leg, where the scent is deposited on vegetation as the deer walk, and *metatarsal* - most potent and found on inside of the knee on each hind leg. During the breeding season, deer squats while urinating so that urine will run down the insides of the deer's legs. The deer then rubs its metatarsal glands together, rubbing the urine into the tuft of hair. Secretions from the metatarsal gland mix with the urine and bacteria to produce a strong smelling odor. Also in the breeding season, a doe releases hormones and



pheromones that tell a buck the doe is in heat and able to breed.

- ▶ **Marking:** deer mark territory by rubbing bark off trees with antlers (called rubs) and using the front hoof to scrape dirt away in a circular pattern then urinate in the scrape. Scrapes are then buried with twigs that have been marked by the orbital glands.
- **Diet:** deer have a four-chambered stomach (each with a specific function) which means they can eat a variety of foods. The stomach has a complex set of bacteria that change as the deer's diet changes through the seasons. If the bacteria necessary for digestion of a particular food are absent, it will not be digested. Deer eat legumes, corn, acorns, fruit, cactus, shoots, leaves, grasses, hay and poisonous fungi (mushrooms).
- **Sleeping patterns:** Occasionally venturing out in the daylight hours, white-tailed deer are primarily nocturnal or crepuscular, browsing mainly at dawn and dusk. They bed down on the ground surrounded by high grasses or shrubs.
- **Predators:** Humans, bobcats, mountain lions and coyotes, deer can run 30 to 40 miles per hour to escape these predators.
- **Vision:** Deer have rods and cones in their eyes. During the day, the cones allow deer discriminate colors in the range blue to yellow-green and can also distinguish orange and red. At night deer see color in the blue to blue-green range. Rods serve a discriminatory role in color vision, especially at low to moderate illumination levels. Benefits of color vision to deer include the ability to discriminate between plant species and parts and enhanced predator-detection capabilities.
- **Hearing:** The ears contain many complex muscles, which allow the deer's ears can rotate in any direction, allowing the animal to determine the direction of the sound. Hearing is so acute that the whitetail can detect the time it takes for a sound to reach one ear relative to the other and allows the deer to establish how far away a sound is.

May 5, 2008, Board Meeting

Board meeting was held at Andrea Longnecker's house at 7:00 p.m.. The following items were discussed:

- Three applications were approved for installing rain barrels at three homes. The rain barrels gather rain from gutters and down spouts for the purposes of watering lawns and gardens. Aesthetics, mosquito control and environmental concerns were discussed. Future approvals will be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis.
- Jefferson Utility's recent rate increases were discussed. Deerfield Village will re-file a petition. Bill Krummenacker recently gathered signatures for

the petition.

- Landscaping request for Lot 30 was approved.
- A security camera will be installed at the mailbox shelter to deter vandalism,
- Circle Improvement of Field Crest Court was approved. Residents of the cul-de-sac, lead by Betinna Maher completed the landscaping of the circle.

Field Crest Circle Improves!!! Homeowners pitch in to improve Deerfield look. . .

Betinna Maher filled out the circle improvement forms, gathered homeowner signatures, researched nurseries, selected plants and enlisted the help of a couple



Field Crest Court improved circle



homeowners to add some landscaping to the circle on Field Crest Court. Jimmy and Claire Williamson and Tristan and Austin Longnecker helped arranging and planting. The grasses used are either drought resistant and/or sun-tolerant.

A little maintenance establishes the plants and allows the plants to flourish. Landscaping the circle improves the appearance of the community and helps to raise property values. Thank you Betinna, the Williamsons and the Longnecker for your efforts making Deerfield more aesthetic!

If homeowners are interested in improving their respective circles, visit <http://deerfield.ekota.net/resources.html> and complete a circle improvement form. The Deerfield Village Property Owners Association Board of Directors approved three circle designs. The Field Crest homeowners selected circle design #3.

Welcome ... New Families in Deerfield

Please extend a warm welcome to the following families who recently moved into Deerfield Village:

- Lot 13 - The Bullocks
- Lot 18 - The Dishmans

Sports in the Area: Baseball and Football!!!

If you are a sports fan and may feel a little secluded in Shepherdstown, there are a few sports venues locally. Summer ushers in America's favorite past time, baseball. Here are a few links to plan your outing to some professional and semi-professional baseball games:

The Major Leagues:

Baltimore Orioles -

http://baltimore.orioles.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=bal

Washington Nationals

http://baltimore.orioles.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=bal

Farm Team Class A:

Frederick Keys (Orioles Major League Affiliate):

<http://www.frederickkeys.com/>

Hagerstown Suns (Washington Nationals Major League Affiliate)

<http://www.hagerstownsuns.com/>

College:

Shepherdstown (season is over)

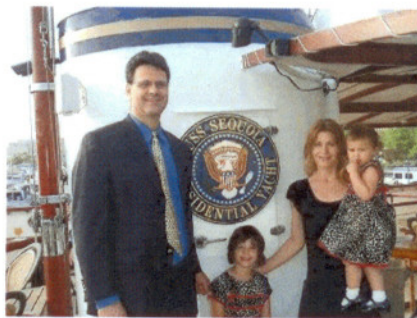
<http://www.shepherdrams.com/page.cfm?sport=319>

If you get saturated with the five hundred baseball games, did you know that there is a semi-professional football team who plays behind Weiss Market in Ranson, WV? They are the Valley Tigers:

<http://www.valleytigers.org/>

Tour Time: On the Presidential Yacht

The Campbell family was recently invited to attend an evening on the Presidential Yacht, the U.S.S. Sequoia. The Campbells found the tour to be historic and interesting.



Aboard the Presidential Yacht, Steve, Kaileena, Amy and Kyleigh

If you have any interesting pictures you would like to share, send them to the Deerfield Village Voice.

Its time to meet . . . The family of lot 19



Paul, Betinna and Ralphie Maher

Betinna & Paul moved to West Virginia from Ashburn VA in 2003 by way of Charles Town for two years, ending up at 48 Field Crest Court, Shepherdstown in December 2005. Betinna was born Germany and grew up in a beautiful 13th century town on the edge of the Black Forest. She attended Language School and, after graduating, moved to London to work for an animation studio as a Producer. Tired of big city life, she decided to take an extended working vacation in Africa. While she was there, she fulfilled a lifelong passion and qualified as a Pilot, working at a local flight school as an instructor. It was there that she met Paul who was born and grew up in Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia). After graduating from College, Paul turned from an airplane-nut into a real pilot! He worked in various countries in Africa as

a flying instructor, a war relief supply pilot for Medecins Sans Frontiers (Doctors Without Borders), a volunteer pilot for wildlife conservation projects and as a passenger airline pilot.

Paul and Betinna got married in 1999 and moved to the US in December 2000 when the political situation in Zimbabwe started worsening. Betinna now works as a Customer Service Trainer for British Airways at Dulles Airport. Paul is currently a Boeing 747 Captain for British Global Airlines (formerly MK Airlines), a company providing aircraft and crew for specialist freight contracts worldwide. He has flown to more than 80 countries and generally works a cycle of three weeks away and two home (which is why you see Betinna mowing the lawn most of the time!).

Betinna is a self-confessed “greenie,” taking an interest in the environment and loves gardening and hiking. Paul also loves hiking, is a keen runner, a very poor golfer and dabbles in photography.

The third member of the family is Ralph, the Border Collie. Born in Zimbabwe, he spent his educational years there with cats, chickens and guinea fowl. He also attended sheepdog training. He moved to the US with his owners and is now responsible for their fitness and keeping the yard free of ground-hogs.

We are thrilled to call Shepherdstown, and our unique Deerfield Village, home. We have the most wonderful neighbors and are working on our West Virginia accents (promise!).

Recipes:

I’m Hungry. . . send ‘em if you got ‘em!

Betinna Maher’s Strawberry Roll

Ingredients:

5 eggs / separated (whites and yolks)
3/4 Cup granulated sugar (divided)
Scant 1/3 Cup flour (3 oz)
Scant 1/4 Cup corn starch (1.5 oz)

Filling:

1 Cup strawberries
2 TBS sugar
2 Cups (1 pint) whipping cream
2 TBS sugar for whipping cream
Powdered sugar

1. Wash and slice strawberries; mix with 2 TBS sugar.
2. Pre-heat oven to 375°F.
3. Beat the egg yolks with half of sugar until creamy.
4. Beat egg whites with other half of sugar until stiff peaks form. Gently fold into egg yolk mixture.
5. Add flour and corn starch, fold gently into mixture.
6. Spread mixture evenly onto baking tray lined with

parchment paper. Bake for 10 minutes.

7. Loosen sides and turn out on slightly dampened towel. Cool for approximately 20 minutes. Remove parchment paper when cooled.

8. Whip cream with 2 TBS sugar until firm, spread onto cake. Add strawberries.

9. Starting on wide end, roll up and cover with powdered sugar.

Total preparation time including baking and cooling time: 1 hour

Quotable. . .

Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community.

**Anthony J. D'Angelo,
The College Blue Book**