



Blue Ridge Bugle

Spring, 2018

A publication of the Blue Ridge Neighborhood Association (BRNA)
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Board Members:

President Debora "Ralf" Shaw, Vice President Mike Trotzke, Treasurer Shirley Watkins, Secretary Ann Birch, John Grigutis, Carole Canfield, Jillian Kinzie, Jeremy Nation

blueridgebloomington.in.us



SALUTE THE NEW BLUE RIDGE FLAG

Thanks to Carole Canfield for taking the lead to replace the American flag at our entrance gate. Carole identified the Super Tough Polyester American Flag we purchased. It has rave reviews for its durability, clear colors, and ability to stand up to sun and wind. Carole also retired our well-used flag through the American Legion.

Gene Laughman repaired the light on the flag pole that illuminates the flag at night. He is also working on restoring the floodlight. Gene saw something that needed attention and stepped up to work with the board to make it happen. Thanks to Carole and Gene, our flag will wave proudly now that traffic has returned to normal outside our gate.

2018–2019 NEIGHBORHOOD DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

Martha Michelson has compiled the latest edition of the directory. The new, improved version includes entries for each last name in a household and also directional names for streets (for example, "Rusgan Drive" is now "E Rusgan Drive"). The electronic version is posted in the documents section on Nextdoor.



Volunteers have delivered print copies to all paid members of the neighborhood association and to residents who have moved into the neighborhood since January 2018. Thanks to Martha for pulling us all together, to everyone who reviewed the draft and contributed updates, and to the delivery team: Carole Canfield, Jeannie Galbreath, Laura Ginger, Ellen Quardokus, Whitney Rutz, and Sylvia and George Turchyn.

BIGGEST (TREES) IN BLUE RIDGE



Odell Watkins' home in the 1960s: no trees!

Before Blue Ridge was platted, most of our neighborhood was farmland and pasture. Great for sledding, but not many trees. Odell Watkins, who built here in 1962, remembered finding a nursery selling oak saplings. He bought one and inspired others to do so, too. The result is an impressive array of majestic oaks in the Blue Ridge first addition (Blue Ridge Dr., Ramble East, Bankers, Rusgan). The north side of Blue Ridge, around Kenwood and Oliver, has remarkable old walnut trees. Our state tree, the tulip poplar, and white pines also are thriving in our neighborhood. Can we document what a great place Blue Ridge is for trees?

The official way to measure trees for comparison is diameter at breast height (DBH), which is 4.5 feet above ground. Ralf Shaw and Dedaimia Whitney have volunteered to collect reports of the DBH for Blue Ridge trees. If you have a candidate for Biggest in Blue Ridge, please measure it and send the tree species, location, and DBH to shawd@indiana.edu or dedaimia@gmail.com. Here's how to measure DBH:

1. With the measuring tape, measure 4.5 feet up the trunk of the tree from the ground. Use chalk to mark the height on the tree.
2. Wrap your string around the tree trunk at 4.5 feet. Make sure the string is straight and tight around the trunk, and mark or cut the circumference on the string.
3. Measure the length of string to get the circumference of the tree.
4. Convert the circumference measurement to diameter by dividing the circumference by pi (3.14).

For more information: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/trees/article/424017>.



COMING SOON! DISCOUNTED TREE SERVICE FOR BLUE RIDGE

JR Ellington Tree Experts is offering reduced rates for tree pruning and removal in Blue Ridge. Any job above \$2,500 (which can be combined work for more than one household) will be charged 10% off the standard price. Contact JR Ellington Tree Service at (812) 332-5882 for an estimate. <http://jrellingtontreeexpertsbloomington.com/>. The ailing blue spruce at the entrance gate will be removed as part of this project.

YARD WASTE PICK-UP: ONE MORE YEAR TO WAIT

As a reminder, the neighborhood decided at the 2016 annual meeting to have our yard waste pick-up every other year. If you have waste that cannot be composted and needs to be hauled this spring, feel free to make your own arrangements.

The city picks up yard waste, which can be in bundles, bags, your former trash cans, or other containers. No yard waste sticker is required; the city will bill for the yard waste along with the trash bill. The schedule is like previous years: every other Tuesday, April 10 to December 18.

NEIGHBORHOOD SEWER PIPES BOAST NEW LINING

The City of Bloomington Utilities (CBU) found problems with tree roots invading our sanitary sewers, especially in the south (older) part of Blue Ridge. The old sewer lines are clay pipes with joints very four feet; joints are where the tree roots head to get water and nutrients. The city decided to line all BR sanitary sewer pipes with a resin to block all the joints and resolve problems with deteriorating pipes.

The Layne Company is the city's contractor for the project. They inspected the pipes via video and cut out any accumulated tree roots. Then they used their trenchless pipeline rehabilitation, which is generally more convenient and less costly than the traditional approach of digging and replacing the pipe. (Yay!!)

Layne's proprietary Inliner® technology is called cured-in-place pipe, or CIPP. The company determines each pipe's diameter and condition, then manufactures a liner tube to those specifications. After thorough pipe cleaning, the resin impregnated tube is installed and cured using steam. Then, once the liner cools down, customer connections are reinstated from the inside of the pipe and the pipeline is placed back into active service. (Information – except the editorial “yay” – from CBU and the Layne.com website)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ Saturday June 2 - Blue Ridge participates in Blooming Neighborhood Celebration, Showers Common at City Hall, 10 a.m. to noon
- ❖ Saturday June 9 - Blue Ridge Neighborhood Yard Sale, 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 - Put balloons or other colorful indication on your mailbox if you are participating. BRNA will place an announcement in the *Herald-Times*.
- ❖ August 21 - Blue Ridge Annual Meeting at North Central Church of Christ, 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ September - Blue Ridge Picnic (tentatively Sunday the 9th)

NEW NEIGHBORS

If you are new to Blue Ridge, welcome! If you have moved here recently and have not yet received a welcome packet, please contact Jeannie Galbreath at 812-339-2970.

GUEST EDITOR

The BR Board thanks Ann Birch for volunteering to guest edit this issue of the Blue Ridge Bugle.

HAVE INFORMATION TO SHARE WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

If you'd like to submit an article for inclusion in the next edition of the newsletter, please email it to theotherbethany@hotmail.com or mail it to Bethany Nolan, 2960 Lakewood Court, Bloomington, IN 47408.

If you have more urgent information to share (a lost pet, or a crime in the neighborhood, for example), you can use Nextdoor to post urgent alerts that will go out to the neighborhood immediately.

Webmaster & newsletter editor reserve the right to edit submissions or not to publish information based on appropriateness and timeliness.