



PRIDES Newsletter

April 2022

Proud Residents Involved Doing Environmental Services

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Notes from the Horticulture Committee...

Spring is a good time to rejuvenate old, woody shrubs. Do you have a sage (or two) that has seen better days in your Section? If done correctly every 4-5 years, some of our shrubs can be cut back to 8-12 inches above the ground. This removes old wood that is no longer attractive because it no longer is producing leaves and flowers. This radical pruning allows fresh new growth on older plants. This is called rejuvenation pruning. Be careful, only certain plants will respond well to rejuvenation pruning.

You may use rejuvenation pruning on specific plants in the spring preferably before the end of March. If we encourage new growth by pruning too close to the summer months all of the new little leaves burn up.

Use loppers or pruning saws for clean cuts for this work. Do not shears which damage the plant stems and branches. Torn bark and ragged cuts make easy access for disease and pests.

What plants are safe to cut back now? Continued below.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I need to begin by thanking the Pickleball Club. This year they set a record with \$50,930 of donations from their Pickleball Drop and various raffles for great prizes. The Club identified 11 SCW Charities to make contributions with the donated money. PRIDES is one of the 11 charities. When we receive our check, we'll let you know the amount and thank the Club again.

WEED FRENZY!! We are making progress with our weeds. Many sections are looking much better. Thanks to all that have sprayed and picked those demons. We are moving forward with a strategy to use "pre-emergent" twice per year to keep the demons from germinating. We will keep you posted.

Just a reminder, if anyone has borrowed tools and equipment from the shop, please remember to return. We are even missing 3 chain saws. To help keep track of our tools and equipment, we have a volunteer that will create an inventory. Anyone wishing to borrow a tool will be asked to complete a form to sign the equipment out and then back in. This certainly will help with my memory issues.

One last item, we are developing a plan to recruit new members. When I checked, only Bud and Kathy Estes are getting younger. The larger our group, the smaller the workloads, and the more efficient we become.

Let me close in my traditional way by thanking all our volunteer members, all those that work the streets, the shop, the water group, and those behind the scenes that coordinate our operation.

THANK YOU!!

Gary Schroer, President

April Schedule
Begin 7 AM Start time
April 2 - Work Day
April 9 - Work Day
April 16 - No Work, Happy Easter
April 23 - Work Day, Pay Day Membership Meeting, Apparel Available, check or cash
April 30 - Work Day



PRIDES President, Gary Schroer, accepts a really BIG check from the Pickleball Drop for Charity event. PRIDES gratefully thanks all the sponsors and donors who made this event possible.

Maricopa County Master Gardener Course

Applications are now being accepted for the Master Gardener Course beginning in July. The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension trains gardening enthusiasts of Maricopa County as Master Gardener Volunteers who help their fellow citizens grow better gardens and more sustainable landscapes. This 17-week course is online so if you have an internet connection, you can attend. The cost of the course and materials is \$300. For more information and the Application click here:

[Become a Maricopa County Master Gardener](#)

Notes from the Horticulture Committee continued...

Rejuvenation pruning is only appropriate for some plants at specific times of the year. Right now, before it gets too hot, Lantana, Sage, Dalea, grasses (better in late winter), Chuparosa, Turpentine Bush, Fairy Duster, Bush Morning Glory, Emu, Oleander, and Brittle Bush may be rejuvenated. Some of our other plants should be cut back in the fall or winter. Stay tuned for more info next September. ALWAYS check with your monitor before pruning any plant and NEVER Prune (RAAY) Ruellia, Aloes, Agaves, Yuccas!



PRIDES APPAREL Available at the April 23rd Payday Meeting

Jackets \$25 or \$28
Beanies \$10
Visors \$10
Long-Sleeve T's \$14 or 15
Cash or Check Only

Monitors Corner

From Vice President Tom Jones; Remember to email Tom your topics for our Monthly Monitors' Meetings. Agendas for these meetings will be based on your emails. To all Members, if you have a topic to discuss, please talk with your Monitor first and he/she will forward it to Tom. This written input will also assist us with the coordination of our work with Maricopa County.

P.S. Plant Swap

These are available at the shop, first come first serve:

Agave macroacantha
Variegated agave (2)
Agave Americana or Colorata
Medicinal aloe (2)
Agave mysterii (2) (no clue of species)
Organ Pipe Cactus



Bud Armstrong always keeping us laughing!
Thank you, Bud



Our Gleaning Team on their last day of gleaning. Well done! Thank you to our leads, Tom and Suzanne Jones, and crew; Bud Armstrong
Kevin Benjamin
George Carr
Kay Cummings
Leslie Eiler
Craig Forneris
Dave Hill
Lowell Janssen
Ginett Janssen
Cheri Southorn
Wendy Venske

Your Horticulture Committee is Here to Help!

The PRIDES Horticulture Committee is comprised of PRIDES members who have an interest in the landscape needs that exist in the unique micro-climate along our roadways. One of the many responsibilities of this committee includes the management of an 'Approved Plant List.' You can find this list on our website. The plants on this list are hardy enough to survive blazing sun, extreme heat, and are frost tolerant. Monitors, the form to request new plants for your Section is on the website or click [HERE](#). Plant *placement* requires that new plants have enough space to reach their mature size. Questions about plant selection or placement? Contact your Horticulture Committee Chairperson, Bruce Kilbride, brucek@cox.net

Your 2022 PRIDES Board Members and Officers

President–Gary Schroer
Vice President–Tom Jones
Secretary–Lisa Safago
Treasurer–Kathy Estes
Associate Treasurer-Disbursements–
Lowell Janssen
Associate Treasurer-Revenue–
Nora Timson

Director-
Dick McBee
Director-Paul Kunze
Director-Vacant
Associate Treasurer-Disbursements–Vacant



Do you know someone with a **small truck or working golf cart** they would like to donate? PRIDES needs to update the fleet. Some of our current fleet have reached their life expectancy, plus a few years. Contact the PRIDES office at scwprides@gmail.com or call the office at 623-584-2878

April Pay Day Refreshments SHOUT OUT TO:

Cranstoun Court Jewellers
Thank You!

April Anniversaries CONGRATULATIONS!

Val Kuhn	19 Years
Wes Kuhn	19 Years
Moe Brubaker	14 Years
Carol Nelson	14 Years
David DeFrance	6 Years
Mike Radtke	6 Years
Molly Osborne	5 Years
Doug Neilson	4 Years
John Kershaw	3 Years
Maureen Smith	3 Years
Mea Stees	1 Year