

*Riviera West/Harbor View Bimonthly Newsletter***PRESIDENTS' MESSAGES****Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club**

Winter seems to have breathed its last cold wind, so we can move ahead with some improvement projects including a new entrance sign to replace the one that was removed by an unfortunate accident on March 7 where a pick-up truck crashed into the sign. We are installing a couple of "Slow Down" signs to remind drivers to observe speed limits to spare pedestrians, dogs and wildlife. Other projects include the installation of hand rails on the stairs leading down to the park, repairs to the clubhouse and partial replacement of the fencing at the pool.

We will hold a free chipping day in April. Owners can leave branch trimmings on the roadside according to our usual guidelines until that date. Watch for an announcement about the specific dates and the guidelines for preparing material for chipping.

Our annual fire safety inspections will begin in May and citations will be issued for properties that have hazardous fire conditions. Check your land beforehand and, if needed, secure the services of a land clearing contractor since the contractors book up fast in June, July and August. If you need the name of a reliable contractor, contact the HOA office for a list. The office can also assist you in securing an estimate for work on your property.

Our vital committees will also be upping their activity and are always in need of new members. Add your voice and ideas to the Pool Committee, the Marina Committee, the Fire Safety Committee, Architectural Control or the Social Committee. Just drop an email or make a call to the office to sign up.

"An optimist is the human personification of spring." – Susan J. Bissonette

Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

A big **Thank You!** to all who responded to the "Don't Miss Out" postcard. We were able to add and update many customers. But there are still quite a few who have not responded. Using email is a fast and economical way to keep everyone informed.

We're encouraging all owners and customers to register for the online Client Portal. The more people we have registered, the more effective it can become.

Our funding application with the USDA for the Water Storage Tank Replacement Project inches forward through the paperwork maze. Hopefully, we'll have some good news to share soon.

With the warmer weather coming, keep an eye on the vegetation around your meter box. Clear out any brush or grass that might obstruct view or hinder access to the meter. This is especially important as we transition to the radio read meters.

Happy Spring!



Riviera West Country Club
Harbor View Mutual Water Company
 8475 Harbor View Drive
 Kelseyville, CA 95451
 707-279-8544 • fax 707-279-0118
rivierawest@gmail.com
harborviewwater@gmail.com
 website: www.rivierawesthoa.com

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and
 Thursday: 9 am – 3 pm
 Wednesday: 9 – 11 am
 Friday: 9 am – 3:30 pm

The office is open for phone and email only; we are temporarily closed to visitors due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Riviera West Board:

President: Philip Hartley
 Treasurer: C. Richard Smith
 Secretary: Clelia Baur
 Director: Doug Moore
 Director: Bob Gunion

Harbor View Mutual Water Company Board:

President: Norma Simmons
 Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Smits
 Director: Jean Swegle
 Director: Carina DeHererra

Regular Board Meetings:

Third Wednesday every other month beginning in January. Riviera West meeting is 4:30 PM via Zoom, Harbor View meeting is 5:30 PM via zoom.



Hazardous Fuels Reduction Along Evacuation Routes Within the Riviera Heights and Riviera West Residential Subdivisions and Maintenance of Surrounding Firebreaks

The Clear Lake Environmental Research Center (CLERC) has formally approved a grant in the amount of \$189,000 jointly to Riviera West and Riviera Heights. Funding for this project is provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as part of the California Climate Investments Program through a Fire Prevention Grant to the Clear Lake Environmental Research Center. The funds include:

\$50,000 to each community for removal of hazardous trees

\$89,000 for maintenance of the three fire breaks that surround the two communities

Up to 40 trees in each community will be removed, depending on contractor rates. The trees will include tall, aging gray and knob cone pines that pose a danger of contributing to fire storm conditions and blocking of roads within the communities. The project will take 12-18 months. If you know of some "candidate" trees for this project, drop an email to the office.

Ladies' Club Update



Happy Spring to Everyone!

There are still no events planned but we are keeping our fingers crossed that things will be safer, SOON. We are hoping this time off will inspire all of us to come up with fresh new ideas for our social activities in the future. If you have any, let us know!

Kerry Moore, President

Our Ladies' Club: The Riviera West Ladies' Club was founded in the 1970s with a mission to promote good fellowship among members. Ladies' Club members organize events throughout the year, ranging from work parties to casual summer get-togethers to large social gatherings. Whatever the theme, Ladies' Club events are fun and festive, and create opportunities to meet and appreciate our neighbors.

During the winter, Club members organize a food and toy donation effort that benefits Lake County charities. Ladies' Club leaders also manage the clubhouse rental process, an effort that benefits all members. With the Covid health restrictions, the usual event calendar has been on hold. We look forward to resuming our get-togethers! All members are welcome to join the Ladies' Club, and ideas are encouraged. Please watch your email and the Riviera West website for updates and announcements about the Ladies' Club.

Important Dates

- ▶ April (date to be announced): Free chipping day.
- ▶ May 10, 2021: Annual Property Owners' Packet (including ballots) mailed to all members.
- ▶ May 2021: Lot inspections begin for fire prevention.
- ▶ May 19, 2021 Wednesday: Riviera West Board Meeting via Zoom at 4:30 PM.
- ▶ May 19, 2021 Wednesday: Harbor View Mutual Water Company Board Meeting via Zoom at 5:30 PM.
- ▶ May 31, 2021: Water bill payment due.
- ▶ June 18, 2021, 3:00 PM: Deadline for receipt of Riviera West and Harbor View Board election ballots.
- ▶ June 19, 2021 Saturday: Annual Board Meetings via Zoom. Riviera West: 9:00 AM Harbor View: 11:00 AM (Further information will be sent via mail and email.)
- ▶ June (date to be announced) Annual free chipping day for Riviera West members. Watch your email and the website for dates and instructions for preparing your chipping piles.

WATER COMPANY EMERGENCY?

If you cannot reach the office, call
707-279-4143.



Summer 2021 Swimming Pool Dates



The Riviera West swimming pool will open for the 2021 summer season beginning on Saturday, May 29. The pool usually closes at the end of the Labor Day weekend, however if weather permits the pool could remain open for a short period past Labor Day.

We encourage all members to review the pool rules, including proper social distancing guidelines in place at the time. Please consult the pool signs for updated pool rules and public health information. [Click here](#) for the pool rules.

Coming Soon to Your Mailbox: Members' Annual Mailing

Every year in May, Riviera West and Harbor View Mutual Water Company jointly send a packet of information to all members via the US Postal Service. Check your mailbox in mid-May for this important set of documents.

Included is information about the HOA and Water Company Annual Meetings on June 19, ballots for the Boards of Directors, budgets for the coming fiscal year, a contact information form and much more.

HELP US REACH YOU!

We especially ask that you complete the CONTACT INFORMATION FORM included in the annual mailing and return it to the office. Riviera West is legally obligated to get your updated contact info every year. Knowing your current email, phone and address information helps us keep you informed. Without it, we can't reach you with water service bulletins, emergency information, rules changes and other notices that affect your property.

Your Boards of Directors thank you for your continued interest and participation!

Spring Work Party! Are You Interested?

Riviera West has a history of volunteering together on projects for the common good. Hopefully Covid restrictions will ease in the coming months and we will be able to gather for a neighborhood work party, a fun event many of us have sorely missed.

Our past successful events include creating the heron park at the clubhouse, pruning and planting landscaped areas, and clearing pine needles and debris from the roadsides. There is usually music, refreshments are served and a fun and friendly atmosphere prevails.

We welcome new volunteers, so if you are new in Riviera West or have never participated before, please don't be shy! Let us put your name on the list and you can join next time if you are available. Projects being considered this year include some pine-needle sweeping, tidying up the recreation and heron parks, and planting bulbs in the bus stop area.

If you would like more information or have ideas to share, leave a message for Clelia or Norma at the office, 707-279-8544. We look forward to hearing from you soon!



Did you receive this postcard? Please take a moment to email a message to Harbor View's new address:

harborviewwater@gmail.com

Include your name and address. We are creating a new client email database. If we have your email we can contact you with service updates, power outages and other vital information about your water service. Please send an email today!

Don't Miss...

...important messages from your water company

Harbor View Mutual Water Company is introducing our new online bill-pay portal and new email address. We are updating our email list to be sure we can reach you. Don't miss service updates, power outage notices and other vital information.

It only takes a minute to stay in touch with us:

1. Just send an email to harborviewwater@gmail.com. Include your name and property address in the message.
2. Don't forget to add us to your email contact list so we don't end up in your spam folder.

That's it! We will make sure your contact information is the most current. As always, we protect your information and never sell or share contact lists.

The new email address is for Harbor View business only. The Riviera West HOA email address is the same as always.



Harbor View Mutual Water Company
8475 Harbor View Drive, Kelseyville, CA 95451
harborviewwater@gmail.com 707-279-8544

PG&E Expert Tree Planting Advice

As we've all witnessed, trees planted along the street easily grow into the cable and power lines. When this happens, internet and/or power outages often ensue. PG&E routinely provides information on suitable street-side trees. With our zone 7 dry climate and hungry deer population, the list of trees that will really thrive is fairly narrow.

With careful attention, Riviera West property owners have had success with natives such as toyon and western redbud. Olive, Bradford pear, mimosa, palms, bottle brush and dwarf magnolia also grow well along our streets. It is advisable to shield young trees (even the natives) from deer damage using temporary wire cages, and provide regular water for the first year or two. Trees should be planted so that they do not grow over the street as they mature, which can impede traffic and visibility as well as prevent stormwater drainage.

When you are assessing the future of your street-side trees, keep in mind this PG&E statement: "PG&E is required by law to prune and sometimes remove tall trees that grow into our threaten electric lines. That's why it is important to choose small trees that will be less than 25 feet at maturity when planting near distribution power lines and only low-growing shrubs (or no trees at all) in the wire zone beneath transmission lines." The following general advice is from PG&E's pge.com/righttreerightplace website:

Within High Fire-Threat Districts (HFTD)

You play a vital role to ensure that the right tree is safely planted in the right place. If you live in a high fire-threat area designated by the CPUC, please follow these safety clearances:

Small zone: Within 15 feet of the wires on the pole, plant only low-growing plants less than 12 inches at maturity that have high moisture, and low sap or resin content.

Medium zone: From 15 to 50 feet on either side of the wires or the pole, plant trees that reach no taller than 40 feet at maturity.

Tall zone: At least 50 feet away from the wires on the pole, you may plant trees that grow taller than 40 feet at maturity.

To learn more, visit PG&E's website. When the Riviera West office reopens, you can also consult our recommended tree posters and PG&E landscaping booklets.

Office Closure During Covid-19 Restrictions

The Riviera West/Harbor View office remains closed to visitors for the near future. To help protect the health of our staff and essential workers, you can use the drop box near the office entrance for payments and paperwork.

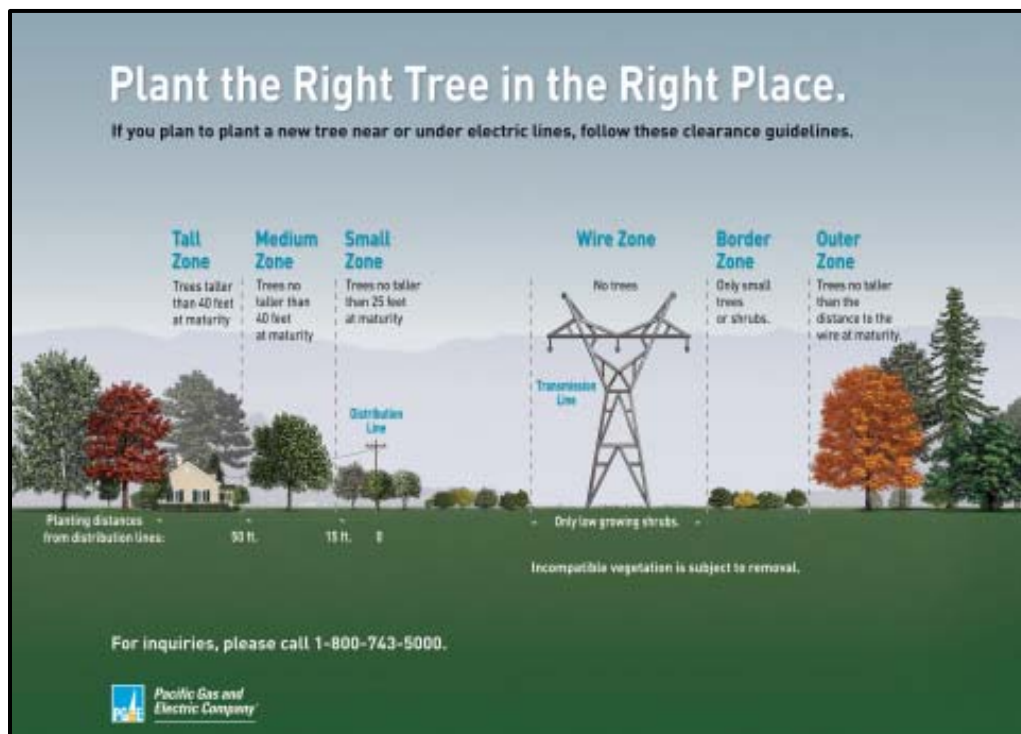
In specific situations, the Office Administrator will make an appointment for secure drop-off and pick-up at the office. Documents may be left for you at the door to avoid close contact. Call the office if you want to make an appointment.

We continue to monitor restrictions for our type of business as things improve and will keep members updated on changes.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the office by email or phone rather than visiting the office in person. We will ensure that the message reaches the appropriate person for response.

Thank you for joining us in taking responsible action during the Covid-19 situation.

Maintaining best practices for public health during these next few months will help keep every-one healthier in the long run. For California's Covid-19 public health guidelines, visit covid19.ca.gov/.



Riviera West Pre-Ballot Notice to all Association Members

- Annual Election of Association Members
- Membership Meeting Date: Saturday, June 19, 2021, 9:00 AM via Zoom
- Pre-Ballot Notification per Civil Code §5115(b)

In not less than 30 days you will receive a ballot for the above referenced election. Please take notice of the following important information relative to the handling of ballots for the election to make certain that your ballot is counted:

Return of Ballots: All completed ballots must be returned to the designated Inspector of Election by mail or personal delivery. Send or drop off your ballot addressed to Sue Wilson, Inspector of Elections, Riviera West Country Club, 8475 Harbor View Drive, Kelseyville, CA 95451. When you receive your ballot in the mail from Riviera West, a pre-addressed envelope will be included.

Deadline for Return of Ballots: For your vote to be counted, your ballot must be returned to the Inspector of Elections by 3:00 PM Friday, June 18, 2021. The ballots will be counted on Friday, June 18, 2021 at the Riviera West office under the supervision of the Inspector of Elections.

Candidates whose names will be on the Ballot:

Clelia Baur

Bob Gunion

There are only two open positions in this year's election. You can also write-in a candidate. Please follow the instructions on the ballot form.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the Riviera West office.



Now is the Time to Bring Your Lot Into Compliance. Get a Head Start on Clearing for Fire Season!

Riviera West lot clearing requirements:

- ▶ Grass and weeds must be no taller than three inches.
- ▶ Remove brush piles and flammable debris.
- ▶ Remove flammable material from under and around your house and deck.
- ▶ Remove dead trees. Contact the Riviera West office for ACP approval before removing any tree.
- ▶ Remove "ladder fuels" that allow fire to spread from the ground to tree branches.
- ▶ Tree limbs must be trimmed to at least 6 feet from the ground.
- ▶ Trim shrubs and trees, especially of dead branches. No tree branches should be too close to or touching the roof or other parts of the building.
- ▶ Lot inspections will take place in May.

Contact the Fire Safety Committee at 707-279-8544 for more information, or for tree removal and brush-clearing referrals.

Chipping Day will be in late June. Instructions will be sent by email and posted on the website.

Let's work together to keep our homes and families safe!

Visit our website to view the Riviera West Fire Prevention Policy.

Riviera West is a certified Firewise Community.



Photo courtesy of Phil Hartley

Wildflowers of Riviera West: Douglas Iris

One of the pleasures of living in Riviera West is enjoying the wild plants that thrive on Mount Konocti. As a special feature, our newsletter will highlight a different local wildflower in every issue. These delightful volunteers are a cheerful presence in the neighborhood, particularly on vacant properties and in the surrounding countryside. Please do not pick the wildflowers; try taking a selfie instead! Left undisturbed, they will create seeds and bulbs and we will be able to enjoy future generations of beautiful flowers.

DOUGLAS IRIS

Iris douglasiana, the **Douglas iris**, is a common wildflower of the coastal regions of Northern and Central California and southern Oregon in the United States. Also known as the Pacific Coast Native Iris, Douglas Iris was first described by 19th century botanist David Douglas in Monterey, California. It grows mainly at lower elevations, below 330 feet, though it is occasionally found at heights of up to 3,000 feet. It is most common in grasslands near the coast; it is regarded as a noxious weed in pastures, because it forms clumps that inhibit other vegetation, and its leaves are bitter and unpalatable to cattle.

This is a typical beardless *Iris* of subgenus *Limniris*, series *Californicae*, growing from a rhizome that is typically under a centimeter in diameter. Its leaves are a little less than an inch wide. It flowers from April to June. Flowers are usually a purplish-blue, though occasionally white or yellow flowers are found. Two or three flowers are found on each stem, which is of variable height, ranging from 5.5 to 31 inches tall.

These little irises grow close to the ground and can easily be overlooked. Colors range from deep purple all the way to white and sometimes yellow.

This plant has gained the [Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit](#).^[3]

Cultivation

Douglas iris can be purchased online from bulb dealers or at nurseries. They are very hardy and can tolerate the dappled shade that is common on Riviera West properties. It blends well with other ground covers and western wildflowers.

HELP OUR WILDFLOWER population survive by not planting invasive species. Invasive plants can spread aggressively, endangering wild plants and the wildlife that depends on them. Invasives in our area include vinca major (periwinkle), pampas grass, leafy spurge, purple vetch, French broom, Scotch broom and other broom plants, and the infamous yellow star thistle. Some of these bad actors were planted by folks who didn't know they were introducing a problem. And some even continue to be sold at local nurseries! Before buying, be sure your selection is not an invasive plant. If you have a problem plant on your property, ask a reputable nursery or the UC Master Gardener program (<http://mg.ucanr.edu/index.cfm>) for advice on non-invasive alternatives.

HELPFUL LINKS:

California Native Plant Society <https://calscape.org/>

California Invasive Plants Council <https://www.cal-ipc.org/plants/profiles/>

and <https://www.lakercd.org/2019-native-plant-list.html>



DOUGLAS IRIS

- ✓ Spring bloomer
- ✓ Purple, lavender, white and yellow flowers
- ✓ Long-lived and naturally spreading
- ✓ Seen in open woodland and along roadsides
- ✓ Cultivated bulbs easily available

Text credit: Wikipedia, 3/25/21.

Photo credit: USDA Forest Service website 3/25/21