

AVOCET



NOV. - DEC.
2007

Bobby McVey, Editor

Prints

LOVE That Avocet Tennis!

Tennis is alive and well at Avocet. ALTA fall doubles tennis is finished and it looks like everyone is taking a break before the ALTA mixed tennis begins in January. There are no winter USTA teams playing this season, so the courts will be more available than usual on the weekends through the holidays.

January will see two levels playing ALTA mixed doubles – B6 and A7. These are both fairly high level teams, but with enough interest a lower level team could be started in the summer. Spring will bring two women's doubles teams and two men's doubles teams. All teams are looking for players and the lower level teams are appropriate for beginners. Watch the newsletter and website for information on when these teams will be forming. ALTA is the Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association, the largest community based tennis association in the nation. Ratings are based on team level play. Matches are played on Saturdays and Sundays, depending on the season and the league. Winter mixed will play on Sunday afternoon.

USTA is the United States Tennis Association, and the next season will be summer for women's and men's

doubles. Play is on the weekend. Ratings are based on individual level of play. Watch the newsletter and the website for information on when these teams are forming.

There are two internet tennis leagues that our residents are currently playing. Ultimate Tennis, formerly K-Swiss tennis, is an informal singles league with flexible scheduling and play is based on individual rating. This

is a good league for beginner or seasoned players who want to get a lot of play time against unknown opponents. Matches are assigned based on zip codes.

T2Tennis is an informal doubles league with mixed, men's and women's doubles teams. This league also has flexible schedules based on zip codes. Ratings are based on the team members USTA ratings or self rating if necessary.

The Recreation Committee will be able to assist you if you are interested in joining a team,

forming a team, learning to play tennis. Come on out!

—Julie Dominquez, Recreation Committee

AVOCET Prints welcomes articles about neighborhood activities and events. Please submit via e-mail to bmcgrafx@bellsouth.net.

Check out these websites for more information

recreation@avocet-hoa.org

altatennis.org

usta.com

ultimatetennis.com

T2tennis.com

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Gwinnett County Water Restrictions

This article is reprinted from the Gwinnett County website and the Dept. of Water Resources.

FAQs for Drought Response Level Four

What is drought response level 4?
Drought Response Level 4 is a total ban on outdoor water use.

Decorative water fountains?
The use of ornamental fountains is prohibited in Drought Response Level 4.

Can I fill my swimming pool?
Filling of pools is prohibited in Drought Response Level 4, including topping off. If the pool level falls below the filter, it is time to close the pool for the season.

What if my pool has been repaired and must be filled or the sides will collapse?
For the purpose of maintaining structural integrity the pool may be filled. Please provide a written repair receipt and the date you will be filling the pool to the Department of Water Resources for our records.

Are there any exemptions to Drought Response Level 4? Yes.

- Watering of new landscapes installed by certified or licensed professionals may be watered for 30 days.
 - Landscape and irrigation professionals are exempt from restrictions when on the property.
 - Homeowners must follow the hours of Midnight-10 AM during the 30 days following professional installation.
- Irrigation of personal food gardens is allowed.
- Use of reclaimed water is allowed. (i.e. rain water or air conditioner condensate)
- Water from an alternate source is allowed. (i.e. pumping from a

personal creek or well) We caution that these water bodies also face difficulty during the drought and are unlikely to recharge. Also, drawing down these smaller bodies does impact streams and rivers that are fed by these sources.

For ore details on exemptions, go to: http://www.gaepd.org/Files_PDF/rules/rules_exist/391-3-30.pdf

What if I just installed new landscaping at my home? Can I water?
Watering of newly installed landscape by homeowners is prohibited in Drought Response Level 4. For new landscape installed prior to the Drought Response Level 4 declaration (September 28, 2007), the homeowner may complete their 30 watering days between the hours of midnight and 10 AM. Proof of landscape purchase prior to the declaration date is required.

Why did we go to a total ban?
The Georgia EPD has declared the need for a Drought Response Level 4 in order to preserve our water supply. The following factors influenced the decision.

- Ongoing and projected continuing drought conditions.
- Higher than normal temperatures and lower than normal precipitation—16 inches behind in rainfall for the year.
- Lake Lanier was predicted to reach its winter pool (lowest level of the year) by October. It normally reaches that level in December.
- Lake Lanier is 12 feet below normal and continues to drop.
- Lake Lanier is predicted to hit historically low levels.
- Continued withdrawals by the Army Corps of Engineers is also drawing down Lake Lanier.
- We must ensure an adequate water supply for public health and safety.

I am a professional painter or power washer. Can I power wash homes, etc.?
Yes. We are not restricting business use of water at this time. Professionals can power wash as needed.

Holiday Party

There will be a Holiday Party at the Avocet Clubhouse for adults only on December 8, from 6:30 p.m. until.... Come meet your neighbors. Turkey, ham and soft drinks will be provided. BYOB. Please bring a side dish, dessert or bread to share with your neighbors. Watch the Avocet web site and your mailbox for additional information.

Chemlawn came out and treated my yard. They said I have to water it in tonight. Can I?

Yes. This is considered a business use of water. The customer should water it in between Midnight and 10 AM. They shuld request documentation from their lawn chemical company.

Can I hold a charity carwash to raise money?

No. Charity carwashes have been banned since we went to Drought Level Response 2.

Is aeration and over seeding considered new landscape?

Yes. We received clarification from DNR that it is considered new landscape. If a professional company has aerated and over seeded, the homeowner will have 30 days to water it in.

How can I get my garden through the drought?

- Capture the condensation from your air conditioner unit. Some units provide up to 20 gallons of water a day.
- Use a rain barrel to capture rain water.
- Catch the water in your shower as you wait for it to heat up. Use it on high priority plants.
- Save a few gallon jars. Perforate the bottom with small nail holes. Fill with water you saved indoors or from your AC unit. Place them throughout your garden. They will delivery water slowly to the roots.
- For more tips on how to survive the drought, visit the Department of Water Resources web page at www.gwinnettcounty.com.

Outside the fence

Peachtree Corners Women's Club News

With the holiday season fast approaching, we all deserve a night to just have fun and hang out with our neighborhood friends. That is where the Peachtree Corners Women's Club can help. Our meetings provide a relaxing evening away from the usual stresses of the day.

Our next meeting will be our Annual Ornament Exchange. We ask that you each bring a wrapped ornament (no more than \$10 please). The evening gets interesting when we begin playing the "White Elephant Game" to see who goes home with which ornament. There is always a "friendly fight" over one or two ornaments. Hope you can join us!!
DATE: Thursday, December 6th, 7:30
WHERE: Home of Judy Arnold, 5310 Edgerton Drive (Amberfield Subdivision). Enter from West Jones Bridge onto Amberfield Drive, take 2nd left onto Ancient Amber Way, take 1st right onto Edgerton, house on right. Contact Judy at 770-729-0315, or judyarnold611@aol.com.
CO-HOSTESSES: Laurie Killen, Rhonda Levan

Support our Veterans

Our Veterans deserve your support. Over the next few weeks, **Adam Katz** will be collecting toiletries, and other comfort items to show our wounded and disabled heroes that we remember them and what they did for our country. Your donations will be given to the VA Hospital in Atlanta.

Donations can be left at his home, at a collection box, 4655 Avocet Drive, until November 30. His telephone number is 770-613-0280, and his e-mail is doug@katzrus.com.

- New items and travel sized toiletries only. Food items must not



- be perishable.
- Men: shaving items, soap, shampoo, combs, deodorant, toothpaste.
- Women: nail care, hair care, feminine hygiene, mirrors, brushes.
- Other: slippers, socks, underwear, pajamas, playing cards, board games, coffee, sugar, creamer.
- Holidays cards: No full names due to privacy restrictions. Sign with first names only.
- Send an email to receive a complete list from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, voluntary service: doug@katzrus.com
subject: help veterans

Also, **Shelby McVey** is collecting items to donate for USO CARE Packages to earn her Girl Scout Silver Award.

Items accepted include:

- Individual serving size bottled water
- Coffee
- Paper Napkins
- Insulated 8 oz. cups
- Plastic sandwich bags
- Plastic forks, knives and spoons
- Paper towels
- Individual sugar, creamer, mayonnaise, mustard, and ketchup packets
- Large and small paper plates
- Plastic serving gloves
- Holiday treats/candy bars
- Individual snack packs (nuts/pretzels/trail mix)
- Liter bottles of Coca-Cola Products
- Electronic hand-held games, batteries, pre-paid phone cards
- Tickets to entertainment events
- Gift Certificates, such as Costco, Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, Publix, etc.

All food items should be industry prepared for safety and hygiene. Shelby is accepting donations through December 5th, and they can be dropped off in a collection box at her home, 3390 Avocet Court.

Virtual Book Drive

...to benefit the children of Norcross Cooperative Ministries, sponsored by Peachtree Elementary School, REMAX

Suburban Atlanta and First book-Atlanta Alpha Xi Delta...November 15, 2007 thru December 20, 2007.

Books stir the senses, inspire the imagination, and spark a love of reading that can last a lifetime. This holiday season share the joy of reading with local children in need.

Monetary donations should be made to www.firstbook.org/norcross.

By donating to First Book-Atlanta Alpha Xi Delta, you can bring the magic of reading to a child. Your tax deductible contribution will be used to purchase high quality new books for children who utilize Norcross Cooperative services. Just \$2.50 gives a child a new book; \$30.00 fills a backpack with books; \$50.00 can fill a bookshelf; and \$150.00 purchases a whole bookcase!

Or bring your nearly new or new children's books to drop-off locations around the Peachtree Corners area:

Kroger - Centre Stage
Publix - Peachtree Corners
Publix - Spalding Corners
Remax Suburban Atlanta - Hwy 141
Peachtree Elementary School
Norcross High School
Pinckneyville Middle School
Simpson Elementary School
Stripling Elementary School
Curves - Norcross location
Gwinnett Fire Stn. No. 4 - Spalding Dr.

Questions? Contact Janice Flake, Peachtree Elementary (770)448-8710, or Marilyn Whitmer (404)379-3619.

Clubhouse Rental

The Avocet Clubhouse is available to rent for our homeowners. There is a refundable deposit of \$100 plus a \$50 fee for rental. There is a full kitchen, a big screen TV and a brand new DVD player with awesome surround sound that you can even hook your iPod up to. You can check out the details at <http://www.avocet-hoa.org/resources/clubhouse/rental.html>.



From the Architectural Control Committee

A reminder, ACC approval is required for all exterior changes to your home, including, but not limited to:

- Adding a fence
- Painting the exterior of your home
- Replacing your current mailbox post with a brick or wrought iron post
- Adding a screened-in porch, deck, room addition, concrete pad, shed or storage building
- Adding hardscape such as a retaining wall or dry creekbed
- Installing playground equipment, including swingsets & basketball goals
- Replacement doors, windows & awning additions
- Any landscaping involving a change of the grade of land or runoff onto other's property, use of substantial mechanical assistance, or any other major restructuring of existing landscape
- Pool and hot tub installations
- Any flags other than the American, official Georgia state or seasonal decorative flags

You can review the current guidelines by clicking the links on the ACC web

Do You Have Masonite Siding?

On January 15, 1998, a settlement was granted in a Masonite siding case. The settlement provides a program for eligible claimants to recover the costs associated with the damage caused by the installation and incorporation of Masonite Hardboard Siding.

The claims filing deadline for this suit is January 15, 2008 for siding installed between January 1, 1990 and January 15, 1998.

For more information, visit <http://www.masoniteclaims.com/hardboard/index.htm>

page at <http://www.avocet-hoa.org/committees/architecture/architecture.htm>. You can find the ACC Request form there as well.

2007-2008 Avocet Board of Directors

The annual meeting of members was held Tuesday, September 25, 2007 to elect the Board of Directors for the next year. The members elected Jeanne Aulbach, Sean Bennett, Lara Foreman, Kenneth Greeker, and Neil Gonsalves the 2007-2008 Avocet BOD.

Congratulations to the new Board of Directors, and thanks for volunteering your time and energy to Avocet. Make a point to get to know your new Directors, and add your support and input to their efforts. They can be contacted at bod@avocet-hoa.org.

Thanks to Julie Dominguez and Mike Frintner who are leaving the board, as well as Jeanne Aulbach, Sean Bennett, and Lara Foreman who are serving another term. Your efforts and

contributions in the past year are greatly appreciated!

Kids Club Events

Congratulations and thanks to our Kids Club. We had a great turnout for the Halloween party almost 200 children came for glow necklaces and the march to the front behind the firetruck.

This is only one of the events that our Kids Club provides for our Avocet children. The annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 8 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the clubhouse. Traditionally, Santa and there are several crafts projects for the children.

There is a new event planned as well as a new Kids Movie Night. This will be held on Friday Dec. 21st at 6:00 for kids 10 and under. It will be a holiday themed movie. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Popcorn and drinks will be provided. Please check the website as the date gets closer for more details. If this is a success, it may become a regular event throughout the year.

THE UPS STORE

Special Pricing for Avocet Residents!!!

Color Copies - 33 cents each; Black and White Copies - 5 cents each.
Mail Box Rental - 1 month free with a 3-month mailbox services agreement, 2 months free with a 6-month mailbox services agreement, 3 months free with a 12-month mailbox services agreement.

Bring this ad or mention you are a resident of Avocet

Peachtree Industrial Boulevard and Summit Ridge Parkway
(Publix Shopping Center)
3870 Peachtree Industrial Blvd, Ste. 150 • Duluth, GA 30096
(770) 623-8222 • store3857@theupsstore.com

Great Offer from Georgia Pressure & Steam!

The folks from Georgia Pressure & Steam have teamed up with the Avocet Property Owners Association to bring you a great 20% discount on their pressure washing services.

To get a firm estimate, you can call William at 770-729-6200 and let him know you are an Avocet resident. You can also visit their website at www.georgiapressure.com.