

December 23, 2020

To COP members, Greetings from Minnesota where it is snowing and we will have a white Christmas. I want to update you all to what has transpired with our grounds this summer and fall. Much of this many of you are already aware.

As you have noticed our green grass is growing well. Of course, in the process our water bill went up which is normal for this. It will go down now this month. Watering is cut back to every third day now. Our bubblers still run Monday, Wednesday and Saturday only one time a day around 9AM. . We have some bare spots which it seems aren't getting water. Ray is working on this. Some are worse due to the killing of weeds earlier. Ray sodded some areas down near 125<sup>th</sup> street with some extra sod he had which was appreciated at no charge to us.

Ray has had numerous sprinkler, bubbler and valve repairs. Some are still in process and major. He feels we will probably be replacing a few valves this year which are expensive. He repairs them whenever possible to save money. It is appreciated that everyone is checking and notifying where repairs are needed. We went over our budget for repairs this year. Continue to call me on repairs. I then txt or email Ray which he appreciates rather than a call. You can't always remember when you get a lot of calls. I find him here many different days very early doing repairs. I am gone until January 5. Please notify Chet or Linda if you know of repairs and they will contact Ray.

We hired Nelson Company to spray our weeds this year. He was only able to do one full spray due to hot weather. He will be here on January 7 to do a full spray. Another full spray and spot spray are due for 2020. REMEMBER TO KEEP PETS OFF GRASS UNTIL IT DRIES.

In October, Ray, Linda and I walked the grounds and determined which shrubs need to be removed and replaced. Some are being permanently removed along the sides. Many took a beating in the heat this summer so had to be removed. He may be replacing some yet this fall and the flowering bushes will be replaced the end of February. They are working on this between lawn work. One tree in the greenway will be planted. We are waiting until next spring to see how much trimming we need to do for the dead looking branches in many of our trees. Some of us would like to see some plantings around the electrical boxes again. What do you think?

Tom, Dale, Ken, Abel and I removed many of those curvy blocks around trees that were in disrepair and Ray hauled them away for us at no charge. We left a few that looked good. It looks so much better and is easier for Ray to mow around. Thank you guys!

Reminder : CC&R's for SCW say that no visible rubbish or debris or other unsightly materials are permitted around houses.

We are planning to replace those broken valve box covers and raise some of them up. It has been suggested we not run golf carts regularly over the grounds and if we do stay away from the boxes which are almost all at the edges with a few exceptions. I am guilty as I often have

tools with me and am checking on something specific. I do watch carefully not to run over those.

Another item we will be acting on will be to fill holes in our grounds left from trees taken down. Some are getting quite deep as roots decay. This has to be done when Rye grass dies down.

That reminds me, we own a wheel barrel kept by Barb Hines that anyone can use. It was in disrepair and Ken fixed it up and painted it. We also as you know own the picnic table which is right now at Sutherlands.

Our Grounds committee will be reviewing and updating the Gardening Rules and Responsibilities and Rules and Regs in January. If any of you have some input for these please let me know. There may be items that will need to be voted on at the annual meeting.

It has been suggested and I would like you to give some thought to not regularly watering the greenway next summer to save on water usage as it is usually too hot for us to be out and they are raising our water rates. We would have to provide water for the trees however. Maybe this would be only for a few months. It is food for thought.

Please feel free to give me any insite and info that we can do to make our grounds better. It is a big yard (so to say) to keep us proud of.

We welcome anyone that you know would like to be part of the grounds committee.

Have a Merry Christmas. We look forward to being able to be out and about again and have our Gatherings on the Green. We miss those of you who are unable to come this winter.

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