



The Green Space

Meridian Park Office Newsletter

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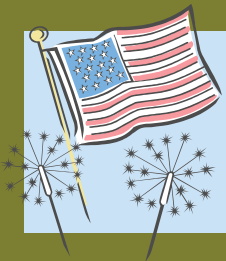
Calendar

July 4

Independence Day

August 16

First Day of School
for LPS



Enjoy an “Eco-Friendly” Backyard

Fight Mosquitos Without Chemicals



Few things are more annoying than when you are outside enjoying a beautiful summer evening and the mosquitos are eating you alive but before you reach for a chemical filled spray consider some natural alternatives to DEET.

First prevent mosquitos by making sure they do not have proper breeding grounds. Make sure there are no standing pools of water under gutters or in plant saucers.

Even with the best prevention it is almost impossible to keep all the mosquitos away but there are also some natural repellants. Lemon eucalyptus is effective along with Citronella oil and Cedar oil candles. Mosquitos also dislike a breeze so an outdoor fan is another good chemical free option.

(www.doyourpart.com)



Get a “Green” Grill

Charcoal grills are the least environmentally friendly grills, they release carbon dioxide and pollutants into the atmosphere. Some other eco-friendlier alternatives are:

- Solar Grills– These are the most eco-friendly and can grill meat, fish, veggies, and poultry.
- Gas Grills-These use petroleum or natural gas, have a quick start-up time, and are less messy.
- Electric Grills– These are great alternatives for places that you can't use a gas grill such as balconies or patios.



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Family Fun to Keep Kids Busy

School is out and kids have lots of spare time to fill. The following are some environmentally friendly ideas to keep kids entertained in the summer months:

- Have an Eco-Adventure-These can be as simple as a walk through a local park or a trip to one of the country's many national or state parks which are affordable and filled with natural wonders.
- Get Crafty- Use old milk cartons, cereal boxes, or t-shirts to make bird feeders or tote bags. (For how-to videos visit www.doyourpart.com)
- Grow a Garden- This activity teaches children where their food comes from and how to care for crops and they get to eat their finished product.
- Visit the Library- Save money and resources on new books by visiting the library. Plus, most libraries offer free activities for children throughout the summer.



New Technology Prevents "Wasted" Energy

Electronics that are in "Standby" mode or plugged in but not in use can use as much as 10% of your total household power. Even turned off electronics still receive a constant flow of power from outlets but a new micro-processing chip is in development by NEC Corporation that scientists claim will do away with this energy loss. This new technology may be available as soon as 2015. Until then to cut back on wasted energy, unplug all appliances that are not in use.

(www.doyourpart.com, June 17, 2011)



Household Recycling Tips

The following are easy-to-follow tips to conserve at home:

- Use "Smart" Kitchen Supplies & Appliances: Buy quality, efficient items that will stand the test of time.
- Store Meals in Reusable & Multi-Purpose Containers: These come in multiple sizes and are freezer, microwave and dishwasher safe.
- Conserve Household Water: Keep a pitcher of cold water in the fridge rather than letting the tap run until the water is cold.