

Fall 2010

# Arbour Meadows Neighborhood Newsletter

Arbour Meadows Homeowners' Association  
PO Box 30, Savoy, IL 61874  
Phone 217/351-4092

arbourmeadows@hotmail.com  
Fax 217/351-4832  
www.dspgweb.com/amha

## Annual Meeting to be Tuesday evening, Nov. 16

Mark your calendar for the annual membership meeting of the Arbour Meadows Homeowners' Association (AMHA) – set for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 16, at the Savoy Municipal Center (Village Hall), Dunlap Ave. at West Tomaras.

Board Members will provide updates on AMHA finances, drainage projects,

and other items of interest. Board Member and officer elections will be held, and nominations from the floor are welcome.

AMHA residents are encouraged to attend the meeting to learn more about issues affecting the neighborhood, and to find out about upcoming projects.

A representative of the Tolono Public Library District has been invited to talk with residents about library services and to answer questions about the new \$200 fee that is being charged to Savoy residents who wish to use the Champaign Public Library. The fee applies to items checked out at Champaign, and to Interlibrary Loans from Champaign.

## Drainage, pond-area projects taking shape

Many projects were initiated and a few were completed this summer:

For years, a low spot in the sidewalk south of the pond has been covered with water for weeks after heavy rains. The big news is that a contract has been made with a landscaper, Gerber Premier-scapes, to build an Irish bridge over this low spot where the waterway joins the pond.

Another drainage issue relates to the sump collector line along the sidewalk in the commons area between Tomaras and

Vista Drive. The line has failed and will be replaced this fall.

Have you noticed the beavers in the pond during the past few months? As

interesting as they are, a pair can only be tolerated for so long. In early April we noticed willows around the detention pond being cut down. Then a beaver (continued on back)



## AMHA

P.O. Box 30  
Savoy, IL 61874

Here's your  
**Neighborhood  
Newsletter**

### AMHA Board:

Mike McClellan  
*president*

Leon Follmer  
*vice-president*

Cheryl Van Ness  
*treasurer*

Joyce Amacher  
*secretary*

Lyle Amacher  
Chuck Smith  
Kathy Reiser  
*members-at-large*

*You'll find AMHA contact  
info at the top of page 1.*

## Drainage, pond projects – continued

lodge was discovered on the pond's north shore, which confirmed that we had a resident pest.

Coexistence seemed possible for about a month until they found the overflow intake manhole. Within a day they filled and covered it with mud and sticks causing the pond level to rise. A wildlife manager was called and a pair of 25-pound two-year-olds were caught and taken away. It took three tries using various tools to figure out how to clean out the manhole, which is now functioning normally.

Dirt and sand has been used to fill low spots and to level the path around the detention pond. With some simple trenching, much of the ponding around the detention pond and in the SW detention basin has been eliminated. A few more inches of dirt is needed in a few places to totally eliminate the ponding after rains.

It will take many layers of sand to level the path. Swallow-blow holes in the main waterway have been plugged with carpet remnants and covered with dirt.

Fish and wildlife: The fishing has been good in terms of numbers. A new generation of bluegills is approaching the 10 inch range, but the bass are still dominated by those in the 8 -10 inch range. Red-ear sunfish were added several years ago and some catfish were added last month. There still are some big catfish and bass that are capable of breaking light test lines. An intermittently visiting muskrat is feasting on the

snails, keeping them in check. Only a few ducks and geese nested near the pond this year and the populations have varied a lot from day to day – usually within tolerable numbers.

Our woods east of the earth dam has been cleaned up of the two fallen mature oaks and a lot of honeysuckle. A crude path leads from the crest of the dam to the woods that can be explored. A good view of the natural area is accessible from top of the dam where most of the 20 or so wild flowers can be seen blooming at various times during their season.  
- Leon Follmer

