

# Canyon Trails-Unit 3 Homeowners Association



Community Newsletter ~ Spring 2012 Edition



We are very excited to welcome Kim Crecca as a newly elected member of the Board of Directors.



Kim and her husband moved from the Midwest last year to our Community in Goodyear and plan to retire here. Both have been very engaged in activities here in Canyon Trails-Unit 3 over the past year. Kim and her husband are a joy to be around and will surely represent you in many great ways in the months and years to come! Welcome, Kim! She also joins Jack Wigal who was re-elected at the Annual Meeting held on March 12, 2012.



One of the many activities which Kim has been involved in, beginning this year, has been partnering with our Board Treasurer, Nancy Trayner, to design gift baskets to new homeowners of the Community. Each month they personally deliver these baskets and welcome new homeowners to the Canyon Trails-Unit 3 Community! It's just another way our homeowners make a difference here and genuinely show their care and hospitality.

## Community Meeting Schedule for 2012



The Board of Directors will be meeting on the following dates in 2012 at the Canyon Trails School Library on 2nd floor at 6:30pm.

All homeowners are welcome to attend.

Monday, May 14, 2012

Monday, July 9, 2012

Monday, September 10, 2012

Monday, November 12, 2012



Thanks to so many of you for keeping up on your landscape this spring! Each of you truly make a huge difference for every neighbor to see!

## Royer Association Management

"Managing Your Community with a Heart!"



**Steve & Jeanette Royer**  
Co-Owners/Association Managers



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## Volunteers Requested for the Big Picnic

We are looking for a few homeowners to volunteer to help us plan our 2012 Canyon Trails-Unit 3 Community Picnic this fall! We had tremendous feedback from last year's Community Picnic and homeowners asked for us to do it again this year! If you would like to help on the Committee, or just volunteer to help during the Picnic this year, please email or call us and let us know right away!

We as your Management Company are a small, home-town, local business who believes in giving back to the neighborhood where we live here in Goodyear.



One way we demonstrated this was our involvement with the City of Goodyear's Community Festival where we were one of the sponsors last year and participated in the planning of this event. It was one of the most successful and highly attended Community Festivals for the City of Goodyear in many years. We are proud to support the Community, as well as the local schools here in Goodyear.

We feel this is how we make a difference and give back to you — and we hope our passion as a small, business always shines proudly to you!



## Gardening Tips by Jack Wigal

Vegetable gardening in Goodyear can be a challenge. Temperature, correct moisture, fertilization, insect control, etc. can make it difficult, but not impossible. Insect problems, alkalinity of the soil and the bright sun easily burn the fruit and are among the reasons that tomatoes have problems here.

Tomatoes are a favorite in county gardens; there are many challenges to growing tomatoes in the desert and few solutions. Tomatoes are highly susceptible to frost and do not survive the winter unless protected from cold nights. The hot summer temperatures interfere with flower pollination and setting of fruit.

Tomatoes set fruit best when night-time temperatures are above 55 degrees and day-time temperatures do not exceed 90 degrees. To be most successful, plant in late February or early March for a late spring or early harvest. A second season is also possible by planting in late August for a harvest before the frost of November or early December.

Success begins at planting. Good transplants are dark green with sturdy leaves. Plants should be at least 6 inches high, not overly large, no insect damage, and with new growth at the tips. Set the plants deep in the soil up to the first leaf branch and remove the lower two or three leaves, which will allow for deeper planting, which will allow for more root development.

Variety selection is also important; many varieties used in other parts of the country do not do well here in Arizona. Small fruited varieties like "Cherry" and Yellow Bell, and medium-sized like Celebrity, Early Girl, and Columbia do particularly well in the desert. Beefsteak and Better Boy will produce large vines but tend to abort most of their fruit until late summer and fall.

Watering Cycle. Over irrigation leads to water logged soils which prevents entry of oxygen into the soil; this encourages the buildup of root rotting pathogens. Also, too little water can cause problems also. In this case, fruit growth slows down and the outer skin solidifies. Then, when water is taken up by the plant, the fruit expands faster than the skin and splitting takes place. Deep irrigations are best. Tomatoes can send roots down 24-36 inches into the ground. Irrigations should be frequent enough to keep the soil moist but not sloppy wet.

Over use of nitrogen fertilizer forces the plant into a vegetative growth phase. The plant puts its strength into producing vines not flowers and fruit. Use of a balanced fertilizer such as inorganic 10-10-10 or 20-10-10 works good for overall plant health and fruit production. Organic fertilizers can be used also, but needs applied more often. Always follow package directions for application.

Tomato flowers are pollinated by both insects and wind. Pollination can be helped by causing pollen release within the flower by gently tapping the flowers with a fingertip or small stick. Once the temperatures reach 90-100 degrees, pollen is no longer viable and pollination will not take place.

There are many insects that can cause problems in tomatoes. Whiteflies, red spider mites, along with salt toxicity can cause injury or death to plants. Whiteflies lay eggs on the underside of leaves where they hatch, feed, and pupate into adults. Spider mites can be on the upper or lower leaf surfaces. Insects should be identified before applying an insecticide. Some insects may be of the beneficial type that are useful in controlling these pests. If applying insecticides follow package directions carefully.

Crop failure can be frustrating to desert gardeners. Planting early, selecting desert adaptable varieties, and irrigating deeply, and frequently enough, to maintain good growth and fruit production can provide good tomato harvest.

For more information go to Master Gardeners website at [www.ag.arizona.edu/pubs/garden](http://www.ag.arizona.edu/pubs/garden).

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Ref: Pinal county, Co-Op Extension Newsletter  
May 2011.

Ref: Desert Vegetable Gardening Basics

Jack Wigal is the Canyon Trails-Unit 3 Board President and is an active member and participant in the Maricopa Master Gardener Program Co-Op Extension.