

HIGHLAND VISTA CINCO VIA
Community Bulletin
Summer 2014

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We're on the
WEB!
HVNAatucson.org

Things a Burglar Won't Tell You

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.

2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.

3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste... and taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.

4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it..

5. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom – and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.

6. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)

7. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.

8. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.

9. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.

10. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television.

11. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.

12. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.

13. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.

14. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?

15. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.

16. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page.

17. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

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Message from the President

Eric Shepp

Inside this Issue:

Message from the President	1
Get Connected	1
Dear HVCV Neighbors	2
Water Harvesting	2
Pool News	3
Rummage Sale	3
Adopt a Table	3
Things a Burglar Won't Tell You	4

I would like to extend a big thank you to Officer Gradias and the 20+ neighbors and 20/30 Club members who volunteered to clean up the Arcadia Wash and the "bunny hills" on June 21. Officer Gradias approached our neighborhood requesting our help for his community assistance project to clean up the wash behind the Tanglewood Apts. He asked if we could assist in getting a roll-off dumpster for him. Seizing the opportunity, our neighborhood not only helped with the dumpster but also expanded the project area to include the wash and bunny-hills. Over three hours that Saturday morning, we were able to completely fill two large dumpsters!

It is this kind of community involvement that makes the Highland Vista neighborhood such a great place to live. From the show of force during the clean-up, to the wonderfully attended potluck at the pool, to the numerous ideas to give our neighborhood a sense of place, our neighborhood cohesiveness is something to be proud of.

This spring and summer saw an influx of energy and ideas regarding how to continue

and strengthen this cohesiveness. Twenty/Thirty Club is proposing a 5K run and festivities in the neighborhood, there is talk of neighborhood movie nights. Anyone with good ideas and the energy to help move them forward are encouraged to participate.

One of the bigger initiatives our neighborhood has undertaken is regarding the bunny hills. About 3 or 4 years ago, the neighborhood brought together the owner of that property and the City of Tucson to negotiate a land exchange. Half of that land is now officially part of the park. Much of the rest although still privately owned now has an easement on it for public park uses. That means that this area is open to the public to use. Whether on bike or with you furry four legged friend, I encourage you to visit and explore the new addition to our park!

With that in mind, the HVNA Board is considering adopting the wash. We are looking for 20 or so neighbors to volunteer 1-2 times per year to pick up trash. Adopt a Wash is a program sponsored by Tucson Clean and Beautiful. If you are willing to help keep the wash clear, please email me.

Highland Vista Executive Board

President: Eric Shepp
treat4sage@hotmail.com

Vice President: Jim Riley
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Treasurer/Pool Membership:
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Secretary: Mary Dorgan
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Pool Manager: Dan Cormode
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Pool Parties: Amy Cormode
520.232.2297
aimcat@gmail.com

Get Connected and Be Informed!

Aaron Hellman

Our neighborhood is using a private online network called Nextdoor Highland Vista Cinco Via. On our Nextdoor site, neighbors share community events, recommendations, items for sale, crime reports, ideas about how to improve our neighborhood and more. To learn more about our private online network go to the following address:
https://nextdoor.com/about_us/

I want to invite you to be part of our network. Please go to the following website to confirm your address in the Highland Vista Cinco Via neighborhood and to join our network:
<https://nextdoor.com/invite/erhvjsaztpaxhpctgykx>

If you have difficulty joining with the above procedure, please email me and I will invite you to join our network. If you email me, I won't sell your email address or anything of that nature; it'll be kept private.
My email is: 5kingstondrive@gmail.com

Dear Highland Vista Cinco Via neighbors,

Our neighborhood is awesome! I really enjoy talking to people at the park and at the wonderful events neighbors have created. The Easter egg hunt, Meet Your Neighbor event at the picnic tables, and the Memorial Day potluck at the pool were so much fun!

Many people are taking action to create more opportunities for all neighbors to participate and connect with each other. For example, there will be a Book Exchange box in, or near the park, where people can trade books at no charge. Additionally, we are in action to create movie nights at the pool, and a walk/run group is a real possibility in the near future. I went to the Neighborhood Board meeting and the board unanimously wants to have more pool events open to all neighbors, not just pool members.

I want to invite people to think up different events for the neighborhood, so we can satisfy all desires and then share

them, so they can become reality. I love how people shared the idea about making a book box and then others brainstormed ideas on how to do it, and together we are making it happen. Please offer your ideas and support to create a neighborhood which has multiple opportunities for people to be connected and contribute to each other. You can communicate your support by e-mailing me and/or writing a message on our Highland Vista Cinco Via Nextdoor online community forum.

Email: 5kingstondrive@gmail.com

Nextdoor online forum:
<https://nextdoor.com/invite/erhvsaztpaxhpctgykx>

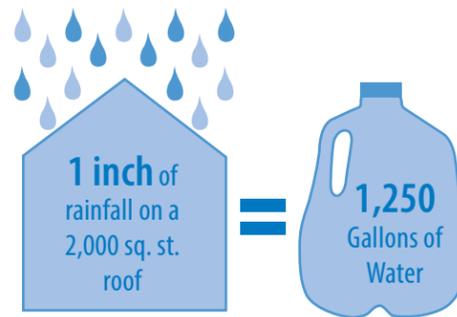
Thank you.
Aaron Hellman

Water Harvesting: What is it and is it for me?

JJRiley

Water Harvesting generally refers to harvesting rainwater at your residence, but it can also include using Gray Water for landscape irrigation.

Active Rainwater Harvesting: This is the most frequently observed water harvesting in Tucson. It is where water is collected off a roof and stored in a cistern. Normally, the objective is to reduce runoff from your property and to essentially time-shift the water collected when it rains for use at a time when there are no rains. In Tucson, the months when your landscape plants are using more and more water are April, May and June. During this period it seldom rains and temperatures are climbing.



DID YOU KNOW?

One of the critical steps is determining how much rain you could harvest from a portion or your entire roof.

We receive about 1 ft (12") of rainfall per year at this time. This makes estimating water collection relatively easy. You need to know what is called the Horizontal Roof Area, which is the foot print of your roof as seen in a Google image taken directly overhead. You can either use the measure tool on Google to determine the Length and Width of your roof or get a long tape measure to do the same.

If you multiply the Roof Area in Sq. Ft. x the Annual Rainfall in Tucson (about 1 Ft.) you can get the Cubic Feet of rainfall you can capture from the roof. If you think in gallons you can convert the Cu.Ft. X 7.48 to give gallons. A rule of thumb in

Tucson only is that for every sq. ft. of your horizontal roof area you could irrigate 1/4th that area of turf grass. So if your horizontal roof area is 2,000 sq. ft., you could support 500 sq.ft. of grass. For other plants you will need to estimate whether you have low, medium or high water-use plants. With medium water use plants you can probably provide enough irrigation water for one-half of your horizontal roof area or in the case of a 2000 sq. ft. house about 1000 sq. ft. of landscaped area.

Determining the size of a cistern that is required requires a few more calculations that won't be given here. Cisterns installed costs are about \$1.50-\$2.00 per gallon. Tucson Water has a water harvesting rebate program. You can get details on-line.

Passive Water Harvesting: Most of the rain falling on your property does not fall on your roof. Passive rainwater harvesting is taking steps to try to keep as much water on your property to utilize for irrigation. This is done by shaping your land by creating shallow basins with berms that hold the water in the basins. Remember the pointers on where to irrigate plants from the last newsletter. In creating basins and berms, you want to be sure you create a spill-way where the water can overflow when the basin is full to where you want it. Be certain to keep it away from your house foundation. The water collected in this way needs to infiltrate into the ground in about 24 hours to prevent the establishment of mosquitoes. Gray Water and more later....

Water Harvesting (continued)

Minimizing Mosquitoes in Water Harvesting Systems

According to Brad Lancaster's book on Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands and Beyond (Volume 1, 2nd Edition) mosquitoes need standing water for at least 3 days to complete their life-cycle from eggs to adults.

Passive Systems: Review land depressions to be sure water is soaking into the soil within a day after a rainfall.

Active Systems: Make sure that all openings of cisterns are covered with screen with similar size openings of those on a screen door. Keep cistern interiors free of direct sunlight to minimize growth of algae.

As a last resort, you might consider Mosquito Dunks. They attack mosquitoes in their aquatic stage.

Pool News

Volunteers - The HVNA pool is operated by your neighbors who volunteer their time. Please help out by making sure you clean up after yourself, empty trash cans and recycling.

Pool Rules - A booklet with the pool rules and other pool information, see the HVNA website. Members should be familiar with rules. If you see others who are not following the rules please courteously inform them of the rules.

Sign In - In order to determine the intensity of use of the pool, we ask that all members sign in, even if there are no guests. The accounting of guests is on the honors system, but any guest ??? to help operate the pool and reduce annual pool fees.

Smoking - After numerous complaints, the HVNA Board has decided to designate the ramadas as non-smoking areas. A designated smoking area near the brick patio by the grills will be created.

Rummage Sale

Saturday, October 25, 2014
from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm

Save the date for the Highland Vista Annual Neighborhood Rummage Sale to be held. Please save furniture and items to donate to the rummage sale. All proceeds go back into the pool fund to help maintain the pool and grounds. Contact Mary Dorgan at 909-3479 for information.



In November we will be fixing up the picnic table and benches at the pool. We are asking families or individuals to "adopt" a table and 2 benches. We have 20 tables and 40 benches. You will be responsible for tightening bolts, sanding and priming the table and benches and helping apply the new paint. We will get paint

donated and Jim Curtis will use his professional paint sprayer to finish the tables and benches. Jim will need help the day we do the final paint coat. A small plaque with your name or your family name will be placed on the tables. Please call **Mary Dorgan** at **909-3479** if you can adopt a table and two benches.