



Front Yard Conversions to Water-Wise Native Landscapes

by ACC

With the drought likely to continue into the near future, many Shadow Brook homeowners are considering converting their front yards from grass to water-wise native landscaping. This makes both ecological and aesthetic sense.

Valley Water (VW) —formerly Santa Clara Valley Water District — will pay a homeowner \$2 per square foot with a \$3,000 maximum rebate per homeowner to make this conversion. However, VW and our Architectural Control Committee (ACC) have conditions that must be met to approve this change. VW's program regulations can be found at <https://valleywater.dropletportal.com>

Our ACC requires that each applicant must:

- Include a detailed, water-wise native plant list and a map (preferably to scale) showing the location of each plant. Any areas covered by mulch, decorative bark, or rocks should also be designated. There should be no bare dirt areas.
- Include a sufficient number of plants so that the finished plantings will cover at least 50% of the original lawn area at maturity.
- Use weed block material in all areas that are covered by mulch, decorative bark, or rocks. This weed block should be covered completely such that it does not show through the decorative landscape material. Weed block chemicals (such as Preen) can also be used.
- Install a system for watering and maintaining the plants.

Both VW and our ACC require that any plan be approved BEFORE any work is started. ACC requirements closely mimic the VW requirement, but we also consider, more heavily, the aesthetics of the plan.

Shadow Brook CC&Rs, Paragraph 4(o):

The Committee shall grant its approval only in the event that the proposed work will benefit and enhance the entire Subdivided Property in a manner generally consistent with the plan of development thereof.

The most efficient way to handle this process, whether the homeowner will apply for the VW rebate or not, is to submit the plan to the ACC first. We can then complete our review and issue approval. Once this is done, the homeowner can submit the plan to VW for their approval. This eliminates any chance of delay because of ACC/VW differences.

Rice Krispies Treats with Chocolate and Pretzels



INGREDIENTS

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 6 tablespoons salted butter (3/4 stick)
- 1 (10-ounce) bag marshmallows
- 3 cups Rice Krispies, or other crisp cereal
- 3 cups butter-flavored or regular mini-pretzels, broken into 1/2- to 1-inch pieces
- 3 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped
- Flaky sea salt, for sprinkling

DIRECTIONS

1. Line the bottom and sides of a 9-inch square baking pan with foil, leaving a 1-inch overhang on all sides, then coat with nonstick cooking spray.
2. Melt the butter in a large saucepan over medium-low heat. Add the marshmallows and stir with a sturdy silicone spatula until smooth and melted, about 3 minutes.
3. Remove from the heat, add the cereal and pretzels, and stir until evenly coated. Immediately scrape the mixture into the prepared pan. Using the spatula, press the mixture to evenly cover the bottom of the pan. Working quickly (you want the cereal mixture to still be quite warm so the chocolate will melt a bit and adhere to the surface), sprinkle the chopped chocolate on top. Press the mixture with the chocolate into a flat, even layer in the pan. Sprinkle it with flaky sea salt.
4. Cool to room temperature in the pan on a rack. Lift out of the pan using the foil and cut into squares. Serve immediately or transfer to an airtight container.

Social Corner

by Meera Desai, VP Social

Hi Neighbors! My husband and I were on a walk in our neighborhood after sunset one night and I couldn't help but take in the fragrant air from the twilight blooms and notice how many other neighbors were taking advantage of the warm spring evening. That's what we love about this neighborhood – it feels like a cozy hug.

We had a great turnout for our Easter Egg Hunt. It was so wonderful to see the excitement on the faces of the little ones searching for eggs. Mother Nature treated us to a beautiful sunny day for the festivities. We had a photo booth, watercolor station, and sweet treats for all. Along with prizes for Most Eggs, finding the Golden Egg, and the Least Eggs! Thanks to Lynn Hull, Sara Fox, Susan Monahan, Joni Landine, Sharon and Bill Pope, Erika Landine, Emily O'Neal, and last but certainly not least my family – Kali, Kirin, and Jason Gruenhagen for volunteering their time to make the Easter Egg Hunt happen. It takes a village and it's always great to have people help to make these events go well.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Aqua Fitness Classes have started at the Cabana. It's not too late to join us – sessions are **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:45 – 10:45 am**. All fitness levels are welcome to attend. \$10 / session for 12 total sessions between April 19th and May 26th. Email Trainer Sandy if interested. sandra.godsdivinecreation@comcast.net

Seniors Coffee has also begun at the Cabana. This social meet-up will be held **every Wednesday morning from 10:30 – 11:30** at the Cabana between April 20th and June 8th. Sharon and Bill Pope have volunteered to host this event.

Memorial Day Commemoration and BBQ at the Cabana on **Monday, May 30th beginning at 11 am**. The Shadow Brook Bell Ringers hope to be back for the event along with our local Boy Scout Troop. The Pot Luck will be back this year and we will be serving Hot dogs, Hamburgers, and snacks from our Snack Shack. Volunteers are needed to man the BBQs and Kitchen. Email: social@shadowbrook.org – if you are interested in helping out. Trust me – it's not just work but a lot of fun and a chance to bond with your neighbors.

Please keep checking the website and Condo Control for upcoming events now that the pool is open for Home Owner and Spring Associate use. The pool officially opens for the Summer on Friday, May 27th for Summer 2022 Associates. Here's a recipe idea for something you can bring to the Memorial Day Pot Luck (wink, wink).

Shadow Brook Shark Swim Team

With spring in the air and summer on the horizon, it's time to register for the swim team! Registration will remain open until the end of April.

Come and join the fun! The swim team is a great way to get to know your neighbors and keep your kids active during the summer. We have fun in and out of the pool and would love for your family to join the fun!

For more information, see our team's dedicated website at <https://shadowbrooksharks.swimtopia.com/>



Swim Team Practice Schedule

Our 2022 Sharks season is off to a great start and we are excited to have all of our swimmers in the water!

The first home swim meet against Creekside Barracudas is scheduled for May 28th, 2022.



Spring: April 19 - June 8, 2022

8 & Under	3:30 - 4:10 PM
9 - 11	4:10 - 5:00 PM
12 & Up	5:00 - 6:00 PM

- Newbie Day on Monday, April 18, will have a special practice schedule.
- No practice on Thursday, June 9 (SJUSD's last day of school).
- A special practice schedule will be announced for Friday, June 10.

Summer: June 13 - July 7, 2022

13 & Up (30 mins of dryland)	6:45 - 8:45 AM
11 - 12 (30 mins of dryland)	8:00 - 9:30 AM
9 - 10	8:45 - 9:35 AM
7 - 8	9:30 - 10:15 AM
6 & Under	9:45 - 10:15 AM

- A special practice schedule will be announced for Friday, July 8.
- Evening practices for swimmers aged 8 years or older will begin the week of June 13 (Mondays & Thursdays, 8:00 - 9:00 PM).

From The Pool Deck by Kevin Ryan, VP Pool

The pool re-plastering is complete, and the pool is now open for adults, member-only, lap swimming. At this time, no lifeguards will be present, no guests will be allowed, and when necessary, lane sharing is required.

Lap Swimming Hours will be from April 18th through June 10th, EXCLUDING MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND and following weekends

- Monday through Friday 7 AM to 3 PM
- Saturday and Sunday 7 AM to 8 PM

Families with children will be allowed to swim from Noon to 5 PM on Saturdays and Sundays. An adult family member, who has submitted a waiver, will be required with any children under 18.

Each adult swimmer will need to submit a waiver, available on the website, and families will also be required to fill out a waiver, listing each member of the family.

Access will be through the Brivo gate system, which will be given once your waiver has been submitted and processed. Please do not open the gate for anyone and please use your Brivo pass, even when entering with someone who has a Brivo pass.

It is suggested that you swim with a partner for safety and please check the website for any changes to pool hours.

In the next few weeks, there will be times necessitating the closure of the pool for extended periods to accommodate the remaining pool inspection and maintenance tasks. Thank you for your patience as we continue upgrading the pool.

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