



Hello, neighbors.

Name one word that angers homeowners. Bet you said dandelions.



It's that time of year again, with America's most frustrating yard problem in full flower. April showers that brought May flowers also sparked the annual surge of weeds. Few of them are more obnoxious to homeowners than dandelions.

They seem to pop up overnight, require time and expense to control and can take over a yard in no time.

Dandelions aren't all bad. Bees find them among early sources of pollen. Being prolific, dandelions have plenty of the stuff bees need. And dandelions are edible.

Yep, flowers, leaves and roots. There are plenty of recipes. Examples:

<https://www.theprairiehomestead.com/2014/04/dandelion-recipes.html>

Eradication efforts are often temporary. This year's dandelions might be killed, but every spring dandelions come back. One lot with weeds, one strong spring breeze and dandelions are back in business thanks to their puffy tufts of seeds.

There are four basic ways to control dandelions.

– **Gig them.** Yard implements designed for this chore are cheap. The investment is in time. The downside, other than time, is that dandelion roots regenerate. At least you will have yanked the unsightly weed for a while.

- **Mow them.** The best prevention for all yard weeds is regular mowing. If you check the ability to produce seeds, you reduce a weed's propagation.
- **Spray them.** Break out weed killer or make your own. Commercial broadleaf sprays are readily available. There are less expensive options that use combinations of vinegar, dish soap and water. Even boiling water works.
- **Apply dry chemicals.** Like sprays, there are plenty of broadleaf weed killers on the market. Trouble is, it's too late to apply pre-emergent herbicides. Check with lawn supply providers for stuff that works now or wait for fall or next spring.

Good luck with weed control. Like hope, dandelions spring eternal.

Streets update

According to the City of Herculaneum, Stonewater streets become eligible for municipal control once 90 percent of subdivision homes are closed. That means 205 of the 228 lots must be sold, construction must be completed and sales closed.

The story doesn't end there. Once the city is asked to take over streets, Herky officials will do an engineering inspection to ascertain roadway conditions. Sections found substandard must be replaced. Then the streets are reinspected.

Most likely, the whole process will not be completed until 2023.

Reminders

Getting ready to build a fence or deck, or to have a pool, solar panels or other home exterior improvements made? Permits are required from Herculaneum and the Stonewater Homeowners Association. Applications for HOA approval can be found at StonewaterPevely.org.

Stonewater's speed limit is 20 mph. With summer near, and longer and nicer evenings and comfortable weekends at hand, it is paramount that all motorists exercise the utmost caution. No one wants to see a child injured. Slow down.

Parking near mailboxes. Please allow 15 feet before and after mailboxes. This allows carriers clear access for deliveries. Carriers are forbidden to back up.

Street parking. Please avoid parking on both sides of Stonewater streets in a manner that would narrow traffic to one lane. Emergency vehicles and refuse haulers must have sufficient clearance for operations. If an emergency services agency finds its vehicles can't have safe through access it might forbid parking on one side of the street.