



# SMOKE SIGNALS

*The Official Newsletter of Indian Hills Civic Association*

**August 2023**

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Cobb County First Day of School

Tuesday, August 1

### Indian Hills Book Club

The Indian Hills Book Club meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM and 7:30 p.m. and we continue to have lively discussions. Come and join us!

**Next meeting: August 24, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.**

Celebrating Life, Creating Friendships, through BOOKS.

Donna Worden (843) 597-5530

Rusty Morgan (713) 882-8267

Rosalind Katz (404) 317-2151

Lindsay Reese (678) 296-0590

### IHCA Board Meeting

Monday, August 28 @ 7pm

Indian Hills Country Club

### Save the Date:

### IHCA Fall Garage Sale

Saturday, October 14

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## Indian Hills Civic Association Board

### President

Kris Killough – 352.727.1038  
tkkillough@att.net

### Security & Roads Director

Steve Mead – 405.245.7758  
stevendonmead@yahoo.com

### External Affairs Director

Leslie DeRosa – 404.226.0991  
lintonproperties@yahoo.com

### Landscaping Director

Jim Sawan – 786-219-7394  
ihca.landscaping@gmail.com

### Secretary

Page Morgan – 770.653.4777  
page@pagemorgan.com

### Treasurer

Curtis Kimball – 404.210.3470  
treasurer.ihca1@gmail.com

### Communications Director

Jennifer Collier – 678.618.3638  
collierjj@att.net

### Membership Director

Bonny Carr – 404.630.4301  
ihcamembershipdirector@gmail.com

### Community Affairs Director

OPEN

### Area 1 Director

OPEN

### Area 2 Director

Markku Willgren – 678.576.8140  
area2.dir@gmail.com

### Area 3 Director

Joyce Shetler – 678.464.0352  
joyceshetler@gmail.com

### Area 4 Director

Patty O'Toole – 203.856.3143  
ihcaArea4@gmail.com

Refer to Indian Hills in subject line.

### IHCA

P.O. Box 681283  
Marietta, GA 30068



**CONTACT US TODAY - 770-623-6220 - info@frontporchatlanta.com**

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# Cobb County Information and Resources

Water lines, new construction, and fallen trees, oh my! There seems to be a lot going on in our part of the county these days. Whether you need information on road closures or the current status of construction projects, you need to know where to turn. Here are some resources to help you navigate through the gridlock to what you're looking for.

**District 2 Commissioner Jerica Richardson**  
770-528-3315 • [jerica.richardson@cobbcounty.org](mailto:jerica.richardson@cobbcounty.org)

[www.cobbcounty.org](http://www.cobbcounty.org) has information on all county government services.

**East Cobb News:** An e-mail newsletter, delivered every Sunday with top stories of the week, community news, events and local business promotion—all East Cobb, all the time! Fill in your name and e-mail address, hit the "Subscribe" button, and you're ready to go!  
[www.eastcobbnews.com/newsletter](http://www.eastcobbnews.com/newsletter). 404-219-4278

**Cobb County Board of Education**  
514 Glover Street, Marietta, 30060  
770-426-3300 • [www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org)

**School Closing Information:** Check the website or local television and radio station updates

**Superintendent of Cobb County Schools**  
Chris Ragsdale 770-426-3453

Post 1	Randy Scamihorn	770-337-8553
Post 2	Becky Sayler	470-240-7778
Post 3	Leroy Tre' Hutchins	470-709-7783
Post 4	David Chastain	678-896-6399
Post 5*	David Banks	404-725-3394
Post 6*	Nichelle Davis	404-398-4830
Post 7	Brad Wheeler	770-335-5982

\* includes schools of Indian Hills residents

Please help report outages of Indian Hills street lights to Steve Mead, Security and Roads Director. Please provide the pole number and the address closest to the light. Street lights, potholes, and other routine maintenance issues can now be reported online using the SeeClickFix (<https://seeclickfix.com/cobb-county>) online tool or mobile app or by calling the maintenance work desk at 770-528-1600 during regular business hours.

**Nextdoor.com (or the Nextdoor app on your Smart device) – this is an app that asks you to put in your home address. It will then group you with the residents of nearby neighborhood(s) based on your street. This is helpful for location-based alerts, questions, sale items, comments, etc from people who live very close to you. You can customize the app to your needs. It's also helpful for police information (see next point).**



**PENS Dispatch from Cobb County Police:** Safety alerts and crime trends brought to you by your local Cobb County Police Precinct (Indian Hills is District 2, Police Precinct 4). This information is sent out monthly by the precinct via Nextdoor.com, and is an innovative way for our police officers to keep us posted, ask us for pertinent information, and warn us about issues that are important to our immediate area.

**Cobb County Code Enforcement**  
770.528.2180 or [codeenforcement@cobbcounty.org](mailto:codeenforcement@cobbcounty.org)

Welcome to the Indian Hills Facebook groups! There are two Facebook pages dedicated to our wonderful neighborhood... neighbors helping neighbors, since that is what makes this such a Great Place to Live! Lost dogs, coyote sightings, emergency communication, these are your neighborhood spaces. For general conversations and comments, please join <https://www.facebook.com/groups/IndianHillsNeighborhood> For official communication from your Indian Hills Civic Association Board, please join <https://www.facebook.com/IndianHillsAGreatPlaceToLive>



# OPEN Volunteer Position Community Affairs Director

Have you thought about how much fun it would be for you to lead the Festival of Lights project next year? Have some new ideas for gathering our wonderful community together? Please think about volunteering for the Indian Hills Civic Association. I am staying on the board and will be available to help you, or you can start fresh with your very own projects and events! It's a fun job. Call Page Morgan at 770.653.4777 (or get in touch with any Board Member) if you are interested in helping to keep INDIAN HILLS...  
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# Red, Wet, and Blue

By Kris Killough, IHCA President



"It looks like one of those Charlie Brown clouds," said one attendee, while checking the weather on her phone. A quick Facebook post let the more than 70 registered participants know that the annual 4th of July parade would be delayed by 45 minutes.

At around 9:45 AM, the sun was shining, and smiles donned the faces of those decorated in red, white, and blue. The eager participants were ready to compete for the most patriotic walkers, scooters, bike riders, golf carts and pets. The gorillas from Trading Places even made an appearance! Judges Joyce Shetler, Julia Scales, and Shirley Taylor evaluated the participants as IHCA board members Bonny Carr and Curtis Kimball directed traffic with the help of Volunteer Emily Karlen. The parade started down Indian Hills Trail and ended at the Kona Ice Truck on Clubwood Court. The line for Kona Ice was long, but that would not stop participants from getting the colorful shaved ice. Six winners were announced and received free Kona Ice. The volunteer crew of Caitlin Smith, Maja Kubow, Lindsey Rawley, and Stephanie Rae pulled off an amazing event that is part of what makes Indian Hills "A Great Place to Live"!





# Membership Update

By Bonny Carr, IHCA Membership Director



## Yard of the Month Competition

Congratulations to our final Yard of the Month winners for this year. There were several first-time winners this year, so I hope that inspires more of our members to get out there and get dirty in those yards planning and planting for next year's competition. Winners are not eligible to win again for three years, so there are plenty of chances for new winners again next May.

Canceled: Clean Up / Adopt-A-Mile Event - Saturday July 15

Sadly, we did not have enough volunteers to hold the cleanup event at East Side Elementary. We will try again in the fall.

IHCA Membership Renewal for 2023-2024

Each year our membership renewal takes place September 1-30. Again this year we will be emailing renewal notices as we strive to keep our expenses as low as possible so our funds can be dedicated to community improvements and events. Please check your member profile to be sure we have your correct email(s).

There are two options for renewal. You can select **Continuing Member** where you can enter your credit card and be automatically renewed each year without emails or letters. There is also the option of an **Annual Member** where we send you an email or printed invoice each year that you can pay online or mail in a check. Obviously, the fewer the checks our volunteers have to process the better, but it is an option we will continue to offer. If you have any questions about these options, please let me know.

**Welcome to our newest IHCA members** and neighbors! We are so happy you have chosen our neighborhood for your new home and joined IHCA to support our community.

## AREA I

Todd and Shannon Bennett

## Welcome to our newest Membership Volunteer, Susan Villanueva!

Susan has been a past volunteer in Indian Hills and has recently volunteered to greet neighbors along Fairfield Drive and its side streets. Her efforts will assist both Area I and Area II Membership Directors.

We are still in need of a volunteer for the Audubon and Muirfield areas. If you are interested in welcoming new neighbors, please contact me. We'd love to have you on our team!

## Upcoming IHCA and Area Events

August 1: Cobb County back to school

September 1-30: IHCA Membership Renewal for 2023-24

September 25-29: Cobb County Schools Fall Break

October 14: IHCA Garage Sale

October (Date TBD): IHCA Annual Meeting open to all IHCA members

November 20-24: Cobb County Schools Thanksgiving break

December 10-15: Festival of Lights competition

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# Member Spotlight: Remembering Jack Parker

By Lynne Davis and many Indian Hills Civic Association members

In the June 2021 *Smoke Signals*, an article written by Lisa Christmas Prunkl featured Jack Parker, who brightened our days by waving to us as we passed by. Here is an update from his daughter, Lynne Davis, with tributes from numerous Indian Hills neighbors.

"Jack has passed. Sadly last month, my father, Jack Parker, who sat on the corner of Indian Hills Parkway and High Green Drive and waved to everyone, is now doing his waving from heaven. He lived an extraordinary life, and I was privileged to have him live with me for much of his last four years. He touched many hearts by waving and smiling to passersby during those bleak Covid-19 hibernation years. It was a simple but warmly welcomed act of friendliness. Thank you for all the smiles and joy you responded with when you saw him. He often said his daily trip to the corner was the best part of his day. I'm hoping someone comes forward and takes over his corner spot soon...."

## Tributes:

Matthew E: His memory will be a blessing to all he waved to!

Mike L: Sounds like a good life lived. RIP

Mary C: That's so sad. He was a legend!

Diane D: So very sad! My mom and I always enjoyed seeing him.

Lindsay H: I am so sorry for his family's loss! What a blessing this precious man was to so many. My daughter especially remembers him. We always talked about how we felt like he was shining Jesus' light and how a small act of kindness, such as a smile, can change your day!

Misty M: So sorry to hear this. My daughter and I so enjoyed waving to him on our way home from school.

Joe B: Saddened to hear of your loss and his passing.

Andy G: I bike around the neighborhood frequently and always waved to him and him back to me. I don't usually stop for anyone as I like to get my workout in, but I did once and chatted with him for about 10 minutes. What a genuine and wonderful person. He will be missed.

Diane O: We will miss him. Rest in Peace Mr. Parker.

Nick R: "Memory Eternal" for Jack Parker. I loved seeing him on that corner and would always stop and say hello, honk, etc. He spread such joy. He will be missed.

Lori R: Mr. Jack will be missed. We enjoyed seeing and talking to him.



Darrell J: Sad to hear. Have missed his visits to the corner. May the love you shared and good memories together help ease the sorrow of his passing.

Vyanti J: He brought us so much joy and we looked forward to waving to him as we drove by and have missed him. Thankful we got to share in this joy.

Kristen C: Mr. Jack will be missed!

Kat S: He will be missed, always made me smile when I drove by. So sorry for your loss.

Niki W: So sorry to hear of Mr. Jack's passing. We always enjoyed waving to him on our daily walks.

Gaurav K: So sorry to hear that. Always loved seeing him and chatting with him. Rest in Peace.

Amy C: Mr. Jack will be missed. He would bring a smile to everyone who moved past him on Indian Hills Parkway.

Paige T: Thank you for sharing this, Lynne. We loved seeing him. He will be missed by the neighborhood. Love to his family and friends.

Curtis K: Farewell! Marilyn and I always enjoyed a wave or a fun comment with him as we jogged by.

Judy T: He was an immense joy and inspiration.

Brad B: Prayers for his family

Stay tuned for the rest of the story soon.

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*— Marshall Gill, COO & Partner, Sterling Estates Senior Living Communities*

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# July Yard of the Month Winners

Photo credit: Greg Petriccione



**Area I:**  
**Ramal & Faresa Weragoda**  
**4313 Fairgreen Drive**



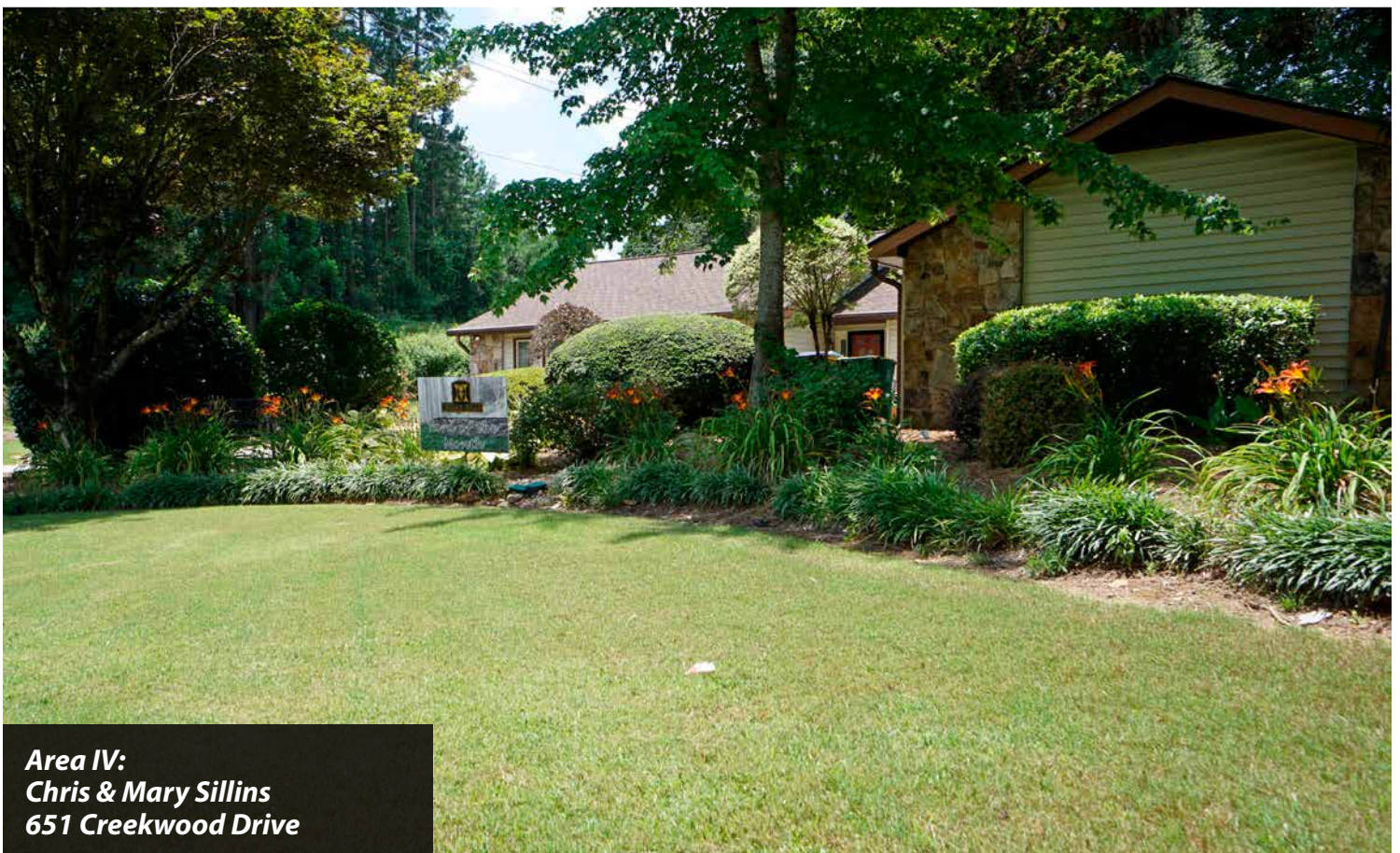
**Area II:**  
**Andy Chen & Linxiao Liu**  
**1000 Clubland Point**

# July Yard of the Month Winners

Photo credit: Greg Petriccione



**Area III:**  
**Jim Peta & Bonnie Selvey**  
**3920 Timberwood Terrace**



**Area IV:**  
**Chris & Mary Sillins**  
**651 Creekwood Drive**

# THE TRADING POST

Each line is approximately 40 characters (includes spacing and punctuation). The basic ad is 4 lines, or 160 characters (using the font currently in print). This rate will remain the same: \$10 per month for 160 characters (4 lines). Ads over 4 lines (160 characters) will be subject to the following: Each additional line (40 characters) will be an additional \$2.50 per line. We suggest that you try to abbreviate as much as possible when sending in your ad. Maximum number of lines will be 8 lines (320 characters). \*IE: if you have an ad that is 6 lines (240 characters) the cost of the ad would be: \$ 15.00 per month. **Payment for ad must be received by the 5th of the month.**

## **BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**NEED COMPUTER HELP?** For help with computer setup or troubleshooting, MS Office, or anything else call Josh with Erickson Technical at 404-919-7993, email: [josh@ericksontechnical.com](mailto:josh@ericksontechnical.com), website: [www.ericksontechnical.com](http://www.ericksontechnical.com). (9/23)



**ENG/LA TUTOR** Happy Summer, Middle and High School Students/Parents! Need help with summer reading assignments? College App Essays? Contact Jennifer Mason 404-429-2981 (tons of references available). (9/23)

**VACATION PLANNING** Planning a magical vacation? Let me help you plan your Disney, Universal, or Disney Cruise Line trip! I will do all the hard work for you, and you will have a fabulous time. Email Jennifer at [jenniferwillison@fantasticalvacations.com](mailto:jenniferwillison@fantasticalvacations.com) or text 404-513-4807. My planning services are completely free to you! (9/23)



## **HOME SERVICES**

**Mardi Grass Landscaping, LLC** in IH since 1999, over 80 IH homes served. Full-service lawn care or one-time job, cleanups, stone walls and patios, drainage, sod, irrigation & pond projects. Yards of the Month: two in June 2019, one in July 2021, one in June 2022, two in June 2023, one in July 2023. [www.mardigrasslandscaping.com](http://www.mardigrasslandscaping.com) 404-438 9275. [TimTerranova@mindspring.com](mailto:TimTerranova@mindspring.com) (9/23)



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## **PET CARE SERVICES**

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**TEEN PET VOLUNTEER** My name is Anshul and I love dogs and would love to walk your dogs, play with them, and help when you are in need. Call/text my parents at 770-906-8064 if I can be of help. (9/23)

To Place an ad, you must be a **current member** of the **Indian Hills Civic Assoc.** Send ad content and check made payable to **IHCA** to the attention of: **Bonny Carr, P.O. Box 681283, Marietta, GA 30068.** You may email your ad to: [ihcamembershipdirector@gmail.com](mailto:ihcamembershipdirector@gmail.com). **Payment must be received by the 5th of the month.**

The Indian Hills Civic Association neither endorses nor guarantees the performance of these advertisers in any way. These advertisers are members of the Indian Hills Civic Association, and should you have a problem with any of the advertisers in the Trading Post, you owe it to your neighbors to email Bonny Carr at [ihcamembershipdirector@gmail.com](mailto:ihcamembershipdirector@gmail.com) and explain the situation. Any advertiser that receives a complaint against them will be contacted by Bonny and notified. If three complaints are made against any advertiser, they will not be allowed to advertise in the Trading Post any longer.

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# What Catches Your Eye in a Summer Garden?



Ashley Frasca is host of the radio show Green and Growing, heard on 95.5 WSB Radio every Saturday from 6-9:00 a.m. For gardening tips, information, and advice, follow her Facebook page: [Facebook.com/greenandgrowingwsb](https://www.facebook.com/greenandgrowingwsb)

Life moves at the speed of light! But one thing that I have found which slows it down to a nice pace from time to time is gardening. Granted, I host a radio show about the very subject, but it's the best thing that's ever happened to me. Taking the time to observe nature's beauty really gives one a different perspective on things. Maybe whomever said to "stop and smell the roses" really knew what they were preaching!

I saw a meme recently with three male sportscasters all gasping in disbelief, apparently at some sports thing, and the words read "People over 50 watching their bird feeders"! I thought, "that's me too!!" A bird feeder, bird bath, or hummingbird feeder are simple additions to a popular gathering space outdoors that can add to your relaxation value. Investing in a bird identification book or an app is a great source of conversation for the family. Who knew I could impress my 30 something-year-old friends by identifying birds?!

And don't forget a few potted flowering plants, both large and small, in your outdoor space. Pollinators like bees and butterflies, and even hummingbirds, will be by to check them out. Everyone loves summer color, so choose annual flowers that can tolerate the heat. Good choices are geraniums, sunpatiens, petunias, Gerber daisies, and purslane. To ensure these plants will thrive well into the fall, make sure to routinely deadhead them. Simply pinch off the expired blooms with your fingers or a pair of scissors, and you'll be rewarded with continuous blooms.

As for the yard... who on this earth has ever seen a hydrangea and thought to themselves, "what a plain plant." NO ONE ever! We love our hydrangeas here in the South, and right now is the best showing of three popular types. Mopheads are the globe-shaped blue, sometimes pink flowered ones, that start blooming in late spring. Then there are Panicle hydrangeas, with cone shaped flower heads in bloom now. These flowers last into the fall. Thirdly, Oakleaf hydrangeas do well in wooded spots, and right now, their blooms are changing color. Their leaves are a beautiful display of autumn color in the coming months! Even better news, none of these has to be pruned. What a great staple to add to your landscape.

One of the best parts of my job as a radio host is being able to recommend plants to people. Requests are all very different, but I accept the challenge because it allows me to research and discover new plants! I recently attended Southeast Green, an industry conference and trade show in Atlanta for folks in the landscape and nursery industries, and there, many nurserymen and women displayed their newest varieties of plants. Science is amazing, as growers can hybridize plants to get the best characteristics of each, be it size, disease resistance or even cold hardiness. Right now, many folks seem to be in favor of dwarf varieties.

Offerings of dwarf shrubs are plentiful from growers, so there are many to choose from. They've become trendy and desired. If for full sun, consider Kaleidoscope or Confetti abelia. I love the colorful foliage of these, plus their small, white flowers. There are many planted along the walls of Oakland Cemetery. Then there's Pugster Blue butterfly bush, Diamond Spire gardenia, and loropetalum- Purple Daydream or Dwarf Crimson Fire. Purple Pixie dwarf loropetalum has a weeping form, which is neat. Soft Touch hollies offer soft foliage and resist common pests and diseases.

And what about ornamental grasses? Pink muhly stays a bit more compact, and carex is nice, but prefers partial shade.

Photography by Southern Living Plant Collection



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# ARE YOU SUFFERING *from an abundance of mosquitoes in your yard this wet, humid summer?*

**Y**ou know skeeters can breed in any sized pool of standing water in your yard. In a bucket or pail, in an old tire used for a tire swing or a sandbox, in your gutters, in your yard itself. Anywhere you have standing water, even the smallest of drops, you have a skeeter breeding ground.

And guess what we've had an abundance of lately. Right. Water.

Therefore the first step is to keep standing water out of your yard.

To help aid in getting rid of them permanently you will have to enlist the help of a pest control company. They can do a monthly spray (the spray is only effective for about 30 days) during peak skeeter season which will help keep down the population.

You want to make sure that the skeeter folks use a spray that won't harm the little pollinators in your yard, the bees, the butterflies etc.

(It is also good to go with a company that offers monthly service. Frees you and your checkbook up a little, although a good skeeter company is worth their weight in bat poo...)

The spray will help keep the skeeter population down, but you may not ever be totally skeeter free.

What should you use if you are trying to enjoy your deck or patio?

Do mosquito candles work? Ehhhh. Bug zappers? Not really. Smoke? Doubt it.

The best thing for keeping skeeters away from you on the patio or deck is a good old-fashioned oscillating fan.

That's right – a plain old oscillating house fan is probably your best bet. Skeeters are notoriously weak fliers so the breeze of the fan will help blow them away from you.

### **Extra info.**

You never feel the mosquito biting you. You don't feel them until after they have already had their fill of your blood, which is another reason why they are such a pain in the rear. Or arm. Or leg. Or neck...

### **One more thing.**

Know what keeps mosquito population down?

Bats.

Look into building a bat house and maybe attracting some of those up-side-down sleeping, mosquito eating, guano pooping creatures. Might be just what you are looking for.



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# Summer Pop Up Storms Can Bring Some of the Worst Weather of the Year

Afternoon “pop up” thunderstorms are common this time of year, courtesy of our area’s warm and humid conditions.

But sometimes, these pop up storms can be strong enough to produce wind damage -- including downed trees and powerlines. Some of the worst weather of the year can occur in the late spring and summer months as these storms produce torrential downpours as well as frequent lightning, and winds strong enough to topple trees.

But what makes a storm strong enough to be considered “severe”?

## SEVERE STORM CRITERIA

A “bad storm” can be rather intense to drive through, and the thunder can be rather loud, but a thunderstorm is considered “severe” if it produces any of the following:

- ▶ Wind gusts 58 mph or greater (Why 58 mph? Because the traditional wind speed unit is knots, and 50 knots converts to 58 mph.)
- ▶ Hail that is 1 inch in diameter or greater (the size of a U.S. quarter)
- ▶ Tornado(es)

## What are the main impacts from severe thunderstorms?

**Lightning:** While lightning is not a criterion for classifying a storm as severe, a “lightning jump” or large increase of lightning strikes in a short amount of time can signify a rapidly strengthening thunderstorm. These thunderstorms contain strong updrafts, or upward moving winds, that push water droplets and ice crystals higher in the atmosphere. Along the way, friction between the rain drops and ice crystals produce different static charges in the cloud, and lightning discharges the static electrical build up within the storm cloud. The more lightning strikes within a storm, the stronger the updrafts and more than likely the stronger the winds associated with the storm.

**Wind Damage:** High winds are the main impacts from severe thunderstorms. Wind gusts as high as 58 mph or greater have the potential to knock down and uproot trees, down power lines, and cause structural damage to homes and buildings.

Often, in the late spring and summer, damaging winds within a thunderstorm are due to **downbursts**, which are rapidly-moving downward columns of rain-cooled air.



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