

BRECKENRIDGE

Estates

THE BUGLE

Newsletter of the Breckenridge Estates Homeowners Association

From the Board

May | 2022

April Showers Bring May Flowers!

The Annual Meeting for the Breckenridge Estates Property Owners' Association will take place on June 13, 2022 at the Breckenridge Clubhouse, 2852 Breckenridge Lane, Naperville IL at 7 pm.

The purpose of this meeting, among other things, will be to elect two directors to the Board of Directors. The terms are for two years each. The current Board members whose terms are expiring are Jeff Oitker and Mark Sagen. The Board members with another year of their term are Rob Anstine, Brett Muerer and Molly Sorenson.

If you will be unable to attend the Annual Meeting in person, please fill out the proxy ballot which is published on page 7 in this newsletter and return it to MC Property Management Corporation by June 10th pursuant to the instructions contained on the proxy (proxies can be mailed, faxed or emailed). Please participate in the election process either in person or through proxy.

If we are unable to obtain a quorum of residents to participate, we will need to postpone the Annual Meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact stacy@mcPMC.com.

On Sunday, May 22nd 2022, Lauren and Ryan Rivera from Brookwood Trace will be organizing a Neighborhood Garage Sale and Breckenridge Estates will be participating as well! The Garage Sale will go from 9 am-4 pm. They will be creating a PDF that will be printed/shared electronically outlining information about each garage sale happening on the day of the event. If you are interested in participating that day, please email Lauren Rivera Lterakedis.rivera@gmail.com to fill out a garage sale form by May 6th. This information will be emailed as well with a link to this form.

Pool goers! The Summer Splash Season Opener party is still scheduled for Saturday, June 4th, with the raincheck day being Sunday, June 5th if need be. Lookout for an email mid May with more details, but should be a great time with food, friends and fun! If you are not currently signed up for neighborhood emails and would like to be, please email stacy@mcPMC.com to be added.

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 9th at 7 pm at the Breckenridge Clubhouse. As always, all homeowners are welcome to attend!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 9** - Board Meeting - 7 pm - Breckenridge Clubhouse
- May 13** - Deadline to Submit Board Application
- May 22** - Garage Sale - 9 am to 4 pm
- May 28** - Pool Opens for the Season
- June 4** - Summer Splash Season Opener Party at the Pool
- June 10** - Deadline to Return Proxy Ballot
- June 13** - Annual Meeting and Elections - 7 pm - Clubhouse

**June 4
Summer
Splash Party
at the Pool!**

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Memorial

Day!

5/30/22



**Meet Your Neighbors
The Oteyza Family**

Where are you from?

Leo is from a suburb of Detroit, MI and Sheryl is from Bolingbrook.

When did you move to the neighborhood?

Fall of 2021. We are still newbies to Breckenridge!

How do you like to spend your time? We like to spend our time with Sheryl's family since they all reside in Illinois and her cousins have young children that are similar in age to ours. We also enjoy playing outside and going for walks around the neighborhood.

What has been your favorite memory so far this year?



Our favorite memory has been throwing a birthday party in our new home for our family and friends, which was a

welcomed change from living in the West Loop of Chicago and not being accustomed to hosting large gatherings!

Favorite sports team? Leo went to the University of Michigan, so he has brought his fanaticism of football and basketball to the entire family.

**Joint Garage Sale
Brookwood Trace & Breckenridge Estates**



If you are interested in participating, please email Lauren Rivera at Lterakedis.rivera@gmail.com by May 6 to complete a garage sale form. This information will be emailed as well with a link to this form.



GROWING HERBS YOU WILL USE

Annette Carson - The Growing Place

Growing your own garden for fresh ingredients is a pleasure for anyone who cooks. Herbs add texture to a container garden or fragrantly tower over a fairy garden. They are deer and rabbit resistant, making them useful when planted with annuals and perennials in a landscape bed. Easy to grow herbs are also an important nectar source for pollinators.

CULINARY USE

Teas are made from herbs. Salad dressings and sauces are flavored with herbs. Many people prep meats before cooking or grilling with herbs. Bakers add herbs to their homemade breads. Oils and butter can be flavored with fragrant herbs. The uses for fresh herbs are endless, and so is the satisfaction from growing your own. If you are just starting out, we suggest choosing herbs that normally flavor the foods you enjoy eating.

A favorite is perennial Thyme, invaluable for flavoring meats, soups, stews, and other dishes. One of the most popular culinary herbs is Basil, used in pesto, tomato sauce, and vinegar. Easy to grow Mint is good to have on hand for beverages, salads, and desserts.

ORNAMENTAL VIEW

If growing herbs for decorative purposes, choose ones that flower and are fragrant. Pick herbs that provide the height, color, shape, and texture you want to see in your garden. Mix them right in to your landscape beds with other perennials and annuals.

The light purple flowers of Scented Geranium Citronella with its lemony scented leaves making a nice addition to patio containers. Lavender added to a garden bed attracts

butterflies and hummingbirds. Sage foliage comes in silver, purple, and variegated, adding a great textured addition to container designs and borders.

INDOOR GARDEN

A sunny kitchen window provides the perfect spot to pick fresh herbs for culinary use. Provide good drainage and pinch back tips regularly. A few choices for indoor herbs are Chives, Basil, Lemon Balm, Parsley, Mints, Burnet, Chervil, and Savory. Herbs that grow well indoors over winter are Bay, Lemon Verbena, Rosemary, and Scented Geraniums.

Herbs not used fresh can be frozen or dried. Woody herbs like Oregano and Rosemary dry well. Parsley, chives, and other herbs with higher moisture content can be frozen for that fresh from the garden flavor anytime.



HEALTHY HERBS

OUTDOOR PATCH

Herbs grow best outside in full sun with lightly fertilized, average soil. Pruning herbs frequently encourages fresh growth for harvesting and keeps them from bolting, or going to seed, which can change the flavor of the leaves. Harvest in late morning after the dew has evaporated. Woody herbs can be cut back by one third each harvest. Set a herb container next to the grill for frequent use.

Whether you grow herbs for culinary or ornamental use, place them indoors or out, herbs can easily be grown in containers, raised beds, or landscape beds. Planting a herb garden is a fun learning activity with children. To be able to grow something is an opportunity for making memories. Share your fresh herbs with neighbors, try new recipes, or add cuttings to creative arrangements. Most of all, enjoy growing your own!



Pet Tales

By the Naperville Area Humane Society
1620 W. Diehl Road | Naperville | 630-420-8989

*Thank you for
supporting our homeless
friends!*

Sipping at Sunset!

Please join us for an al fresco summer night event **SUPPORTING NAHS!**



Friday, May 20th

6:30 - 8:30 pm

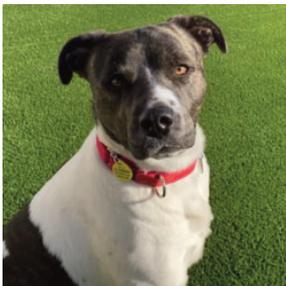
Naperville Art League
(508 N Center St, Naperville)

\$120 per person

*We hope to see
you there!*

There will be delicious food prepared onsite by Chef Veronica Porter alongside suggested beverage pairings with wine and beer options. There will be fantastic baskets up for raffle as well. Any dietary restrictions will be accommodated. To view the complete menu, additional details and registration, please visit <https://www.naperhumane.org/events-calendar/2022/5/20/sippin-at-sunset>.

Adoptable Pets of the Month...



Zippy & Rawley • | 2 Years Old • | Male Bonded Pair

Adoption Fee: \$600

We are a bonded pair and **MUST** be adopted together. We are very close and rely on each other. We can be shy, but are very loving once we get to know you! We **LOVE** toys and playing with each other! We cannot live in a home with cats please!



Sammi | Female | 6 Years Old

Adoption Fee: \$75

So I'm guessing you'd like to know a little bit about me, right? Well, I can tell you that I am super sweet. But I am also very shy. I enjoy having my head and ears scratched and I will purr loudly. I also drool when I'm happy, but we can keep that between us. I'm looking for a quiet home without too much activity or noise. And I really need a family who will be patient with me and let me get comfortable at my own pace. I am truly a very sweet girl and I'm sure we will be very good friends if you can look past my shyness.

Breckenridge Homeowners Association
BOARD MEETING - 7 PM
 Second Monday as follows:
 May 9, 2022 - Breckenridge Clubhouse
ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME



INFORMATION GUIDE
Board Members

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Jeff Oitker | President | oitkerjf@gmail.com |
| Rob Anstine | Vice President | ranstine@gmail.com |
| Molly Sorenson | Secretary | mccru1me@gmail.com |
| Mark Sagen | Treasurer | marksagen@hotmail.com |
| Brett Meurer | Member-at-Large | brett.meurer@gmail.com |

www.breckenridgeestates.org

Email | breckenridgeofnaperville@hotmail.com

Breckenridge Committee Chairperson

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--|
| Landscape Chairperson | Leigh Ann Haller | |
| Breakers Swim Team | Pam Brinker | |
| Social Committee | Elizabeth Quinn | 630-428-4285 elizabethmward@comcast.net |
| | Carole Jones | 773-251-4932 carole.jones@doleintl.com |
| Pool & Tennis | Clubhouse | 630-420-2535 |

Property Management

MC Property Management Corporation
 14224 McCarthy Road, Lemont, IL 60439
 Main Office 630-985-2500 | Office Fax 630-985-2583
 Property Manager | Stacy Donnelly, CAM
stacy@mcpmc.com (Preferred method of contact)

Block Captains

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| VACANT | 2503-2512 Swandyke Ct., 904, 908, 920, 924 Gateshead, 804-812 Leverenz Rd. (15 homes) |
| VACANT | 2603-2636 Regency Ct. (13 homes) |
| Vivian Williamson | 703-736 Gateshead Dr. (16 homes) 416-7450 |
| Ruth Kotek | 703-728 Colorado Ct. (14 homes) ruth.kotek@gmail.com |
| Pam Prosser | 707-736 DeLasalle Ct. (13 homes) 416-0744 |
| Val Ito | 707-716 Lindholm Ct., 2723 Wendy (7 homes) 961-3343 |
| VACANT | 2603-2624 Wendy Dr. (9 homes) |
| VACANT | 2703-2752 Wendy Dr. (excluding 2723 Wendy Dr. (22 homes) |
| VACANT | 2812-2855 Breckenridge Ln. (16 homes) |
| VACANT | 2739-2768 Breckenridge Ln. (16 homes) |
| Jeff Oitker | 2704-2736 Breckenridge Ln. oitkerjf@gmail.com (12 homes) |
| VACANT | 2603-2636 Breckenridge Ln. (17 homes) |
| VACANT | 703-732 Mesa Dr. (14 homes) |
| Hale Landes | 2731-2804 Cheyenne Dr., 357-8202 2803 & 2772 Breckenridge Ln. (12 homes) |
| VACANT | 2707-2724 Cheyenne Dr. (6 homes) |
| Carol Zeidlhack | 559-636 DeLasalle Ave. (15 homes) 416-2570 |
| VACANT | 623 Wendy, 607, 611 Gateshead, |
| Chris Wunder | 2508-2515 Winter Park Ct. cswunder@gmail.com (10 homes) |
| | 2603-2636 Winter Park Dr. (15 homes) |
| Scott Barenbrugge | 2703-2708 San Luis Ct. (4 homes) sbarenbrugge@gmail.com |
| Rachel Jablonski | 604-631 Steamboat Rd. racheljablonski8@gmail.com |
| Michael Tardella | 804-840 Pueblo Ct. (16 homes) 355-5283 |

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING DEADLINE - 15TH

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www.allegranaperville.com



NEWSLETTER ARTICLES & CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE

20th of each month

Submit newsletter articles and classified ads (no charge for Breckenridge residents) by email to editor Jan Foster at fosterpbs@msn.com.

"The appearance of an advertisement in this newsletter should not be interpreted as an endorsement of the product, service or provider in the advertisement. The Association or Allegra Marketing Print Mail is not responsible nor liable for the content of any advertisement published, herein."

BRECKENRIDGE ESTATES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Application for the Board of Directors

If you are interested in running for one of the two (2) positions to be filled at the 2022 Annual Meeting, you must submit this form to us by no later than Friday, May 13, 2022 in order to have your name placed on the ballot.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Phone Day: _____ Evening: _____

(Phone numbers and email addresses are for internal use only and will not be shown on the candidate summary.)

I believe that I can serve our community because:

Four horizontal lines for writing a response.

Please list qualifications you feel would be an asset to the community:

Four horizontal lines for listing qualifications.

If elected, I agree to serve as a Breckenridge Estates Board Director. I further understand that the Board Directors are held to fiduciary standards of performance which is the highest standard to which anyone can be held under law.

Candidate Signature

Date

Please return this application by **Friday, May 13, 2022** by:

- 1. Mailing it to MC Property Management, 14224 McCarthy Road, Lemont, IL 60439
2. Faxing to (630) 985-2583
3. Emailing it to stacy@mcpmc.com

NOTE: This application MUST be received by MC Property Management Corporation no later than FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022 in order for your name to be placed on the ballot.

BRECKENRIDGE ESTATES PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

REVOCABLE PROXY FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I, _____, owner of the address _____ do hereby constitute and appoint the following person: _____

as my proxy, to cast my vote for me at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Breckenridge Estates Property Owners' Association Homeowners for the election of the Board of Directors scheduled to be held on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Breckenridge Clubhouse located at 2852 Breckenridge Lane, Naperville, IL.

My proxy shall cast my vote as follows:

MY PROXY MAY CAST MY VOTES AS MY PROXY SO DESIRES. If you have checked this box, your proxy is completed. Do not write anything on lines 1-7.

Do not forget to sign below.

| | Vote Here |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. <u>Jeff Oitker</u> | _____ |
| 2. <u>Mark Sagen</u> | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ |
| 7. _____ | _____ |

Quorum Only – I prefer not to have my proxy cast a vote.

A total of up to two (2) Board Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. These Board Directors will serve a two (2) year term. If you have not checked the box allowing your proxy to cast your vote as your proxy so desires, vote for the candidates of your choice. You may cast a total of three votes and may not cast more than one vote for any candidate.

My proxy has full power to vote for me **only** as indicated above, as if I was personally present. My presence at the meeting will automatically revoke this proxy, unless I indicate otherwise. This proxy may also be revoked by me at any time by sending a letter to that effect to the Board.

Any proxy for matters regarding said Association heretofore given to any person or persons, whomever, is hereby revoked.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this proxy on _____, 2022, at _____, Illinois.

X _____
Homeowner's Signature

Please return via fax to 630-985-2583, via email to stacy@mcpmc.com, or mail to MC Property Management Corporation at 14224 McCarthy Road, Lemont IL 60439, by June 10, 2022.

PUZZLER PAGE

Spring rain channel

Across

- Harvest
- Pigpen
- Agile
- Bloke
- Where China is
- Fabled racer
- Twisting together
- Function
- Tombstone inscriptions
- Attorney General Janet
- Vatican VIP
- Against
- Outback birds
- Note after fa
- Job for a body shop

Down

- Shaggy Scandinavian rug
- White House's ___ Room
- La Scala highlight
- Used in a deep fryer
- Lugged
- Spicy cuisine
- Knitting stuff
- Hard throw, in baseball
- Fed. construction overseer
- Stat for Clemens
- Parker and Waterman
- "What's gotten ___ you?"
- Residence
- Whirled
- Superlative suffix

The headline is a clue to the answer in the diagonal.

SANDWICHES

G T O T G O D T O H E R O
 A L I K T D A L A S G G E
 T B S O U V L A K I I N T
 S U P C E R E H O A G I E
 B E J R X D E N V E R B K
 Y G N U N A B U C Q B B C
 T A C O R N E D B E E F O
 E S E E H C O T N E M I P
 A U H S I F R S L M N G A
 L A D M Z E I T A L I A N
 E S R E D V H R O R Y G I
 H B U I L S M P O B O Y N
 C T L E M I A C R I S P I
 A S L Z T R R E G N I F N
 R C A E W B A R B E C U E
 I M N H A B V Y C L U B H

- | | | |
|-------------|---------|----------|
| BAHN MI | FISH | PO BOY |
| BARBECUE | GATSBY | POCKET |
| BLT | GYRO | RACHEL |
| CLUB | HERO | REUBEN |
| CORNED BEEF | HOAGIE | SAUSAGE |
| CRISP | HOT DOG | SLIDER |
| CUBAN | ITALIAN | SOUVLAKI |
| DELI | MARMITE | SUB |
| DENVER | MELT | TAVERN |
| EGG SALAD | PANINI | TEA |
| ELVIS | PIMENTO | WRAP |
| FINGER | CHEESE | |

May Sudoku

How to solve sudoku puzzles

No math is required to solve a sudoku. You only need logic and patience.

Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has only one instance of the numbers 1-9. Similarly, each number can only

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 2 |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 6 |
| 8 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 4 |
| 7 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 9 |
| 6 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 8 |
| 2 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | | 9 | | | 5 | |
| 9 | | 4 | | | | | 8 | |
| | | | 5 | 6 | 1 | | | 4 |
| 7 | 4 | | | 1 | 6 | 2 | | |
| | 2 | | | 7 | | | 8 | |
| | | 8 | 2 | 5 | | | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | | | 6 | 3 | 7 | | | |
| | | 6 | | | | 5 | | 8 |
| | 9 | | | 8 | | | | 3 |

appear once in a column or row in the larger grid. The difficulty on this puzzle is easy.

H B L G V L B V L G L U B H
 R C A E W B A R B E C U E
 N S L Z T R R E G N I F N
 C T L E M I A C R I S P I
 H B U I L S M P O B O Y N
 E S R E D V H R O R Y G I
 L A D M Z E I T A L I A N
 Y U H S I F R S L M N G A
 T A C O R N E D B E E F O
 I V G N U N A B U C Q B B C
 B E J R X D E N V E R B K
 S U P C E R E H O A G I E
 T B S O U V L A K I I N T
 A L I K T D A L A S G G E
 G T O T G O D T O H E R O

THE FOLEY GROUP

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KNOCH KNOLLS

UNDER CONTRACT



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CRESS CREEK

UNDER CONTRACT



4832 Shumard Lane
ASHWOOD CREEK

UNDER CONTRACT



1923 Wicklow Road
RIVER RUN

SOLD



5103 Christa Ave.
ASHWOOD CREEK

SOLD



2708 Cheyenne Dr.
BROOKWOOD TRACE

SOLD



404 Snow Drift Cir.
AMBER GROVE

SOLD



2437 Newport Dr.
OLD FARM

SOLD



320 S. Birchwood Dr.
WILL-O-WAY

SOLD



3404 Minito Ct.
TALL GRASS

SOLD



2824 Seiler Drive
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Love
Local*

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- Dental Smiles of West Chicago • 1933 Franciscan Way • West Chicago, IL 60185 • 630.231.4500
- Dental Smiles of Joliet • 2410 W Jefferson St, #108 • Joliet, IL 60435 • 815.744.4443
- Tranquil Dental • 3450 Montgomery Rd, Unit #8 • Aurora, IL 60504 • 630.499.5555

CAROLINE SENETAR

"YOUR BRECKENRIDGE SPECIALIST"

Caroline is in the TOP 6 of all Realtors in Naperville for 2021 in # of Listing Transactions!
See Why SO MANY Neighbors TRUST ME to SELL their Home for TOP DOLLAR! Look for my SOLD signs everywhere!

Caroline has personally LISTED or SOLD over 600 HOMES in Breckenridge, Knoch Knolls and Brookwood Trace!

SOLD



2764 Breckenridge Lane
BRECKENRIDGE

SOLD



2807 Cheyenne
BRECKENRIDGE

SOLD



2755 Breckenridge Lane
BRECKENRIDGE

SOLD



2619 Winter Park Drive
BRECKENRIDGE

SOLD



2624 Breckenridge Lane
BRECKENRIDGE

SOLD



808 Alamosa Court
BRECKENRIDGE

SOLD



208 Crooked Tree Ct.
WOODS OF RIVERMIST

SOLD



531 Gateshead
BROOKWOOD TRACE

SOLD



535 De LaSalle Ave.
KNOCH KNOLLS

SOLD



413 Haddassah Ct.
KNOCH KNOLLS

SOLD



2711 Seiler
BROOKWOOD TRACE

NEW LISTING



2242 Glenagles
CEDAR GLEN

I have PRIVATE LISTINGS! Call me TODAY to view these homes!



CAROLINE SENETAR

"Your Breckenridge Specialist"

RE/MAX of Naperville
senetarcj@aol.com
630-726-2260



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CALL CAROLINE FOR YOUR FREE MARKET ANALYSIS TODAY!



**Nothing
Screams
Spring**

**Like a
BBQ**

Spring is here and summer is right around the corner! This means long sunny days, grills getting fired-up, flowers blooming, garage sales, little league baseball games, tennis leagues, swim team, and of course, a laundry list of home improvement projects.

BACON WRAPPED GRILLED PEACHES WITH BALSAMIC GLAZE

4 large peaches
12 ounces bacon
60 large basil leaves plus more for garnish
olive oil
balsamic glaze

Set a grill to low heat and preheat for 10 minutes or so, brush the grill grates with a paper towel dabbed in grapeseed oil. Wash and dry peaches. Cut each peach in half and then each half into 4 quarters. Place one large basil leaf on each side of the peaches. Cut the bacon slices in half. Wrap each peach slice and basil leaves with a slice of bacon. Pin the loose end of the bacon slice with a toothpick. Repeat with remaining peaches. Brush the bacon wrapped peaches lightly with olive oil so the bacon doesn't stick to the grill. Grill the peaches until the bacon is cooked, turning so all sides are evenly cooked, about 20 minutes. Transfer to a serving platter and remove toothpicks. Drizzle with balsamic glaze. Serve hot or at room temperature.



GRILLED BANG BANG SHRIMP SKEWERS

1 pound of thawed jumbo shrimp
about 30 shrimp
1 tablespoon canola or vegetable oil
1/3 cup light mayo
3 tablespoons sweet chili sauce
2 teaspoons sriracha
scallions for garnish



Soak medium wooden skewers in water for 30 minutes before adding shrimp. Remove from water and dry on a paper towel. Preheat grill to high. Prepare sauce by whisking mayo, sweet chili sauce, and sriracha together. Set aside. Place shrimp on skewers until you have an inch on either end. Brush shrimp with oil on both sides to keep from sticking to grill. Place on preheated grill and cook for 2-3 minutes per side, or until bright pink. Remove from grill. Brush each skewer of shrimp with bang bang sauce. Make sure to get both sides! Serve shrimp immediately, with extra sauce on the side.

GRILLED BRUSSELS SPROUTS SKEWERS

1 Tbsp olive oil
1/3 c. soy sauce low sodium
1/4 tsp pepper
1/4 tsp garlic powder
8 slices bacon
16 Brussels sprouts

In a small bowl whisk together the olive oil, soy sauce, pepper and garlic powder. Slice Brussels sprouts in half lengthwise. Place in marinade and let sit for 20 minutes, covered. Next get your skewers. Stick the end of a piece of bacon through skewer, add a Brussels sprout, fold bacon over the Brussels sprout and onto the skewer, repeat with three more Brussels sprouts, ending with bacon. Clean, oil and preheat your grill to 350 degrees F.

Place skewers on grill. Grill for 5 minutes, flip and grill an addition 4-5 minutes or until bacon is crisp and Brussels sprouts are charred. Remove and enjoy.



Bon Appetit

Arm Yourself for Ant Season

Summer approaches, and that means that ants are hard at work wrecking your proverbial picnic.

They're annoying, some of them sting and they can carry disease -- and if that isn't bad enough, they're masters at breaking into your house to drive you crazy. But you're bigger and smarter, and if you arm yourself with some strategies to treat and prevent infestations, you can kick back and enjoy your home without thousands of tiny uninvited guests.

SAFETY FIRST

- Make sure you have a secure place to store any unused ant treatments and never place them where children or pets can get to them.

PLACE ANT BAITS

- Ant baits don't just poison the ants who stumble inside -- they take the poisoned

goodies back to the colony and share them, and when enough ants participate, it's lights out for the whole colony. Some ants prefer sweets and others prefer fats or oils, so stock up on both carbohydrate and protein-based bait traps. Place them near where you see ant activity, but not directly in their trails. Drains, kitchen cabinets, around the stove or refrigerator and near wall openings are all common areas for ants to show up.



USE OUTDOOR TREATMENTS

- If you don't control them outdoors, they'll keep trying to get in. Try a combination of outdoor ant baits, including liquid ant bait and ant granules.
- Ant killer sprays kill immediately, but leave the vast majority of the colony untouched, which means frequent

treatment with lower effectiveness.

- Instead of ant killer sprays, try repellent sprays around points of entry.

TRY SOME DIY REMEDIES

- Diatomaceous earth, a powdery substance made of the fossilized remains of plankton, clings to insect bodies and dries them out, killing them without poison. Sprinkle food-grade diatomaceous earth near ant trails or areas where they commonly get in.
- You can also repel them by destroying their scented pheromone trail with a mix of glass cleaner and dish soap. Spray where ants congregate and wipe it away, but be sure to leave a light residue.
- Ants also avoid certain strong fragrances. Try sprinkling brewed coffee grounds or ground black or red pepper around areas where they congregate. Certain essential oils, like peppermint, tea tree or lemon eucalyptus oil also repel them. Mix about 20 drops with two cups of water in a plastic spray bottle or saturate cotton balls with undiluted oil to leave in the prime spots. All fragrances can fade over time, so make sure to re-apply regularly.

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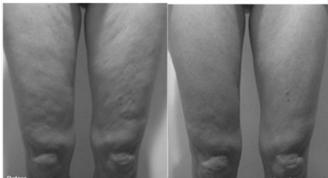


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