Annual Tree Trimming

Every fall, President Linda DeRungs hops into Jose's cart to check the condition of our trees and discuss our tree trimming needs. Some trees are trimmed annually--others are trimmed every other year. Trimming balances the tree, thins the interior and reduces the profile of the tree to control its size. Mutual 5 has 290 trees, and we trimmed 55 of them this year. Many of our trees were donated by shareholders. If you are interested in donating a tree, please contact the Landscaping Director.



Before



Concrete Projects and Walk Lights



Mutual 5 completed our last major concrete infrastructure projects—the two carport streets near Carports 68 and 69 in January and the streets around Carports 61 and 62 a week ago. These streets will last for 50 years, allowing us to shift our resources to our sidewalks. Inspector Meza monitors all our walkways and we replace them as needed. Walk lights have been a problem in EVERY Mutual. Please report outages to a Director so we can notify Service Maintenance in a timely manner. Replacing all the walk lights will have to wait until all our buildings have new roofs and new paint.

Two Butterfly/Hummingbird Gardens and the New Sign

The two gardens are located at the green belts along Pelham at Building 107, and along Golden Rain next to Building 91. The two gardens are still 'works in progress' and they will continue to fill out in the years to come. The flowering plants were selected because they attract butterflies and hummingbirds, and many of the plants were rescued from other locations throughout the Mutual. It has taken many months for the plants to mature but we are happy to report that both locations are starting to thrive. A new sign was recently placed in the Pelham Road garden. The wooden framework was constructed by Director Ken Cude, who is an experienced woodworker. The design and execution of the glass mosaic was done by glass artist, Director Connie Deady; and visual artist, President Linda DeRungs.





Pelham Road Garden







No Winter Seeding of Mutual 5 Grass This Year

The Board of Directors voted for no winter seeding this year. The annual cost of the seeds increased from \$3,000 in 2020, to \$5,800 this year. Mutual 5 has at least 7 varieties of grass that have been planted over the years. A number of these varieties become dormant during the winter months, creating areas of brown until early summer. The reason for seeding is to keep our lawns evenly green during the winter months. Most shareholders are not very happy about brown patches, but this will be an opportunity to see how our green spaces look in the winter without seeding. When summer arrives, we will use the dollars we saved on winter seeding to address ALL areas that need improvement. *Please do not call the Landscape Hotline to complain about brown areas this winter*. We have no idea how much restoration will be necessary, but we promise to keep our Mutual green in 2022.