

# LakeRidge Falls

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4200 LakeRidge Blvd.  
Sarasota, FL 34243

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Here are the more important stories we had this past and upcoming weeks:

**Vehicle and Home Security** – During their recent meetings, the Security Committee examined ways to be proactive in ensuring residents' homes and vehicles. One of the conclusions reached was the fact that LakeRidge Falls is a gated community which should not create a false sense of security that crime could occur here. Therefore, the committee asked that all residents be reminded of some of the steps they can take to secure their vehicles and homes.

1. Never leave your **keys or valuables** in your car.
2. Never leave your home and car **unlocked or alarm off**.
3. Never leave your **garage door** open if you are not there.
4. Never leave your **doors or windows unlocked** including your lanai sliding doors.

Regarding the last point above, the committee encouraged residents to consider a second locking mechanism for their glass lanai sliding doors. More specifically, the committee recommended using a Sliding Patio Door Double Bolt Lock because it is easy to operate. It can be found in most home improvement stores and/or online retailers, by Googling "Sliding Patio Door Double Bolt Lock." Of course, you may need the assistance of a handyperson to install it, which should not be too complicated or expensive, but at the end of the day, should be easy to operate. Most importantly, it should provide you with an extra layer of security.

**Shower Before Entering the Pool/Spa** – Another committee that met recently was the Pool Committee. During their meetings, the committee asked to promote awareness of the rules governing the pool/spa. The reasoning for promoting awareness is two-fold. First, it promotes safety. No one would argue against the fact that the pool rules are set to protect...well... those who use the pool. Secondly, it allows us to explain the logic behind the rules. After all, and as said several times in the past, a rule without a rationale behind it does not make much sense, right?! Understanding the rules helps in understanding why it is important to follow these rules. By raising awareness, therefore, we hope that pool/spa users will follow the rules for the benefit of all.

Although this issue was mentioned several times in the past, it is essential to take a second look at the issue of taking a shower before entering the pool/spa. Now, the committee's members understand that some think it is a hassle or that it "does not make sense to take a shower before getting wet anyway." However, there are really good reasons why one should shower before swimming.

Although you may not think about it too much, when you enter the pool or spa without showering, you bring dirt in, which is an excellent source of algae spores. During the high season when usage goes up, keeping the pool algae free becomes an ongoing battle. Although the pool maintenance company, i.e. Smiley Pool Services, is doing an outstanding job keeping the pool and spa clean as recognized by many, you can make their job much easier by simply showering before entering the water. Focusing on washing your feet can help even more in those efforts.

In addition, a pre-swim shower helps minimize unpleasant smells and irritations. Based on professional input shared with us, when you do not shower before entering the water, you bring body substances, such as makeup or body oil, into the pool/spa. This in return triggers the chlorine in the water which reacts with those substances. The result can

cause irritations and can make the pool smell, well, like a pool. While many believe that a clean pool should smell like chlorine, this is quite the opposite. A well-managed pool has no strong chemical smell. The reason why a pool would smell like chlorine is that irritants would be produced when chlorine reacts with body substances or impurities.

For the two reasons above, please help us and our pool maintenance company in maintaining LakeRidge Falls' pool and spa by simply taking a shower before entering the water. By doing so you are not only helping to keep the pool/spa clean, but you also help to eliminate possible conditions that may be unpleasant to you or your fellow neighbor. Together we can ensure the pool and spa will continue to be one of LakeRidge Falls' great assets.

**Pool Pump** – Staying in the pool area, a couple of weeks ago Mrs. Carol Hoffman, a member of the Pool Committee, informed us that it came to her attention by one of Smiley Pool Services' technicians that there might be a leak in the pool pump. Following this report, we contacted Smiley Pool Services' owner as the Association had no knowledge of this issue nor did it appear on Smiley Pool Services' weekly reports, which we receive three times a week. During the discussion with the owner of the company, we learned that there was an insignificant leak from the shaft seal, which was confirmed when we inspected it. While the owner didn't feel this should be of any concern at this time, it was decided to be proactive rather than reactive to a future situation that may require closing the pool for a few days. Therefore, a service call was placed with Water Equipment Technologies of Southwest Florida (WET), the Association's pump maintenance company. We are happy to say that last week WET was on site replacing the pump's mechanical seal. After they were done, they primed and tested the pump, and all was said to be working up to par. With this in mind, paying attention to a comment one makes and/or observing what could be a potential maintenance concern can make a big difference. For this reason, we wish to thank, and actually encourage, all community members and residents to bring such matters to our attention.

Have a healthy and safe weekend.

Sincerely,

Oded Neeman - CAM  
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