Fall is a great time to have a garage sale and get rid of unwanted items. Before you move all your stuff out to the driveway, please review the following garage sale guidelines.

- Garage sales may not be held on any property more than once in a three-month period and may not be held for more than three consecutive days.
- Garage sale signs are permitted on the day of the sale only in the homeowner’s front yard.
- Signs must be removed before dark.
- No signs may be placed on trees, poles, street signs, or any other utility units.
- All sale items must be confined to the garage, patio, or driveway of the premises.

With some careful planning, you can declutter your home and get some extra cash. Here are some tips on how to hold a successful yard sale.

- Go in with a neighbor(s). The more “stuff” you have out, the more appealing it is for those to stop by.
- Clearly label all your items ahead of time. It can be frustrating for yard sellers not to know the prices and buyers may end up walking away.
- Make sure you have petty cash and coins to make change.
- Have music playing in the background. It helps to make it more inviting for people to stay and look longer.
- Be willing to negotiate. It’s part of the lure of a yard sale. Everyone wants a “deal!”
- Include the kids. Have them set up a bake sale or a lemonade stand. It’s fun for everyone and helps kids work on money skills!
- Keep your pets in the house or back yard. Some people are frightened by animals.
- Consider donating your unsold items at the end of the sale.
For homeowners that have landscapes with turf areas, the optimum time to overseed your sod grass lawn is during the first two weeks of October, or when the evening temperatures consistently stay below 65 degrees. Here’s what you need to know about overseeding your lawn for the winter.

How to overseed your lawn?
About 2 weeks prior to overseeding, you should reduce the amount of irrigation to the Bermuda by about half. This will cause the Bermuda to slow its growth and store energy for the winter.

Next, you need to prepare the seedbed for the Rye seed. Lower the mowing height on the lawn in several passes, taking off about ¼ inch each time until the grass is approximately ¾ inch in height. Make sure to remove the clippings either by mowing with a bag-catcher or raking them up. The goal here is to make sure the Rye seed comes into direct contact with the soil.

Now you’re ready for seeding
For the best results, use perennial Rye grass seed (annual Rye grass is also sold, but not recommended). Use a rotary spreader or drop spreader to evenly distribute the seed at a rate of 8 to 10 pounds per thousand square feet. As an additional step for maximizing germination, lightly rake and cover the lawn with ¼ inch of mulch. Apply a starter fertilizer (6-20-20 or 6-24-24) after the seed is down. Irrigate the lawn immediately and set your clock to water 3 to 4 times daily at approximately 2 to 5 minutes so that the soil and mulch remain moist (not overly wet) until germination. This should take 7 to 10 days.

After the seedlings emerge, you may reduce watering to once daily. When the grass reaches about 2 inches in height, it is time for the first mow. Cut the grass back to about ½ and then fertilize with a 21-7-14 fertilizer. Make sure to water the fertilizer immediately following application. Depending on temperatures and rainfall, you can then reduce the watering schedule to once every 2 or 3 days. To keep your lawn from turning yellow, you may need to fertilize every 3 to 6 weeks with ammonium nitrate (33-0-0) or calcium nitrate. Apply according to the directions on the package.

Remember to overseed your lawn this fall

Holiday decorating etiquette

For many homeowners, fall means it’s time to start putting up holiday decorations both inside and outside of the home. As you consider your holiday decorations, please note the following reminders on outdoor décor.

Tasteful decorating of the outside of your home is allowed for the fall season beginning October 1, 2018. Halloween decorations may be displayed at this time through November 12, 2018.

Lights for the holiday season as well as other holiday decorations including wreaths or wreath-sized décor placed on front doors, inflatables, and other holiday yard art may be displayed beginning November 1, 2018. All holiday decorations must be taken down by January 15, 2019.

Parking and storage of boats & RV’s

Have you ever wondered if there is short-term parking for boats and recreational vehicles in the Anthem Parkside community? Here’s what you need to know about short-term parking and storage of boats and RV’s. Temporary parking is allowed for the purposes of cleaning, loading, unloading, and short-term parking, which can occur in the Parkside community for 72 hours per calendar month. Parkside owners must obtain a permit from the APCA office.

Permanent or long-term boat or RV parking in the driveway or street is prohibited. The purpose of this is to ensure the attractiveness and quality of the residential neighborhoods is maintained.

Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) recently installed “No Parking” signs along Hastings Way, along the Liberty Bell Park open field. Because both sides of the street are marked bike lanes, it is illegal to park on this street. Doing so leads to unsafe conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists. Parking is available in the lot off of Liberty Bell Way (near the playground/splash pad) and the school parking lot (during non-school hours and on weekends only). Please be aware that MCSO has begun to enforce the area now that these signs are in place. Please abide by the signs, and do not park on neighborhood streets as an alternative to parking on Hastings Way.