

# ARCADIA CENTRAL

Newsletter of the Arcadia Camelback Neighborhood Association

November 2023

## Controlling Stinknet BEFORE It's Too Late

In our previous newsletter, we highlighted the alarming wildfire risk that has become increasingly prominent this summer, exemplified by the tragic wildfire that swept through Lahaina (Maui), claiming over 115 lives and destroying more than 2,200 structures. Disturbingly, this same peril now threatens Camelback Mountain due to the invasive Stinknet weed, originally from South Africa, making its presence felt in the region. Classified as a Class B noxious weed by the Arizona Department of Agriculture, Stinknet poses a significant danger to our native desert landscape, with its highly flammable nature during the dry season. In the warmer months, as Stinknet plants wither and dry out, they transform into combustible seed heads, turning the mountain into a potential fire hazard. As exemplified by the 980-acre wildfire in Cave Creek in 2020, the wildfire threat posed by Stinknet is very real, and we must remain vigilant in mitigating this risk.

### Identification

In their early stages, Stinknet seedlings typically display small, oval-shaped leaves that are light green to grayish-green in color. These leaves often have a slightly wavy or toothed edge. The stems of young Stinknet plants are typically thin and green, with a somewhat reddish hue. They resemble wild carrot plants. As they grow, Stinknet plants develop a distinctive odor (similar to turpentine), which can help confirm their identity.

### Control

If you live on Camelback Mountain, NOW is the time to apply a preemergent herbicide to control Stinknet and other weeds, prior to the late fall / early winter rains.

Utilizing pre-emergent herbicides for controlling Stinknet involves applying these specialized products to the soil before the emergence of weeds. These

herbicides establish a protective barrier within the soil, inhibiting the germination of weed seeds. Apply these products to every part of your property you want to protect from Stinknet germination and growth.

Milestone (Triisopropanolammonium salt/ aminopyralid), Esplanade (indaziflam), and Gallery+Dimension (Isoxaben+dithiopyr) are effective preemergent herbicides. These are very effective, reducing stinkweed cover to close to zero one year after application.

Employing these products can effectively safeguard gardens and landscapes against weed proliferation. However, it is crucial to meticulously adhere to the provided instructions on the labels to prevent any unintended harm to desirable plants. Timing is also critical, as applying pre-emergent herbicides too early or too late in the season can diminish their efficacy.

### Herbicide Usage

All herbicides should be handled with care.

Many pre-emergents are sold as concentrates and require dilution prior to application, as well as a thorough water post-application to ensure optimal soil penetration. Read and follow all label directions carefully and protect your skin and eyes from coming into contact with the chemicals.

These products are not commonly found in home improvement stores. If the process seems daunting, or if you have challenging terrain, consider hiring a licensed commercial herbicide applicator to do it for you.

For more info, go to [www.acmna.org](http://www.acmna.org).



See the [ACMNA website](http://www.acmna.org) for additional herbicide choices and application rates.

# Home Security Cameras Maximize Their Value



As technology becomes ever more abundant, easier to use, higher quality, all for a better price than you ever would have seen five or ten years ago, it has become more economical for residential homeowners to own and setup their own “Fort Knox” security systems. This can range from the simplest of doorbell cameras, such as Ring, Nest, or many others,

to a much more complex coverage system with multiple cameras which can be monitored remotely or from your home.

No matter which system you decide to use, if you don't have it optimally setup to capture the area, then it is basically no good. Here are some things to consider when setting up your security cameras to ensure you have the best chance of capturing footage, should you ever need to provide it to law enforcement in the event of a break-in or other crime.

1. Many doorbell cameras are set to stop recording after 30 seconds, and thieves have learned this. They will approach, cover their faces, walk up backwards, and then grab the package and leave, by which point the camera has stopped recording. If possible, change your settings to record the maximum length of footage allowed, though do be aware if you are using a rechargeable unit, the battery will drain more quickly.
2. If you have more than one camera, try to place one near the front of your driveway. Set it to capture the public roadway, and at a height to capture license plates. One of the best ways law enforcement has to follow-up on a crime and gather suspect information is from vehicle license plates.
3. When you setup a camera, do a test view of the footage at different times of day. Many times cameras will be “whited out” in full sun, making it impossible to identify vehicles and people. If needed, adjust placement accordingly so you are able to capture footage at all times of the day and night and in various light conditions.
4. Always make sure to only point security cameras towards public areas and your own property. Certain legal issues can arise if you are recording activity on a neighbor's property.

If you follow these tips, you will have some of the best chances to assist law enforcement with follow-up and closing out a case, should something ever happen. Any questions, please feel free to reach out to your friendly neighborhood Community Action Officer.

## News from the ACMNA Board

Join us at the 2024 Annual Meeting on Sat, Feb 10 at 8:30am to mingle with your neighbors and learn the latest happenings in our ‘hood. Detailed agenda info will be announced in our Jan/Feb edition.

The following members are up for reelection:

Dennis Frank  
Heather Giannangelo  
Andrew Gough  
Tom Thomas

We have five open board positions. If you are interested in getting involved in your neighborhood, communicate your interest by going to our website, [www.acmna.org](http://www.acmna.org), and clicking on the banner at the top of the page.

Or go directly to this form:  
<https://t.ly/8J6g7>



Newsletter

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### ACMNA BOARD MEETINGS

The Association Board of Directors meet at 6pm on the first Thursday of the month (Except July and August) Prince of Peace, Choir Room (NW corner).

These meetings are open to the public and Arcadia residents are encouraged to attend. Agendas are posted 5 days prior to meetings at: [www.acmna.org/agendas](http://www.acmna.org/agendas)

ACMNA website: [www.acmna.org](http://www.acmna.org)

Newsletter Archive: [www.arcadiacentral.com](http://www.arcadiacentral.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/ACMNA](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ACMNA)

Sign up for our Email notices (sent only when important issues occur):

[www.acmna.org/join-our-mailing-list](http://www.acmna.org/join-our-mailing-list)



# Short-Term Rental Ordinance Passed

## by Phoenix City Council

In September, the Phoenix City Council finally took action by passing an ordinance aimed at regulating short-term rentals (STRs) within the city. These regulations are limited by the constraints imposed by state law SB 1168. Here's a summary of the key provisions in the new codes:



1. **Permitting and Licensing System:** The ordinance establishes a system for permitting and licensing, requiring applicants to meet specific criteria before obtaining a license to operate. The city will make decisions on these applications within a seven-day timeframe.
2. **Fee Structure:** The city is authorized to impose a \$250 fee for permitting, licensing, and renewals. Additionally, property owners who fail to register their short-term rentals may face monthly fees of up to \$1,000.
3. **Civil Penalties:** The ordinance introduces civil penalties, including a \$500 penalty for the first violation by a short-term rental property, a \$1,000 penalty for the second violation within 12 months, and a \$3,500 penalty for the third and subsequent violations within the same 12-month period.
4. **Suspension of Permits:** The city has the authority to suspend short-term rental permits if the property owner accumulates three violations within a 12-month period.
5. **Platform Responsibility:** Short-term rental platforms are required to verify that properties have the neces-

sary permits before they can be listed. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in daily fines of \$2,500.

6. **Insurance and Background Checks:** Short-term rental owners must carry \$500,000 in liability insurance and provide emergency contact information to the city. They are also mandated to inform neighbors about their intent to operate and conduct background checks on renters, including checks for criminal records and sex offender status.
7. **Neighbor Notifications:** Owners must send notifications to neighboring properties, homeowners associations, and neighborhood associations within a 600-foot radius of their intent to operate.

However, it's worth noting that the ordinance has limitations, including the exclusion of common offenses such as trash and parking violations from the list of violations. Violations must also be court-adjudicated, meaning there must be a court finding of guilt or civic responsibility. Additionally, a permit can only be suspended if there are at least three "verified" violations within a 12-month period.

To enact more effective regulation of short-term rentals, it is essential for the State Legislature to consider repealing the law that restricts cities from having comprehensive control over short-term rentals. This would allow cities like Phoenix to better address the concerns related to STRs, such as trash and parking issues, and take more effective measures to maintain the quality of life for residents.

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## Do you own a Hyundai or Kia?

Approximately 8.3 million Hyundai and Kia vehicles dating back to 2011 are vulnerable to theft due to a lack of essential security features. The situation is further compounded by instructional videos on platforms like TikTok that have spread the knowledge of these vulnerabilities.

Both Hyundai and Kia have taken significant steps to address this issue and ensure the security of your vehicles. Commencing on February 14, 2023, Hyundai is introducing a free

anti-theft software upgrade for nearly four million Hyundai vehicles. If your Hyundai has a push-button start or was manufactured after November 2021, your vehicle is already secure. Kia is providing enhanced security software and steering wheel locks to owners at no cost. Contact Hyundai (toll-free at 800-633-5151) or Kia (toll-free at 800-333-4542) for eligibility and additional information.

For our Hyundai and Kia owners in the neighborhood, you can also obtain a free steering wheel lock at the Mountain View Precinct of the Phoenix Police Department.

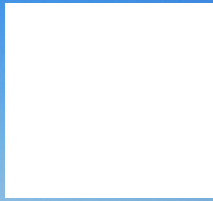
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[www.arcadiacentral.com](http://www.arcadiacentral.com)

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*Preserving our neighborhood starts with you.*

## IN THIS ISSUE:

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## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ACMNA PRESIDENT



Neighbors, keep an eye on your mailbox! Our neighborhood association will soon reach out, inviting you to lend a hand in preserving our beloved community. It's worth noting that our board—your very neighbors—voluntarily devote their time to safeguard our neighborhood's essence. Your generous support fuels vital initiatives: from ensuring property variances align with our shared vision to orchestrating the popular neighborhood picnic and annual car show. We're also on the frontline, advocating against commercial intrusion and championing improvements to the neighborhood. Together, every contribution, big or small, fortifies the charm and quality of life we cherish. Your steadfast support makes all the difference.

We sincerely appreciate any contribution you can make.

*Michael Phillips*, ACMNA Board President, 2023



Scan the QR code for our easy, secure, online contribution form.

## Upcoming Events

### ACMNA Board Meetings

Dec 7, 6 PM

Jan 4, 6 PM

Prince of Peach Choir Room  
3641 N. 56th St.

[www.acmna.org/agendas](http://www.acmna.org/agendas)

### Annual Meeting

Feb 10, 8:30 – 10:00 AM  
(doors open at 8:00 AM)

Prince of Peace Gym

Any concerns or subjects you would like to see addressed at the annual meeting?

Submit your ideas at

[www.acmna.org/want-to-share](http://www.acmna.org/want-to-share)

**Happy Holidays  
from all of us at  
ACMNA!**