



Willow Works

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Tanya Valis

5995 Greenwood Plaza Blvd., Suite 240
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

303 459-4919

Email: tanya.valis@rowcal.com

POOL MANAGEMENT:

Perfect Pools 303-795-1191

hb@perfect-pools.com

SWIM TEAM:

wc3dolphins.com | swim@wc3dolphins.com

TRASH REMOVAL/RECYCLING:

Waste Connections: 303-288-2100

WILLOW CREEK WOMEN'S CLUB

willowcreekwomensclub@gmail.com

Chair: Natisha Doherty

natisha.doherty@yahoo.com | 303-694-0798

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Willow Works

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or see page 2!

Letter from the Board

Dear Willow Creek 3 Neighbors,

Happy New Year! We hope this newsletter finds you well and that you had a joyful holiday season. As we kick off a new year in our wonderful community, we have some important updates and announcements to share with you.

Dues Payment Information Update:

As we start the year, we kindly remind all residents to review and update their dues payment information. Keeping your payment details current ensures the smooth functioning of our homeowners association and helps maintain the services and amenities that make our community special.

Thank You to Our Volunteers:

A heartfelt thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who contributed their time and efforts in 2023. Your commitment to making our community a better place does not go unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for your hard work. Whether you served on a committee, helped organize events, or assisted with neighborhood projects, your contributions have had a positive impact on us all.

Get Involved in 2024:

As we look ahead to 2024, we encourage anyone interested in getting involved to consider volunteering for the homeowners association. There are various ways to contribute, from participating in committees to organizing community events. Your unique skills and perspectives can make a real difference in shaping the future of our community.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation and support in making Willow Creek 3 a fantastic place to live. Here's to a prosperous and joyous year ahead!

Warm regards,

The Willow Creek 3 HOA Board

WC3 Social Events Survey 2024 →

We had some great events in 2023 and would like to hear from you on what you'd like to see in 2024. Please take a few minutes to fill out this short survey. You'll also have the opportunity to volunteer. Some of the bigger events (ex: 4th of July) will not happen without quite a few more hands. Thanks in advance!

<https://bit.ly/WC3social>

Willow Creek Women's Club

Join us for Bunco! All Willow Creek Women's Club members are invited to attend.

Day: The first Tuesday of each month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Venue: Willow Creek 3 Clubhouse

RSVP: To have your name added to the invite list, please email LoriInDenver@gmail.com.

Please bring:

- \$5 for Bunco
- An appetizer or beverage to share.
- An (optional) \$3 extra for LRC (Left Right Center)

Dates:

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| • January 2 | • April 2 | • July 2 | • October 1 |
| • February 5 | • May 7 | • August 6 | • November 5 |
| • March 5 | • June 4 | • September 2 | • December 3 |

See you there!



Willow Creek 3 Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held at 6 p.m.
the 2nd Thursday of each month.

The Architectural Control Committee meets at
6 p.m. the 1st Monday of each month.

Meetings are held at the Willow Creek III clubhouse:
8091 East Phillips Circle



Community Contacts

Perfect Pools (WC3 pool management): 303-795-1191
hb@perfect-pools.com

JBK Landscape: Email the WC III community manager with
questions: careteam@rowcal.com

Waste Connections (trash and recycling) 303-288-2100

Dolphins Swim Team (Willow Creek 3 youth swim team)
swim@wc3dolphins.com

Willow Creek Tennis Club: Stephanie Burt, Chair
willowcreek123tennis@gmail.com | www.willowcreektennisclub.com
Organizes tennis activities for all 3 Willow Creek communities.

Willow Creek Women's Club: willowcreekwomensclub@gmail.com

Street Lights

City street repairs (not HOA alleyways)— if you see potholes in the city streets,
please submit a request for repair using the City of Centennial website [no, it
will not cost you to report it]:

[https://www.centennialco.gov/Government/Departments/Public-Works/
Street-Maintenance](https://www.centennialco.gov/Government/Departments/Public-Works/Street-Maintenance).

Street Lights out – to get this fixed, report it on Xcel Energy's website [no, it
will not cost you to report it]
https://www.xcelenergy.com/outages_and_emergencies/report_outage

Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Non-emergency: 303-795-4711

The ACSO provides police services under contract with the Centennial.

City of Centennial Information Line: 303-325-8000

www.centennialco.gov

Available 24/7 to answer questions and direct you where to go for help.

City of Centennial Animal Control: 303-325-8070

South Suburban Parks and Recreation: 303-798-5131

South Metro Safety Foundation: 303-805-0228 | 720-989-2260

Classes offered by this organization include: CPR, Driver Awareness, Teen Crash
Avoidance, Super Sitting Babysitting. They also do child car seat inspections.

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<i>1/4 Page</i>	\$170 B&W \$235 Color
<i>1/3 Page</i>	\$235 B&W \$300 Color
<i>1/2 Page</i>	\$300 B&W \$375 Color
<i>Full Page</i>	\$380 B&W \$500 Color

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Emergency Notification Alerts

How Emergency Alerts Work: When the county issues a message about a
potential safety hazard or concern, messages will be sent to all standard
voice and text communication devices (land line, mobile, email, instant
messaging, text messaging, PDA, alpha or numeric pager, etc.) that you
have registered in the system. The system will continue trying to contact
you on these devices until it receives a confirmation from you that the
message has been received.

Please note that this system will not be used for weather alerts because
the timeliness or accuracy of such alerts cannot be guaranteed. There are
a variety of other media outlets (TV and radio stations, and weather-related
websites and alerts) that can provide this service in a more timely manner.

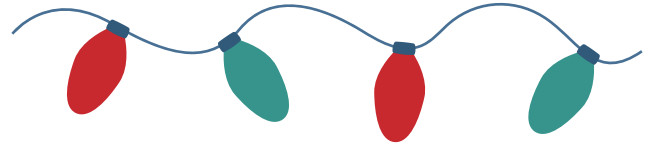
How to Sign Up for Emergency Alerts: Residents and businesses with
land line phones are already listed in Arapahoe County's 9-1-1 database,
and are therefore automatically included in the notification system. You
may sign up to register additional mobile devices here: [https://ace911.
colorado.gov/arapalert](https://ace911.colorado.gov/arapalert). Your information will be kept strictly confidential.

Willow Creek Women's Club

Sponsored by Willow Creek Women's Club | Submitted by Anne Bonelli

This year celebrated the 14th anniversary of the WCWC Holiday Tea. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the women in our community who invested countless hours planning this event and crafting an array of mouth-watering treats. Their efforts made the celebration truly memorable. Thanks to Kathryn Schindler and Jean Wagner for spearheading the event along with Adeline Fleming, Beth Dickinson, Brenda Wright, Carol Stobbelaar, Cherrie Warnimont, Jane Fast, Judy King, Judy McClain, Juhi Johnson, Marlene Brubaker, Surilda Hudson and Linda Stevens.

Santa made a special visit to bring joy to over 100 Willow Creek kids this year. His presence undoubtedly added a sprinkle of magic to the holiday season. We thank Juhi Johnson of RE/MAX Professionals and the City of Centennial for sponsoring the event and Lani Rich for organizing the details.



Upcoming WCWC Events

- February 8: Dance Party 6:30 p.m.
- March 14: Slattery's Happy Hour 5-7 p.m.
- March 30: Easter Egg Hunt and Diaper Drive 10 a.m.
- April 17: Tagawa Gardens 9:15 a.m.
- May 9: Pampered Nails - Ladies Night Out 6 p.m.
- May 15: Brunch bakeoff and final meeting of the year 9:15 a.m.

Willow Creek 3

Recycling Pick-Up Dates

Trash day is every Friday (excluding holidays).

Recycling pickup takes place every second Friday.

Waste Connections: 303-288-2100

Reminder: Trash containers are not permitted to be placed on the curb prior to 5 p.m. the night before pickup. Empty containers must be retrieved by 8 p.m. the day of pickup.

Thinking of Advertising with Porchlink?



Classified advertising through Porchlink has been pleasant and productive for our small business. We've received a great deal of business in the targeted areas the newsletter reaches.



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REAL ESTATE NEWS

As we conclude 2023, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as your local real estate expert, assisting with your housing needs. Looking ahead to 2024, I am optimistic about a 7% increase in housing inventory compared to November 2022.

This benefits buyers with more options and favorable prices. Lower interest rates further enhance affordability. In the last week of November, Denver Metro saw 1,000 new listings and over 1,000 homes under contract.

Reach out today to connect and achieve your real estate objectives.

Most importantly, at this special time of year please know my gratitude for each of you and enjoy precious time with family and friends!

Best wishes for a Happy 2024!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Nurturing Your Garden through Colorado Winters:

Colorado's winter landscapes are renowned for their stunning beauty, with snow-covered mountains and crisp, clear air. However, the state's arid climate, combined with cold temperatures, poses unique challenges for gardeners. One critical aspect often overlooked is winter watering. Proper hydration during the colder months is essential to ensure the health and vitality of your plants come spring. In this guide, we'll explore the importance of winter watering in Colorado and provide practical tips for maintaining a thriving garden through the frosty season.

Understanding Colorado's Climate:

- Colorado experiences a semi-arid climate, characterized by low precipitation and rapid evaporation rates. Winter in the state can be particularly harsh, with cold temperatures and dry air. While it may seem counterintuitive, plants still need water during winter to survive. The challenge lies in striking the right balance between providing sufficient moisture and preventing waterlogged soil, which can lead to root rot.

Importance of Winter Watering:

1. **Preventing Winter Desiccation:** Winter desiccation occurs when plants lose more water through transpiration than they can absorb from the frozen soil. This is especially common in evergreen plants, which continue to lose moisture through their leaves during winter. Adequate winter watering helps counteract this process, ensuring plants remain hydrated and healthy.
2. **Protecting Root Systems:** The roots of many plants continue to grow slowly during winter, even when the aboveground portions are dormant. Providing a consistent water supply helps protect these active roots from desiccation and ensures they are ready to support vigorous spring growth.
3. **Enhancing Cold Tolerance:** Well-hydrated plants are better equipped to withstand freezing temperatures. Water acts as an insulator, helping to moderate soil temperature and protect plant roots from extreme cold.

Practical Tips for Winter Watering in Colorado:

- **Watering Frequency:**
 - Water plants deeply before the first hard freeze to ensure they enter winter well-hydrated.
 - Monitor soil moisture throughout the season and water when the soil is dry to a depth of 1-2 inches.
- **Choosing the Right Time:**
 - Water during the warmer parts of the day to allow time for absorption before freezing temperatures set in.
 - Aim to water at least a day or two before an expected freeze to allow the soil to absorb the moisture.
- **Mulching:**
 - Apply a layer of mulch around the base of plants to help retain soil moisture, regulate temperature, and protect against rapid evaporation.
- **Use Drip Irrigation:**
 - Consider using drip irrigation systems for efficient and targeted watering, minimizing water waste.

Winter watering in Colorado is a delicate balancing act, requiring a keen understanding of the state's unique climate. By providing your garden with the right amount of moisture during the winter months, you can safeguard your plants against the challenges of cold temperatures and ensure a vibrant and resilient landscape when spring arrives. Remember to tailor your watering routine to the specific needs of your plants and stay attuned to changes in weather conditions to promote a healthy and thriving garden throughout the winter season.



Winter Tree & Shrub Watering

- Water trees and shrubs on warm winter days, above 40°F.
- Aim for about 10 gallons of water per inch of trunk diameter, evenly distributed.

Violation fine change - EFFECTIVE January 1, 2024

The way we calculate fines for violations for large maintenance items (painting and fencing) is changing. Fines we are allowed to charge will be assessed over a 3 month period rather than a year for non compliance.

- House/townhouse paint or fence violation, no response after 30 days = \$50 fine
- House/townhouse paint or fence violation, no response additional 30 days = \$150 fine
- House/townhouse paint or fence violation, no response additional 30 days = \$300 fine
- All other violations, no response \$50.

Fines will not accelerate but will continue to be charged at 30 day intervals until the violation is cured. As always, if you receive a violation, please communicate with RowCal so we know you are working on the issue to avoid fines.

In 2024 you have 6 months to paint your house or townhouse. Townhouses require an Architectural Control Committee Request Form be submitted to make sure you have the correct color paint for your row. Single family homes require a Single Family Home Paint Request Form be filled out and sent to the Paint Coordinator to get your colors approved.

Please refer to <https://willowcreek3.com/painting-roofing/> for detailed painting information.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping Willow Creek III attractive and well maintained.



SOUTH SUBURBAN

For the most up-to-date information, visit www.ssprd.org | 303.798.5131

2024 Spring Catalog: The South Suburban Spring 2024 Catalog will go live online on Jan. 16, and the printed version will hit homes in early February. View and register for spring programs at register.ssprd.org.

Jumpstart January Fitness Challenge: Jumpstart your 2024 fitness journey and win prizes during the Jumpstart January fitness challenge! Grab a challenge card from the front desk at your recreation center, then earn initials from staff for each fitness class or personal training session you complete between Jan. 8-31. Once your card is full, turn it in at the front desk by Jan. 31 for your chance to win!

Public Art at Puma Park: Attention all Colorado artists! The South Suburban Public Art Committee is accepting applications for a new permanent art installation at Puma Park. Local artists are invited to apply by Jan. 18.

SSIA Pickleball: Drop-In Play Available Now: Four tennis courts have been converted to pickleball courts at SSIA Pickleball, South Suburban's newest location for drop-in play and court rentals. The facility is the former South Suburban Ice Arena building, located at 6580 S Vine Street, Centennial, CO 80121. Learn more, including weekly schedules and pricing, at ssprd.org/pickleball.

Upcoming Events

Light Up the New Year Light Show: Jan. 2-28 | Hudson Gardens
Experience the transformation and celebrate the new year at Hudson Gardens! The Light Up the New Year light show will feature vibrant hues and upbeat music for a unique, immersive experience. Tickets now available. Learn more at HudsonGardens.org/holidays.

Super Sunday Fun Run 5K: Sunday, Feb. 11 | Reynolds Landing Park
Are you ready for some... running? Bring the entire family to run or walk before the big game and enjoy a post-race party at Breckenridge Brewery Farmhouse with \$1 off all beers. Show your team spirit and wear your favorite team jersey or attire. More information can be found at ssprd.org/RaceSeries.

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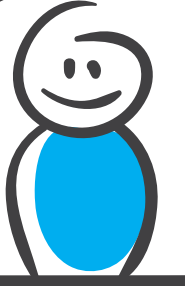
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YOUR
STORY?



A Note From
Your Neighbor

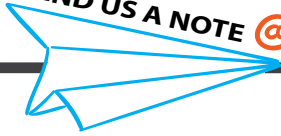


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- Important contacts and links
- Community events & meetings
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- Pool & tennis court info
- Dolphins Swim Team
- Tennis Club
- Women's Club
- Photos & More

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Saddle Rock North	\$25 663
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Murphy Creek	\$20 1,400
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ALL OF Aurora	\$155 9,972
Willow Creek 1, 2, & 3	\$35 1,629
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Hunters Hill	\$10 275
ALL OF Centennial	\$60 2,904
Sapphire Pointe	\$15 800
Founders Village	\$15 2,200
ALL OF Castle Rock	\$25 3,000
Colliers Hill, ERIE	\$25 1,332

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How do I place a classified ad?

EMAIL YOUR AD TO



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WANT HELP
WRITING
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2024 Full Moon Calendar

January 25 Wolf Moon

February 24 Snow Moon

March 25 Worm Moon

April 23 Pink Moon

May 23 Flower Moon

June 21 Strawberry Moon

July 21 Buck Moon

August 19 Sturgeon Moon

September 17 Harvest Moon

October 17 Hunter's Moon

November 15 Beaver Moon

December 15 Cold Moon

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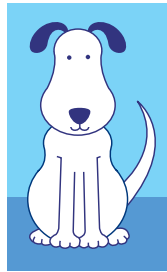
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NO NEED TO LOOK ELSEWHERE...

FIND THE HELP YOU NEED!

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Willow Creek Pets

Dogs must be leashed when they are out and about in our community. Both the city and our HOA require it. City of Centennial Animal Control patrols Willow Creek and will issue warnings and tickets to offenders. There have been serious incidents in the past where unleashed dogs have injured other pets and/or caused residents to be concerned for their safety.

Don't forget to clean up after your pet when dog walking. The city of Centennial (municipal code 7-7-320) as well as Willow Creek 3 policies, require that pet owners remove and dispose of pet waste on any property other than that of the owner or keeper. In other words, when you are out and about with your dog, don't leave a mess. City fines start at \$50 and can include a Municipal Court appearance. And if you see someone not following the rules, please let them know. Also, both Willow Creek 3 and the city require that dogs be leashed and under control when out in the community.

Did you know?

1. Stormwater carries pet waste and other pollutants directly into waterways.
2. Animal waste adds nitrogen to the water. Excess nitrogen depletes the oxygen in water necessary for beneficial underwater grasses, wildlife and fish.
3. Animal waste may contain harmful organisms such as Giardia, Salmonella and E. coli that can be transmitted to humans and other animals by ingesting contaminated water.
4. Roundworms and hookworms deposited by infected animals can live in the soil for long periods of time and be transmitted to other animals and humans.

Getting a Divorce?

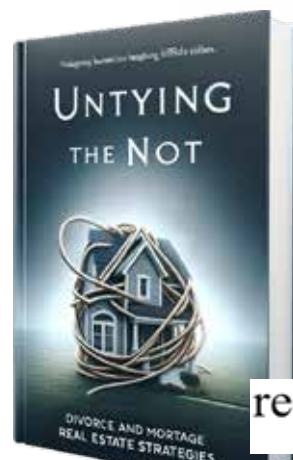
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Poinsettias

The holidays are over, decorations are being put away, Christmas trees are being recycled into mulch...but what about that poinsettia plant? Should you try to save it for a few months? Maybe keep it alive until next year? Or should it be thrown out with the tree? That choice is one that only you can make, but if you decide to keep it around for a little while longer or even until next year, here are a few tips.

Your poinsettia should remain in a location with plenty of natural light, keeping it away from drafty areas like a front or back door, heat registers, and far enough away from a window so that its leaves do not touch the glass. Poinsettias prefer temperatures between 60 and 70°F, so room temperature is ideal.

Water thoroughly only when the planting mix is dry, allowing for the excess water in the pot to drain. If you see lower leaves drying up and falling off, you may need to water more often. If those leaves are turning yellow and then dropping, you may be watering it too often, or needing to fertilize. Use an all-purpose fertilizer every few weeks for best results. Monitor your plant throughout the year for insects such as whitefly, aphids, and fungus gnats. If you notice a pest, take measures to get it under control promptly—they can get out of hand quickly.

In late March or early April, your plant may be looking a little sad, but have no fear. It's time to start shaping the plant and encouraging new growth by cutting back the original stems to a height of 4 to 6 inches. You might also see new shoots starting to emerge from the base of the plant. If so, you can encourage their growth by cutting back those older stems which will divert more resources to growing these new shoots, too. You should wear gloves during this process because poinsettias exude a white sap that can cause skin irritations or eye injury. Plants can be lightly shaped every few weeks though the summer, whether grown on indoors or outside.

Poinsettias are a short-day photoperiod plant that naturally start to flower when nights become longer than days (around the time of the Fall Equinox).

If you want to go the easy route and rely on the natural light and dark cycles, you will need to locate your plant in a spot that gets plenty of light during the day but no supplemental lighting once the sun goes down.

You can artificially create these long night conditions by covering your plant with a large box or placing it in a dark closet. The next morning a remove the box or place the plant back in the light. Plants need at least 14 hours of complete darkness each night for a couple of months to initiate flowering. Once you start to see the bracts changing color, you can stop covering the plant each night and prepare to enjoy the show!



Willow Creek III Dolphins



Join the **WILLOW CREEK III SWIM TEAM**

Check out www.wc3dolphins.com for more information
** open to residents and non-residents **

ABOUT THE DOLPHINS...



Willow Creek III has a summer swim team!

It is a must for all of the kids in the neighborhood and surrounding areas. You don't have to be a Willow Creek resident to join!

It is a great place to practice what the kids may already know, learn more and learn other strokes and generally be more comfortable and proficient around the water. And they usually have a lot of fun while they're at it! Plus hanging out with their friends or meeting new friends!

Our team is for all abilities and levels with an emphasis on learning to swim better. There are a handful of year-round swimmers, but the big majority of the team is kids having fun for the first part of the summer. Many swimmers have little or no experience when they start, and it's our job to introduce them to the sport of swimming.

Summer Swim Team Details: Willow Creek III Dolphin Swim Team is open to kids age 4-18. Season starts mid-May and ends mid-July. Our swim team is open to resident and non-resident swimmers. Registration normally opens mid-March.

Website: www.wc3dolphins.com

Dolphin Mission Statement: *We exist to provide a fun, safe, supportive environment for swimmers of all ages and abilities. Our goal is to bring out the best in all of our swimmers by helping to build up their swim skills, as well as promote self-confidence, discipline, leadership and teamwork.*

Being a Dolphin is FUN! The goal of the Dolphin Swim Team, coaches, and volunteer swim board is to make swimming and competing as a Dolphin an enjoyable, recreational activity for swimmers and their families.

Regardless of ability, all swimmers are on the same team; they are Dolphins! We encourage sportsmanship amongst our own swimmers, and between our swimmers and their competitors on other teams. It is heartwarming to see the older teens interact with the younger swimmers. We try to make swimming fulfilling, as well as fun, and hope our Dolphins will make swimming a lifetime activity.

About the Willow Creek 3 Swim Team: The Willow Creek III Swim Team is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Centennial, Colorado. We are a summer swim team that is a must for all of the kids in the neighborhood as well as their friends outside of Willow Creek. Our swim team has been a staple in the neighborhood for over 25 years. The Willow Creek III Dolphin Swim Team is in Division D of the Mountain Hi Swim League.




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Embracing the Year of the Dragon: A Symbol of Power, Prosperity, and Renewal

2024 – Year of the Dragon

As the lunar calendar ushers in the Year of the Dragon, a wave of excitement and anticipation sweeps across communities worldwide. The mythical dragon, a symbol deeply rooted in Eastern culture, brings with it a sense of power, prosperity, and renewal, making this lunar year especially significant.

In Chinese astrology, the dragon is the only mythical creature among the twelve zodiac animals, and its arrival is often met with enthusiasm and high expectations. The Year of the Dragon is associated with strength, courage, and good fortune, and those born under its influence are believed to inherit these auspicious traits.

One of the most compelling aspects of the dragon's symbolism is its association with power. The dragon is a majestic creature, often depicted as a formidable force capable of bringing about change and transformation. In the Year of the Dragon, people are encouraged to channel their inner strength, face challenges head-on, and pursue their goals with unwavering determination.

Prosperity is another key theme linked to the dragon. In Chinese culture, the dragon is considered a symbol of wealth and abundance. As the dragon soars through the sky, it is believed to bring good fortune and financial success. During this auspicious year, individuals and communities alike strive for prosperity, both in material wealth and personal growth.

Renewal is a significant aspect of the dragon's symbolism, representing the cyclical nature of life and the opportunities for rebirth. The Year of the Dragon encourages individuals to shed old habits, embrace change, and embark on new beginnings. It is a time for self-reflection, personal growth, and the pursuit of one's passions.

Celebrations during the Year of the Dragon are marked by vibrant festivities, traditional rituals, and a sense of unity within communities. From dragon dances and parades to elaborate decorations featuring the dragon motif, the spirit of the dragon infuses joy and excitement into the atmosphere.

Beyond its cultural significance, the Year of the Dragon transcends borders, captivating people from various backgrounds who appreciate the richness of Eastern traditions. Whether through cultural exchanges, festive events, or personal reflections, individuals worldwide come together to celebrate the dragon's influence.

As we embrace the Year of the Dragon, let us draw inspiration from its symbolism of power, prosperity, and renewal. May this lunar year bring about positive transformations, newfound strength, and a sense of abundance for all. Just as the dragon soars to great heights, may we, too, rise to meet the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, making this year a truly remarkable and memorable one.

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We have been advertising in the Porchlink newsletters for almost 2 years now. The staff is always professional and pleasant to work with. The newsletter has been very helpful in getting business for our small plumbing company. The ad usually pays for itself each month because so many people use it to get reasonable, trustworthy services.



Michelle Cox
Neighborhood Plumber



Smitty's has advertised with Porchlink over the course of several years and we find the experience seamless. As a seasonal business we often find ourselves with an exceedingly large workload in our day to day processes and we greatly appreciate that we can count on Kerri at Porchlink to touch base with us to ensure we have our ad out. We have worked with other companies responsible for HOA newsletters and found when it came to us the advertisers, our needs were never a priority. The professional working relationship we've exercised over the years with Porchlink has surpassed our needs. We would recommend them to any business looking to get their name out to the community.



Sarah Smith
Marketing Manager for Smitty's Sprinklers

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