

## Stonegate Email News of 2009-10-29

**Don't celebrate Halloween in the dark.** The goblins arrive Saturday. So this evening is a good time to step outside after sunset and check your coach lights, the ones that are supposed to go on when the sun goes down. If they're burned out, replace the bulb, perhaps with an energy efficient CFL. Then look at the other houses on your block. If your neighbor across the street is missing a light, they might really appreciate being told – especially right now. Often, when these bulbs are out, the homeowner just hasn't noticed.

**Green Tip: Your coach lights are perfect for CFLs.** The coach lights normally carry 40 watt bulbs. If you replace them with 9 watt CFLs, they'll give off the same amount of light and draw 75% less power. They also last much longer in this kind of use.

Doing the math:

- If you use CFLs in your two coach lights, you'll save more than 12.5 kilowatt hours in November, more than 130 kilowatt hours in a year.
- If Stonegate's 916 homes all use CFLs in their coach lights, we'll reduce our consumption by just over 11,000 kilowatt hours next month, more than 124,000 kilowatt hours in the course of a year.

If you're into this sort of thing, please consider volunteering for the Stonegate Conservation and Environmental Committee. This new group will stage Stonegate's first Green Expo and Symposium in February, and they're looking for more members. The mailing earlier this month included a volunteer sign-up sheet. Or just call the Community Center at 480-391-9760. We'll put you in touch with Lee Secrest, the committee's chair.

**Bike racks are springing up all over.** We look forward to *not* seeing bikes chained to lamp poles and such. There are already bike racks at the recreational area and on the south side of the intersection of Stonegate Circle and Palomino East. Soon we'll have new bike racks installed at:

- Mountain View Road west of Retreat gate
- Stonegate Circle west of the Timarron entrance
- The Regent, near the mailboxes.