

e-Thoughts

July 2014 Newsletter

Our e-Thoughts feature provides close-up views on topics and areas of interest from everyday life.

Summer is my favorite time of the year. Even though I live in the northeast, I'm not a skier or an ice skater. Autumn colors and spring blooms are lovely. But nothing holds a candle to the pleasures of summer for me.

Maybe it's an association from childhood. That's when summer meant freedom — and no homework for ten whole weeks (a lifetime in those days, right?)

Honestly, after the harsh 2014 winter, I'm more than happy to bask in the summer sun (wearing my sunblock, of course). I figure I've shoveled enough snow to last a lifetime.

What do I like best about summer?

- Outdoor concerts
- Picnics

- Hiking
- The drama of thunderstorms (although my dog wouldn't agree with me on this!)
- Being a "beach bum" whenever possible
- Watching kids scream with delight as they run through lawn sprinklers
- Strolling in the warm evenings when the sun is down, it's still light outside and the crickets are chirping at full volume

If you live in the south or southwest, I know your summer temperatures can be "off the charts." But I hope you have special summer enjoyments too.

Most importantly — wherever you live — don't forget to make time to kick back and do some serious relaxing this summer. You've earned it!