

Quarry Woods Homeowner's Association – July 2023 Communication

Hi! Hope all are well and enjoying a summer where rain has seldom been a concern when planning an event. With that said, I hope our annual picnic is not impacted by severe weather.

REMINDER - Please remember to RSVP for our Quarry Woods summer picnic by July 14th. Call Bill or Jan at 320-253-3801

Annual Picnic Details -

Quarry Woods Neighborhood Picnic on Wednesday, July 19th, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. It will be held again at the Hidden Lake Picnic Shelter in St. Augusta. The social hour will be from 5:00 to 6:00 followed by a picnic dinner catered by Mark Larson of Creative Catering. There will be no cost to the residents as it will be paid for by the Homeowners Association. We are hoping that this picnic will give us all a chance to meet our neighbors, both old and new.

If any of you have any questions or comments please feel free to let us know. More details will follow as we get closer to the picnic time.

**Bill and Janice Gans
Picnic Organizers
253-3801**

Thanks again Jan and Bill!

There were a couple requests for backyard structures to the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) that were approved last month. Thanks for involving the ARC in your plans. **For additions, outbuildings, structural changes, fences or land alterations which may impact neighbors, please contact the ARC. The ARC is headed by Denny Neiss. Murray Mack coordinates the review and approval process.. If a review is not needed, the ARC will let you know.**

As mentioned, last month, the HOA Board (Denny Neiss, Janice Gans and myself) have taken on the task to review our Covenants / Bylaws and other HOA documents for possible updates. We have engaged legal counsel – Craig Hanson of Hanson Law Office. The intent is to ensure the Covenants and supporting documents are in force, content is valid and any updates needed are applied appropriately. I mentioned this effort at the Annual Meeting and some concerns were captured. Rental property, solar panels, permanent above ground pools and new technology antennae options are items we will look to define. Any amendments will be documented and must be approved through a vote by homeowners and lot owners. Craig Hanson is reviewing updates and we will keep you posted. It is a personal goal of mine to ensure the documents passed to the next President of the HOA are in good order.

Doug Carlson, part of the development team, has completed the installation of the combined unit mailbox structures in our latest addition. **Thanks to Craig Heurung and Nancy Helling for helping to coordinate the install and start up!** The HOA Board / Treasurer will coordinate the process of key distribution.

A big thanks to Dennis Host for implementing a Quarry Woods website. Nice work! Check it out, if you have not already - www.quarrywoodshoa.com

We occasionally receive a request from a neighbor to broadcast a message using our email list. The privacy and our intention to not misuse this tool may result in turning down a request. We prefer that any communication would pertain to updates related to Quarry Woods homeowner and lot owners. If you do have a message that impacts all neighbors, please let the Board / Treasurer know. David Miller controls the master list of homeowner and lot owner contact information. This is used for HOA dues collection too. **If you do have updates to your phone or e-mail, please ensure David Miller is updated.**

I received comments related to my update on Covenants enforcement and concerns. Thanks to all for the renewed observance. I will once again mention the City departments that already have regulations and enforcement procedures in place to address.

The City has regulations and enforcement policies in place and they should be contacted for -

- Animal control – 320-255-7200 The City addresses concerns with numbers, species and dangerous animals as well as licensing policies.

- Snow removal concerns – 320-255-7214 The City has set time frames to address removal. I am not aware of any immediate concerns – Hope it stays that way for awhile.

- Grass and weed height – 320-255-7214 The City sets maximum height at 10”. They allow flowers, native and prairie grasses. Check the list on their website for noxious plants / weeds that should be avoided.

- **Street parking** – 320-255-7209 The City requires vehicles must be in usable condition with current licensing. Parking during snow removal season – November 01 through April 01 could result in towing or fines. Parking too close to a stop sign or blocking a fire hydrant will result in towing or a fine. If there are no signs posted, you can park cars, trailers and boats but they must be frequently moved and this is subject to authorities monitoring. Parking must be done in a traffic facing manner. Construction exceptions and dumpster positioning should be discussed with the City first. Vehicles cannot be parked in your driveway in a manner that obstructs any part of a sidewalk. Allow mail delivery vehicle access.

- **Boulevard tree planting** – The City has rules in place for location and species of trees – A free permit can be obtained – Check their website

Please note that the information I provided is my interpretation based on discussions and website review and not to be considered complete. Verify any concerns directly with responsible parties. I would hope that neighbors could work with each other and use higher level enforcement as a last resort.

Sherwood Park Update – Bev Host brought in a buck thorn removal contractor. An estimate was provided. To remove every buck thorn plant would be very costly. The contractor suggested clearing out around ten feet along the path and around the gazebo. They would also remove the approximately six, larger dead trees. The estimate is \$2,500.

I know several neighbors living around the loop would prefer to leave the area as is. The buck thorn battle will likely recur. The Board is interested in your opinion on this expenditure. Is there sufficient interest and use to warrant the cost? Please let us know. It is an expenditure the Board can approve without a homeowner / lot owner vote but is it a prudent use of our limited funds? Dead trees that could fall on a path or street should be removed – Especially, if we are aware of them. Maybe just the falling / removal of dead trees is an option? The City is also looking at other ways to remove the noxious plant.

County Road 136 / 34th Street Entrance improvements – Murray Mack and Denny Niess are looking to put emphasis on this in the July time frame.

Walking Paths – Our paths are in need of attention. There are large cracks that are filling with weeds and saplings. We have engaged Done Right Contracting to fill the cracks and seal our paths. This includes the connection to Deer Creek. The total price is around \$3,900. Not cheap but we want to delay replacement as long as we can. They mentioned that resurfacing longevity is impacted by surrounding trees that shed sap. The sap will weaken the coatings adhesion. We want the trees so we will have to deal with the downside. Schedule to be determined.

We will also look to trim the trees again along the path – I will reach out for volunteers. Anyone interested? Last year, I hauled about ten trailer loads to the compost. We should only have a couple this year.

Denny Niess has been working with the existing contractors who are removing / moving granite. They would move granite around the outlot shore similar to other areas around the quarries. Since they are in the area with equipment, they quoted a price of \$1,500. Seems like a relatively cheap visual enhancement.

Continuing Reminders

Take time to ensure that your sidewalks are clear of debris. Avoid parking trailers, construction supplies, portable toilets, equipment and dumpsters that impede sidewalk use.

Please note, the City requires that you / your contractors clean up sidewalks and streets if you / they drag mud and debris on to them.

Keep in mind the time trash/recycling containers, trailers and non-licensed vehicles are in your driveway.

Drains - The City offers an “Adopt-A-Drain” program you can sign up for. You can monitor a drain(s) you sign up for and periodically clean debris. It would be great to have all of our drains monitored by those most impacted if they clog – You and your neighbors. If interested, please check out info@adopt-a-drain.org . I have three I signed up for on Topaz Lane – Plenty more available to adopt. **If you see a concern with a drain not functioning, please contact the City.**

As always, thanks to all who work to keep our neighborhood looking good! If you see some debris laying about – Please pick it up.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns and I will do what I can to work to a resolution. Take care and thanks for bearing with me on this monthly rant.

Jim Dahl
3347 Topaz Lane S

Cell - 320-310-3538 / e-mail – jdacdahl@aol.com