



HALO

Neighbors!

**The Newsletter of Home and LandOwners Organization, Inc
Summer 2020**

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Message from the President

Life has dramatically changed in the last couple of months, and we all are adapting as best we can. For HALO, it means holding virtual meetings on ZOOM instead of meeting in person. We all miss the opportunity to visit with our friends after the meeting and the human contact, and look forward to the end of this traumatic event.

Meanwhile, thank you to all who make HALO work. Seats A of the Board of Directors were unanimously re-elected, agreeing to once again represent your neighborhoods. These individuals are vital to HALOs success, and are greatly appreciated. They pitch in whenever they see a need, and contribute when common sense is required. They keep us up with your area concerns, and let us know when and where we can help.

As a reminder, we do not meet in July, as our meeting conflicts with the long Independence Day weekend. We will hope the weather holds, just a bit cooler than last year and just a bit more rain to keep the fire danger down. We look forward to seeing you in August, when hopefully we will be able to meet together at Holy Spirit Retreat.

Meanwhile, enjoy the summer!

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Free Summer Disposal Passes and Citywide Cleanup!

Muni residents can register now for a free summer disposal pass from the Department of Solid Waste Services now! Register at www.muni.org/sws for a pass that allows each household one free load of garbage before Monday, May 18. These passes will be valid through 9/5/2020.

Free drop off disposal passes will only be accepted at the Anchorage Regional Landfill in Eagle River. Girdwood residents may use passes at the Girdwood Transfer Station. Loads are limited to less than 1,000 pounds and must fit in a standard pickup truck bed. No trailers or U-Hauls are eligible for free disposal. Additional fees will still apply to items containing Freon or more than 40 pounds of hazardous waste.

For more information, email freedisposal@anchorageak.gov or call (907) 343-6262.

The free passes are being offered in lieu of Free Dump Days which were cancelled due to physical distancing requirements. To participate in the Anchorage Citywide Cleanup, register with the Anchorage Chamber for free orange Citywide Cleanup bags. Those bags will be accepted for free at all SWS disposal facilities from May 4 to the 31st.

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COPE!

When disaster strikes, we can COPE with whatever happens. What is COPE? This is the Community Outreach Prevention Effort from Rabbit Creek Community Council. The goal is to help neighborhoods organize to be better prepared to help each other and coordinate their efforts with local agencies. Wildfires, earthquakes and wind events happen. We can be prepared! The site at communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/Neighborhood%20Resilience%20Committee.html offers good information and ways you can organize your neighborhood. You will also find the materials from the May 2nd Wildfire Awareness/COPE meeting, including the video from the meeting. That video can also be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RabbitCreekCC. Rabbit Creek wishes to especially thank John See, AFD Forrester, John Parker of Integrated Robotics and the University of Alaska Anchorage for the valuable information they offered.

Primary Resources to help you:

1. Know where to get information (Muni of Anchorage)

- [MOA COVID19 Information](#)
- [MOA General Disaster Communications](#)

2. Organize your neighbors

- [Sample Organizing Meeting Agenda](#) (Phone or Zoom)
- Example eWatch Program - [WA Map Your Neighborhood](#)
- Coming soon - a sample community drill meeting agenda and sample drill.

3. Be ready to "Go"

- [Your "Go" Bag](#) - the essentials you should have ready anytime
- [Ready Set Go Introduction and Video](#)
- [Ready Set Go Planning Guide](#)

4. Prepare your home to reduce wildfire risks.

- [Home Self Assessment](#) - (Also on the MOA Page below)
- [MOA Home Preparation Guides...](#) Firewise Manual and information on pruning trees, remove combustibles near the house.
- Firewise Neighborhoods "Team Up" Video - <https://anchoragefire.viebit.com/player.php?hash=mGxsqQn45oli>
- Alaska Wildfire Information - <https://akfireinfo.com/>

Why do some homes survive a wildfire? Go to the video of the Fort McMurray wildfire disaster at <https://www.preventionweb.net/publications/view/50166>

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Society of American Foresters Changes Tree Distribution Date

The Cook Inlet Chapter of the Society of American Foresters has tentatively changed the date of the 2020 SAF Tree Sale distribution date to Saturday, June 20. This change was necessary due to the social distancing mandates and current restrictions. Some 40,000 trees will be distributed at sites in Anchorage, Wasilla and Soldotna, including the pre-sales.

The distribution date may be pushed to August if conditions do not change. Moving the trees from their planting trays into individual 20-tree bundles is labor intensive work that requires close contact. The additional time will give the trees additional growing time, and trees may be available to those who have not made pre-orders.

For more information, including additional details, email treesalecisaf@gmail.com

The Cook Inlet Chapter is also excited to continue their support to the Alaska Community Forestry Council in their Arbor Day Grants. For information on Alaska Arbor Day Grants, visit <http://forestry.alaska.gov/community/arbor-day-grants>.

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The Anchorage Fire Department Announces Wood Lot Re-opening

The Anchorage Fire Department announced the re-opening of the South Anchorage woodlot and the Anchorage Regional Landfill woodlot in Eagle River.

The Anchorage WoodLot is located at 100th Avenue and C Street. It will be open on Thursday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm, and on Sundays from 12 pm to 5 pm. There is a \$15 fee for a standard pickup load.

The Eagle River WoodLot is located at the Anchorage Regional Landfill, at 15500 Eagle River Loop. It is open on Fridays from 7:30 am to 5 pm, and Saturdays from 8 am to 5 pm. The Girdwood WoodLot is closed.

These wood lots are a cooperative effort between MOA agencies to help recycle organic debris that would otherwise be burned or disposed of in our landfill sites. The resulting wood chips are used at the Anchorage Regional Landfill as a daily cover for refuse and serves to help minimize bird problems, odors, and assist the organic material in decomposition.

AFD also reminds us to always check the “Is Today a Burn Day” prior to starting a recreational fire. It can be found at www.muni.org/Departments/Fire/Wildfire/Pages/IsTodayaBurnDay.aspx

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Your 2019 HALO Board of Directors:

<i>Area G-1 Seat A</i>	<i>Kurt Rein</i>	<i>344-5554</i>
<i>Area G-1 Seat B</i>	<i>Sarah Denson</i>	<i>2LPS4SJD@gmail.com</i>
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<i>President Katie Nolan</i>	<i>PresidentHALO@gmail.com</i>
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<i>Secretary Nancy Kaufman</i>	<i>ANCHALOSecretary@gmail.com</i>
<i>Treasurer Christine Monette</i>	<i>ANCHALOTreasurer@gmail.com</i>

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For Your Calendar

HALO Meetings are held at 7 pm on the first Thursday of each month. We meet at Holy Spirit Retreat (corner Hillside & O'Malley)

HALO meeting June 4 on Zoom

NO MEETING ON JULY 2nd - HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND!!!

HALO meeting August 6 - location TBD

Join HALO

If you haven't already paid your dues this year, you can do it now or bring this form to the next meeting. HALO is supported solely by membership dues and donations. Dues are just \$10 per year, and your participation ensures the future of this worthwhile organization.

Do you have a neighbor who should be involved in HALO? Forward this E-Newsletter to them, or invite them to the next meeting!

Fill out and return this for your membership renewal:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

New Member _____ **Renewal** _____

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www.AnchorageHALO.org