Ridgewood HOA Residents Update

The Ridgewood HOA Board recently met to discuss several items that we want to make residents aware of.

We have agreed on a strategic plan for tree replacements. See below.

We discussed possibly constructing a monument on the roundabout near the north entrance to Ridgewood. Based on information we recently received the monument estimate is that it could cost approximately $15,000. The monument would be similar to one at the south entrance and we have requested more details. We would like to consider having electricity run to the monument at an additional cost, but that may not be feasible. The electricity would mainly be used for holiday lighting, not lighting the monument. We are also looking into how much additional assessment would be required per residential lot to construct the new monument?

The Board agreed to host an Easter Mix and Mingle on Saturday evening April 12th at the Ridgewood Senior Living Center. The event is intended for Ridgewood residents and their children to meet other families living in Ridgewood. Attendees will enjoy an children’s Easter egg hunt as well as hotdogs, chips, popcorn and dessert. It will be a bring your own beverages event. Please mark your calendars, more details coming in the near future!

Figuring out a way to utilize the out-lots behind the homes near Ashwood Drive and Elmwood Drive was also discussed. We will ask for comments from residents on their ideas for using these lots. One idea the board discussed was a gravel or crushed rock trail leading from the south access point to the north access point which makes it available to all residents. This trail distance is just a few hundred feet less than ½ mile. This would of course need to be funded by a special assessment, but would probably be the most cost effective and hopefully require minimal maintenance. We look forward to hearing your comments and ideas.

Ridgewood HOA Board

Ridgewood HOA Strategic Plan for Tree Replacement

The HOA Board met with certified arborist Jake Conly to discuss a strategic plan for tree treatment and replacement at our two main entrances to the Ridgewood development.

Strategic Tree Plan

* The trees we have at the South entrance on the island are Pear trees. The larger they become, the more vulnerable they will be for splitting and wind damage. At this time, we are going to just leave them alone with the assumption we will eventually need to remove them.
* The 50 plus trees we currently have at the North entrance off of Highway 36 are all Ash trees. They will all eventually die from the emerald ash borer.
* We are not going to treat all 50 plus Ash trees for the borer. We will treat those that show signs of the borer on an as needed basis keeping in mind a strategic location of the tree in an attempt to save many of the Ash trees and remembering the street is Ashwood Drive.
* The trees on the island from HWY 36 South to the roundabout have been planted to close to the streets based on the size of the narrow island. Over time we will remove many of those trees as they get too big for the island area. Our efforts to maintain and improve the tree canopy will be focused on the east and west side of the North entrance.
* On an annual basis we will continue to apply for tree planting grants and purchase as many trees as possible based on the grant amount. The arborist has indicated purchasing many smaller trees that will grow larger over time will be the best use of the grant money.
* The type of trees will vary – Oak trees (white and red) Hackberry, Maple (sugar and Norway) etc.
* The arborist recommends not purchasing ball and burlap trees due to the effect the wrapping has on the planting success of the tree.
* The arborist also suggests planting different variety of trees in clusters of 3 or more to enhance the look of the trees (trees do not naturally grow in a straight line ) as well as reduce the risk of all of the same type of trees getting future diseases that would kill all of the same trees.

Ridgewood HOA Board