

SOMERSET ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Maximizing Home Values, Quality of Life, Positioning as Premier Community

What's Up #71: April 18, 2022

Fire Mitigation Information

The Marshall Fire has reminded us that **we live in a dry climate where fires can spread quickly**. Besides being adequately insured, we should each take a look at our properties for situations that make our homes vulnerable to fires. Mountain View Fire and Rescue has provided a Homeowners Guide from FireWise, Community Fire Prevention Partnership, available by **clicking here**.

A few tips from the **Defensible Space section**:

1. Clear all flammable vegetation within 15 ft of your home
2. Prune tree branches 10-15 ft from the ground (consult with an arborist before dramatic pruning to be sure it won't reduce the life or wind stability of the tree)
3. Remove dead branches that extend over roofs
4. Keep roof gutters clear of any leaves or debris
5. Thin trees and shrubs beyond the 15 ft safety zone,
6. Keep a 10-15 ft tree crown spacing with occasional clumps of two or three
7. Never store flammable material in an open exposed area
8. Move combustible yard furniture away from your home.

The Architectural Control Committee will soon be conducting a spring walk-through and will be looking for dead and overgrown vegetation. As a reminder, **ACC approval is NOT required to remove any tree or vegetation**. Landscape maintenance standards are in Section V of the Architectural & Landscaping Standards, available by **clicking here**.

Most of the cedar shake roofs in Somerset Estates have been replaced with more fire-retardant materials. If you still have a cedar roof, the ACC is happy to help you evaluate other options. Contact information is below or on the website.

Fire Chief Speaking April 19 at 7 PM

The Annual Meeting of the Niwot Community Association is Tuesday, April 19 at 7 PM at the Left Hand Grange on Second Avenue. **The topic is The Marshall Fire**, including **high level fire facts, thoughts for homeowners, and general lessons learned**, presented by our local Mountain View Fire and Rescue Division Chief and Deputy Fire Chief. The meeting will also be live-streamed. For more information about the Niwot Community Association, including how to become a member, please visit niwot.org.

About this Newsletter - Update

Issue #1 of this What's Up Newsletter was published on April 1, 2018 and began with the article "About this Newsletter". Four years and 70 issues later, **What's Up is still the primary communication method for SEHOA**, along with the website **somersetstates-hoa.com**. Contact and vounteer information has been repeated at the bottom of What's Up since inception. In the interest of shortening the newsletter, only key contacts are included below with complete information and community contacts found on the website. **All issues of What's Up are available on the website** (a fun walk down memory lane to see how much has gone on in the past four years!), so we are no longer including the "In Case You Missed the Last Issue" section. Information about volunteering has also been moved to the website.

SEHOA Directory Information Reminder

A Directory Information form was included in the Annual Meeting packet or is available by **clicking here**. The purpose is to help neighbors get to know each other and find people with similar interests. **The directory will be for neighborhood social use only** and cannot be used for solicitations, any commercial purpose, or sold to any person. This is voluntary and you need only include whatever information you want to provide.

Please return the form by April 30 by either emailing a scan or photo to info@somersetstates-hoa.com, mailing to SEHOA, P.O. Box 621, Niwot CO 805044, or giving to any Board or Social and Welcome Committee member (listed below).

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Please monitor the SEHOA website for any schedule changes.

Executive Board Meeting -- May 17 at 6:30 PM. Please check the website for the agenda and location. somersestates-hoa.com.

Somerset Estates Book Club -- June 28 at 4 PM (tentative date) at the home of Kamla Chopra. The book is *Honor* by Thirty Umrigar. Please let Paula Hemenway know at p.hemenway@comcast.net if you want to be added to the Book Club distribution list.

Monday Mahjong -- Mondays at 3 PM. Contact Melissa Koller at mzkoller@gmail.com for more information.

Contact SEHOA

Association General Information

Somerset Estates Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 621
Niwot CO 80544

Website: SomersetEstates-HOA.com
Email Inquiries: Info@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

Property Management

Allan Orendorff
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Executive Board

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ScottA@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

Architectural Control Committee

Larry Becker, Chairman
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Social and Welcome Committee

Pea Lawson, Board Representative
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