

Inland Shores Community

Staats Lake • Keizer, OR

*Lake Forest Estates
Westlake Village
Lakefair Village*



December Newsletter

Happy Holidays on Behalf of the HOA Board of Directors

We would like to extend our warmest wishes to all homeowners for a joyful holiday season and a healthy, prosperous New Year with all the best in the year ahead, for you, your family, and friends!

Neighborhood Signage

Homeowners occasionally ask whether adding more or different signage around the neighborhood and lake would reduce trespassing or rule violations. However, after more than a decade of experience, the Board has found that signage is not the issue—behavior is. Our signs are well-placed, visible, and clear; anyone entering the property sees them. The problem is not that people don't know the rules but that some choose to ignore them. Adding more signs would not change that and could even make existing signs less effective through visual clutter. Misbehavior happens in all communities despite clear rules and enforcement efforts. Our three Inland Shores Associations continue to take reasonable steps to minimize violations, including hiring weekend security patrols during the summer, which have significantly reduced problems. Signage remains important and some of the existing signs that are weathered will be looked at for renewal, but respectful, direct communication and continued security oversight continue to represent our most effective tools for curbing unwanted behaviors and preserving our community values.

Lake Geese Health Update

Residents of Inland Shores are fortunate to host migrating geese each year, but recent bird flu and fungal outbreaks have affected their populations, including those at Staats Lake. Each fall, starting in mid-October, some geese begin to die from these illnesses, with cases tapering off by late February. The Staats Lake Association (SLA) coordinates with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to ensure proper removal of dead birds, as only ODFW-licensed companies are permitted to do so. Residents need not report dead geese around the lake itself but should contact the HOA Board if sick or dead birds are found on private property or HOA streets. While bird flu spreads mainly among birds, it rarely infects other animals or humans; still, residents should avoid handling birds and keep pets away. The CDC reports that the current strain poses low risk to people; more information is available at www.cdc.gov/bird-flu.

Inland Shores Landscaping Update

R&R December Tree Service Project – Currently Scheduled for Tuesday December 16th

The Staats Lake HOA Board recently approved a **one-time, HOA-funded** tree trimming project along the vinyl perimeter fence on Lockhaven Drive. The work will be performed by Pacific Landscape Services and is scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, 2025 (weather permitting).

Purpose of This Project

This preventive maintenance is being completed to minimize the risk of fence damage from low or overhanging tree branches during winter storms. Recent evaluation by R&R Tree Services indicated several areas where tree limbs have grown close to or against the HOA's vinyl fencing. Proactive trimming at this time will help prevent potential damage and costly repairs later in the season.

R&R Tree Service Update – Birch Tree Beetle Infestation

During a recent walk-through with R&R Tree Service, we discovered that several of our community's birch trees have been affected by a local beetle called the *Bronze Birch Borer*. About 23 trees show signs of infestation, such as wilted leaves, dead branches, or small D-shaped holes in the bark.

Unfortunately, some trees will need to be removed and replaced over time. The Landscape Committee is working with R&R Tree Service on a long-term plan to gradually replace the affected trees over the next 5–10 years. Future replacements will include a mix of similar-looking tree species to reduce the chance of a large-scale infestation happening again.

We are currently looking at replacing about 4 trees (1 on Sonata Lane and 3 on Crystal Springs Lane N) and will keep homeowners updated as this project progresses. Most likely this will be completed in early spring 2026.

Aging Neighborhood Fences

Many neighborhood fences are near 30 years old and show signs of age such as post decay and weathering. Because most fences are shared between neighbors, the Board encourages open communication to coordinate repairs or replacements, share costs, and maintain a consistent look throughout the community. To help, the HOA has compiled a list of reputable local fencing companies and recommendations for obtaining multiple bids to compare prices, materials, and services. Please remember that all new or replacement fences must receive **Architectural Review Committee (ARC)** approval before work begins.

- **Apex Fence:** Rating 5.0 - Phone Number: 971-910-7433
- **West Coast Decking & Fencing LLC:** Rating 4.9 - Phone Number: 503-931-3187
- **OnPoint Fencing and Decking:** Rating: 4.9 - Phone Number: 503-949-2712
- **Rick's Custom Fencing & Decking:** Rating: 4.7 - Phone Number: 503-463-8331
- **Salem Fence Company:** Rating: 4.7 - Phone Number: 503-506-6308