



AHHOA Newsletter July 2023

Open Board Meeting July 25

The Board will meet to plan the 2023 annual meeting the evening of Tuesday, July 25 in the church hall at Holy Nativity Church. All members are invited to attend.

Alpine Heights Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: Holy Nativity Church

The agenda for the meeting will include:

- Update on current events (including Lot 147)
- Preparations for the October members' meeting
 - Schedule for board nominations
 - Procedure for board nominations
 - Mailing to members
 - Contents
 - Dates
- Agenda items for the October meeting

Annual HOA Meeting October 7

The annual HOA member's business meeting will be held Saturday, October 7, the first Saturday in October. Please note the change of location as the meeting hall at the Holy Nativity Church is not available to us that day. The meeting will be held in the Payson Public Library's meeting room.

Annual Alpine Heights Annual Business Meeting

Date: Saturday, October 7, 2023

Time: 9:00 am

Payson Public Library Meeting Room

Ahead of this meeting a packet will be mailed to all lot owners in good standing with:

- Directions to the library meeting room
- The meeting agenda
- Annual dues notice
- Annual fire-wising expenditures form
- And ballots and bios for candidates for the Board

Gunshots fired June 10, 2023

For those who heard gunshots fired in the HOA on Saturday, June 10, the report from Game and Fish explained someone was shooting at an elk protecting her fawn on an empty lot on Alpine Heights Drive. The Town police and County Sheriff responded, and an arrest was made for discharging a firearm in town limits. This has also resulted in a violation notice against the lot owner, because the Declaration of Restrictions clearly prohibits using firearms within the HOA and home owners are responsible for violations caused by renters. (CH)

JULY FIREWISE UPDATE

Lots cleared: Two undeveloped building lots located on N. Sunset Drive were cleared of debris, brush, and overgrown trees in recent weeks. The work was accomplished with volunteers and a local Firewise certified contractor. One of the lots has since been put up for sale.

Western Slope Easement: A great amount of brush clearing has been accomplished by homeowners on Hillcrest Drive and Arrowhead Drive in the last few years. Homeowners on Arrowhead have expressed concern about runoff from storms as a result of too much clearing. While clearing brush in itself does not create additional runoff, we do recommend forming berms horizontal to the slope as you work on your property. This will slow the water when it rains and give it more time to soak into the ground. I will gladly show you my property as an example. There are several properties that need more Firewising along the easement.

2024 Firewise Community Renewal forms: Please submit your forms to me via email or the USPS to the Alpine Heights HOA P.O. Box 355, Payson, AZ 85547. Submitting the form when the work is done allows me to gauge our progress and prepare the data for submittal to Firewise USA to renew our community certification. These forms will also be included in the package for the 2023 business meeting in October.

Ready, Set, Go Training: Please provide the HOA Board members feedback on whether you would find this training of value. Training provided in Pine was well received and well attended. The Board would consider sponsoring this training if we receive positive feedback.

Pete Wagner

Alpine Heights Firewise Coordinator

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Keeping Nights Dark in Alpine Heights



Nights are magical when you gaze upward and see tens of thousands of stars in the skies. And just like we're all concerned about air and water pollution, light pollution affects our nighttime outdoor enjoyment. Most light pollution comes from light fixtures that shine outward or upward. By aiming lights down on landscaping, walkways, and drives, we can reduce light pollution and enjoy the beauty of our night skies. Plus, we minimize stray light from entering the windows of our neighbors and disturbing their peace. The Town of Payson has similar requirements for exterior lighting on new houses being built. Our community can work together to minimize light pollution by transitioning to lighting that shines down and doesn't disturb others. A proposal to make Alpine Heights a Dark Sky Community will be discussed in detail at our annual HOA meeting in October. (RST)

MANAGING MISTLETOE IN JUNIPER TREES

Alpine Heights HOA Declaration of Restrictions, Article II, Paragraph G, states that “all trees must be kept free of Mistletoe.”

Background: Juniper trees in this area are susceptible to *Phoradendron juniperium* (Juniper mistletoe). The mistletoe seeds are spread by birds and take one to two years to germinate, take root on the tree, and sprout into the plant you see on Juniper branches. Mistletoe will not kill a healthy tree, but if not controlled it will spread throughout the tree and to other nearby trees.

The **USDA, US Forest Service** guidance states that the impact of Juniper mistletoe is generally minor because the plant produces most of its food through photosynthesis. It gets water and minerals from the host tree. The caveat is that drought can increase stress to an infected tree.

The **University of Arizona Cooperative Extension** guidance states that since mistletoe is spread by birds, it is difficult (read impossible) to prevent. Mistletoe is a very slow progressing pathogen and can take decades to kill a mature, infested tree. A community wide effort to remove mistletoe requires cooperation of all property owners with Juniper trees on their property.

The way to protect your own trees is by pruning of branches one foot below the mistletoe infection. If you are a DIY person, an electric pole saw can fulfill most of your pruning needs. Saws are available locally for \$75.00. If you prefer professional help, several local contractors are a phone call away. Please remember the mistletoe when you are doing normal Firewising.

Pete Wagner

Alpine Heights Firewise Coordinator

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Please!

Do Not Feed the Elk and Secure Your Trash Cans

Increasingly, elk have been observed knocking over trash cans and eating trash on nearby streets.

Also, a few of our Alpine Heights neighbors, are leaving carrots in their yards to encourage visits from these majestic creatures.

Please remember the importance of respecting their natural habitat. It is imperative that we do not promote dependence on eating our trash or handouts!

TIPS:

1. If you leave behind food waste, please consider using heavy-duty trash bags to act as a barrier, prior to placing into your garbage can.
2. Clean out your garbage can, if you have sugary spills inside.
3. Do not overfill your trash can. Lids should be secure. Consider straps or a bungee cord to ensure closure.
4. Consider building a trash enclosure, if you have several cans. Complete an Architectural Review Form (ARC) prior to building a trash enclosure. ARC forms are available on our website:
www.alpineheightshoa.com

We need to do our part to ensure the health and safety of these amazing creatures. (MD)

Thank you!

8 FUN FACTS ABOUT ELK

1. The size of an elk's antlers is dependent upon sunlight. Sunlight causes a boost in testosterone levels, causing the antlers to grow. They can weigh as much as 40 pounds in a full-grown male.
2. During rutting season, the male moves both his lips and nostrils to make the famous bugling sound.
3. Elk's anklebones make distinct cracking or popping noises when they walk. Perhaps to tell other elk they are approaching
4. The Shawnee name for elk is WAPITI - "white rump." Elks are connected with love and music for many Native Americans.
5. Scientists have noticed female elk presented with the choice of mates with 9 or 10 antler points, usually selects the bull with 10 points
6. Rubbing antlers against trees polishes the antlers, giving them a more eye-catching look
7. To woo female elk, a bull elk digs a hole in the ground, fills it with his own urine and bathes in it. How romantic!
8. Weighing up to 700 pounds, a mature bull elk can run as fast as 40 mph. They can outrun horses in short races. Elk can jump eight feet vertically.

Source: www.visitestepark.com (May 06, 2019) By Tyler Wilcox

(MD)