

Ashe Lake Property Owners NEWSLETTER

December 2022

Road Repairs and Maintenance

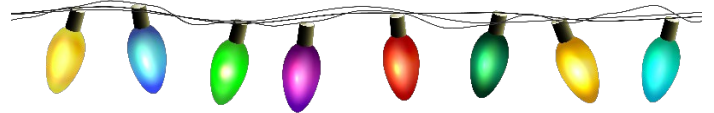
ALPO has been busy getting our roads winter ready. We have made arrangements with Eastridge Backhoe & Dozer for our winter snow removal, should the need arise.



Walking Trails

ALPO has been hard at work designing, cleaning up and marking the walking trails within our community. We have named our first trail "Beaver Creek Trail" and will be marking it with new signs to show the way. The Beaver Creek Trail starts on Lakeside Dr and Hemlock Dr which takes you down to Beaver Creek.

Next up will be Ashe Trail and Mountaintop Trail. Please remember lots on both sides of the trails are privately owned so please respect your neighbors.



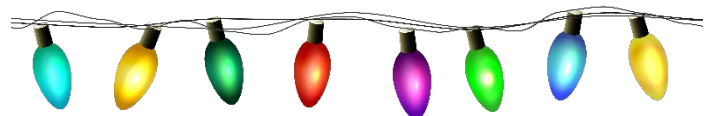
2022 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST

Untangle those lights, pull out the inflatables, and start decorating! Christmas light contests are a festive way to demonstrate your community pride and light up the holiday season. So, pull out your Santas, sleds, reindeer, wreaths, lights and spread the holiday cheer.

Winner: \$50.00 gift certificate to Kristin's Hook'd on Smoke Food Truck. Recently voted Carolina's Finest Food Truck by Carolina Country magazine.

Judging will be by an impartial panel from outside the community.

The winner will be announced and all participating homes and properties will be featured in our January 2023 newsletter.





First Snowfall - Winter 2022



The High Country experienced the first snowfall of the 2022 winter season on November 13. Although we only received a dusting in Ashe Lake, it is a sign that winter is officially here.

Photo from January 2022.

Association Dues

Our 2023 association dues will be mailed / emailed during the 2nd week of December. Please remember that your dues are what funds our community and pay for the road maintenance, snow clearing, tree clearing, lake maintenance, insurance, and community improvements. Without your cooperation and contributions none of these would have been possible. Thank you neighbor for supporting your neighborhood!

Dues and Property Sales

We have noticed some properties for sale in Ashe Lake, and we welcome the opportunity to settle any Association dues in arrears prior to sale. Please direct any inquiries regarding your dues to AsheLakePOA@gmail.com

Online Dues Payment

Online payment is here!! Beginning with the 2023 billing you will be able to make your ALPO dues payments online. We feel this will make payment of dues an easier process for some, rather than mailing in checks.

Updated Contact Information

Has your mailing address, phone number or email address recently changed? Shoot us an email so we can update our records and keep you in the loop of happenings in our community. Please direct any questions, concerns, or requests to AsheLakePOA@gmail.com



Ashe Lake Cares

ALPO is partnering with our local community to give back to Ashe County. Now through December 20th we will be collecting non-perishable goods for distribution to our neediest residents.

We are also collecting for Ashe County's annual coat and blanket drive now through December 20th. We are accepting new and gently used coats, blankets, hats, gloves, scarves, socks and anything to keep someone warm this winter.

If you would like to participate, please reach out to Bibi, our secretary at AsheLakePOA@gmail.com or via phone at 305-244-0595. Bibi will make arrangements to pick up your donation and turn it over to the appropriate agency / group for their disbursement.

Winter Gardening

While actual planting and feeding activities may be on hold, there is always some clean up and prep waiting for your attention.

It's time to think of proper cleaning and storage of all that equipment. Remove caked on soil or plant bits and sap from all tools using a wire brush, scraper, or a strong stream of water. Lubricate all tool pivot points and springs with a light oil. Sharpen hoes, shovels, pruners, loppers and saws. Typically, garden tools should be sharpened so that their cutting edges are kept at their original angle.

Did you clean up the lawn mower after the last cut this year? If not, now's the time to give it some TLC. Wipe the equipment to remove the collected grease, dirt and plant material under the deck. Tighten loose screws and nuts. Sharpen cutting edges and wipe with an oily rag

Remove all gasoline from tank by running engine until it stops or remove most of the gasoline with a hand-pump siphon and run it until it stops. Avoid storing gasoline over the winter.

Holiday Pet Safety Tips

The holidays are filled with joy, laughter and time spent with family and friends. In the bustle of the season, however, it's easy to forget these festivities aren't always pet friendly.

Below are some of the most common holiday pet hazards families should be aware of:

Christmas Trees - Christmas trees often attract the attention of dogs and cats alike. However, if a tree is not securely anchored, it can potentially fall onto and injure an animal. Tree water also poses a danger, as bacteria is known to grow and thrive in sitting water, which may cause gastrointestinal upset in an animal if ingested, as can any added Christmas tree fertilizer.

Mistletoe, Holly, and Other Seasonal Plants - Plants are the eighth-most reported pet toxin and account for 40% of all calls. Seasonal plants such as mistletoe, holly, lilies, azaleas, evergreens, and poinsettias are all toxic to animals. Ingestion of such plants can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and in some cases, even cardiovascular issues

Anti-Freeze and Ice Melt - Ethylene glycol, an ingredient commonly found in anti-freeze, is deadly to animals. Pet owners should opt for a brand that omits this ingredient and labels itself as 'non-toxic.' As for rock salt, this commonly used ice melt is an irritant to paw pads

Ornaments and Tinsel - Ornaments are another danger to pets. Shards of broken ornaments can cut a pet's mouth and tear into the animal's digestive tract. Pet owners should always hang breakable ornaments out of a pet's reach or opt for pet-safe, non-toxic, and non-edible ornaments to decorate the Christmas tree. Be Careful with Seasonal Plants and Decorations

That Holiday Glow - Don't leave lighted candles unattended. Pets may burn themselves or cause a fire if they knock candles over. Be sure to use appropriate candle holders, placed on a stable surface. And if you leave the room, put the candle out!

We also recommend adding the number for the [Animal Poison Control Center](#) (APCC) to your phone: (888) 426-4435. They're available 24/7, including holidays.



Getting Your Driveway Winter Ready

Many people believe that they need to salt their gravel driveway in the winter, but this is actually not the case. Salting a gravel driveway can actually do more harm than good and can cause long term damage to your driveway. One of the main reasons why you should not salt your gravel driveway is because it can cause the gravel to break down over time. The salt will act as an abrasive on the gravel and will cause it to slowly erode away.

Salt can cause the gravel to shift and move, leading to uneven patches in the driveway. In addition, salt can also cause the gravel to become brittle and break down over time. To prevent these negative effects, it's important to clear snow and ice from your driveway as soon as possible.

SHOVELING - The first option, and likely the most common, is to simply shovel the snow off of your gravel driveway.

SNOW BLOWER - A snow blower is another option for removing snow from your gravel driveway. This method is faster than shoveling but can be more expensive.

DE-ICING AGENTS - The final option is to use a de-icing agent on your gravel driveway before it snows. De-icing agents lower the freezing point of water, which means that any snow or ice that falls will immediately start melting.



How to Choose the Best Christmas Tree

Ashe County grows more Christmas trees than any other county in the United States. Our farmers have carefully cultivated Christmas trees on family-owned farms for generations.

Be prepared for an adventure!

Make sure you wear proper clothing, especially footwear. If you plan to cut your own tree, bring gloves. Have water on hand.

Be aware of your surroundings ...

Many farms try to keep their fields well-groomed, but it is an outdoor adventure, which means there will be stray tree stumps or blackberry vines. In Ashe County, the most popular tree variety is the Fraser Fir. Fraser Firs grow best on a slope, so be prepared to walk.

Become familiar with the farm ...

All farms are different. Some will cut the tree for you; others may expect you to cut the tree yourself. Some will charge you by the foot while others by the individual tree. Not all farms take credit cards so bring cash. Call ahead or visit the farm's website.

Deer Mating Season

According to the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission Deer mating season runs from October through December. This is the time of year when deer are most active and when most deer-related car wrecks take place, especially at night. We urge you to take extra care when driving.



Christmas 2022

Message from ALPO Board

Christmas is not just a time for festivity and merry making. It is more than that. It is a time for the contemplation of eternal things. The Christmas spirit is the spirit of giving and forgiving.

Our Christmas message this year is to challenge all of us to become more involved. It is not so much a question of giving more; it is a question of giving more of ourselves.

May your heart and home be filled with peace and joy. We wish you all the victories of the world.

President's Message

The Christmas holidays afford a wonderful opportunity to reflect. We are so blessed to have properties in such a gorgeous corner of NC. Ashe Lake is beautiful in every season. The winter offers a special time of beauty on our mountain. Some of



us can even see neighbors that we cannot see any other time of year! And maybe this year we will

get a White Christmas!

I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. May you have time to just enjoy life and loved ones and to focus on the things of true and lasting value. May it be a most Wonderful Time of Year for you and your families. And May you truly experience Peace. Be blessed and Merry, Merry Christmas!

Hollis Fedrick, Ashe Lake POA President

Ashe Lake Events

Clean-Up Day

Last Next Clean-Up Day of 2022 is scheduled for Saturday December 3rd, at 10am. Bundle up and bring your gloves. We will provide garbage bags and hot drinks. Meet-up at the community dock. We will be focusing on cleaning up around the spillway / parking area.

Meet Santa at Ashe Lake

Saturday, December 10th - 2pm to 3pm

Santa will be arriving at Ashe Lake around 2pm. He will be taking a trip around the Lake (weather permitting) and will arrive at the community dock around 2:30pm. Hot chocolate & cookies will be served.

If you live Lakefront – you do not want to miss this event, or come join us at the community dock for some fun times with your neighbors.



We are busy planning exciting social and clean-up opportunities for 2023. If you have any ideas, you would like us to consider and include please let us know.



Ashe County Events

Gallery Crawl – 2nd Friday of each month, 5pm – 7pm through December, Downtown W. Jefferson.

Jim Snyder Christmas Tree 5k Walk/Run – Saturday, December 3rd at 10am. Come run the West Jefferson Lions Club and Ashe Lake resident Jim Snyder Christmas Tree 5K race in West Jefferson. This course is considered one of the hardest 5K races. You run or walk through the hilly streets of town. It starts and ends at the WJ United Methodist Church, 107 W. 2nd Street, West Jefferson. There is plenty of parking available. Christmas tree prizes are donated by our local tree farms!

Email: westjeffersonlionsclub@gmail.com

Registration at: raceentry.com



Holiday Market @ Ashe County Farmers Market!!
Saturday December 3rd 10am to 2pm. Beautiful handmade local gifts, decorations and so much more. Lettuces, pies, meats, maple syrup and honey. December 3rd is the last market for the year.



Ski and Snowboarding Season - Check out our "local" ski resorts for some skiing, snowboarding, tubing, or a hot chocolate. Season runs Mid-November to March

Alleghany Annual Arts & Crafts Fair – Saturday, December 3rd 9am – 4pm. The show brings together some of the finest regional artisans for this holiday show at the Alleghany County Fairgrounds. It is a one-of-a-kind chance to get to know and observe the breadth of local talent in the northwest North Carolina. Admission is free and there is plenty of free parking. www.alleghanyartsandcrafts.com

Bethany Ding-a-Lings Holiday Handbell Concert - Sunday, December 11 at 3pm. The sounds of Christmas will come alive when The Ding-a-Lings, presents a concert of holiday music. The handbell choir consists of 14 ringers manipulating five octaves of handbells and four octaves of hand chimes. Bethany Methodist Church is located on Highway 194 in the Baldwin Community. For more information, call Bethany at (336) 877-2801 or Jane Lonon at (336) 877-6663.

Smores with the Sheriff – Saturday December 17 at 6pm at 120 Government Circle, Jefferson. Join Santa, Sheriff Howell and his staff in front of the Sheriff Office for a special Holiday Event. Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive around 6:15pm to visit and take photos.

Friends of the Library Blood Drive - Sat Dec 17, 10am - 2:30pm at Community Room at Ashe Library. Contact Marcia Rowe (336) 219-0128 for appt.



New Design

ALPD is operated by Ashe Lake owners for Ashe Lake owners. We welcome the opportunity to hear your feedback, concerns, and issues to improve our community. AsheLakePOA@gmail.com