



2024 Spring/Summer Newsletter

Neighborhood Garage Sale - Saturday May 18th from 9am-3pm

Somerset Hills HOA 47th Annual Garage Sale is coming up soon! The sale will take place on May 18th from 9am to 3pm, and includes any homes on Wilshire Lane, Windsor Circle, Wilshire Drive and Chaucer Court.

Participation is easy; simply arrange your items for sale in your driveway or yard by 9:00 a.m. and begin selling. You keep all your proceeds! The HOA provides advertising (in the Register Guard and on Craig's List) and will have signs posted around the neighborhood.

If you do plan to participate, please let Board member Nola Colvin know (541-915-1480) before May 16th to assure signs placed near your home. Plan to join in the fun either as a seller or a treasure hunter!



2024 HOA Dues

Thank you to all HOA members who have paid their 2024 dues on time. Our dues this year are \$59.41. As of April 1st, a late fee of \$25.00 should be included making the total due \$84.41. All checks should be payable to **Somerset Hills HOA I & II**. If you do not wish to write a check, you can use Bill Pay through your bank. *Please note if you go this route to be sure to add your name and address in the comments section.* Payments can be sent to our Post Office address at **Somerset Hills HOA, P.O. Box 24836, Eugene OR 97402**, and made payable to "Somerset Hills HOA I&II".

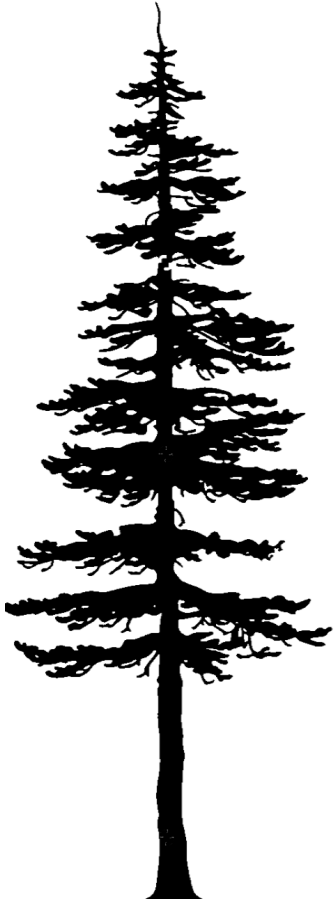
If you have not already paid, please consider this your reminder.

Annual Meeting Review

On Tuesday, January 30th, the Board held our Annual Homeowners Meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the Living Hope Church in W. 18th Street. The meeting had been postponed due to the snow and ice the week before, but we were happy to have several homeowners attend to join the Board in discussions and listen to a presentation about tree health and maintenance by arborist Dave Gillaspie. The Board reviewed our policy regarding tree assessment and maintenance in the Common Areas, and Dave offered tips and wisdom for homeowners hoping to do right by the trees on their own properties (highlights from Dave's presentation can be found later in this newsletter). The meeting then proceeded to election of officers for the next year. No other Board members were up for re-election, and no new Board members were considered. Thanks to all who attended!

Elected Officers

President - James Carwile
Vice-President - Jeromy Cilley
Treasurer - Michelle Manoly
Secretary - Norm Hartig



Speaking for the Trees

At our Annual Meeting in January, Eugene arborist Dave Gillaspie shared his tips and wisdom about assessing and maintaining trees on private property with an eye toward best health and minimal risk. His suggestions included:

- Tree maintenance should be performed every 3-5 years under ideal weather conditions, and also after every storm.
- Examine the root structure of the tree for damage. Damage to buttress roots that taper away from the tree are a concern; trees can blow over if the root system is weakened.
- Fungus on bark should be removed if found.
- Ash trees can become spindly and should be trimmed to prevent hazardous risks.
- Occluded bark should be examined for weakness especially if two trees grow together because they can push each other apart as they grow and create a fault between them.
- Squirrels can chew on tree branches and bark that can weaken them.
- Trees can benefit from trimming the branch to reduce the load on them, especially if the tree has too many branches on one side. Watch for a “belly” in the trunk to form due to the uneven load.
- Remember: Eugene limits the number of trees removed annually to 4 per lot.

Dave Gillaspie has been an invaluable resource to our neighborhood, and we are grateful for his presentation in January. If you need tree work done, he is highly recommended. You can contact him through his website at www.gillaspietree.com or at 541-501-3436.

Maintenance, Parking, and those scary CC&Rs

Spring has sprung, and once again it is the season for leisure activities and home improvement projects! **Please remember:** boats, campers, trailers, and other large vehicles must be parked *behind the front line of your property*. Large vehicles cannot be parked on the street for longer than 72 hours, per the City of Eugene. Most new structures, such as fences and sheds, need to be approved by the Board before beginning construction, although repairs and replacements of existing structures do not require approval. If you're not sure, contact us and we'll be happy to help determine which rules apply.

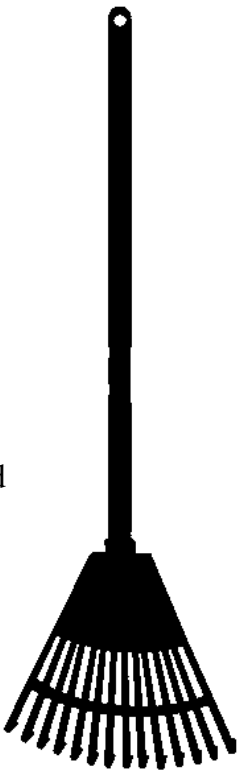
As the weather warms and plants grow faster, we request that everyone pay more attention to the condition of your lot and buildings: CC&Rs require watering, weeding, trimming, and clearing debris, general upkeep and a **neat appearance of yards, homes, and sidewalks**. A number of homeowners have complained to the Board about the untidy appearance and lack of maintenance of some neighbors' properties. *We all are part of the solution.*

You can email any questions or concerns to the board at somersethillshoa@gmail.com.

Work Party Update

The January snow/wind storm overloaded our common areas with downed trees and branches. The HOA is extremely grateful to the anonymous volunteers who quickly cleared branches from the walkways, and who removed large limbs hanging dangerously above the paths (aka “widow-makers”). A very short time after the storm, our pathways were made safe once again.

During the most recent Saturday work party, May 4, six workers braved the rains and continued the task of removing the considerable mass of trees and branches lying in the meadow by Brittany and Windsor Circle East, as well as the area near Wilshire Lane and Warren. These areas were important to clear so they can be mowed. Hats off to those six volunteers! Hopefully six or more will continue coming to the work parties. The April and May crew was small (3-4) which makes it difficult to make more than a tiny dent in the huge job ahead of us. The area between Brittany and Wilshire is still peppered with brush and downed trees. If you're free the first Saturdays of the month from 10:00 a.m. to noon, we would love to have your help with this task. You will require sturdy footwear, work gloves, and rain gear as needed. If you have these items, they are most helpful: branch clippers, tree saw, wheel barrow, or a truck. Please join us if you can. If not, pass the word on to your friends and neighbors!



Thanks to Melinda Petersen

The Board must say good-bye to a long-time member, Melinda Petersen, as she moves back east to her native West Virginia. Her sarcastic wit, support for the community, and keen sense of how to cut through distractions and get to the heart of an issue, will be very much missed. We have been grateful for Melinda’s 13-year service to our HOA, and thank her sincerely for her enduring commitment to our neighborhood.

Board Contact Information

James Carwile, President: 541-228-5408
Jeromy Cilley, Vice President: 503-998-4422
Norm Hartig, Secretary: 458-205-1781
Michelle Manoly, Treasurer: 805-796-7184

Nola Colvin, Member-at-Large: 541-915-1480
Diana Lamboy, Member-at-Large: 760-224-3351
Lois Kent, Member-at-Large: 541-543-1114

The Board can also be contacted by mail at:
Somerset Hills HOA
P.O. Box 24836
Eugene OR 97402
or through our email address: *somersethillshoa@gmail.com*

Please read!
Important neighborhood news and information

Somerset Hills Neighbors HOA Spring/Summer Newsletter

Community Reminders

- Neighborhood Speed Limit is 20 mph.
- RVs, trailers, and boats should not be parked in driveways or on the street.
- Garbage, yard debris & recycle bins need to be stored out of sight.
- Pick up after your pets and carry waste home.
- Yards are to be maintained in a nice, clean condition.