



(photo submitted by Anne Holland)

**September 20, 2019**  
**Sterling Woods II – Master Association**  
**Monthly Newsletter**  
**Website: [www.sterlingwoods2.org](http://www.sterlingwoods2.org)**

Dear Unit Owners:

The Board and REI recognize that owners and residents are very concerned about the homicide that occurred on Hancock Drive on September 4, 2019. We want to assure you that we are equally concerned about this horrible incident and that action, on the Associations part, is taking place.

The day of the incident, and in the days that followed, both the Board and REI have remained in contact with the Danbury Police Department. We provided use of the clubhouse to the police and communicated information to owners via e-mail as quickly as possible. We were not privy to information, other than what the police reported on their website, as it was an active investigation.

At the most recent board meeting, owners inquired about the powers the Association has when something like this occurs in a community association. Unfortunately, the Association is limited to warning and fining owners for violations of the Association rules. We do not have police powers of arrest nor could we force an owner to vacate their home. The Association can take legal steps to evict a tenant who is a habitual violator of the rules, but, that power does not apply to this situation. So, unfortunately, the Association is extremely limited in terms of power when something this significant occurs.

However, it is imperative that owners contact the police when they have concerns about violations of the law. Calls to the police can be made anonymously. Should you take that step, we would urge you to also inform the Association, after the fact, as well. While we cannot do much during or after a criminal incident, there are actions we can take in the aftermath. We certainly want to be aware of anything taking place that concern our membership and residents. Unfortunately, we all know the saying by now...if you see something, say something.

The action plan we have laid out includes, but is not limited to, meeting with the Danbury Police Department to discuss community safety measures and the evaluation of expanding the camera surveillance system to certain areas of the common grounds (such as key entry points). We will keep you posted on these initiatives.

**Below are operational highlights here at Sterling Woods...**

**Reminder: Flu Shot Clinic**

The Bethel VNA will be at the Platinum Club administering flu shots on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM. It is not too late to sign up if you haven't done so already. Call Kim Murray at 203-748-0859 if you want to sign up to receive your flu shot or just send her an e-mail at [kmurray@rei-pm.net](mailto:kmurray@rei-pm.net). The Bethel VNA will accept walk-ins if you don't sign up prior to 9/25.

### **Update Regarding Pool Closing**

Due to the warm weather forecast in the upcoming days, the Board has decided to keep the pool open an additional week. The last day the pool will be open to use is Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. The pool furniture may remain out an additional week if the weather continues to be warm. Any further updates will be posted at the clubhouse.

### **Dumpster Day**

The fall dumpster day has been scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2019. The dumpsters will be available to residents from approximately 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM (unless they are filled earlier). Please do not arrive earlier than 8:00 AM. The dumpsters will be located in the parking spaces next to the clubhouse by the playground. On behalf of the Associations, there will be a contractor monitoring this service while the containers are on site. The role of the monitor will be to catch non-residents attempting to dump at SW2, prevent dumping on the ground and to prevent inappropriate materials from being dumped into the containers.

Items not allowed include – hazardous wastes (gasoline, oil, propane, paints, Freon, etc.), AC units, car tires, brush and tree stumps, rocks, cement and car batteries. If you are going to dump lawn mowers or other such equipment, they must be drained of all oil and fuel.

**You must have proper proof of identification and residency with you.**

### **Landscaping Update**

The following seasonal work is taking place this month: trimming/pruning of shrubs, shrub replacements, reseeding, aeration and over seeding.

Eastern View will be removing all the overgrown sand cherries (brownish/red leggy shrubs) around most mailboxes and they will replace them with a perennial shrub (sedum). The new shrubs will look better and eliminate problems hampering the mail carrier's truck from getting close to mailbox structures to deliver mail.

The final inspection and treatment, where necessary, of all ornamental trees and shrubs in fronts and sides of units/houses for insect control, diseases and cultural problems that could affect plant health will be done by the end of September. The final application of deer browse suppression in designated locations (primarily arborvitae, the tree like shrubs throughout SWII, especially around utility boxes), will be in mid-October through mid-November. Also, 42 white pines in designated areas will be removed with their stumps ground down during the winter work schedule (Dec.-Feb.). We will be informed when a date has been set so we can notify affected unit owners.

Our final lawn treatment will be October 1, 2019 (weather permitting), which is winter fertilizer in a blanket application to all turf areas. The majority of the application will be granular with liquid used on small areas and slopes. Liming of the entire property at the time of this application.

### **Some routine reminders...**

With Halloween in mind, I would like to remind all residents that burning candles should not be used on front walkways, front steps or front porch landings due to the fire hazard they pose to the trick or treaters.

Political Sign Policy - Only one political sign, regarding candidates for election (town/city, state or federal) or political issues such as budgets, town/city rule/law changes, is allowed to be displayed at each unit. Signs are allowed to be displayed 14 days in advance of voting/election matters. Signs must be removed within 48 hours of the vote/election. Signs must be no bigger than 2'x 2'. Signs cannot be placed on the common or limited common elements (example: on steps, in driveway, on front lawn). Signs may be displayed inside a Unit's window only.

I would like to remind you to clean out any papers or debris in your newspaper slot in the mail stations.

There will be no delayed trash pickups for the remainder of the year.

The next Master Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7:30 PM. The Open Session will begin immediately following the Executive Session which begins at 7:00 PM and ends at 7:30 PM. Let us know, one week in advance, if you would like to be placed on the agenda and the subject matter that you would like to cover.

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See the Association's website for meeting minutes and information about the various social clubs that are available to all residents here at Sterling Woods II – Bridge, Canasta and Mahjong.

If Kim or I can assist you in any way, please let us know. Kim's hours are approximately 7:30 AM until 2:30 PM. Her email address is [kmurray@rei-pm.net](mailto:kmurray@rei-pm.net) and the on-site phone number is (203) 748-0859.

Sincerely,



Art Stueck  
President  
REI Property and Asset Management