



(Picture Provided by Anne Holland)

August 24, 2020
Sterling Woods II – Master Association
Monthly Newsletter
Website: www.sterlingwoods2.org

Dear Unit Owners:

The Master Board and REI wish you an enjoyable Labor Day Weekend. Below are operational highlights here at Sterling Woods...

Amenities Remain Closed

The pool, clubhouse, gym, and playground remain closed until further notice. REI and the board continuously monitor state and federal regulations and liability legislation, solicit guidance and recommendations from our insurance company, lawyer and community organizations (CT and national) regarding potential for opening of these amenities.

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 - can be displayed at each unit. Signs can 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 window only.

Hold the Date – Fall Dumpster Day

The fall dumpster day program will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2020. More details will be provided as we get closer to the date.

Flu Shot Clinic – unfortunately, due to COVID related complications, the association is not able to offer an on-site flu shot clinic at this time. We suggest you consider getting one from a local drug store such as Walgreens which are within about a mile of the association or contact your primary physician for guidance.

Landscaping Update – provided by Julia Brzezinska

The storm on August 4th affected all SWII Villages. About 12 trees of various species went down and another 10 had fallen tree limbs and 3 trees were left leaning. Bartlett Tree came to our assistance immediately and within a day or two cleared away the tree debris. Also, Eastern View,

our general landscaper, had to do extra cleanup work (leaf, twigs, and small tree branches) in all our villages on August 6th. The Landscape Committee is working with our vendors to assess the cost of the damage caused by the tropical storm and see what trees need to be replaced.

Inspection of shrubs is underway for the fall replacement list as well as checking lawns for reseeding work. The Landscape Committee would like to thank our wonderful neighbors who are helping us water the begonias on the Silversmith Drive medians. They are - Bill Karten of Heartwood, Pat Barletta of Pinnacle, Anne Eyman of Logging Trail, and the following Landscape Committee Members – Claire Hines, Elissa Silvio, and Norma Schlager.

Eastern View's final pruning will be in mid to late September. Over-seeding, aerating and reseeding work on lawns will be done in late September or early October. Mowing and policing of SWI for trash is done weekly.

Lawn Doctor's fourth lawn application will take place either in late August or early September depending on weather conditions. The application will be fertilizer applied to all turf areas. Much of the application will be granular with liquid to be used on small areas and slopes. Broadleaf weed control to be sprayed as needed throughout SWII. Liquid post emergent of crabgrass to be spot sprayed on or in between visits. Lawn Doctor has noticed heat stress (yellow and brown spotted areas) throughout SWII, but with weather conditions improving (rain), this condition will improve and the lawns will recover from the heat stress.

Bartlett Tree continues pruning trees throughout SWII. Bartlett has submitted a proposed 3-year contract and the Landscape Committee is in the process of reviewing it before it is submitted to the Master Board. Also, extra tree pruning, and tree-like shrub reduction pruning proposals have been submitted to the Landscape Committee for review. Continuing is the inspection for damage from insects, mite pests, diseases and other cultural problems to ornamental trees and shrubs (located at the fronts and sides of units,) through 9/26/20. Where needed treatments will be done.

Maintenance Update

The power washing of buildings and decks and deck staining on Hancock Drive and Revere Road has been completed. This same work is almost completed on Logging Trail Road and Silversmith drive.

The Maintenance Committee recently completed their annual grounds and buildings inspection. The inspection was delayed due to Coronavirus. REI will now be sending out requests for bids for painting work, caulking work and concrete repairs and replacement. Once bids are received, reviewed by the board and a contractor is selected, the work will be scheduled. General repairs needed will also be addressed by REI.

September Board Meeting

If you would like to join the Wednesday, September 16th Sterling Woods Open Session Board meeting at 7:30 PM, which will be held via conference call, you can call (203) 666-8107 and then enter the conference ID number which is 710 460 94#. When you call in, you will be put into a "lobby" and when the meeting is ready to begin you will be "brought" into the meeting.

Please note - you will be muted during the meeting. But, you can listen in. If you have any questions you would like the Board to answer, you should e-mail your questions to Kim Murray at kmurray@rei-pm.net a week prior to the meeting or call and leave a message for Kim at (203) 748-0859. Your questions will be addressed at the end of the Open Session meeting. The Board will also give you an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the meeting.

Some routine reminders...

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The next holiday that will impact trash pick-up is Labor Day. That week the pickup will be on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

I would like to remind you that each Unit Owner may have only one dog.

Maintenance Standards, which can be found in the Rules & Regulations, state that Unit Owners shall have the gas fireplace in their unit cleaned and serviced every five years. If you feel it is time for you to have your fireplace serviced, it is a good idea to schedule this work soon because when there is an issue in the colder months, it is very difficult to schedule an appointment with the contractor as it is their busy season. The same would apply to having your furnace serviced.

We would like to remind all owners that dryer vents should be cleaned out at least once per calendar year. REI does offer this service. Unit Owners can contact Carl Webster at (203) 744-8400 ext. 131 or via e-mail at cwebster@rei-pm.net for more information regarding this service.

Smoke detectors should be tested every six months and batteries should be replaced in your smoke detectors at least once every calendar year (or as recommended by the manufacturer of the unit). Unit Owners should replace their smoke detectors every 10 years (or as recommended by the manufacturer of the installed unit). Remember to also change the batteries in your thermostats.

Please note that you can put your garbage containers at curbside for pickup either after dark on the night before pickup or on same day as pickup. Your garbage containers should be brought inside your Unit the same day as the pickup. Garbage containers should be stored inside your Unit.

Please make sure that you secure your garbage and recycling to prevent debris from blowing out of your containers due to windy conditions.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Art Stueck
President
REI Property and Asset Management
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