



(photo submitted by Anne Holland)

January 26, 2021
Sterling Woods II – Master Association
Monthly Newsletter
Website: www.sterlingwoods2.org

Dear Unit Owners:

Below are operational highlights here at Sterling Woods...

Reminder to Dog Owners

Please pick up after your dog. There is a lot of dog feces around the community and even brightly colored bags filled with feces tossed on sidewalks and in the woods. Per the rules, all pet owners or attendants are responsible to immediately pick up after their pet and **properly dispose of the waste.**

DO NOT PUT FOOD OUTSIDE YOUR UNIT FOR WILD ANIMALS

It has been observed throughout the community that residents are throwing food outside (bread, pizza leftovers, raw chicken) to feed the wild animals. Please do not throw food outside as it attracts wild animals including bears, coyotes, rats and mice. Homeowners should eliminate any food sources that may attract animals including cleaning up bird seed below feeders. The Association is also continuously incurring expenses for exterminating services because some units do have mice.

December 16, 2020 Snowstorm

As you may be aware, on some of the streets the snow removal contractor did take longer than usual to remove snow from the stairs, walkways, front porches, and driveways. The contract states that for a storm greater than six inches, they have twelve hours to clear the snow from walkways, steps, front porches, and driveways once the storm ends. During most snowstorms over the years, they have consistently overperformed in clearing the snow before the deadline. For this storm, many crew members were not able to respond as in the past for a variety of reasons including COVID.

The snow removal contractor has reported that they have made contingency plans for additional labor pool should we experience another large storm. The Association is being given a credit for the delayed completion of the work for the December storm.

Coyotes Sighting Reported in Community

On January 14th, the below information was e-mailed to Unit Owners who receive correspondence via e-mail. This information is being shared again in the newsletter for owners who receive correspondence via U.S. mail. If you would like to receive correspondence via e-mail to receive correspondence faster and to also save the Association money, please let Kim Murray know.

Recently, a few Unit Owners have reported that they have spotted a coyote in the community. The HOA has been advised by the Danbury Police and our animal control vendor, that any response to a coyote is the responsibility of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). If you see a coyote, you should report each sighting to the Scientific Wildlife Management via the link below. You may also continue to inform REI so that we continue to be aware. If you believe there is an immediate threat, call the Danbury police at 203-797-4611.

To Report a Sighting

<http://scientificwildlifemanagement.com/report-a-sightings/>

Below is also a link to a fact sheet from DEEP regarding coyotes.

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Wildlife/Fact-Sheets/Coyote>

Amenities Remain Closed

The clubhouse, gym and playground will remain closed until further notice. The Board and REI has and will continue to gather information to determine when the Association can safely open the amenities. We will continue to consult with insurance and legal experts, gather information from the State of Connecticut, the City of Danbury, and the Community Association Institute. At this time, a date is not known as to when the amenities will be opened up for resident use.

Playground Replacement

We wanted to update you regarding the playground replacement project. The replacement of the playground is included in the Association's Long Term Capital Reserve Study and reserve savings. It has reached the end of its useful life, and due to its age and condition, it is time for its replacement.

At the January Board Meeting, the Board reviewed the information gathered by the Playground Committee and tentatively approved for replacement later this year. Best efforts are being made to time the installation to coincide with when it would be available for use by the community.

February Board Meeting

If you would like to join the Wednesday, February 17th 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 917 298 786#. 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. However, 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. Your questions will be addressed at the end of the Open Session Board Meeting. The Board will also give you an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the meeting.

Some routine reminders...

We would like to remind Unit Owners that:

parking on the street is not allowed.

Please do not park your car in the visitor’s lot. Your cars should be parked in your driveway and your garage. Also, please note that the snow vendor uses visitor parking areas during storms for the temporary placement of snow. The availability of these areas is critical during a snowstorm.

Please remember that your garbage can must have tight fitting lids on them per the Rules & Regulations and that you properly secure all recycling. On windy days, the garbage and recycling will often be seen blowing throughout the community leaving a lot of litter behind.

The next holiday that will impact trash pickup is Memorial Day. That week, the pickup will be on Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

Please clean out any papers in your newspaper slot in the mail stations.

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 and the on-site phone number is (203) 748-0859 or she can be reached at (203) 744-8400, ext. 153. If you have an emergency, call (203) 744-8400 and hit 0.

Sincerely,



Art Stueck
President
REI Property and Asset Management