



(photo submitted by Anne Holland)

**May 26, 2026**  
**Sterling Woods II – Master Association**  
**Monthly Newsletter**  
**Website: [www.sterlingwoods2.org](http://www.sterlingwoods2.org)**

Dear Unit Owners:

Below you will find various updates, news, and reminders. Your attention to these matters is appreciated.

### **Assessment Reminder**

If you haven't already paid the assessment in full, we would like to remind you that half of what you owe is due by May 31<sup>st</sup> and the second half of the assessment is due by June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Murray at the onsite office at (203) 744-8400 ext. 1153 or via e-mail at [kmurray@rei-pm.net](mailto:kmurray@rei-pm.net). Late fees will not be waived if your assessment payment is late.

### **Approved Changes to Article XIV, Section 14.4 (Planting Regulations, Foundation Area) of the Rules & Regulations**

Recently, a proposed rule change was approved by the Master Board (Article XIV, Section 14.4 - Planting Regulations, Foundation Area of the Rules & Regulations). Notice of the proposed rule change was sent to all owners as required by state law and comments were solicited. The comment period has expired and no comments were received. As a result, enclosed you will find the revised rule book pages for insertion into your Association rule book. If you receive correspondence via e-mail, a full set of the revised rules will be e-mailed to you along with this newsletter.

**Vaccine Clinic - Hold the Date** - The Association will once again be holding a Vaccine Clinic sponsored by Stop & Shop Pharmacy on September 15, 2026 from 3 PM – 7 PM at the Sterling Woods Clubhouse. Additional information will be provided as we get closer to the date of the clinic.



Please take some time to look around the outside of your unit. If you have personal items stored outside, including around and under your deck, please clean up your area. Please note - personal items are not allowed to be stored in the Common Areas. Please also clean up any items in your mail bin either below or above your mailbox.



**The May Landscaping Report is attached.**

### **A Bear was Spotted in the Community on May 19<sup>th</sup>**

A black bear was seen on Hancock Drive on May 19<sup>th</sup> and then headed down towards the clubhouse. The resident who spotted this bear has reported this sighting to DEEP.

If you see a black bear in Connecticut, you should report the sighting to the DEEP's Wildlife Division by going to their website ( [www.depdata.ct.gov/wildlife/sighting/bearsight.asp](http://www.depdata.ct.gov/wildlife/sighting/bearsight.asp)). If you need immediate assistance concerning a black bear, you should call DEEP's 24-hour hotline at 860-424-3333.

### **June Board Meeting**

The next Master Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. It will be held in person at the clubhouse, or you can attend electronically. If you choose to attend electronically call (806) 516-0326 and then enter the conference ID number which is 103 879 459#. 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 – if you would like to address the board and would like to be added to the agenda to speak at the beginning of the open session meeting, you should e-mail Kim Murray at [kmurray@rei-pm.net](mailto:kmurray@rei-pm.net) a week prior to the meeting. There will also be a sign-up sheet at the meeting if you would like to add your name to the list to address the board at the beginning of the meeting. If you call into the meeting, you will be asked if you would like to be added to the list to speak at the beginning of the meeting. If you call into the meeting, you will be muted during the meeting. Questions will not be taken at the end of the meeting. The board meeting agenda will be posted to the website prior to the meeting.

### **Dryer Vent Cleaning Reminder**

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 and can offer a discount if multiple units are done together. Unit Owners can call (203) 744-8400 ext. 1131 or send an e-mail to [worequest@rei-pm.net](mailto:worequest@rei-pm.net) for more information regarding this service and the group discounts that are available.

### **Please pick up after your pet and properly dispose of the waste at your unit**

Please pick up after your pet and properly dispose of the waste at your unit. Please do not throw your dog waste bags at the clubhouse.

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

The next holiday that will impact trash pickup is Labor Day. That week the pickup will be delayed a day to Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

The pool and pool deck are open for the season. The pool is open daily from sunrise to sunset. The pool attendant's name is Charlie Solimine.

If we can be of assistance, please let us know. Kim's hours are approximately 7:30 AM until 2:30 PM Monday to Friday. Her email address is [kmurray@rei-pm.net](mailto:kmurray@rei-pm.net) and she can be reached at 203-744-8400 ext. 1153. If you have an emergency, you can call 203-744-8400 and dial zero during the day or nine after hours, when our answering service is on.

Sincerely,



Alan V. Wunsch  
Branch President  
REI Property & Asset Management

Sincerely,

*Kim Murray*

Kim Murray  
Community Association Manager  
REI Property & Asset Management

Attachments

## **MAY LANDSCAPE REPORT**

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Landscape Committee held its first meeting of the season at the clubhouse with representatives from Gonzalez Landscaping, Bartlett Tree Service and Lawn Doctor. Upcoming work and observations of the general landscape condition of our development were discussed.

To select better plants to withstand harsh winters, the landscape committee sought the help of the Gonzalez' Supervisor and asked her to join us during our spring shrub inspection. It took 3 days to complete the inspection. We found 252 dead shrubs. In an entire season, spring and fall, we usually replace 200 shrubs. Also, we found another 20 evergreens with dead branches which we will trim and check out in the fall to see if they recover or need to be replaced. The majority of shrubs that died were evergreens. During the past five years, we have been planting evergreen shrubs along walkways and between driveways, where large snow piles are placed. Also, we have been replacing evergreens with new evergreens and have been getting the same results, that is, these shrubs last a year or two and then die and have to be replaced. On the advice of the Gonzalez' Supervisor, we will be planting perennial plants in these places. Perennial plants go dormant in the winter and re-emerge in the spring. Wherever we have planted perennial plants, we have had good results. We have to be fiscally responsible in the choice of plants we select.

**Gonzalez Landscaping.** Spring cleanup and mulching was done in April. Removal and replacement of mulch was done on Heartwood Lane, Bradford Drive and the SW Entranceway. All other villages had mulch added to their shrub beds and tree mounds. Reseeding work is scheduled the second or third week in May, weather permitting. When the reseeding work is done, mowing cannot be done until two weeks later to give the grass seed time to generate and be stronger enough to mow. We do not normally reseed backs and sides of units unless the unit owner (UO) requests it. Request for any reseeding work for spring reseeding should be given to Kim Murray from REI by April 15th and for fall reseeding by August 15th. Also, do not place recyclables (bags & bins) & cardboard boxes on the lawn area because covered grass will die from heat exposure. Please place these items curbside off the lawn. The shrub replacement list has been prepared and sent to Gonzalez for a pricing proposal. As soon as the proposal is received and reviewed then the plants can be ordered. Policing of trash is being done every week.

**Bartlett Tree Service.** Bartlett is the only vendor that works in SWII throughout the winter, weather permitting. During January and February pruning of maple and pear trees was done on the right side of SWII (Bradford Drive, Sterling Woods Clubhouse, Hancock Drive, Revere Road and Pinnacle Way). Next January and February, pruning of maple and pear trees will be done on the left side of SWII (Heartwood Lane, Logging Trail Road, Silversmith Drive and Cypress Drive). In April, a granular treatment of shrubs was done, the white pines in back of units on Pinnacle and Heartwood were pruned, and a scab treatment was sprayed on the following trees pears, crabapples, dogwoods and cherries, in front of units (a notice was put on each mailbox station asking unit owners to not leave their cars in their driveways so this treatment could be done). All villages were done on April 21st with the exception of the Birches which was done on April 24th. These treatments need to be done so the trees do not get affected with this disease and die.

**Lawn Doctor.** The first application of our lawns was done April 28th. The application was a 120-day fertilizer, crabgrass control and broadleaf weed control. Also, gypsum was applied to center islands of the entranceway and small lawn areas (townhouses with stairs). Gypsum helps leach out salt from snow piles. The second lawn application is scheduled for June 2, 2026, weather permitting. This application will be fertilizer, crabgrass control, broadleaf weed control and acelepryn for grub prevention.