

**ORCAS HIGHLANDS ASSOCIATION
FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER**

October, 2019

Hello Orcas Highlanders,

WELCOME COMMITTEE: HAVE YOU RECEIVED A NEWCOMER PACKAGE? First and foremost, welcome to Orcas Highlands! Like any neighborhood with many homes, there are valuable details you need to know. We have created a complete packet of information and documents that will help you better understand Association requirements and neighborhood responsibilities as well as negotiate our website.

To arrange for one of our packets to be delivered to you either by mail or personally, contact Madie Murray at 360-376-3064 or gomadie@gmail.com. Thank you!

ROADS: We recently had a tall, dead tree in the right-of-way on Lindsay Way reduced to a habitat snag.

Also, especially for those who will be spending their first winter in the Highlands, you should know about our policy should we get snow and ice. We have an arrangement with a snow plower on the island to plow our roads should we get four or more inches of snow on the road. He is also capable of spreading a chemical ice melt on those dangerous curves where the ice makes it really dangerous. But you should also be aware that there may be times where it isn't safe to drive the roads, in which case you should be stocked up on supplies and prepared to spend several days at home. If you have appointments in town or off island, you need to be flexible about re-scheduling. If you have a genuine emergency, the Fire Department is capable of getting you out, if necessary. Remember, we live in a rural neighborhood, not the city, so you may need to adjust to new conditions.

POLICY: The Board has re-established its Policy Committee to be chaired by Chris Graham. The committee will look to introduce clear step-by-step guidelines for implementing various Board and Association procedures derived from our governing documents (and state law where applicable). We'll also be cleaning up inconsistencies in some of our governing documents. We invite OHA members interested in serving on the committee to contact its Chair at 1062discovery@gmail.com.

NOMINATIONS: The Nominating Committee continues to try to recruit potential candidates for the Board of Directors (BOD for short) and/or for BOD committees. It is good practice to have a "bench" of potential candidates.

With this in mind, the Nominating Committee is asking you to consider serving on the Board and/or on one of its committees (Roads, Firewise, Architectural Review, Nominating, Policy). Our neighborhood benefits when many of its members are actively involved in our OHA. So, if you are interested in serving in some capacity, or are just curious to learn what participation on the BOD and/or its committees entails, please contact Jens Kruse, Chair of the Nominating Committee (jkruse@wellesley.edu).

FIREWISE: The HOA will shortly have its burn permit in-hand for the fall/winter/spring debris burning season. And if you plan to use the burn area, here are the instructions for using it:

You can unlock the cable that blocks the entrance to the burn pile with the combination 1996. Drive your vehicle into the burn area. Go to the pumphouse, unlock the door with the same combination 1996, look to the wall on the left where you will see a key pinned to the wall at the lower left corner of a poster discussing burning, take that key outside to the black tool box chained to a tree, put the key in the lock toward the left end of the front of the tool box and turn the key, then unlatch the lid to open. Inside the tool box you will find our three new hoses, a heavy-duty nozzle (fire fighter strength), and a rake, pitch fork, and shovel. Screw one of the hoses onto the pipe coming out of the pumphouse. Stretch out that hose, then attach a second hose to the first, then a third to the second. Screw on the nozzle. Go back to the pumphouse and turn on the valve by

**ORCAS HIGHLANDS ASSOCIATION
FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER**

going counter clockwise one quarter turn. Water should quickly fill the hose. When you use the hose, make sure you hold it with both hands, as the pressure is quite strong.

Next, unload your debris, and start the fire. Your fire may be up to 10 feet in diameter and 6 feet in height if you have the charged hose ready. Please count on staying at the site of the fire until the fire is out. Let it burn down, then use the hose to put out the fire. When done, turn off the water, unscrew the hoses and drain them, roll them up, put the hoses, nozzle, and tools back in the tool box, close the lid and make sure it is latched, turn the key, replace the key on the wall in the pumphouse, lock the lock on the door of the pumphouse, pull your vehicle out of the drive, then lock the cable once more.

Please do not drop off yard debris and just leave it, expecting someone else to burn it. If you bring it, you burn it. Burning season will likely last until the end of May, at which time our permit expires as the fire department closes burning for the summer.

Finally, if it is particularly windy, it is not a good day for burning.

Thanks for reading. Hope you have a nice Fall!

The OHA Board

Highlands Association Board Member Contact Information for 2019 - 2020. Please let us know if you have questions or would like to volunteer for committee or board work.

General Information: Website address – www.orchighlands.com
Association email – orchighlandshoa@gmail.com

ORCAS HIGHLANDS ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Dennie Carter Treasurer, Phone: 376.2187

Email: dcarter@orcasonline.com

Brian Erhmantraut, Vice President and Firewise Committee, Phone: 376.7087

Email: behrmantraut@gmail.com

Lee Goodwin, Architectural Committee, Phone: 376.5169

Email: bonwell_99@yahoo.com

Chris Graham, Policy Committee, Phone: 917.607.4575

Email: 1062discovery@gmail.com

Jens Kruse, Nominations Committee, Phone: 376.2025

Email: jkruse@wellesley.edu

David Turnoy, Secretary and Roads Committee Phone: 376.4165

Email: davidgeri@centurylink.net

Marcia West, President, Association Bookkeeper Phone: 376.6543

Email: mw270@me.com

Bob Wyatt, Member at large, Phone: 376.3430

Email: bwyattnc@gmail.com