

# Oak Valley Homes Association Newsletter

Lenexa, Kansas

Email: [ovhoa18@gmail.com](mailto:ovhoa18@gmail.com)

April 2021

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/oakvalley.hoa.9>

Website: <https://ovha-lenexa.org>



## Hello Oak Valley -

Happy Spring to everyone! As we start to put the freezing days behind us and look forward to warmth and sunshine, I encourage everyone to enjoy all the aspects our wonderful neighborhood has to give! Many of us miss visiting with neighbors during this past year and it is more important than ever to send a friendly wave or hello across the yards. A lot of us have struggled with this past year being cooped up without much interaction and small gestures would go a long way. Maybe consider raking an elderly neighbor's yard, dropping off a container of cookies, or simply a phone call to ask how someone is doing. These things may seem small, but it's often just the sentiment of knowing someone is paying attention and cares is enough to help our neighbors through the week.



## Spring Planting -

Mike has planted colorful Pansies at our entrance monument. At the beginning of April, Mike will be laying down the Crabgrass preventer and fertilizer application. In late May he will have the irrigation turned on to keep things vibrant and healthy.

Mike lays down mulch on alternating years so he will not be working with mulch this year. He will be spraying for weeds in all the cul-de-sacs. He welcomes any proposals to add flowers, rose bushes, or any other type of plants to your cul-de-sacs. Oak Valley will reimburse anyone whose idea is approved. In late June, Mike will be spraying for weeds around the mailboxes, sewer drains, and curbs and will repeat this if necessary. These additions and details that are maintained for Oak Valley's landscape make such a huge difference in setting us apart from many other subdivisions.

All landscaping needs are provided by Mike Rzeszut. He's been volunteering to take care of Oak Valley's landscaping single-handedly since 2012. Whenever you see him out working, please give him a friendly wave or stop and visit. We all highly appreciate everything he does for our neighborhood!

## Ash Trees -

As most of you already know, most Ash trees in Lenexa have been infested with the Emerald Ash Borer Beetle and are needing to be removed. Mike did an assessment of Oak Valley's Ash trees last summer and found approximately 70 trees needing to be removed. In that time we have had several families make the difficult and expensive decision to remove their Ash trees. Some families have had 4-7 trees that they've had to remove from their properties including have their stumps ground out.

This is a reminder that if your Ash tree does not produce leaves, it needs to be removed. If your Ash tree is only producing leaves around the trunk, this also indicates that it is dead or dying. The city will not remove your Ash tree even if it is a street tree.

Dead trees create a hazard to pedestrians and property. As most Kansans know, we experience a myriad of weather including, high winds, thunderstorms, tornadoes and freezing rain. All of which can bring down a dead Ash tree. If your Ash tree limbs, branches, or entire tree comes down, it is your responsibility to pay for any and all damages while additionally having the debris removed promptly.

For those of you that are still producing leaves, the best way to keep your trees from dying are to have them treated. This treatment needs to be done in May, June, or July every year.



### **Annual Meeting/Annual Dues (January 2021) -**

We had our Annual Meeting January 31st, 2021. This meeting was conducted through video conference using Zoom. During this meeting, there was a vote about the yearly dues and it was voted in the majority to keep the Annual Dues at \$225 per year. All due notices were sent out in the third and fourth weeks of February. Please remit your payment to: Oak Valley Home Association; P O Box 14081; Lenexa; Kansas; 66285.

The bulk of annual dues goes towards paying trash collection fees. If dues are not collected by June 1st, the Oak Valley HOA can choose to pause your trash collection services until your dues are paid in full. For the full minutes of the Annual Meeting, you may read them on our Website: <https://ovha-lenexa.org>

### **Oak Valley's Facebook, Website, and Email Address -**

Did you know that Oak Valley has several ways to communicate with you and you with us? We have a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/oakvalley.hoa.9/> which can be used to post your Spring pictures, funny pets, or just let us all know all the great things about our neighborhood and city we all share!

We also have a website: <https://ovha-lenexa.org> where you can find past newsletters, minutes of meetings, a list of your board members, and upcoming activities in our neighborhood (when we're allowed to resume activities - this section will be updated).

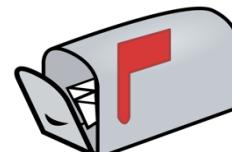
We also have an email address: [ovhoa18@gmail.com](mailto:ovhoa18@gmail.com) which you can use to send questions, send requests for approval to any upcoming constructions on your property (i.e.: fence, deck, additions to your home, etc.), or just say hi!

If you know of someone in the neighborhood not receiving updates or emails from us, please have them send their email address to the Oak Valley email so they may be added to the Oak Valley email list. This will help them to stay informed of important information in our neighborhood.

### **Treasurer's Update -**

At our Annual Meeting in January a question was posed to our Treasurer, Bob, if he currently had any backup for his position, which includes mailing out bills, receiving and posting dues and dealing with banking needs and balancing our budget. At that time, the answer was no, which caused concern for a few of our homeowners.

As of March 1st, both our president, Rick, and our Vice President, Manoj, are signers on the Oak Valley bank account to serve as back ups for part of Bob's duties. This step was necessary to ease up any burdens Bob may have and also ensure that if he were to decide to take a much needed vacation or days off from his duties, someone on the board has got his back.



### **Mail Box Clusters -**

We have had a few complaints concerning our mail box clusters. Some of these complaints are concerning rusting, leaking, and wobbly post issues having to do with our parcel and mail clusters.

A work order for 10 of the 13 clusters was submitted the middle of January 2021. I recently spoke to the Post Office representative who took the order and was told that one of the mail box clusters was

replaced entirely on Candlelight Lane. This required all homeowners who use that cluster to go to the post office to receive their mail and new keys to their units.

The representative then stated that our mail carrier had inspected the remaining boxes and deemed no other clusters needed to be replaced but that the majority of them needed to be sealed and repainted. He was unable to give me the addresses of the clusters that are deemed to receive this service.

If you notice repairs or improvements to your mailbox cluster and would be willing to pass this update to the Oak Valley board, please email us at [ovhoa18@gmail.com](mailto:ovhoa18@gmail.com) so we may keep track of the time frame and repairs being done. Thank you to everyone willing to do this!



### **Annual Garage Sale -**

The Oak Valley Annual Garage Sale weekend will be coming up soon. Please mark your calendars for Friday, May 21st and Saturday, May 22nd. The garage sale times run from 9am - 3pm each of these days.

The Oak Valley Board will notify all residents through email as well as posting notifications for the public on Nextdoor.com, Craigslist.com, our website, our Facebook page, along with signs and banners posted at the main monument and throughout the neighborhood. We hope for sunny weather but if a rain day postponement is necessary, we will update all residents through email and our website.

We ask that all participants of the Annual Garage Sale be as respectful as possible to fellow residents by not blocking driveways or street thoroughfares. Additionally, this is a great way to support our neighbors participating in the garage sale by swinging by and saying hi and finding a little treasure of your own.

### **Oak Valley's Sidewalks and Walking Paths -**

With warmer weather comes more people outside enjoying nature again. This is a gentle reminder that if you have a sidewalk in front of your house or a walking path running alongside your house that is used by the public, it is your responsibility to keep these pathways clear for pedestrian use. Any human or animal hurt on your property due to an unkempt public walking area may choose to come back to the owner for any compensation sustained by your lack of proper maintenance. Please keep low or fallen limbs cleared of pathways as well as bushes or hedges that may be partially or fully blocking these walkways. It's not just a safety issue, but helps maintain a nice living area for everyone in Oak Valley.



### **Walkers!**

Speaking of walking paths, I see more and more walkers utilizing the trails and neighborhood sidewalks! Before the pandemic hit us we had a few residents who were interested in joining or establishing a walking group. If anyone is interested in a walking group being put together and joining, please feel free to reach out to the board at: [ovhoa18@gmail.com](mailto:ovhoa18@gmail.com) and give us your preferred days of the week and time frames so we can try to join walkers together.

## **Oak Valley Activities -**

Before the pandemic Oak Valley enjoyed several activities. We had Block Parties and Wine Tasting events. We've been able to keep up with the Halloween and Christmas decorating contests but I know many of us are looking forward to sharing a favorite bottle of wine again.

Oak Valley's board is keeping track of CDC guidelines and are looking forward to our next group gathering when safely possible. Our hope is to have a Fall Block Party - if we are allowed per guidelines - and to possibly open up our Monthly Wine Tasting meetings.

Last year, during warmer weather, several neighbors hosted "Socially Distanced Driveway Gatherings" with neighbors and they were a much needed respite from ongoing world events. Please consider continuing on with this tradition as I truly feel humans were made to be together and nothing heals a person's soul more than to be with one another.

## **Oak Valley's Trash Service -**

I simply want to thank everyone in Oak Valley for making the switch over to our new trash service a success. This was a quick endeavor which included contacting 166 households in a very short amount of time. I must say that you all rose to the occasion spectacularly and I am truly impressed. Thank you to every single one of you!

Additionally, the board wanted to let all our residents know that KC Disposal offers a one item bulky pick up for each resident four times per year. All residents are offered this service on the last Thursday in March, June, October, and once any month you choose during the calendar year. You must call KC Disposal when ordering your extra one bulky item pick up.

KC Disposal - 816-388-9739



## **Recommendations -**

The HOA is bringing back the recommendations section to the newsletter. If you know of a great company you'd like to add to next quarter's newsletter, make sure to send their information to our email address at: ovhoa18@gmail.com

**Christian Brothers Roofing** (Adam Thorne) - 816-239-9512 (Debbie & Dennis Burks)

**Professional Lawn Care** (Marlon Quiroz) - 913-227-9996 email: prolawnrcare.ks@gmail.com

"Excellent, reliable and fair pricing. Also does retaining walls". (Lester Kerschner)

**Brunner's Quality Decks** (Lawrence Banks) - 913-752-7524 email: brunnerskc@gmail.com

"Great work on a 2 level deck replacement, very good pricing". (Lester Kerschner)

**True Grit Construction** (Sergio Flores) 913-313-9594 email: constructiontruegrit@gmail.com

"Super for roofing and siding". (Lester Kerschner)

**Landworks** (Jeff & Courtney Welch) - 913-422-9300 email: cwelch@landworks-inc.com

"They are responsive and do a great job. They'll work with a budget and can provide line-item detail on quotes, as they've done in our master landscaping and maintenance plans". (Mary Lewis)

**Armstrong Kitchens** - 913-642-3337 (Pat Wallace)

**Bill's Floor Covering** - 913-492-1964

"He has remodeled 3 of our 4 bathrooms and did an excellent job". (Marilyn Lemons)

**J & S Tree Service** (John Quinley) - 913-220-5019 (Cari Brinkman)

"Removed our Ash Tree and trimmed hedges for us. Extremely good price, would use him again."

**Metro Irrigation** (Matt Wolfe) (Karl & Kimberly Hanson)

"He knows his sprinkler systems and doesn't BS."