

Oak Valley Homes Association Newsletter

Lenexa, Kansas

Email: ovhoa18@gmail.com

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

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



A Letter from Oak Valley Board President, Rick Vandenburg -

Hello Oak Valley! I wanted to send this message to let you know that I will be stepping down as president of our HOA after this term (January 2022.) This opens a spot for anyone who wants to make a difference in their neighborhood.

Why join the board? Well, I joined because I wanted to advocate for a single, neighborhood-wide trash service. I stayed because it gave me a chance to get to know and work with a bunch of great people who care about their neighbors. This is a tremendous board of volunteers who each pull their own weight and work together to make Oak Valley thrive!

During my 10? years on your board I have served in a number of roles: member-at-large, architecture chair, vice president and president. Don't let the title fool you - there is minimal extra time or energy needed to be president. (When I joined the board the president hosted all the meetings but I already changed that.)

So if you're willing to take a chance, let me know and I can provide more information; or just show up at the next annual meeting and raise your hand. You won't regret it.

Thanks for allowing me to serve you these past 10? years, I'll see you on the trails.

Rick



Thank you Rick!

I believe I speak for every board member on our Oak Valley HOA when I say that Rick has been a wonderful president and asset to our group. He's always approached everything we've discussed with a calm, thoughtful, level head. I've personally only been with this board for the past 3 years but have appreciated working with Rick this entire time and am both sad to see him leave but also very happy that he will be around the neighborhood walking his beautiful Golden Retriever and being followed by his cat!

How Can You Join the Oak Valley HOA Board?

As Rick mentioned, the President's spot will be available at the end of January 2022. If you are interested in joining the board as our new president or maybe in another area, these are some suggestions with rules on how the process works:

Suggestion - reach out to at least one board member and ask your questions about being on the board, time commitments, structure, job duties, etc..

When you decide to join:

Inform a board member so during the Annual Meeting, at the end of January 2022, you will be given time to tell a little about yourself to the attendees who will be voting on board members.

You will then need to be nominated for the board position you are interested in. Anyone can do this for you. A board member or homeowner (your spouse would work as well!).

Activities -

Our current pandemic has made holding activities more difficult than before, understandably. With colder weather coming in, this will be even harder. I will still offer monthly wine tasting get togethers for anyone who would like to host. We generally try to have wine tastings held on the last Friday of each month but if you're interested in hosting one month and would like to pick another day then we would be more than happy to work with your schedule. Please email me if you are interested:

ovhoa18@gmail.com

We do have two upcoming activities that we all can participate in and enjoy! Oak Valley's Halloween Decorating contest and Christmas Decorating contest! These activities are all outdoors and are great fun for the whole neighborhood. Plan on decorating your house and yard for these holidays to win cash prizes. Each contest has a first (\$50) and second (\$25) place winner with the third place winner getting an honorable mention.



October is Crime Prevention Month -

Oak Valley has proven time and time again to be a wonderful community full of caring and giving neighbors who all look out for each other. This is especially important in the world's climate right now. With more people unemployed, news reports have said that car break ins have risen in the KC metro including Lenexa. The most common places break ins happen, according to Lenexa police, are at fitness centers, public parks, and daycare centers. If you're a part of Nextdoor.com, you may have also read the increase in reported vehicle break-ins within neighborhoods as well.

Please remember to keep your doors locked and keep valuables inside your home or out of plain view. There are plenty of opportunists scouring through residential areas looking for an unlocked vehicle or items worth taking from locked vehicles as well.

With so many of us working from home, please help keep a look-out for criminal behavior and don't hesitate to report a crime when you see it. Most of us don't need to be told this, but during this month of crime prevention, it's nice to have a reminder.



Oak Valley's By-Laws and Restrictions -

Planning on painting the outside of your home or having your deck replaced? Don't forget to send in your paint choices or your deck blue prints to our Architectural board member, Larry Rector. You can email your information to ovhoa18@gmail.com and Larry will respond with your approval or list of recommendations to receive your approval.

If you'd like to look over Oak Valley's Restrictions or read through our By-Laws, you can find those documents on our website at: www.ovha-lenexa.org. Feel free to email us with any questions about upcoming projects or anything else you find in the By-Laws or Restrictions and we'd be happy to answer them.





Lenexa "Disturbing the Peace" Code -

Please remember that Lenexa carries a "disturbing the peace" code which is in affect between 7:00pm through 7:00am 7 days a week. I bring this up to gently remind everyone that we should all be as conscientious of our neighbors as possible. This may include a neighbor who has a barking or whining dog that needs to be taken care of, or possibly someone enjoying their music well into the night and doesn't realize that their neighbors can hear it. This might be innocent children enjoying the longer nights of summer while yelling with joy to each other, or someone revving the engine to their vehicle. Maybe someone taking their phone calls outside to enjoy the evening but not realizing they're including their neighbors in their discussion, or maybe you've joined a band and practice sessions are in your garage - just be considerate to your neighbors and limit your noise within the proper times for everyone to enjoy their evenings and mornings.

Preparing for Winter -

Many of us have a checklist to prepare for our coldest season. Maybe it's time to get your heater maintained or clean out the chimney. Don't forget those gutters or to cover those precious plants. Another thing to bare in mind is keeping snow removal paths clear as well as your sidewalks clean for pedestrians and especially for school age children needing to get to school each bitter-cold morning. It's a great time to handle any of your damaged or low hanging branches as snow can add quite a bit of weight and they can come down on unsuspecting vehicles or pedestrians. With our climate we have to also anticipate icy conditions and storms. Having salt or chemicals on hand to treat sidewalks or driveways is a must.



Dead Ash Trees -

I'm sure most of you are tired of hearing that Oak Valley's dead Ash trees need to be removed. This is a quick reminder that most tree removal companies discount their prices during the winter season. This may be the perfect time to get a new quote on having your dead Ash tree removed and the stump ground out. This way when Spring finally comes you will not have to look out your window to dark, dead bark and instead see beautiful greenery all around you!

Oak Valley's Website, Facebook, and Email -

Don't forget that Oak Valley has a few options to check out what's happening in your neighborhood. Our Website, Facebook, and email links are all listed at the top of this newsletter and can be utilized in many different ways. Want to see the next upcoming activity or check out a previous newsletter? Go to our website and you'll find what you need. Have a question, send us an email and we'll get you an answer. Did you buy a cute Halloween costume for your pet and want to post it to our Facebook page, go right ahead, we'd love to see it!

Happy Fall and Winter Oak Valley!!

