



## Newsletter, September 2021

This brief edition of the monthly newsletter contains some fall reminders and notices, a thank-you to volunteers, information about irrigation, and news about the annual meeting.

### First up: reminders

Are you a snowbird? If yes, then don't forget to file an extended absence form available at our website: [http://wwpines.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Extended\\_Absence\\_Form.pdf](http://wwpines.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Extended_Absence_Form.pdf) In addition, pay attention to the winterizing checklist on that same page. Some co-owners, unfortunately, have had to deal with frozen pipes over the winter: don't let that happen to you.

Do you walk or bike through the association? As the days get shorter, please remember to wear light-colored or reflective clothing. Drivers, please observe the 15 MPH limit, and watch out for your neighbors.

### Next: thanks

The board recently discussed a major, fussy, mechanical DIY project for next year. We aren't ready to unveil it yet, but here's the interesting part: as we talked about how to accomplish this, a senior board member said "We'll get volunteers. That's what we do at Waterway Pines."

Soooo, here's a thanks to all the volunteers who pitch in everywhere—landscaping, ice cream social, pond committee, building inspectors, animal wranglers, sign posters, traffic wardens, board members, welcome committee—every one of you helps to make this association work.

This month, we offer applause to John and Sharon Kleinheksel and to Evert and Irene DeWyn for the Labor Day piano concert. More than fifty people enjoyed the show.

### Old Jeopardy joke

Answer: The Waterway Pines irrigation system

Question: Why don't we drive on the grass?

Actually, that's not funny. Here are a couple things to know about our irrigation system:

- It's old, and living on borrowed time.
- Sprinkler heads are its most vulnerable part because they are right on the corner of every driveway and along the edges of the road. (And the developers didn't install curbs.)
- Each time West Ottawa Sprinkling comes to service the system, there is a flat charge of \$75. Add labor and parts to that, and a broken head costs the association \$150-200.



In light of this, the board is considering passing the cost of sprinkler head repair to the person who drives over the head—that is, when we can determine who did it. If service or delivery people come to your home, we urge you to make them aware of the “no wheels on the grass” policy. We also remind everyone that we have ample guest parking at Waterway Pines (lots more than some associations), and that it is always acceptable to park in the road itself (as long as mailboxes aren’t blocked).

The system will be turned off and winterized during the first week of October this year.

**Waterway Pines Annual Meeting: Monday, October 11, 7 p.m.**

Why is this a big deal? Because the 2022 budget will be presented, next year’s board of directors will be elected, and—OOPS. No, we won’t get to share a meal and fellowship again this year. A survey of co-owners earlier this summer indicated that a majority of us would prefer to Zoom the meeting, as we did in 2020. More details will follow closer to the date.

Incidentally, the association needs a quorum to hold the election for board members. A quorum is 26% of the units, or 39. Our annual meetings, in person or via Zoom, usually run between 60 and 70.

New board members: Three volunteers have stepped up.

- **Dan Ward**, 352 West. Dan and his wife Susan have lived in Waterway Pines since November, 2016. He is a retired Lutheran pastor with experience serving on multiple boards during his pastoral career.
- **Gerry Stoneburner**, 426 West. Gerry and his wife Kay have lived here since 2003. He has over thirty years’ experience in sales and marketing management in the pharmaceutical industry.
- **Duane Sturrus**, 325 West. Duane and his wife Betsy have lived in Waterway Pines since November 2019. Duane has a background as a chemical/process engineer. He has served on church and Christian school boards.

And even though there are three openings, and three volunteers, our by-laws require that we vote.

**Before the end of the week, you will receive the big “Annual Meeting Packet” which will include lots of information, the 2022 budget, and a ballot for new board members.**

That’s all folks!