



Where the Wild Things Are

Community Reminders:

- 1. 2024 Dues are \$81.25. These are due by December 31, 2024**
- 2. We have a P.O. Box address again! Wildwood HOA, P. O. Box 3, Hillsborough, NC 27278**
- 3. We now have Zelle! You can pay your dues from your online banking app. The payments would be sent to the gmail address: Wildwoodhoa2@gmail.com.**
- 4. Please clean up after your dogs when walking them around the neighborhood. Dogs must remain on a leash.**
- 5. Keep lawns maintained. Remove all trash in the yard. Keep area around mailboxes clear.**
- 6. All vehicles on the property must be properly registered.**
- 7. Please park off to the side of the street to enable two lane traffic.**
- 8. Observe the neighborhood speed limit of 25 mph.**
- 9. Website – wildwood27278.com**
- 10. Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wildwoodHOANC>**

Barking Up The Wrong Tree...

We were notified that a dead tree, at the park entrance, was starting to drop a lot of branches and could potentially fall. After we received three different estimates from tree companies, Amanda contacted Brightspeed and PEMC. The tree was essentially on the utility easement. Brightspeed determined the tree to be a potential problem to their equipment and they cut down the tree for us! This saved the neighborhood up to \$1800. Thank you to those who came and cut up the trunk to haul away wood and to Taylor Tollefson who made multiple trips to the landfill to dispose of all the branches! Before and after pictures are below:



Community Matters...



Thank you all for attending the neighborhood Potluck on September 21st! Good food and times were had by all. We look forward to future events and get togethers. If you have ideas for these, please reach out to us! We are looking into crafts, games, movie nights outside, holiday gatherings, community yard sales, etc.



Saying 'No Thank You!' To Solicitation!

We heard you!

Many residents were having difficulty with pushy solicitors. Some neighbors had expressed no longer wanting to answer their doors. We want to make this better for everyone, so we have purchased and installed "No Solicitation" signs around the neighborhood.

We care about your peace! Thank you to all who voted for this at the Annual Board Meeting.

Caring starts at home ...



Accessibility Matters! In all of its forms and avenues! We now have TWO accessibility ramps that you may check out from the Board for a period of time! If you have had surgery and steps are hard, let us know. If you have visitors coming or family coming and they have mobility issues...be it a walker, a cane, a wheelchair, etc, let us know. We can bring them to you, or you can pick them up. The board purchased the one that is one whole ramp and folds up. Another, with two runners was generously donated by Paul Hinrichs. Thank you, Paul!

INVASIVE/POISONOUS PLANTS !

HORROR MOVIE SCREAM

Yard care can also be safety care for you and your neighbors. Invasive plants spread fast and thoroughly, but they can be stopped if we work together. Remember that not only can an invasive plant kill your yard, then your neighbor's yard, but they are also shelters to copperheads. This time of year is crucial for working to eradicate them. I am asked many times a year about invasive plants and what can be done. Here is some starter information for all:

First Up: Japanese Stilt Grass! Did you know that each individual stalk can send out 1000 seeds?! This grass goes to seed around October and mowing it short, weedwhacking it to the ground, pulling it up by hand, if in small clumps, or treating it with a specific herbicide is the way to stop it from depositing thousands upon thousands of more seeds into your yard this year!

Dog Walkers, get to know this plant! Japanese Stilt Grass uses animal fur to transport its seed around to other areas..aka..YOUR YARD. If you see this plant in someone's yard, guide your beloved dog away from that area so to not transport this invasive plant back to your yard on their cute little feet.

Copperheads: This plant can get up to 3 to 6 feet tall when not properly managed and what likes to hide in tall grasses? You got it. Copperheads. Protect yourself, your kids and your pets in your yards from snake bites by editing out tall grasses.

It is pictured below:



Second up: Poison Ivy! The most effective way to get rid of poison ivy is to rip it out of the ground, getting the root out completely. This is a careful process as you want to not just have gloves on but make sure that any exposed skin is covered. This may require mild digging if the roots are deep enough. You can also suffocate it by placing rubber, a plastic sheet or a piece of cardboard atop it. Please check for runners later though as poison ivy travels. You can also spray poison ivy, especially if the main body of it is on another person's yard. You are only legally allowed to take care of what has come across your property line, hence you can't rip all of it out by hand in that case without permission from your neighbor. Be vigilant after spraying to see if any runners survived and pop up a few feet away.

Please remember if you have it on your property and it spreads to a neighbor, that this can be detrimental to your neighbor's health. A common treatment for poison ivy, if it's a bad enough case, is a steroid. Not all of us can take steroids.

Poison Ivy is pictured below:



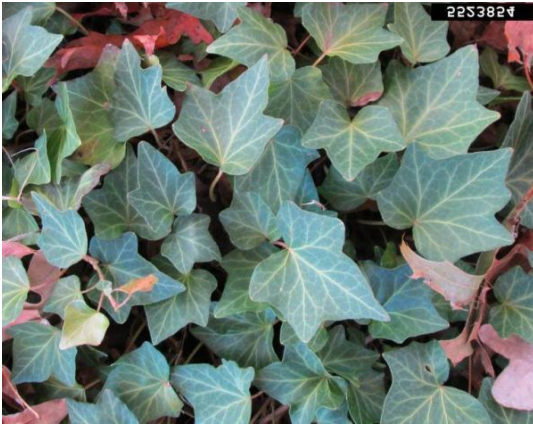
Third Up: Virginia Creeper! This plant is a vine which likes to climb up exterior walls and can damage wood and stucco. The weight of it can pull down gutters and siding. Their removal causes damages to painted surfaces. It is also a plant that is not friendly to humans. The berries on it are highly toxic to people and the sap causes skin irritation in some. While it is native to the eastern parts of North America, it is very aggressive! Pulling it up with gloves on and digging up the roots along with cutting it back are ways to work on eradicating it.

It is pictured below:



4th up: English Ivy! This ivy is not only invasive to yards but it will eliminate native plants around it and food sources for birds and other wildlife. This vine is considered invasive across the United States, not just to the Eastern part of the country. It is known to kill the trees it climbs on making them subject to falling down over time. The leaves and fruits of it are toxic to humans. The sap, like with Virginia Creeper, is a skin irritant. The roots can also cause structural damage to your walls as well as your fences and your neighbor's fences. Remember, if something from your yard causes damage to another person's property, there could be legal consequences so best to keep on top of it! Removal is best by cutting, pulling and digging up the roots.

It is pictured below:



This image here is a good example of how bad English Ivy can get! Yikes!

Park Cleanup Day was a SUCCESS!

You all were AMAZING! These pictures speak for themselves. Just look at what our neighborhood came together to do and achieved! We can now work on leveling the paths for people to increase accessibility at our lovely park! Thank you for coming, working hard and caring! The weather was beautiful and so were all of you.





Thank you kindly, for reading the Wildwood Newsletter, Where the Wild Things Are! If you have ideas for future submissions, please let us know!