



RIDGECREST NEWSLETTER



Official association mailing address:

**Ridgecrest Homeowners Association C/o Southard, Beckham, Atwater and Berry
691 Bethel, PO BOX 706, Port Orchard, WA 98366**

<http://www.ridgecresthomeowners.org>

SPEED LIMIT IS 25 MPH

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Mark Johnston, Secretary

CORRESPONDENCE to the ASSOCIATION: Our email is not working right now. The board of directors responds to letters written to official above address and you can call our president George with urgent business at the telephone number (360) 876-6330. Thank you

Joe Swatek, VP & Chairman Archetectoral Control Committee (ACC)

ARCHETECTORAL: The ACC has approved six (6) ACC requests for 2017. FYI: . ACC relies on the cooperation of residents. ACC does not patrol the plat looking for construction, however if it is noticed they will send a 'request to comply' <http://ridgecresthomeowners.org/architectural/RidgecrestACCApprovalListing.pdf>

GREENBELT FLOOR & FOLIAGE: When this development was first established fires over in eastern Washington were common but in recent years these fires have moved over here. So in early December 2017 an arborist inspected our plat. The arborist said he is more than willing to take our money for a cleanup but none was needed. His comments were that the mini-forest around us was doing what it was supposed to do with dying undergrowth supplying nutrients to the large trees we have. It may not look pretty to some but it is not supposed to look pretty, it needs to be pristine as it is a natural barrier to erosion to our ridge top location. Under Title 19 **Critical Area Ordinance (CAO)** it is illegal to remove any vegetation from the common area, dead or alive. RHA has a procedure for possible threatening trees or too much foliage that starts with the ACC and incorporates the Kitsap County Community Planning department. Information can be gotten from any ACC member or on the RHA web site. This inspection does not preclude from fires in our neighborhood however children from Ridgecrest started the only two fires we have had. If you feel you need to cleanup behind your property in the greenbelt please contact the ACC. Thank you. <http://www.ridgecresthomeowners.org/greenbelt/Greenbelt%20Foliage.pdf>

DANGEROUS TREE REMOVAL: After getting authorization from the board in February 2017 the BoD hired an arborist to take a professional look at our trees that are close to the backs of homes within Ridgecrest. The RHA is responsible for trees in the common area. The good news is that we live in a healthy forest however the Archon Tree Service found approximately 11 trees close to homes that needed some attention. Notices went out to the homeowners that were affected. Some trees only needed removal of vines and others needed to be taken out. Fortunately for the RHA only two trees needed to be addressed by the association as they were in the greenbelt and dead.

FAQ's: Frequently asked questions were originally written about 30 years ago but are still applicable today. <http://www.ridgecresthomeowners.org/newsletters/FAQs.pdf>

MANAGEMENT TEAM: Anyone can make up a list and present it to the BoD. Everyone has a better idea on how to do things. Join the team and lend us your expertise.

Alvin Aosved, Treasurer – Financial Projected Biannual Budget for 2017-2018

Volunteers only get reimbursed for stamps while donating administrative staples such as paper, printing supplies, envelopes, trips to the post office and many other chores. The BoD should provide reimbursement for volunteers doing RHA chores. The BoD adopted .51 cents per mile. Some of our administrative costs include fees at the county and paying an attorney for legal advice. In addition to the annual assessment income the RHA has built up a contingency fund for a two-year period that is continuously eroded due to unforeseen administrative costs such as liens. The RHA is currently solvent and by working together we can keep it that way.

Next assessment is due 1 August 2019. You will get a bill in July 2019 so if you plan on being gone check before you leave.

George Carr, President

MEETINGS We have annual membership meetings usually in February and you are encouraged to attend. Call me (360) 876-6330 if you have questions. It is now scheduled at a public venue for 2018 and you will be notified via U.S. Mail. Our website has a lot of information but there is no exception for direct information.

WILD ANIMALS "Give them a BRAKE": If you see wild animals please give them a BRAKE and also do not feed them. This is from the Department of Fish & Wildlife.

Report large animal sightings such as bears and others you are concerned about to WDF&W at [wildlife] 1-360 902-2515 or [enforcement] 1-360 902-2936.

STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE: Call 888-225-5773 that is the same number for reporting power outages and have the pole number handy. The electric company does not patrol so you need to tell them. The pole number is usually on a white tag and may begin with the number SLA _____. It takes around 10-14 days after you call it in.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL and HEALTH SERVICES (DSHS): Elderly and handicapped. **Home and community services 1-800-422-7114**

CHILD ABUSE - DSHS CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES: If you witness child abuse or neglect then call **1-800- 423-6246**. Child abuse could be a symptom of additional problems that may end up affecting you.

DOMESTIC LOOSE ANIMALS & PETS: It is apparent that all families in Ridgecrest are dog lovers and are sensitive to their dogs and neighbors needs and take appropriate care of their pets. As a courtesy we have provided a segment of the Kitsap County regulations on the website. We have for many years listed on the RHA website the Ridgecrest pertinent county pet regulations at <http://ridgecresthomeowners.org/information/Your%20Pets.pdf>
Report pet issues to **Kitsap County Animal Control 698-9654 x7216 or 692-6977**.

ROADWAY REPAIR: The county maintains the road and cul-de-sacs so please report falling trees to the county. **Public Works, Kitsap County at 337-5777**

GREENBELT DETENTION/RETENTION PONDS: A Ridgecrest resident, that's you, pay over \$50 annually in your county tax bill to maintain these ponds. Any type of activity especially motorized vehicles such as ATV & bike riding in this area is strictly forbidden. It is not a play area for basketball.
Report violators to **Chuck Smiley, SSWM Inspector, 337-7290**

CERTIFIED WOOD STOVES and the SMOKE POLICE: So you think you have a **CERTIFIED WOOD STOVE?** You better make sure. Don't take the previous owners word for it. Check yourself, as the fine is **\$1000.00**. You might have a neighbor who will turn you into the smoke police so check. Also before lighting off that wood stove or burning brush check with the county. **South Kitsap County Burn Ban Areas 871-2411 or (800) 323-BURN (2876)**

YOUR HOME HAS INCREASED IN VALUE: It is a sellers market. Over the last many months our homes have definitely increased in value and the interest rates are still low. This rare event may not take place for another 25 years if at all.

SPEEDING COMPLAINTS: The speed limit on Deeridge is really too high at **25 MPH** but for some it is not high enough. We do have speeders. Do not attempt to take any action on your own but report speeders to law enforcement. <http://www.kitsapgov.com/sheriff/> Call **911 or Sheriff's Office Desk 337-7101**

WASTE MANAGEMENT: <http://wmnorthwest.com/kitsap/index.html> or **1-800-592-9995** Good luck on getting a real live person to talk to. If you have a problem recommend you pay them a visit out near the airport area and talk to a supervisor.

FIREWORKS: Laws for discharging fireworks. **Firework's Ordinance 377-2007. Fire Marshall's office 337-5777**

PLEASE SEND ALL MAIL TO THE ASSOCIATION at the ABOVE ADDRESS or ATTEND MEETINGS
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING ANYTHING IN THIS NEWSLETTER, RHA Covenants & By-Laws
PLEASE BRING THEM UP AT THE NEXT MEETING
"KEEPING YOU INFORMED FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY"