

Bush Prairie News

April 2014

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Stephen Manning 350-9816

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Chris Meyers 515-0168

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Emergency Preparedness Comm.

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Landscape & Maintenance
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Mailbox Committee

Roger Fish 753-7100

Newsletter Committee

Elena Guinn & Bill Moneer

Recreation Committee

Elena Guinn 956-3860

Webmaster

Dave Fillipone

Welcoming Committee

Jeanne Kirkpatrick 943-3293

Tammy Greenwell 570-2205

Bush Prairie to Become Part of the City of Tumwater

Bush Prairie is currently in Thurston County, but located in the Urban Growth Area (UGA) of the City of Tumwater. As such, it has just been a matter of time before it was annexed into the City. On March 11, the City Council directed staff to move ahead on plans to annex the "Eastside UGA," which includes Bush Prairie. The process is expected to take about 18 months and will include public workshops to explain the process. For Bush Prairie this is not a voting issue. Commitments to annexation, "binding to the property," were made by Bush Prairie homeowners when they accepted City water at "In-city" rates. There will be changes in tax rates and fees when we move from Thurston County to the City. These will be explained in detail at the workshops. Based on the 2008 annexation of western Tumwater, cost to single-family homeowners will be essentially the same. Connection to sewer will not be required, but will be made available. Detailed information should appear on the City of Tumwater web site over the coming months.

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

**FRIDAY,
JUNE 6, 2014**

**SATURDAY,
JUNE 7, 2014**

Time to clean out your closets, shelves and garage. Get your stuff organized and priced. Bush Prairie is planning a community garage sale! The Board will take care of advertising. You just need to have a sale. We hope to have at least 20 homes participate. Please contact Wendy Burbidge, phone 705-4344, no later than May 30, 2014 if you plan to participate.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Hi Neighbors! The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on **Saturday, April 19, 2014 at NOON SHARP** in **The Meadow** entrance is between 1739 & 1805 Arab Dr. There will be the Egg Hunt, pizza, games and prizes. **The Egg Hunt is first and is over quickly so be on time!** The egg hunt is for children up to 10 years old. Bring a basket for egg gathering! Rain or shine we hope to see you there.

Compliance



Recently the Board took up the issue of homeowner compliance with BP Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions ("Covenants"). This is a long-standing area of concern for both the Board and homeowners as currently there is no enforcement mechanism in place to ensure compliance with the Covenants. The Board relies on the cooperation and good-nature of homeowners for compliance, but there occasionally are difficulties in obtaining compliance. To address this, the Board will discuss this issue in the coming year and possibly amend the Covenants. Any amendment to the covenants would require a vote of the homeowners for approval. Look for further updates in upcoming newsletters or on the soon to be newly redesigned BP website at bushprairie.com. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this issue, please contact Stephen Manning at 350-9816.

Disaster Preparedness: Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) Update

Our mission, as the Bush Prairie Homeowners Association, is to enhance the value and desirability of all real property within the association and promote the health, safety and welfare of our residents, while fostering a friendly and neighborly community.

In 2014 the Emergency Preparedness Committee will continue to work with neighbors to prepare our community for disaster response. Our goal is to hold one disaster-response training meeting per quarter in 2014. The first quarter training meeting was for neighbors who use the mailbox on the corner of Arab Drive and Stagecoach Court and it took place on March 27th at 6:30pm at the home of Jared & Wendy Burbidge, 7638 Stagecoach Ct. If you missed the meeting please contact Stephen Manning 350-9816 to pick up your MYN booklet and information about your block's disaster plan. Our second quarter training meeting is for neighbors who use the mailbox at the intersection of Arab Drive and Pad-dock Ct. We encourage each home to send at least one person from their household to attend the meeting and learn the steps to take immediately following a disaster. It will be held on April 27th at 4pm at the home of Scott & Tami Kee, 2037 Arab Drive. Please mark your calendars! If you have any questions or would like to join the committee please contact Alida Abbott at agpa@uw.edu or 705-0461.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BOWL



Last year your homeowners board had the tennis court in The Bowl leveled and resurfaced by a contractor. The new surface is smoother than the old asphalt surface and the lines are brighter and won't fade like the previous lines. The court was leveled by tearing up the asphalt where the tree roots had pushed up the asphalt and the roots were removed. A French drain was also installed around the tennis court to help keep water off the court. A big "THANK YOU" goes out to Bill, Roger, Steve & David R. for some back breaking work on the drain rock!

Later this year we hope to have two new picnic tables in The Bowl. The current tables were built a very long time ago by a former homeowner, Bill Cain. A couple of current homeowners, Roger Fish & Bill Moneer, hope to build replacement tables that will last as long as the picnic tables made by Bill Cain.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are what make things happen in Bush Prairie. We welcome new faces so we don't "burnout" any volunteers. This year **Heather Nor-moyle** has volunteered to coordinate the Easter Egg Hunt but we still need some people to help with the Easter Egg Hunt. If you wish to help call Heather at **253-255-7758 as soon as possible.**

It also isn't too early to think about helping with the Annual Picnic. Older teens who need community service hours can help with activities at the Egg Hunt and Annual Picnic.

Anyone who wants to volunteer for the Annual Picnic call Elena Guinn at 956-3860.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE VOLUNTEERS!!!

UPDATE ON THE MAILBOXES

Mailbox "G", located at the intersection of Arab Dr. and Gelding Dr, was demolished for the second time in the early morning of January 8, 2014. No one was able to witness the culprit who, unfortunately, fled the scene. A replacement was ordered on the same day and was installed within two weeks. Locks from the old box were inserted into the new unit so keys would not have to be exchanged and mail service resumed. In the interim, however, those receiving their mail in the unit had to go to the downtown post office at 900 Jefferson St. to get their mail.

It is a major expense for the neighborhood association, over \$1200 per occurrence, and a real inconvenience to those who must travel to pick up their mail. A "FAQ on Mailboxes" section is available on the Bush Prairie website. Everything you need to know about our neighborhood mailboxes is there. Just click on FAQ Mailboxes in the left hand column of the Home Page.

FAQ - What happens if my CBU is destroyed?

Please immediately report any suspicious behavior or vandalism of the mailboxes to the police. Unfortunately we have had several experiences with this. If the CBU is destroyed please immediately contact the Mailbox Chair or any Board member of the Association (phone numbers are on the Bush Prairie Homeowners Association website). If a CBU has been rendered inoperable, remove your mail if possible. The USPS carrier will pull all mail from the CBU. Until mail is reestablished at the CBU, all of your mail can be retrieved at the USPS Olympia downtown headquarters at 900 Jefferson St. Call the USPS at (360) 570-6300 for any questions you may have. The Association will repair or replace the CBU as quickly as possible.



*More Mailbox
FAQs can be found
at
www.bushprairie.com*



Bush Prairie Homeowners Association

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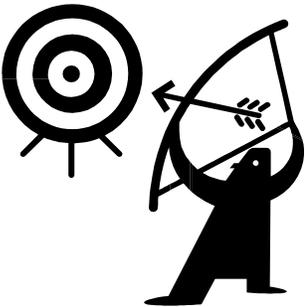
Type address here or use Mail Merge (under Tools) to automatically address this publication to multiple recipients.

We're on the web!
bushprairie.com



2014 BPHA Board Goals

The board has agreed to work on three primary goals this year.



1. Improve neighborhood emergency preparedness by continuing expansion of the MAP Your Neighborhood program to at least 13 of 18 clusters. Half (9 of 18) the clusters have met and organized their clusters since the start in 2010. Alida continues to lead this committee.
2. Continue to improve communications within the Bush Prairie Neighborhood Association. Dave Fillippone has volunteered to work on updating the Bush Prairie website and be the lead in working on this goal. He has also agreed to be the new Bush Prairie Webmaster. THANK YOU DAVE!
3. Encourage homeowners to update fences visible from the street to current standards. This will be done in phases with the first phase concentrating on the scalloped fence along Trails End Dr. Rich will head this goal.

The board welcomes any input on these goals from homeowners and neighbors. You are welcome to contact any board member (see contact numbers on list of board members).