

Autumn Woods Community

Connecting Neighbors with Community News

President's Message

Dear Autumn Woods Neighbors:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to serve as the Autumn Woods HOA President. After working as a Chief Marketing Officer for 35 years I now have the enjoyment of working as a full-time Realtor and able to give as much time as possible for volunteerism. I have called this community my home for over 11 years and actively contributed through the HOA since I moved into the community. I look forward to working with all our neighbors to ensure that Autumn Woods maintains the look and feel of the premier, friendly and safe neighborhood we all want.

We hope residents will assist our efforts by being involved and aware of plans, challenges, and efforts. Please check the AutumnWoodsFL.com website regularly for news, meeting notices, and a place to communicate with the board.

My pledge to you will be to communicate and I ask the same from each of you. You can't be involved if you don't know what is happening and the Board can't deal with issues that aren't brought to its attention. With the help and contribution of their time, 8 residents have joined to serve on this years' HOA Board and I thank them for "stepping up" to ensure continuity of governance. I hope that with good communication and resident involvement we will continue to have resident leadership and NOT have to face the prospect of hiring a property management company. That is a goal we can all share!

I will enjoy meeting every homeowner over the course of my term and hope to see you at one of our social gatherings (after COVID) or at a board meeting (virtual at the moment, the second Monday at 6:30 pm) which is open to all homeowners. With our summer season upon us, it has been fun to watch our neighbors pruning, mulching, sodding, and painting. Your efforts are appreciated and ensure that each property reflects the pride of ownership that is Autumn Woods . . . "One of the most desirable neighborhoods in Palm Harbor!"

Warmest regards,

Karen Apa

President, Autumn Woods Homeowners' Association, Inc.
awhoa2020@gmail.com

Welcome the new Autumn Woods homeowners

2020

Ruth Guideri

3204 Autumnn Dr.

Anastasios & Aikaterini Haraktsis

3212 Harvest Moon Dr.

Marty & Cathleen Acosta

3270 Meadow View Ln.

Mohan & Alamelu Iyer

3157 Harvest Moon Dr.

John & Colleen Zazzarino

2825 Briarwood Ln.

Carlos and Patty Thomas

3216 Harvest Moon Dr.

2019

Bob & Gayne Roberts

3246 Autumnn Dr.

Priscilla Diliberto

3158 Harvest Moon Dr.

Michael & Elinore Fluke

2963 Autumnn Dr.

Brian & Melissa Moran

1590 Chestnut Ct. W.

Daniel & Jessica Key

3031 Harvest Moon Dr.

Victor & Jill LaFrenz

3089 Harvest Moon Dr.

Phillip & Tracy Troy

3010 Autumnn Dr.

Heather & Mary Cranford

3223 Harvest Moon Dr.

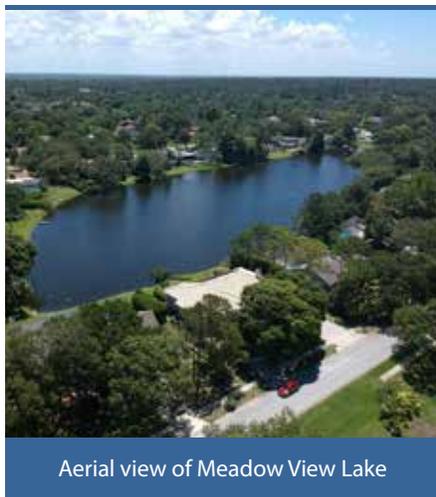
Lake Update

Autumn Woods is fortunate to have four lakes which offer a home for wildlife and give our neighborhood aesthetic beauty.

We have a maintenance company which provides water testing monthly. Algae is always a problem and requires monitoring and treatment. Each lake has 'bubblers' for helping with aeration and water flow, which reduces algae growth. We have seen improvement in the lake water quality with the water aeration and flow.

In 2014 the HOA installed "bubblers" at the bottom of all four lakes to "turn over" the lake and vent harmful gases such as carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide, while allowing the absorption of beneficial oxygen – the lifeblood of a healthy lake. Our lake maintenance company, Gulf Coast Lakes and Wetlands keeps algae from blooming, optimizing lake water quality to minimize the decomposition issues.

In 2018 a lake bank erosion study was performed by the previous board. This board discussed dredging the lakes to manage bank erosion. However, this issue is covered in the governing documents which states, "each lot owner whose lot adjoins or abuts such lakes owns that portion of the lake and each lot owner whose lot adjoins or abuts such lakes are responsible to maintain the water's edge at their own lake bank, keep the proper contour of the lake bank and prevent erosion." Article VI of our Declaration also states, "no lot may be increased in size by filling in the lakes



and no lot may be dug out or dredged so as to cause the water of the lakes to protrude into the lot". If a lot owner is concerned about erosion and considering putting in a seawall, please contact David Lindberg to discuss options and how to get approval from the HOA.

Alligators live in our lakes but also move to other neighborhoods. Our lakes interconnect with Innisbrook, Eniswood, Hidden Lake and flow slowly to Sutherland Bayou. Alligators have been seen in our lakes. From time to time trappers are successful in trapping these alligators, but many times the alligator escapes the trapper's efforts. If alligators become a threat to homeowners or their pets, call the toll-free Nuisance Alligator Hotline at 866-FWC-GATOR (866-392-4286). Then notify the board. Gators don't stick around long and they need to be addressed quickly.

If you have concerns or suggestions for management of our lakes, contact David Lindberg, through the Autumn Woods Homeowners' Association email address at: awhoa2020@gmail.com.

Summer Lawn Care

Many lawns in our neighborhood are showing signs of distress. Keeping your lawn green, pest free and healthy will take proper watering, fertilization, and mowing / edging. Start by checking out your sprinkler system. Are all the sprinkler heads working properly? Are you getting adequate coverage? When you start seeing burnt out areas in your lawn it could be many things but most of the time it is a sprinkler issue.

Depending on the type of season we have this year, if we have a good strong rainy season (typically starting in August) or a draught, will determine how much or how little we can water our lawns.

The unincorporated Northern Pinellas area has year-round water conservation measures in place which covers Autumn Woods.

Lawn watering is limited to no more than twice per week, once per day. Lawn watering days and times are as follows:

Even Addresses may water - Thr and/or Sun	
Reclaim Water	Morning: Midnight to 8 am Evening: 4 pm to Midnight
Well / Lake	Morning: 12:01 to 10 am Evening: 4 pm to 11:59 pm
Odd Addresses may water - Wed and/or Sat	
Reclaim Water	Morning: Midnight to 8 am Evening: 4 pm to Midnight
Well / Lake	Morning: 12:01 to 10 am Evening: 4 pm to 11:59 pm

Check the Pinellas County website for more information about watering for new lawns (replacing lawn areas with sod) and plants for an establishment period. Website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/water-rules.htm>

Community Improvements

Cannot believe that half of the year is already over.

Even though it is taking longer to get some things completed because of the virus, the board has been working hard to improve the community.

- ▶ We have hired a **new landscaper** for the common area. Adding tremendous savings from the previous landscaper with more attention to detail.
- ▶ We repaired and installed **new lighting** at the front entrance with a sophisticated and stylish design. The new lighting welcomes residents' home to a nicely lit entry.
- ▶ Both the Tennis / Pickleball Courts and Dog Park gates have been fitted with a **key lock**. A lock and key solution to better protect our facilities from vandalism while making sure only residents are getting access. The board spent many hours to ensure residents received their key. If you were unable to pick up your key, please email awhoa2020@gmail.com to schedule a key pick-up.
- ▶ The **Tennis Court** has been resurfaced featuring US Open colors. Both courts feature new pickleball lines bringing more residents out to enjoy the courts. New benches have been added as well as new nets, and a broom.
- ▶ The **Dog Park** has received some upgrades that include a paved widened entry area and walkway leading into the park. New benches, doggy bag stations and trash can. The commercial grade pet fountain has a push-button

water bowl filler and hose that will surely keep the pets cool this hot summer. Still working on some landscaping but it's a wonderful place for residents with pets.

- ▶ New **signage** throughout the park. With the many renovations and new cameras we are in the process of installing new signs.
- ▶ With COVID-19 still spreading we are looking at adding both **hand wipes and hand sanitizer** stations in the park. We know residents are using safe social distancing measures when enjoying the park facilities, but during these difficult times we want pet owners, playground users and court players to have wipes and sanitizer conveniently available.
- ▶ The **sidewalk** leading to the basketball court was redesigned so after it rains residents can walk



comfortably to the rear of the park along a dry sidewalk. The old sidewalk flooded out making it impossible for residents to navigate the park.

- ▶ There were more **trash cans** added along with another **picnic table** back by the swings. Under the picnic tables are 10' x 10' concrete patio pads so residents can enjoy the park without being bothered by bugs. The new trash cans are touch-free and easy to use with open sides on the covered lid.
- ▶ **Surveillance cameras** throughout the park. Seven (7) cameras have been installed to curb non-resident trespassing, vandalism and to help keep residents safe.
- ▶ We still have some **landscaping** to complete throughout the park to finalize the beautification of our facilities.

After the termination from Management & Associates in January 2020, the board hired the following to assist the HOA with certain professional expertise.

- ▶ David W. Ormiston CPA, PA has been brought on to handle our financials, and handle all incoming and outgoing expenses. Mr. Ormiston specializes in HOA's and we look forward to him giving Autumn Woods prompt and accurate financial services.
- ▶ Dan Greenberg, Esq. of Cianfrone, Nikoloff, Grant & Greenberg, P.A. is our new attorney. They offer decades of Community Association Law experience.
- ▶ Page Woolley & Co PA are our auditors and will start with the 2019 Audit.

Resident Directory

We plan to publish a 2020 / 2021 Autumn Woods Resident Directory in August 2020.



Please visit the website homepage as shown above at: www.AutumnWoodsFL.com and select the gold "Directory Info" button in the upper right corner. Complete the form so we can list your home correctly.

REMINDER:

We no longer use the services of Management & Associates.

- ▶ Please send all correspondence to:

Autumn Woods HOA
P.O. Box 1712
Palm Harbor, FL 34682-1712
Email: awhoa2020@gmail.com

Compliance

The Compliance Committee has been focused on building relationships with our neighbors in an effort to resolve any issue that may arise. As you are aware, the committee changed its approach on how residents are made aware of a violation. In the past, residents would receive a 30 day notice letter without any discussion. Our current process involves one of our committee members contacting residents to make them aware of the situation and discuss steps that will be taken to correct the issue. As a result, and with the help of our neighbors, we have not had to issue any new 30 day letters. The immediate benefit is that things are being handled in a neighborly fashion that also results in reduced legal fees. Having said that remember these committee members are your neighbors. They are not part of any outside organization so let's continue to approach these matters with mutual respect.

As we all know, being a homeowner in Autumn Woods automatically makes each of us a member of the Homeowners Association and as such, we are all responsible for following the rules and regulations covered in our governing documents. It is important to note that not being familiar with the the rules and guidelines is not an

the rules and guidelines is not an excuse for disregarding them. To avoid compliance situations from occurring, familiarize yourself with these governing documents. They can be found on our website - www.autumnwoodsfl.com/documents.

Another situation that has been coming up is the failure to submit Architectural Request Forms 30 days prior to work commencing on your property. As you can imagine, there is a very broad stroke of possibilities that come into play so review the documents on the website.

We all know how difficult these last few months have been and how it has impacted some of our neighbors. Many of the open issues have been resolved, however we are currently working with some homeowners to bring their property into compliance.

There is one area however that affects us all. There are many lawns in our neighborhood that are showing signs of distress in small areas, large sections or even the majority of the lawn. We need to focus on getting these issues taken care of.

Our goal as the Compliance Committee is to ensure that Autumn Woods continues to be viewed as one of the premier communities in North Pinellas County. Preempt the possibility of receiving a call, review the documents.

Board Members

Karen Apa President
Maryann Rinker ... Vice President / Maintenance
Bill Omanoff Treasurer
Tim Bryce Secretary

Theresa Ronayne ... Director / Compliance Chair
June Sharkey Director / Architecture Chair
David Lindberg Director / Lake Chair
Nicole Plihal Director / Social Chair
Jerold Sharkey Director

Social Committee
Gayne Roberts
Jill LaFrenz
Beverly Pizzano

Lake Committee
Nicole Plihal

Compliance Committee
Jim Ronayne