



# The WOODS Watch

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION • PO Box 361082 • Strongsville OH 44136-0019 • (216) 556-0722 ~ [www.WoodsOfStrongsville.com](http://www.WoodsOfStrongsville.com)

Summary of Monthly Board Meeting and Other Neighborhood Happenings June 2006  
This summary of topics discussed and other news, prepared by Tom Newbould, President.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Tom Newbould	Architectural Review & Renting	Mike Galloway
Vice Pres & Special Projects	Joe Bush	Landscaping & Maintenance	Lou D'Alanzo
Secretary	Pat Pell	At Large and Block Reps	David Pell
Treasurer	John Jurcago		

Email addresses @ [www.WoodsOfStrongsville.com](http://www.WoodsOfStrongsville.com) ~ Contact any Trustee with your questions and concerns.

## *So, where exactly is all the "Common Property?"*

We spend over 50% of the annual dues on the maintenance and enhancements to our common property. One of the most asked questions of the Board Members is, "So, do we really spend that much on the playground and tennis courts?" We are responsible for many more acres than just those two areas, and we have many other expenses besides cutting the grass. The attached map of the neighborhood highlights all the property that we all own (as Woods HOA Common property). As you can see – we have parcels all around. Besides cutting grass, we have to maintain and replace equipment, keep the retention outlets, drainage ditches and creeks cleaned out, remove fallen trees, maintain sidewalks, etc... If you have any questions about the common area, contact any Board Member or write me an e-mail to [president@woodsofstrongsville.com](mailto:president@woodsofstrongsville.com).

## *Common Property - Rules*

While on the topic of common property... Just a reminder for anyone living around the Woods Common Property (Hazen Park, Soccer Field, Lyon Lane Retention Basin, the Playground) there are specific rules about that land. Dumping of trash, yard waste, leaves, etc.. is not allowed. We try to keep those areas clean, cut and free of debris. Dumping only adds extra costs onto the landscaping contract, which in turn increases all of our dues. Your personal property is not allowed to be stored on the common ground. We have had gardens, fences, swing sets, trampolines, railroad tie flowerboxes, etc... constructed on common property – and they all had to be removed. Please remember, it is common property – owned by everyone who lives in the neighborhood- through the association, just because you abut common property, it is not your land.

## *Soccer Field will be Closed this Fall*

Some of the coaches in the neighborhood use the soccer field for practices during the Fall Football and Soccer seasons, along with kids who use the field for pick up games of various sports. The soccer field is in need of an over seeding, and that will take place this fall. The soccer field will be closed this fall, so we will not be taking any reservations for practice times. We appreciate your understanding and staying off the field for this once every few year event needed to keep the field in good shape.



## *Walking your Dog? - Let's be considerate.*

The Board has received a number of complaints by neighbors about folks walking their dogs and not cleaning up after them. It does not matter if it is on a tree lawn, front yard, at the park, or common property, please do the right thing, and carry a plastic bag with you when you walk the dog, and clean it up.

## *Tennis - Basketball Court Rules - Closing time is 8:30pm.*

The Tennis/Basketball courts are already getting daily use, with at times, folks playing late into the night, which is not very considerate to the folks living around the area. As a reminder – here are the rules that were approved by the Board.

1. Hours – 9am to Dusk (no later than 8:30pm)
2. All residents are allowed to use the courts for private lessons. Even if you are in a lesson, you are still subject to the 30-minute rule if someone is waiting and you have NO PRIORITY to kick folks off the courts.
3. The courts are for the use of the Woods Residents and their guests only. The resident must be playing with the guest.
4. Tennis players do not have priority over basketball players – the 30-minute rule applies to both sports/courts.
5. NO BIKES – ROLLER BLADES – SKATEBOARDS ON THE COURTS!!! It costs you and I nearly \$5,000 to have the courts resurfaced – riding on the courts will quickly ruin the finish. If you see someone on the courts on a bike or skateboard – it is your money that is being spent to maintain the courts – ask them to get off the courts!
6. No loud music – and clean up after yourself. (there is a trash can right near the entrance)

## Neighborhood Directory - watch for an update

It has been two years since our directory was updated. In that time, more than 35 homes/clusters and have changed owners. It is time for an updated directory to be published. Over the next few weeks, you will get a detailed sheet with the information that we have in the Woods database. Please take the time to make any corrections and get the information back to the Board. The new directory will be published later this year.



## Architectural Review

### THIS APPLIES TO MOST EXTERNAL PROJECTS

Activity from- May 9<sup>th</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup> - 1 Patio and 1 Patio/Deck was approved.



**IF YOU ARE PLANNING ANY EXTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS OR MODIFICATIONS, YOU MUST SUBMIT PLANS TO ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW, BEFORE STARTING WORK or APPLYING FOR A CITY PERMIT.**

Questions? Call the Woods Hot line at 216-556-0722. Get all of the required details at [www.woodsofstrongsville.com](http://www.woodsofstrongsville.com)

**Please keep in mind - For most requests, the Board can give approval within a week, but for more complex, new types of projects, or if individual Board members have questions, it may have to be discussed at the next monthly Board meeting, (second Monday of each month) and may take several weeks for approval. Please plan accordingly.**

## Pool Rules

The Board has responded to some inquires about the rules and some complaints from residents. The official rules from the Covenant and Restrictions that everyone agreed to when moving into the Woods is:

- Above Ground Pools are NOT allowed. In ground Pools are allowed.
- Temporary wading pools of only 24" or less are allowed in the neighborhood.

Neighbors are concerned about larger (3' to 4') blow up pools that are cropping up. These are *not* allowed. As an FYI - any pool (temporary or permanent) that is 36" or taller is subject to City of Strongsville ordinances. (required fencing, safety ladders, GFI Outlets for filters, permits, etc...)



## A few other thoughts...



- Trash pick-up is on Friday – according the City of Strongsville ordinance –garbage should not be brought to the curb any earlier than 7pm on Thursday. (this includes all trash – recyclables, yard waste, appliances, etc..)
- The City has asked us to remind residents to keep kids safe – there have been some accidents/close call with kids on electric scooters in the City. By law, all electric scooters must be licensed.
- We have had a lot of rain, and the retention areas and creeks have been working overtime, and keeping up. Fortunately, the Woods has not experience the flooded basements as some other neighborhoods. Please keep your children safe – when the storms hit, the retention areas fill up fast, the creeks start flowing quickly – please remind your kids to stay out of the creeks and off the cement retention drains.
- Ice Cream Trucks in the Neighborhood. According to Councilman Mike Gallagher, there is one Ice Cream Company registered with the City of Strongsville. How do you know if the Ice Cream Truck is legal? – the driver MUST be wearing the proper City supplied vendor permit – they are not allowed to travel faster than 15 MPH, and the trucks are NOT allowed to use bells, or bullhorns, or music – if you hear a truck doing this or driving too fast or the driver is not wearing a permit, you can contact the Police Department.
- Thanks to Cheryl Platten for running the annual Garage Sale. Over 40 homes participated this year!!
- Having a party/event? The Woods White boards are available for you to use. Contact any board member or call the hotline.
- We have a new name to add to the Babysitting list... Kaleigh Damm of Lyon Lane who has completed babysitting 101 and infant CPR class. If you are looking for sitter, you can contact her at [damms@sbcglobal.net](mailto:damms@sbcglobal.net)
- Is your dog starting to pack on the pounds, and you do not have time to give it some exercise? We have a brother/sister dog walking team that will walk your dog for you. Contact the Sullivan's at 878-9831. "You supply the leash, and they will supply the feet."
- Keep everyone who is protecting this Country in your thoughts and prayers.



**If you are new to the Woods of Strongsville, please give us a call at 216-556-0722  
We want to welcome you and deliver a *Members Directory* and a *Members Guide*.**

**Next Regular Board Meeting – Monday - July 17<sup>th</sup> – Beef O'Brady's – 8:30pm**