

The Village Chatter

APRIL/MAY

THE VILLAGES OF OSCODA

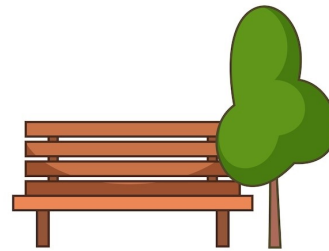
A Beautiful Place to Live and Visit



Memorial Bench Sponsorship Program

The Villages of Oscoda would like to announce the start of our Memorial Bench Sponsorship Program. Every community has individuals whose impact is felt long after they're gone. They leave behind a legacy of love, kindness and service that continues to inspire. A great way to honor these individuals is through the establishment of memorial benches. These benches become a focal point of connection and reflection for years and years to come. We have a large amount of green spaces in our community and sponsoring a **Memorial Bench** along with a commemorative brass plaque is a wonderful way to help refresh and rejuvenate some of our spaces.

Our benches will be built and installed by a local craftsman and you can choose to have them placed in a Common Area Park with ACC approval. With size options to choose from, each bench will be 4 or 6 feet long and made out of a combination of pressure treated lumber and synthetic wood planks. Also available is the option to have a 2" x 6" brass plaque with inscription on each bench. Inscriptions will be limited to a maximum of 50 characters. The cost with plaque will be approximately \$567 to \$755.



Please call the office at 989-739-4915 for details. Remember we have a dozen large green space areas so have a look around. You may find a green space that is just right for your **Memorial Bench**.

Newsletter Editors:

Tammy Velten
Jennifer Wilson



Board of Directors

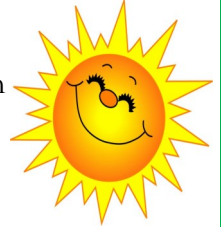
Chad Adams – President
Rachel Merrick - Vice President
Sherry Proulx - Secretary
Dave Wagner - Treasurer
Deb McCallum - Trustee





Greetings and hello springtime from the BOD!

Warmer weather is just around the corner and we all welcome that. Recently the BOD has been involved in a number of things. One of those things has been repairing and upgrading security lighting at our *RV lot*. It seems many of our units were not working and were outdated. We have repaired some, and more repairs and improvements are on the way.



Our BOD has 4 out of 5 seats up for *Board Election* this year. This means we need a minimum of 4 volunteers to run for a position on the Board. We welcome all additional candidates! *Candidate Profiles* are due by Friday, May 12th. See page 3 for more information on how to qualify for a Board position.



Springtime of course means *Spring Clean-up* time. Most people know that the fall clean up was incomplete making spring clean up even more of a challenge. We have a new lawn maintenance company this year with *Clean Cut Lawn Care Services*. We would ask that you give the new folks a chance to learn the ropes. If there are any issues, do not hesitate to call the Association office and let them know.

This is also the time to get ahead of mother nature. We noticed last year incredible growth of wild grape vines and other bushes that are difficult to remove after they took root and got started. These things can of course cause damage to homes but also present an increased fire hazard.

Lastly, please see the information on page 1 about our new *Memorial Bench Sponsorship Program* and important information about trash cans on page 4.



We finally get to say it, SPRING is Here! As many of you already know, we had a very windy winter which caused quite a bit of outside damage. There are trees and limbs down, siding, shutters and soffit/facia needing repair and litter needing to be picked up. Please take some time to do an inventory of repairs and/or maintenance your unit may be needing so that you can begin checking items off that list. This year's focus will be on



- * Is the **siding** of the unit/garage/shed in need of power washing or painting?
- * Does the **shed** door need to be painted? Does the Shed door or roof need to be repaired or replaced.
- * Is there loose or missing **shutters/trim**?
- * Is the **Soffit/Facia** falling or sagging?
- * Is there **litter or dog poop** that needs to be picked up? The lawn service crew will **NOT** go on your lawn to do *Spring Clean-up* or *weekly Lawn Maintenance* until **all** the dog poop has been removed.
- * Is there **damaged lawn** from the harsh winter or your snow removal service? The lawn crew is not responsible for repairing your lawn and you may want to contact your snow removal service to repair any scraped or gouged lawn caused by the plow.



BOARD NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Serving on the board of a Homeowners' Association can be a fulfilling experience. Many members enjoy being active volunteer leaders, assisting neighbors regarding Association matters, and getting to know their community better.

Nominations for the Board of Directors' election begins April 1st.

This year there are 4 open seats to fill on the Board. To be eligible to run, you must;

**WE NEED
YOU!**



- 1.) Be a deeded Homeowner in the Villages;
- 2.) Be a member in good standing (i.e. account paid up to date and no unresolved violations); and
- 3.) Submit a *Candidate Profile* with a brief *Summary of your background and qualifications*, to the office.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT CANDIDATE PROFILES IS FRIDAY, MAY 12TH.

We extend a warm welcome to our new lawn care provider, Clean Cut Lawn Care Services. They began spring cleanup on Monday, March 25th. Yard Waste Pick-up started on Friday, March 29th.

Yard Waste Pickup reminder :



- » You must have your yard waste in brown paper bags with your address number listed on the bag.
- » Bags must be limited to 30 lbs. each and no more than 5 bags/bundles.
- » **No dirt, pet waste, or garbage should be in the bags.**
- » Bags must be out to the curb before 8 a.m. on Friday or they will not be picked up.
- » Branch bundles (shrubs, small tree limbs or branches) must be limited in size to a maximum of four (4) feet in length and two (2) feet in circumference and must be bundled together to prevent them from falling out of the trailer.
- » **Your yard waste will not be picked up if these guidelines are not followed.**

Please do not put your yard waste bags out until the night before or even the morning of the pickup. If the bag is left out in the rain and the bag gets wet, when they pick up the bag, the bottom could fall out and the yard waste goes on the ground. Please consider that before placing your bags out. **No yard waste bags should be left in view all week long!** We ask that you please store them out of sight until they are placed out for Friday pickup.

- ✓ **Oh, one more thing,** don't forget to call the office to fill out a new "No-Mow", "No-Fertilizer", or "No-Clean up" form for 2024 if you prefer to take care of these items yourself, as last years' list is no longer valid.

A reminder to remove items in the path of mowers, such as toys, picnic tables, grills and water hoses.



Keeping It Clean: The Importance of Storing Trash Carts Out of View

Dear Residents,



As the seasons change and spring beckons, it's the perfect time to revisit one of the crucial aspects of maintaining a tidy and aesthetically pleasing community – storing trash carts out of view. Proper storage of trash carts is essential not only for maintaining the

beauty of our surroundings but also for fostering a sense of community pride.

Many of us diligently adhere to the waste collection schedule, dutifully wheeling our carts to the curb on the designated day. However, what happens to those carts once they've served their purpose is equally important. Leaving them out in plain sight not only detracts from the visual appeal of our neighborhoods but can also create safety hazards and detract from property values.

Why Hide Trash Carts?

Storing trash carts out of view serves several purposes, each of them contributing to the overall well-being of our community:

Enhanced Aesthetics: Imagine strolling down your street on a crisp spring morning, taking in the sights and sounds of nature, only to be met with rows of unsightly trash carts lining the sidewalks. By concealing these carts from view, we preserve the charm and beauty of our surroundings, making our neighborhoods more inviting for residents and visitors alike.

Safety and Accessibility: Carts left out in the open can pose safety risks, especially in areas with heavy foot traffic or narrow sidewalks. By storing them properly, we eliminate the risk of tripping hazards and ensure that pathways remain clear and accessible for pedestrians, cyclists, and emergency responders.

Property Values: It's no secret that well-maintained neighborhoods command higher property values. Unsightly clutter, including visible trash carts, can detract from the appeal of our homes and discourage potential buyers or renters. By keeping our

streets clean and clutter-free, we contribute to the overall desirability of our community, benefiting everyone in the long run.

Tips for Proper Storage

Now that we understand the importance of hiding trash carts, let's explore some practical tips for doing so effectively:

Designate a Storage Area: Identify a designated storage area on your property where trash carts can be safely tucked away out of view. This could be a garage, a fenced-in backyard, or a discreet corner of your property that is shielded from public view and nearby properties.

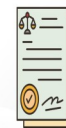
Invest in Screening: Consider investing in screening options such as concealing fences, or a composite shed to conceal trash carts from view without sacrificing aesthetics. Be sure to check local regulations and obtain **ACC approval before** making any modifications to your property. Concealing fences, trash sheds and trashcan boxes will be acceptable modifications options with ACC approval. Applications must state the type of material and color of concealing fence or trash shed/box and the location on the property. ACC request forms are available at the office and on our website at www.voohoa.net. *Trash can covers or grill covers are not approved by the ACC as a permanent solution to conceal trash cans because they are not a practical solution, as the covers need to be removed when the trash cans are set at the road-side and are often times left lying on the lawn.*

Maintain Regular Maintenance: Regularly inspect and maintain your storage area to ensure that it remains clean, organized, and free of obstructions. Promptly address any issues such as broken fences or overgrown vegetation that may compromise the effectiveness of your storage solution.

By taking these simple steps to store trash carts out of view, we can all play a role in preserving the beauty and functionality of our community. Let's work together to keep our streets clean, safe, and inviting for generations to come.

Bylaw Amendment Informational Meeting

The Board has been making plans to hold an *Informational Meeting* on August 10, 2024, with the Bylaw amendment attorney, Matthew Heron, of Hirzel Law, PLC, attending. Matt will be available to explain the amendments, why this is so important and to answer homeowner questions. Co-owners are encouraged to attend this *Informational Meeting* to address any questions they may have about the amendment process. Look for more details in the next June/July newsletter.



WHAT ARE BYLAWS?



Welcome Back Travelers



Many of you will be coming back to the great state of Michigan soon (yeah!) Just a reminder to call the office to make arrangements to pick up a *Temporary Permit* if you need to park that RV or Trailer at your unit overnight.

Happy Mother's Day

I'm Sorry For Everything I Did As A Teenager
April & May 2024

- * Apr 5th —ACC Requests Due-date
- * Apr 10th —Monthly Board Mtg. —10:00am
- * Apr 11th —ACC Meeting—10:00am
- * Apr 24th —Admin Professionals' Day!
- * May 3rd —ACC Requests Due-date
- * May 8th —Monthly Board Mtg. —10:00am
- * May 9th—ACC Meeting—10:00am
- * May 12th—Happy Mother's Day!
- * May 12th—Board Candidate Profiles Due
- * May 17th —ACC Requests Due-date
- * May 20th—Yard Sale—Last Day to Sign-up
- * May 23rd—ACC Meeting—10:00am
- * May 27th—Happy Memorial Day! OFFICE CLOSED
- * May 31st & June 1st & 2nd—26th Annual Garage Sale



The 26th Annual Community-wide Yard Sale will be held on Friday, May 31st, Saturday, June 1st & Sunday, June 2nd 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily

Beginning May 1st, there will be a sign-up sheet in the office if you would like to be included on the Garage Sale permit list.

The cost is still only \$3 to participate and covers the cost of advertising and materials as well as a port-a-pot at Central Park if enough money comes in to cover it. *Deadline to sign up is Monday, May 20th.*

You will also be able to start picking up your sign and balloons from the office beginning May 1st.

Call the office if you have any questions.

Yard waste pickup for the week of the yard sale will be on Thursday, May 30th.





Office Hours:

**THE VILLAGES OF
OSCODA, HOA**

5631 Georgia Dr.
Oscoda, MI 48750

Phone: 989-739-4915
Fax: 989-739-4720
Email: office@voohoa.net
Website: voohoa.net

The HOA office hours are:

Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri. 8am - 5pm & Tues. 10am - 5pm.

**OFFICE CLOSED ON
SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

Please remember there is always a drop box for your convenience!

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 27TH FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Clubhouse Activities

- ◆ Pinochle - Mondays & Fridays at 12:30pm
- ◆ Hand & Foot Canasta - Wednesdays at 12:45 pm
- ◆ BUNCO— 2nd Tuesday of every month 1:00pm
- ◆ BUNCO - Last Friday of every month - 1:00pm
- ◆ Chair Yoga - Every Monday & Wednesday at 5:30
- ◆ Stamp In Up (Card Making Class) April 8th 1-4 pm



Classifieds



Sewing & Alterations: Contact Deborah at 989-335-5928.

Pet Care: Riverside Pet Lodge is a new state of the art boarding kennel nestled in the woods beside the Pine River just north of Oscoda. We offer boarding, daycare and grooming services in a loving atmosphere. Our building has heated floors, indoor/outdoor runs and two play yards. Daily woodland walks also available. Send your pets to “camp” while you are out of town! Stop in and see us or give us a call. Riverside Pet Lodge, 2910 Kings Corner Rd., Oscoda, MI 48750; 989-739-5039; www.riversidepetlodge.com; “Like” us on Facebook!

Handyman Services: Jay’s Handyman Service. Will do small jobs, power washing, trim bushes, haul away brush/trash, and small home repairs. Call 989-569-6176 or 989-310-6763.

Pet waste removal: D&L’s K9 Pooper Scoopers is a new business located in Oscoda, serving the east Michigan area from Tawas to Harrisville and as far west as Glennie. We specialize in dog waste removal. We will take care of your pet waste so you don't have to! Our courteous staff will come to your home, remove your best friend's lawn ornaments (doggy poop) and bring it to our facilities for earth friendly composting. Free quotes are available upon request. Call Now! (989) 820-1671 or visit us on Facebook and don't forget to give us a Like!

Professional Pet Sitting/Pet Nail Trims: in your home. Call Veterinary Technician, Amber Cowan, 989-278-7019

Handyman/Builder: Can fix or replace anything. Call Bill Ward 989-305-5442.

Real Estate Services:

Sunrise Realty, Inc. - Penny Lee, Agent & 22 year Resident. Sold many homes in the Villages . Please let me help you! 989– 305-0437

Perfect Landing Rentals & Real Estate - Anne Giori, Broker/CEO. Established in 2005, providing professional and quality Property Management services and professional Real Estate services since 1998. Over 20 years experience as a landlord and real estate investor. Our services cover Northeastern Michigan. 989-362-3300.

If you would like a list of contractors in this area, stop by the office and grab your copy! Are you a resident in the Villages that would like to place your ad in The Village Chatter? Contact the office for more info.