



NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2023

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 am to 3 pm (Except Holidays)

PHONE: (530) 644-2182

EMAIL: info@sierraspringsowners.org

WEBSITE: www.sierraspringsowners.org

MEETINGS:

EXECUTIVE MEETING: 1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (BOARD MEMBERS ONLY, LIMITED EXCEPTIONS).

BOARD MEETING: 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS).

FIRE SAFETY MEETING: FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH (OPEN TO EVERYONE).

MEETINGS START AT 6:30 PM AT THE LODGE. AGENDAS ON SSOA WEBSITE.

HOLIDAY EVENTS ARE COMING TO THE SSOA LODGE



HALLOWEEN! Mark your calendars for Saturday October 28, 2023. Enjoy pizza, drinks, treats, games, crafts, and a balloon artist. Location: SSOA Lodge. Time: 5:00-7:00 PM. Costumes encouraged. Trunk & Treat Vehicles needed. SSOA will provide candy to be passed out from decorated vehicles. If you want to have fun, dress up, decorate your vehicle, and pass out candy to little witches & goblins, contact Shelly Thompson, at info@sierraspringsowners.org or call 530-644-2182.



CHRISTMAS! Santa Claus is coming to the Lodge on December 9, 2023, from 1:00-3:00. Come for treats, hot chocolate, crafts, and fun. Santa will be available for pictures! More information to follow towards the end of November! Mark your calendar!

SHOULD YOU USE A GARBAGE DISPOSAL IF YOU HAVE A SEPTIC SYSTEM?

The simple answer is no! Using a garbage disposal unit with a septic tank is not recommended because it can cause problems with the septic tank system. Garbage disposals grind up food waste and other organic matter, which can increase the solids retained in the septic tank. The natural bacterium in the tank is unable to decompose the food and organic materials as quickly as needed. This means your septic system will need to be inspected more frequently and pumped out as much as twice as often.

If you love the convenience of your garbage disposal, many manufacturers now offer garbage disposal systems designed for use with septic systems. These systems often include solutions of enzymes or other chemicals to assist in the breakdown of compounds in the septic tank. While the disposal systems have merit, there is no proof that the additives are useful. In fact, they can be harmful to the delicate bacteria ecosystem.

If any of this concerns you, consider creating a compost pile and/or dispose of your food waste through Waste Management, using paper or Green BPI Certified Compostable bags. Composting guides for beginners can be found on the Internet.

Now that the Courts are accessed with the white key card used in accessing the swimming pools and the Lodge, there is no need for the 'key' that some members still have. If you have a court key, please return it to Shelly for the \$10 refund. Members are requested to return the keys by the end of the year. Please don't forget about your deposit!

SSOA Board of Directors:

Cathy Petersen — President

TOM BROWN — Vice President

Jessika Shambaugh — Treasurer

Lynda Cardwell — Secretary

Scott Wheeler — Director

FINANCIAL REPORT - Owners can expect an increase in dues of \$5 a month for 2024. There are many factors that have contributed to the necessity of increasing dues.

- Costs for services and products, including utilities, insurance, fire fuel reductions, pool supplies, and contracted services from outside vendors have all skyrocketed.
- Large capital expenses were incurred for substantial repairs to the Wisteria Pool, the replacement of the Pool septic system, the Lodge roof replacement, the Lodge electrical panel, and the tennis court resurfacing. Each set of repairs have resulted in a serious reduction in the Association's Capital Reserves. Funds are needed to replenish the Reserve Account so that known and unexpected projects can be funded in the future as shown below.
- The collapsed culvert bordering the Wisteria Pool Parking lot, more roadside clearing, and common area maintenance scheduled in 2024.
- Last, but not least, multiple Association members are not paying their quarterly dues. The August monthly financial statement included eleven (11) pages of unpaid dues owed to the Association. Twenty-one (21) properties were recently submitted to the SSOA Collections Agency for the collection of dues from the property owners. Nonpayment of a property owner's dues is the only thing considered when referring a property owner to the Collection Agency. Unpaid fire fines and CC&R fines are not subject to the collection process.

SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION! Busses picking up or dropping off children occurs daily when schools are in session. Please slow down, be mindful of your surroundings, and children crossing the street or walking on the side of the roadways.

Pay attention to the red lights of the bus, the window stop sign, and most of all, do not speed around the bus! It is against the law and children and other vehicles can be harmed. Be mindful and drive safely and make sure everyone is safe!

EDC Fire Safe Council's workbook on, WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS is now available for download from the SSOA Website Fire Safety Page! You can also get a copy at the Lodge! The pamphlet is full of helpful information! Download or pick up a copy now!

Both the Fire Safety Page and the EDC Fire Safe Council Website provide information on the chipping program, defensible space assistance, and the hazardous tree program. Check out both sites for more information about these programs!