



HACH Newsletter

HOMES ASSOCIATION OF CEDAR HILLS
 SPRING 2021

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President's Message

It's time again for the annual meeting and board elections. If it feels like we just did this and that the year has gone by quickly, it's not just the pandemic messing with our sense of time. It's the pandemic also messing with our schedule and delaying last year's annual meeting. This year we are back on schedule.

We will be voting for three resolutions, the details of which are in the election packet, but include a proposal to reduce the advantage incumbent directors have when there are many candidates running for office, a proposal to add some basic criteria for being a Director of the association, and a proposal to alter the setback for a member's property to allow for an addition.

There are four open director positions and we have five candidates running, two of which are current or past directors and three who are running for the first time. It's great to have a mix of candidates and to have folks willing to volunteer to serve the Association.

Three of our current directors have opted not to run again. I want to thank Jeff Larson, Ken Brown, and Bill Long for their time and effort over the last two years serving the members and helping the Association move forward.

We have had record turnout at the last two elections, let's keep up that trend! Please vote and return your ballot.

Last year we unfortunately had to cancel both of our cleanup days. I am happy to say that we are having our spring cleanup on May 8th. We were unable to reserve the school as it is fully booked for a compressed sports season, but we were able to find another location. Big thanks to Gary Ruchaber, the owner of the Cedar Hills Shopping Center, who has graciously offered us use of the parking lot by the DMV for our cleanup event. As usual, the ticket for entry is the flyer, which is part of this mailing - see the flyer for details. Please note that due to the pandemic, we will not have people to help you unload and the wearing of masks will be required at the event. We will need to keep people spaced out at the dumpsters, so it may take longer than usual. Please be patient.

The office and the Board have been reviewing (and approving) lots of permits. I suspect the combination of being stuck at home along with spring fever is driving a home improvement boom. It's fantastic to see people investing in their homes and keeping our neighborhoods great. Please remember that external changes to the appearance of a home or property generally require a permit, which is free. Permit forms are available on our website and some simple permit types may now be submitted online. Permits are reviewed every Thursday.

In closing I ask that everyone remain vigilant with regard to the pandemic. Nice weather is here, we have been cooped up for a long time, restaurants and the like are opening, and we all want to be out and about. Please do so carefully. Be healthy. Be safe.

Rex Wheeler, President HACH

Board of Directors

2020–2021

Rex Wheeler
President

Ken Brown
Vice President

Pamela Fielder
Treasurer

Chris Musolf
Secretary

Steve Robinson
Director

Jeff Larson
Director

Bill Long
Director



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Annual Meeting May 21, 2021

The annual meeting is coming up. If you would like to attend, pre-registration is open to the membership.
www.cedarhillshoa.org

Spring Cleanup May 8, 2021

We are happy to announce Spring Cleanup day will be May 8, 2021.

- **NEW LOCATION:** Cedar Hills Shopping Center (by the DMV and Harbor Freight)
- **UNLOADING:** Help will not be available to unload. You must unload your own stuff. Masks must be worn at all times
- The following items will NOT be accepted: Food waste, hazardous materials, batteries of any type, light ballasts, florescent bulbs, anything with Freon or coolant (refrigerators, air conditioners, etc.), appliances, propane bottles, paint, pesticides, chemicals, sod, dirt, RR ties, tires, small engines, microwaves, TVs, monitors, computers.
- **VEHICLE SIZE LIMITATION:** Vehicles over 1 ton will not be accepted –they take too long to unload and it is not fair to your neighbors.
- **YARD DEBRIS:** Will be deposited in a drop box or chipper. Must be easy to unload in a timely manor. Bindings and bags must be compostable (twine / paper). Plastic bags or tarps must be removed before recycling. Bundles, including branches, must not exceed 3 feet in length or 2 feet in diameter.
- **DOCUMENT SHREDDING:** We have the document shred truck from 10am – 2pm.

Office Visits

Require Appointments Due To COVID-19

Our office staff have resumed many internal activities, but physical visits to the office by members are restricted to appointment only. Masks are required. Most business can be accommodated via phone and/or email. Please call if you have questions.

New Website

The Board of Directors wants to thank the Internet Committee for their work in revamping the HACH website. We have a new format using current technology that should make it easier for folks to use, regardless of their device (yes, you can use your phone), and work continues looking at further improvements. Some basic permit applications can even be done from the site!

You should be able find everything on the site that used to be there – spend some time looking around. If you see something that is missing or could be improved, feel free to send a note to the office (office@cedarhillshoa.org) and the board will look into it.



Policy Change

The Board of Directors regularly reviews and discusses policy ideas to help define our community standards within the framework of our CC&Rs. The following policies were recently approved by the Board:

- Large Passenger Vans – This class of large vans crosses the boundary between commercial and family use. Based on survey responses and some members requests, the Board has developed a resolution/policy that defines allowed types, sizes and parking locations of large passenger vans.
- Signage Policy – The Board has updated the allowed signage policy to include issue-type signs (e.g. Black Lives Matter), limiting the number (to 1) and prohibiting offensive speech.

See the Association website, or call the office, for full details.

Cedar Hills Ready!

How to Win Friends & Survive a disaster

Do you feel connected to your neighbors? If a natural disaster strikes, your survival may depend on your neighbors, because emergency services will be overwhelmed.



Your best chance of survival is to be surrounded by caring people who are knowledgeable and prepared – people who have your back and know what to do. We are stronger together! Get to know your neighbors, have fun, and make a resiliency plan. We are here to help you get prepared, with free resources, educational meetings, and speakers.

Join us and invite your favorite people to our next Zoom meeting, to learn the **9 steps to take after a disaster**, a FEMA Neighborhood Ready! program. We start at **7 PM, Wednesday, May 26th, 2021**. Everyone is welcome.

Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/chrmyn5-26-21>

For more information and to get on our email list, contact Karen or Lincoln at info.cedarhillsready@gmail.com or visit us at www.cedarhillsready.org.

Following the rules in Covid Time

The CC&Rs set some basic rules for living in our neighborhood: Keep it neat and attractive; Get a permit for “material” changes to appearance of the house. COVID-19 has made most things that involve other people more complex, and for the last year the Association has taken a “lighter” approach to both violations and permits.

No one wants anyone to be unsafe in interactions with other folks, so first of all, stay safe! But as things start to open up with more folks getting vaccinated, it’s time to start thinking about how we can move toward operating within our rules:

Neat and Attractive: as you look at your yard through your neighbors’ eyes, start with the lawn, encroaching weeds, and the garbage cans. Those are the things folks notice most. Wear your mask if your neighbors are in your “work zone”.

Permits: we’ve relaxed some neighbor signature requirements during the last year, but folks are getting creative about informing their neighbors about the changes being made: phone, email, chatting across the street, or even snail mail (go USPS!) can be used.



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Landscaping notes

Winter's over (?) and it's growing season: if the rain stops for a while, take a look in the yard. If you spot these flowering pests early and dig/pull them out now (before the seeds fly), there'll be a lot fewer of them the next time you look. And the next time, and the next time...

- Dandelions –dig a few out each time you mow your lawn and they'll eventually disappear (OK, reduce in number).
- Little Bittercress - those weeds with the “popping” seeds that go everywhere. They pull out fairly easily this time of year. Get them before they pop!
- Wild (Shiny) Geranium – you've seen these little guys: low growing, red stalks, wide-spreading.

If you're interested in learning more, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation provides some wonderful resources for the urban/suburban gardener at: <https://emswcd.org/workshops-and-events/upcoming-workshops/>

Happy gardening!

(And don't forget your mask, when you're in the “neighbor zone”)