

Eaglewood News

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Open Board Meeting

Monday, 6:30 PM, March 8, 2010
Joy Lutheran Church

A Bi-Monthly Service for Eaglewood Homeowners

February, 2010

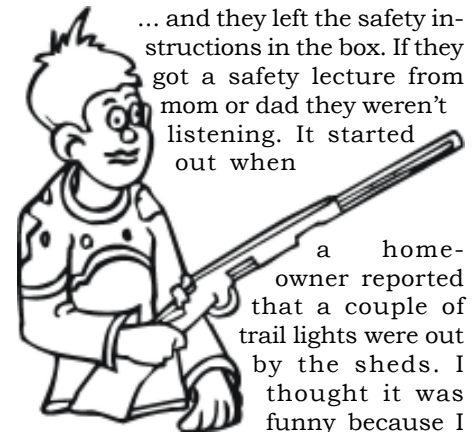
Face-lift possible for the DOT fence

The DOT fence is the one that borders Eagle River Loop Rd. and it has been looking a little shabby for several years. The State of Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) owns and maintains the fence. Their maintenance crews replace boards when kids kick them out and structurally repair the fence when people drive through it. But when it comes to refinishing and staining the fence for aesthetics, this has a much lower priority. Looking at this realistically, the State has many miles of highway to maintain, repair potholes, resurface, crack seal, and numerous projects like the loop road task they just finished. Voters approve Bonds to rebuild roads and build new ones with nice amenities and when they are completed, they look great. After the projects are completed the money needed to maintain these amenities doesn't follow after the project has been completed. The obvious way to correct this is to pay more taxes, but most taxpayers are unwilling to do this.

Recently there has been a lot of discussion about refinishing the fence with a few ideas being passing around. It all started with a homeowner offering to head up a volunteer group effort to stain the fence using Eaglewood volunteer homeowners and the DOT offering to supply the stain. The Lions Club is also looking to refinish the fence on their side of Eagle River Loop Rd., too, so there have been discussions about combining the volunteer efforts. If either of these volunteer initiatives comes to pass, many volunteers will be needed and you will surely be invited.

Meanwhile, the DOT is looking into the possibility of contracting to have the fence painted. Whatever the outcome and whatever road gets taken, look for more details in the April Newsletter.

Someone got a new Red Rider BB gun for Christmas...



... and they left the safety instructions in the box. If they got a safety lecture from mom or dad they weren't listening. It started out when

a homeowner reported that a couple of trail lights were out by the sheds. I thought it was funny because I had just seen them lit a couple of days before. Before I could coordinate replacing the bulbs, the whole string of lights went out. I've been dealing with these lights for years so I knew it was a power loss problem, most likely a faulty wire underground.

I wasn't prepared for what I found. Every pole along the trail had power to it, but all the bulbs had little holes in them. The lights that had lenses had the glass shattered. Ten bulbs, altogether worth over 1,000 dollars, were damaged.

The lights were not the only damage caused by this sharpshooter. We have received a report from one homeowner in that vicinity who had a window broken by a BB. Police reports were made out in both cases. If anyone has seen anything or has any information that might be helpful identifying the sharpshooter please call our Work Center at 694-6942.

We really need to get the BB gun out of this person's hand before someone gets hurt or he shoots his eye out. It would be nice to get reimbursed for the broken bulbs too.

February, 2010



Doggie Doos and Don'ts

Trail thaws where dogs pause 2

Design Committee Ponders

Event signs, bears and other cares 3

Youth Work Crew Openings

Raking, mowing after the snowing 4

Security and Safety

From door locks to mailbox 5

2010 Capital Projects

Actually, there are fewer than 2,010 ... 6

**In This Issue
of the Eaglewood News**

Eaglewood Board of Directors

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EAGLEWOOD MANAGER'S CORNER

by Doug Maxfield

So far this has been a fairly routine winter. We had a few respectable snow storms and a couple of weeks of zero temperatures but that is to be expected. The weather hasn't done anything crazy like dumping 30 inches of snow or high winds blowing down trees and fences or torrential rains causing flooding problems. We haven't seen much freezing rain making the roads so slick that you can't drive or stand up, so we haven't used as much sand as usual. So far this winter I only lost 3 mailbox stands compared to 8 to 10 for a normal season and we haven't lost any light strings due to faulty wiring either. We only have a little more February and March to go and we will have made it through another winter. If conditions stay the same as they have been, we are due for an easy break-up and an early spring. We are on the down hill slide for summer. Next month we start taking applications for the raking crew.

Speaking of the raking crew, each year we take some criticism from folks wondering why it is taking so long to get the commons cleaned up and the roads swept. We start the raking crew as soon as the snow melts. We can't start any sooner because sand and gravel can't be raked out of snow. The raking crew takes 3 to 4 weeks to rake all the roads. These kids work after school for 3 hours per day and at that rate 3 to 4 weeks is what it takes. They are raking the sand into the streets so that the street sweepers can pick it up. Accordingly this means that the sweeper can't do his work until the rakers have done theirs. Likewise, the equipment that we are using to support the raking crew is the same equipment that we mount the dandelion spraying equipment on, so the spraying can't be done until the raking is done. We do our best to expedite and coordinate these functions (turning over finished streets to the sweepers) but it takes time to do a good job. With a little patience we will get there.

On the administrative side we have done some work updating our website www.eaglewoodassn.com and adding a section on dues paying options. The option to pay dues with a credit or debit card started January 1st 2010. Also on the website is the rule for using road edge markers, explain-

ing when they can be installed and the acceptable types. So far they have worked out well, helping to mark the road edge for the snow plows, particularly the snow blower.

I drive through the subdivision every day checking road conditions among other things and it seems to me that drivers are driving faster recently than in the past. We work to keep the roads clear and keep good traction but these are winter conditions requiring more stopping distance and slower speeds. It appears that some drivers, because their cars hold the road so well with studded tires, ABS and traction controls, are pushing the safety envelope by going too fast. If someone drove 12% over the speed limit (75 in a 65 mph zone or 30 in a 25 mph zone) on a 45 minute trip from Anchorage, they would arrive only 5 minutes before someone who drove the speed limit. The few seconds saved speeding on a trip to Wal-Mart just isn't worth it.



Doggie doo-dos (and don't - don'ts)

Just because it's cold out is no excuse to leave the plastic baggies at home when you walk the dog. We were doing so well picking up after our pets until it got cold. Now trail walkers are starting to get upset with the amount of doggie deposits accumulating on the trails and sidewalks. This time of year it sits there frozen but when it all melts in the spring it is going to smell pretty bad. So please have a little consideration for fellow trail users and don't add to what's already there. Please pick up after your dog.

Eaglewood FAX Machine
696-6962

Eaglewood Office
694-6942



NO DUMPING



On common areas or vacant lots by order of the PC&Rs, management, and most of all, your neighbors.

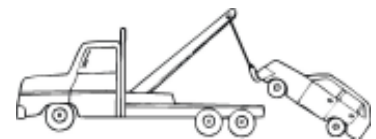
The Municipality of Anchorage Hiland Landfill is easy to use, a 15 minute round trip from Eaglewood, and charges about \$16 per pickup load.

~ O P E N ~

Monday-Saturday
8AM - 5PM

REMINDER!

No Parking
in the
Common Areas



- That is any street, any sidewalk, any area outside your driveway.
- The Design Committee will put notices on offending cars.
- Can use for temporary guest, but "no vehicle shall be parked or left overnight in common areas for any reason."



Eaglewood News is a bi-monthly newsletter published by the Eaglewood Association for association homeowners. It does not necessarily express the opinions of the Eaglewood Association, association homeowners, board members, or employees. The Eaglewood Association does not necessarily endorse or recommend businesses or products mentioned or advertised in this newsletter.

Letters are welcome and subject to editing. Address letters to P.O. Box 92130, Anchorage, AK 99509.

Who do I call when...

the TV reception goes during the middle of the big game?

GCI Cable **786-9200**
MTA **694-3211**

the water stops before I can rinse away the bubbles?

Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility **564-2700**

I need sewer/waste water hookup?

Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility **564-2700**

my phone can't carry a decent conversation?

MTA **694-3211**
GCI **265-5400**

brown outs freak out my computer?

Matanuska Electric Co. **694-2161**

I smell natural gas?

ENSTAR **277-5551**

my trash runneth over?

Alaska Waste & Curbside Recycling **563-3717**

dog barking is disturbing my afternoon cat nap?

Animal Control **343-8122**

I need a resale certificate or have a dues question?

PMSI **562-2929**

men in blue - I need you!

Anchorage Police Department **786-8500**
786-8900

Mail theft

Eagle River Postmaster **694-2732**

nothing above applies, I need help?

Eaglewood Ass'n **694-6942**

from the

DESIGN COMMITTEE



When Eaglewood was founded 26 years ago, written into the Protective Covenants and Rules (PC&Rs), Article VII, was the formation of the Design Committee. The Design Committee is responsible for the approval of plans and specifications for the development of private areas. They are also responsible for the writing and enforcement of rules and regulations governing the use and maintenance of private areas and improvements to the private areas. Any construction or reconstruction of or re-finishing or alteration of any part of the exterior of or any improvement to any private area is absolutely prohibited until Design Committee approval is obtained. The "committee" consists of all voluntary homeowners from Eaglewood and is chaired by one Board member, the Vice President of Design.

Event Signs

As spring approaches it will soon be time for garage sales and other events. Then we will start to see more home made signs popping up at intersections. Spring is also a popular time to sell houses as well and everybody knows you have to have a sign to sell a house. Left alone these signs pile up at the corner and become an eyesore because very few people come back and collect their signs when they are finished with their project. The PC&Rs address various type of signs and this is a good time to review what it says about signs. In the PC&Rs "Rule K" covers signs on common and private property. The only signs allowed on common areas are signs of "short duration" like garage sale or lost pet signs. Real-estate "open house" signs are allowed only during the hours of the actual open house. All other signs will be removed from the common areas by Eaglewood staff as directed by the PC&Rs. Real-estate for sale signs as well as political signs are allowed but required to be only on private property. For more details "Rule K" can be found on our website (www.eaglewoodassn.com).

The Bears are waking up soon

By the time the next newsletter comes out, the big, furry fellows will be out looking for breakfast. Every year bears wander unnoticed through Eaglewood, until they encounter garbage. Bears are not neat when they pick through the garbage, spreading the trash all over the lawn and street. If the pickings are good they will remember that and return looking for more. Bears passing through aren't a problem, it's when they keep coming back that they become problem bears. Alaska Fish and Game asks that we put garbage out for pickup as close to the actual pick-up time as possible - but not overnight - so bears aren't attracted to the neighborhood. The PC&Rs state that under no circumstances should trash be put out more than 12 hours before pick-up and trash containers should be put away 12 hours or less after pickup. Garbage and trash shall be kept in closed containers (not trash bags). These containers shall not be visible from outside the private area except when out for collection.

Avoid Delays; Early Planning saves time, aggravation and money...

It's time to start thinking about organizing those summer improvements you were hoping to get done this summer. By submitting your project applications (decks, fences, landscaping, etc.) now, you can be assured of timely review by the Design Committee. If any questions arise about your project or if adjustments need to be made, they can be taken care of before the building season. However, if you wait until May or June to submit an application, it may take several weeks to receive Design Committee approval due to the large volume of applications, and because the Committee is made up of volunteers with their own projects to manage.

Applications for most projects can be found on our website at www.eaglewoodassn.com. You can also pick applications up at our work center or call and request that we send you one. If you don't know where the "Work Center" is located, call us at 694-6942 and we will be glad to give you directions.

Summer Youth Employment Applications Available in March

As soon as the snow has melted we will start the 2010 raking crew.

The Eaglewood Operations Manager will begin taking applications March 15, 2010 for the spring and summer part-time and full-time work crews. Applications will be taken on a first come – first served basis. Youths must be 14 or older to apply.

Depending upon their ages, the workers are assigned a variety of tasks for the Association. Fourteen and fifteen year olds can do hand work with no power tools (raking, digging, trash removal, etc.). Youths 16 and 17 can operate the mowers, trimmers and some of the other equipment we have. Those 18 or older can operate any of the equipment and may supervise separate work crews if assigned.

The first work crews will begin as soon as possible after the snow has mostly melted, picking up winter debris and raking the winter traction sand out of the drainage swales and off of the grassy common areas along the streets. Trails and sidewalks will be swept and winter deadfall will be picked up.

For these early projects we will be hiring several youths to work after school. After these big labor intensive projects are completed, generally in four weeks, we will release a number of young workers. We will keep only enough workers necessary for maintenance requirements of the common area through the summer. Workers will be retained based on experience, performance, and dependability. Generally, throughout the spring and summer the number of workers that are kept will decline as jobs are completed.

The pay starts at \$7.25 per hour for new employees. Returning employees



Eaglewood Association raking crew hard at work cleaning winter debris.

will start at the hourly rate that they had when released last year. New employees will learn the routine and are expected to display dependability and willingness to show up and do the work. Workers are expected to remain focused on the job at hand and respect our equipment. Starting pay for any new employees chosen for the final work crew will be \$7.75 per hour. Mower and other equipment operators will be paid \$8.00 to \$9.50 based on experience, dependability and performance.

Depending on the weather and where we stand with snow melt we would like to start sometime in late April. Once the work begins, crews will work in the afternoons (generally 5 days per week, depending on school and personal commitments) for up to 3 hours each day, until the end of the school year. During summer vacation the remaining crew will normally work 4 days per week (depending on weather and holidays) from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Go online to www.eaglewoodassn.com which is our home page. On the left column you will find newsletters. Click on the newsletter that you want and it will come up in the adobe PDF format in color.



You Can Protect Yourself from Mailbox Vandalism

Rural area mailboxes are subject to vandalism because they are often found in unmonitored areas, situated along roadsides, and usually out of the sight of the box owners.

According to the the United States Postal Inspection Service, "Mailboxes are considered federal property, and federal law (Title 18, United States Code, Section 1705), makes it a crime to vandalize them (and to injure, deface or destroy any mail deposited in them). Violators can be fined up to \$250,000 or imprisoned for up to three years for each act of vandalism."

Visit the United States Postal Inspection Service website for more information on protecting your mailbox - <http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/smashbox.htm>

WARNING

Willful damage to mailboxes and theft of mail are federal crimes (felonies) punishable by fine or imprisonment or both.



(18 U.S. Code 1705 & 1708)
Label 33, June 1994



Local Activity

Our local vandals and petty thieves don't take a break even in the winter. In December and January, we had a couple more incidents of cars being entered at night and the contents pilfered. We also had our trail lights vandalized with a BB gun. So please remember to lock your vehicles and your home when you retire for the night or leave for the day.

Neighborhood crime watch program

Our quality of life in our community is everybody's business. On the one hand most people want to mind their own business and not be nosey neighbors. On the other hand we should be aware of our surroundings and be able to recognize when something doesn't look right and question it. Many people hesitate to question or take action when confronted with a suspicious situation in their neighborhood, again because they don't want to come across as a busybody or a nosey neighbor. This is why the Neighborhood Watch program is so successful. It introduces neighbors in a small group to each other and empowers them to keep an eye on the

neighborhood. Our taxes pay for the Anchorage Police Department (APD) and they do a fine job with what they have, but they can't be everywhere. It is up to us to be the first line of defense against crime before it occurs by being concerned, aware, and vigilant in our neighborhoods and improving the security of our home. According to APD statistics, between January 1, 2002 and December 31, 2007, there were over 8,000 burglaries (residential and commercial) in Anchorage. **Only 5 of these were experienced in Crime Watch Neighborhoods!** That statistic speaks loud and clear about the value of this program. If you are interested in learning more about starting a Neighborhood Crime Watch for your street call (907) 786-8585 for more information on the program and scheduling a presentation for your neighborhood from a Crime Watch representative.

According to APD, one of the most important things we as citizens can do to help is report crimes, no matter how small they seem. It helps APD see where they need to focus their manpower and resources and could contain a key piece of evidence that they might need. You can file a police report online now. At www.muni.org/apd1/apd911.cfm the police report is on top of the page on the left hand side. If you don't have access to the web you can still file the old way by calling APD's non-emergency number 786-8900 or 8500.

Guard against mail theft.

The police department and the postmaster both agree, the best way to prevent mail theft is to remove your mail

from the box as soon as possible after delivery. Many credit card companies these days are sending their customers blank checks in an effort to entice people to charge more to their credit card. Be very careful when discarding these checks, they are as good as money to a thief. There have been several incidents where these blank checks have been stolen and cashed for several thousand dollars. When you throw these checks away, ensure they are destroyed and unusable. Also, check your credit card balance statement carefully each month to make sure that someone hasn't stolen your identity in some way. Report discrepancies to your credit card company immediately.

Under exposed Fire Hydrants.

Fire hydrants, like utility boxes, are one of those lawn fixtures that sit there year after year and do nothing. During the winter many fire hydrants disappeared under the snow. Some homeowners wisely took it upon themselves to keep their closest hydrant shoveled out. Eventually AWWU will clear the snow away from all the fire hydrants but until they do the hydrants can be pretty much buried in snow. The Fire Department is held to such a high standard for their response time, it seems silly if they can get to the fire in 6 minutes and then they have to spend several minutes digging out a fire hydrant when they get there. So it would be a good idea if neighbors would "Adopt a Hydrant" and keep it cleared. I'm sure AWWU wouldn't mind and neither would the Firemen and it just might give the Firemen a few critical minutes that they need to save a home.



GUARDIAN SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC.

**Alaska's Only Professional
24 Hour Alarm Monitoring
and Guard Dispatch Center**

Summer 2010 Capital Improvement projects

In 2003 the Eaglewood Board of Directors formed the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) to look at maintaining and improving our subdivision's infrastructure with the ultimate goal of maintaining high property values. The LRPC contracted with a civil engineering company to evaluate Eaglewood's infrastructure and grounds and to develop a plan to repair, maintain and improve our neighborhood in a manner which was cost effective and sustainable over time. The result was "the Maintenance Plan" which is posted on our website. Over the past six years we have replaced roads, installed storm drains, installed flat curb, improved drainage by re-contouring swales and we replaced all wooden retaining walls around our tunnels.

Each year the LRPC, using the "Maintenance Plan" as a guide and actual on site observations, meets to identify and plan the projects for the next summer's construction season. This year, the LRPC met last August and September to plan two fairly ambitious projects for the 2010 construction season.

Project #1: Regrade 320 feet of Eaglewood Loop in the area of the intersection with Wingham Circle.

The problem: High ground water under the road has caused this section of road to frost heave and break down. If left alone the road would further break down forming potholes and requiring continuous expenditures for road repairs.

The planned solution: Remove the asphalt road surface from N. Mitkof 320 feet south to just past Wingham Circle. Inspect gravel roadbed and replace and re-compact any contaminated gravel. A curtain drain is to be installed along the east side of Eaglewood Loop from N. Mitkof Loop to Wingham Circle and a second curtain drain across the road in the vicinity of Wingham Cr. These drains will be connected to the storm drain system to carry the ground water away. Gravel roadbed will be compacted and the road will be resurfaced.

Project #2: South Montague Loop Drainage.

The problem: All the storm and melt water running down So. Montague flows away from the swale which is supposed to collect some of it out onto Eaglewood Loop and down hill until it reaches a storm drain 500 feet away. Along the way it weakens the road edge and adds extra sanding costs during freezing conditions. No storm water is captured at the base of So. Montague.

The planned solution: Use asphalt overlay to crown 225 feet of South Montague. Install Type-1 curbing on both sides of roadway. Install high speed catch basins on both sides connected to the storm drain system. Any water coming down South Montague would fall to either side of the road and be captured into the storm water drainage system before it progresses to Eaglewood Loop.

Replacing/resurfacing sections of deteriorated sidewalk and bike trail. We have 5.5 miles of sidewalk and 3.7 miles of bike trail. In recent years we have replaced many sections but there are many sections that are in bad shape. Frost heaving sink holes and tree root undermining are the big culprits. If we renew a little each year we can keep ahead of deterioration and maintain a nice trail system. A final decision on amount and locations will be made after the snow melts and various sections can be measured and evaluated.

Did you know that this Newsletter is available online?

It's true, and it's in color too. Key up www.eaglewoodassn.com and click on the newsletter that you want. You can also "opt out" of receiving a hardcopy by calling Charie at 694-6942. She will make the arrangements to have your name pulled from the mailing list.



Eaglewood Home for Sale
9140 Squire Circle
By Appt. only
694-5954

Neighborhood Pet Problems?



**No collar?
Barking all night?
Dogs running loose?
No leash or voice comand?**

**Call the Anchorage Municipal
Animal Control
343-8122**

Eaglewood Meeting and Newsletter Schedule

February, 2010		- N E W S L E T T E R -	
March 8, 2010	6:30 PM	Open Board Meeting	Joy Lutheran Church
March 29, 2010	6:00 PM	Design Committee Meeting	Joy Lutheran Church
April 5, 2010	6:00 PM	Executive Board Meeting	Joy Lutheran Church
April, 2010		- N E W S L E T T E R -	

Location notices will be placed on blue signs at Eaglewood entrances during the week prior to the Open Board Meetings