



SHEHOA Newsletter

June 2016

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SHEHOA Executive Board and Officers

President: Jane Carter

Vice President: Bobbi Waldner

Director/Secretary: Jody Yager

Treasurer: Donna Miller

Property Management

Property Management People, Inc.
www.pmpbiz.com

Community Manager: Richard Sussmann
(richard.sussmann@pmpbiz.com)

681-252-0214

Upcoming Executive Board Meeting

Executive Board meetings for 2016 continue to take place bimonthly. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for July 6 at 7pm at Jane Carter's house, 225 Hemlock Dr.

Thank You, Holly Brewer!

We want to thank Holly for all her service and dedication to the community. She has resigned from her position on the board as well as the communication committee as of May 26th. She has unwaveringly helped wherever she saw a need, ready to make things happen! The next time you see Holly around the neighborhood, make sure to say a big "Thank You!"

New Resolutions

The following resolutions have been passed for the SHEHOA. Please read the full resolutions online at SpruceHillEstatesHOA.com

- P1-2016 - Procedures for Collection of Assessments
- P2-2016 - Procedures for Property Violation Enforcement
- P3-2016 - Procedures for Privacy & Access to Records

Reminder: Update Your Contact Info

Please remember to update your contact information with our property management company, PMP. You can do this through the PMP Website <https://myaccount.pmpbiz.com>.

Here are just a few reasons to make sure your contact info is up-to-date:

- Get updates on HOA matters & community news
- Receive notifications of an upcoming meeting by e-mail. The notification e-mail will include a request to acknowledge the meeting date and time, and therefore waive the need to send you the meeting notification by US Postal Service. By replying to this waiver request, you save the HOA mailing costs.
- Occasional important updates directly from the Board.

Upcoming Events

Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 6 @ 7pm
Jane Carter's Home
225 Hemlock Dr.

School's Out Potluck

Sunday, June 26 @4-6pm
At the Carters'
225 Hemlock Dr.

Coffee Group – TBA

Please contact
regina.kerrigan@gmail.com if you
would like to host a coffee social
during weekday/daytime hours.

Reminders

- Pay all outstanding dues ASAP! You can log on to <https://myaccount.pmpbiz.com> to view your account and pay online. You may also mail payment to PMP. See above website for details.
- If you'd like to join a committee, please contact the board.
- If the HOA doesn't already have your e-mail address and you'd like to receive newsletters and updates electronically, please contact SHEHOA's property manager, Richard Sussmann. See his contact info on Page 1.

Volunteers Needed: Beautification Committee

The Beautification Committee is in need of more volunteers to participate in monthly upkeep of the weeding at both entrance signs. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Liz Molina or the Board at sprucehillestateshoa@gmail.com. We thank you in advance!

Legal Professional? We Need Your Help

Have a lawyer in the family or circle of friends? We're looking for a lawyer to review a waiver request for us. The purpose of the waiver request is to allow HOA members to confirm notification of HOA meetings over the Internet, as opposed to the US Postal Service. The Board spoke with Legal Connect, and it was their suggestion to find a neighbor or friend who is a lawyer to review the waiver. A well-written waiver can save the HOA significant money over time on just postage alone. There are no funds currently available in the budget to hire a lawyer for this purpose. Please contact the Board at sprucehillestateshoa@gmail.com if you can donate your legal expertise to the association. Thank you.

Green Thumb Tips from Jane & Brian:

Tree Pests

Typically there's not much need to be concerned with most common plant pests, as they come and go year after year. Unless they become enormous infestations, they can be controlled during their active cycle in areas where needed, then left alone to continue their lifecycles unmolested. However, it's important to seek accurate information about the species of pests in question. A couple of years ago, Brian wanted to find out about swarms of wasps that would fly around a large section of our back yard every morning. There appeared to be hundreds of them, and they flew around each morning for about 3 weeks. After deciding to get pictures after they went to sleep in clusters on the trees, he contacted the WVU Agricultural Cooperative Extension (<http://anr.ext.wvu.edu/>) via email with pictures and found out that they were merely harmless stingerless wasps that were flying around until the females emerged from the ground for mating purposes. They were also, it seemed, adept at pollination practices, so we left them alone.

That being said, here we're focusing on a few pests that we've seen throughout the neighborhood related to trees, as some of these move in as infestations and affect the trees around us that take so long to grow and are difficult to protect at times. The first is one that has been around and is rarely dealt with. This is the bagworm, or Psychidae. It is a moth/larvae that spends most of its life in what looks like to be a pendulum-shaped Christmas ornament on your plants. Typically they like evergreens, but will many times attach to whatever they find. They will dangle all over your trees and wait for those couple of weeks to emerge, mate, feed, then wrap themselves up again and wait for another year.

Over the past couple of years, they have infested many trees along the development perimeter, and two years ago they were seen as a pretty large infestation (but last year they were fairly inactive), eating needles and leaves from large sections of trees and leaving behind stripped dead trees.

Shout-Out to Our Recent Grads! Congratulations!



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

Jane Carter (May)
Lisa Cuomo (June)
Drew Kerrigan (July)

Anniversaries

Gina & Drew Kerrigan (#8 in June)

The communications committee would like to acknowledge recent/upcoming birthdays and/or anniversaries in our quarterly newsletters. If you would like to participate, please send your birthday (or birth month if you prefer) and/or anniversary date to regina.kerrigan@gmail.com.

They typically move only about 50-100 meters per year, but if you have them this year and your trees are still alive, then likely you'll have them next year and so will your neighbor.

Bagworms are difficult to kill with chemical sprays due to their long periods of inactivity in their protected case--and although some sites will tell you the dates of the roughly 3-4 weeks they are vulnerable, we've found that due to varying weather patterns, those dates can vary by as much as 2-3 months from year to year. If the infestation is small, then the easiest way to deal with them is to pick them by hand then drop them in a bowl full of alcohol, ammonia, soapy water, whatever. Note that no matter what you put them in, they take about 24-36 hrs to die, so crushing them works if there are not too many. There are a few houses where we have seen them, so keep in mind: If you like your trees or if you like your neighbors, please take care of these guys.

The next pest is the infamous Tent Caterpillar, or Malacosoma, in the [Lasiocampidae](#) family. The most common around here is the Eastern Tent Caterpillar, which nest in the Rosaceae family of trees almost exclusively (cherry, apple, hawthorn, plums, peaches, etc). Although trees will typically survive Tent Caterpillar infestations, if infested during drought or stressful times, they can be killed in a single season. A friend of our daughter brought one of the caterpillars over for her to play with, with the comment, "You can keep it; we have plenty more of these." Fortunately, they are pretty easy to kill, and also to prevent from spreading, but spread they will, and pretty quickly we may add. As a kid, we used to put sticky tape around the trunk of each tree to stop their spread, as they are very adventurous and prolific once they get a foothold. However, moths may also lay eggs to start nests, so be prepared to clean off the nests and spray if necessary.

The last is one we found recently: spittle bugs. You'll recognize them by the little balls of spit where the larvae nest inside. Although they are relatively harmless, they can do some damage in large numbers. They are very susceptible to sprays and foams, but can typically be controlled as well in smaller numbers by manually crushing the spittle sacks or by spraying with a strong stream of water from a hose. While spittle bugs are not a very dangerous threat, you do want to keep an eye on their activity and intervene as they can cause damage in large numbers.

Finally, other pests such as Japanese Beetles, Green June Beetles, and Chafer beetles are worth a mention. Although they are can be devastating to some trees, the best time to treat them is during the grub stage in your lawn, where they tear up the roots of your grass. Know which trees they like the most (they absolutely love roses, cherry, and plum trees), how to control them, and how and when to treat your lawn (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/how_to_choose_and_when_to_apply_grub_control_products_for_your_lawn). Typically the best sites for the most comprehensive info are related to university resources, but don't be afraid to look them up on Wikipedia for a quick read and alternate references. Also, keep in mind that chemicals are chemicals, whether they are organic or not, and they can have very harmful effects on kids, pets, and the bee population. Regardless of what you use, read the labels and know what it does to the surrounding environment, when to use them, and when to avoid application.