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Oak Highlands & Deer Valley Community

NEWSLETTER

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Do You Know Where Your Children Are?

Summer is here! The kids are out and about having all kinds of fun. Unfortunately, some teens are “having fun” helping themselves to other people’s belongings. Recently our neighborhood has had thefts from unlocked cars. It’s been reported on the news that these kinds of thefts are happening all over Nashville. Please “PARK SMART”. Always remove everything of value from vehicles parked outside the garage; including change, registration, guns, laptops, etc. ALWAYS lock your car!

South Precinct has responded with increased police patrols. People are calling the police when they see something suspicious, which includes teens checking car doors. Homeowners all over the community are installing security cameras. In addition to the thefts, there has been vandalism to the community trash cans and the “Aaron” street sign was taken.

We want our neighborhood to be a safe haven where everyone feels welcome, safe and secure. In order to achieve this, we must all help one another by looking out for each other. That includes parents knowing where their children are. Mobile apps can help protect your children and give you peace of mind. There are a lot of free, user friendly apps that will let you know where your children and family members are at all times. App options worth considering are:

Glympse (Free) There's a Glympse app for just about every smartphone and the Web. Best for an older child who feels more secure with you

watching their back—if they want you to follow virtually as they walk or drive, they send you a Glympse with a couple of taps, opting to share their location. The Glympse expires automatically after a designated period of time. www.Glympse.com

Life360 (Free) Install this app (iOS or Android) on your teen's phone and yours, then create a circle for your family. You can see where your child is in real time and where they've been, and receive alerts if they enter or leave any specific areas. They can see where you are too. (Anyone can turn off location tracking on their own phone at any time, though.) Premium service (\$5 per month) puts a one-button emergency call on the phone to request help from a live person. www.Life360.com

Amber Child Safety This is a complete parental control tool for iOS, Android and BlackBerry smartphones. Install it on your child's phone and go online to get their current and past locations, set time limits, monitor social media and more. They cannot uninstall it or turn off location tracking. www.Amberchildsafety.com
\$9.95 per month

There are many apps available to help parents stay connected with their kids and help keep them safe in this digital age!



Yard of the Month

Congratulations to the Yard of the Month Winners!

To nominate a yard for this award, please visit our website at: www.oakhighlands.com



April: Ted & Renay Murdock
5016 W Oak Highland Drive



May: Cindy Hernandez
4952 Alexis Drive



June: The Patel Family
5709 Sonoma Trace

We would like to thank all of the homeowners who week-after-week, month-after-month, and year-after-year, always take great care of their yards. We appreciate your efforts and the time you take to keep the grass neatly cut and edged, the bushes trimmed, trash cleaned up, weeds removed and flowers planted. Thank you all for giving us the opportunity to be able to award the Yard of the Month and for taking pride in your yard and our community!

How Does It Look?

When you take a look at the exterior of your home, how does it look? Does it look nice? Is neat and clean? Just like the inside, everyone needs to take a minute to pick-up after themselves outside.

That means putting away our play things at night. Sports equipment such as balls, bikes, soccer nets, basketball goals need to be put away and not left outside overnight, or when they are not in use. Putting things away keeps things secure so those items will be there the next day when we want to use them.

Speaking of putting things away, did you know that Metro Codes specifies that trash containers cannot be kept in front of the garage?



Metro Nashville Code 10.20.110a states: "Containers may be placed for collection along public alleys, streets and sidewalks only between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on the scheduled collection day.

At all other times, containers must be stored at a location at the rear or side of the premises so as to not be visible from a public street."

Trash containers need to be kept inside the garage, behind the house, or along side the home if there is a fence that screens the containers from view so they can't be seen from the street.

We are all in this together. When we all follow the rules, and take pride in the way our yards look, we all look good, together.



The Good Neighbor Guide

We all have different expectations of our neighbors. For some of us, a good neighbor is one who takes time for chats across the fence, or who helps with the chores when a neighbor is ill. For others, a good neighbor is one who leaves us alone. Although we don't agree on all of the fine points of neighborliness, we do tend to agree on certain basic standards that allow residents to enjoy their homes and property, preserve peace and quiet in our neighborhoods, help maintain property values and prevent disputes among neighbors. The people of Nashville have enacted these standards into law. Below are some of the "good neighbor ordinances". Remember, when you follow these simple rules, you are not only obeying the law—you're being a good neighbor!



Exterior Property Areas: All property must be kept in a safe, clean and sanitary condition. It's the occupant's responsibility to maintain the dwelling in a safe and sanitary condition. It is a violation of the Property Standards Code to openly store the following: Inoperable, unlicensed or unregistered motor vehicles, Appliances, Building material, Metal, Rubbish, Tires, Automotive parts, Debris—weeds, dead trees, trash garbage, etc.

High Grass and Weeds: It is a violation of the Property Standards to have high grass or weeds 12" or higher.

Tree Removal Ordinance: It is unlawful to remove a "protected tree" without first obtaining a Tree Removal Permit. Protected trees are trees six (6) inches or more in diameter on any property other than a property platted for a 1 or 2 family residential development. Removal of protected trees may create the necessity for the planting of "replacement trees" based on an acceptable tree plan provided at the time of issuance of a Tree Removal Permit. The tree removal penalty will be determined by the Environmental Court Judge.

Inoperable/Unlicensed Vehicles: Except as may be otherwise permitted by the Zoning Code, inoperable, unlicensed or unregistered motor vehicles shall not be openly parked, kept, or stored on any premises. Such vehicles must be repaired, licensed or stored in a garage or enclosure, or removed from the premises to comply with the Metro Property Standards.

Parking on Sidewalks or in Yard: It is unlawful to park any vehicle on the sidewalk, utility strip or other area designated for pedestrian use. It is also unlawful to park a motor vehicle in the yard, or on the grass.

Repairing Vehicles in a Residential Area: Any home owner or tenant engaged in the business of repairing or stripping vehicles in a residential zone district is in violation of the Zoning Code. Only vehicles owned by persons residing on the premises may be repaired on the premises. Vehicle repairs are only allowed to be conducted inside the garage.

Don't want to get the dreaded Abate Notice from Metro Codes? If you don't want to receive an abate notice from Codes please follow the rules. Following the rules will keep you from being cited by environmental court and keep you in good graces with your neighbors. If you have a problem ask for help. Many neighbors will gladly assist when asked.

The Cost of Litter



Twenty-eight percent of litter is intentional, meaning it's deliberately tossed out onto roads, according to TDOT. The remaining 72 percent is considered "negligent litter." That includes vehicle debris and trash flying out of uncovered pickup truck beds. Regardless of whether it's deliberate or unintentional, littering is punishable under Tennessee law with fines of between \$50 and \$3,000. Litter is ugly and costs all of us to get it cleaned-up. That money can be better spent elsewhere if people would stop littering. Trashy areas also suffer losses in property value. **Please be considerate and properly dispose of trash.**

Park Smart!

More than half of the auto theft reports in Davidson County each week routinely reveal that the vehicles taken were easy targets because the keys were left inside or made available to thieves.

For your own safety please do not leave your car running in the driveway in the morning. That is a prime opportunity for a sharp-eyed thief to take off in your car.

The worst part is that if your car is left running and someone steals it, you could be liable if the thief crashes your car!

The Tennessee Court of Appeals has ruled that **a person leaving the keys in their vehicle can be held responsible for a car thief's crash. The court further stated that "it did not matter whether the keys were left in the ignition or the front seat or on the dashboard in plain view."**



For nearly 20 years, the Metro Nashville Police Department has been urging citizens to “Park Smart” with a campaign to prevent auto theft. Professional thieves can steal any car, but make them work for yours. Lock your vehicle and keep track of your keys. Getting into a cold car or hot car might be uncomfortable. That is nothing compared to the hassle you will go through if your car is stolen.

A continuing community concern is the theft of items from the interior of motor vehicles. An iPad, laptop or cell phone sitting on the passenger’s seat of your car is eye-candy to a criminal. Even loose change is enough to invite some to break in. Remove valuables or hide them out of eyesight.

It's as easy as 1-2-3:

1. Remove all valuables from vehicles parked outside.
2. Make sure you have your keys with you.
3. Lock the car! **SERIOUSLY - MAKE SURE YOU LOCKED THE CAR!**

Not sure if you locked the car? Double check & make sure you did!

Neighborhood Watch Needs YOU

Oak Highlands/Deer Valley Homeowners' Association has a well established Neighborhood Watch program. This program is a network of interested friends and neighbors looking out for each other. We are registered with Nashville Metro Police and sanctioned by the OH/DV Homeowners' Association Board. Our membership includes several families across the community, and we would love to have YOU join too!

Membership is 100% free and is of course, completely voluntary.

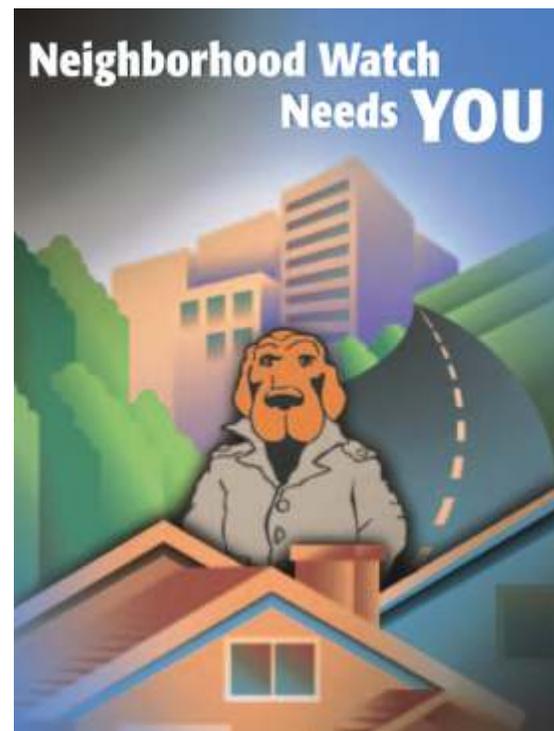
We need more residents to participate in the Neighborhood Watch Patrol. There are opportunities to serve anytime - day or night (though more patrols are needed after dark). Participants in the NW Patrol receive a quarterly fuel reimbursement for making the rounds to monitor our community.

To join please call:

Neighborhood Watch Director Jose Gonzalez at (615) 707-2570, or
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Dave Grathwohl at (615) 837-1591.

Anonymous tips about any suspicious activity can be reported to www.nashvillecrimestoppers.com, or call the Tip Line at (615) 74-CRIME or download the free mobile app at www.P3TIPS.COM

Neighborhood Watch needs YOU. By helping each other, we all stay safe.



Orchard Bend Soccer Park

The playground at Orchard Bend Soccer Park and the Greenway, located on Pettus Road, at the end of Blue Hole Road, is now open.

Mill Creek Greenway, is a 2.25 mile greenway that connects the existing trailhead at Mill Creek Park to a new trailhead at Orchard Bend Park. This exciting extension means that the Mill Creek Greenway will now connect five neighborhoods, two parks, and two schools over the course of four miles along Mill Creek.

FC Youth Soccer League will be holding registration at Orchard Bend Soccer Complex in Cane Ridge, on Pettus Road for girls & boys ages 6-18. For more details: visit: www.futbolclubacademy.com call (615) 478-3947, or email fcanashville@gmail.com

Metro Nashville advised they plan to start construction of the round-about at the end of Blue Hole Road and Pettus Road in summer of 2020, dependent on acquiring the right-of-ways, etc.



Repairs & Renovation

The Board has selected a contractor to repair and resurface the basketball and tennis court area. A new tennis court net will be installed after the resurfacing is complete. The lights at the court also need to be fixed. These repairs and renovations are scheduled to be completed prior to the annual meeting in October. The courts will need to be closed while these necessary repairs are being done. We ask that everyone be patient during this process and not go into the courts when they are locked.



In addition, the Board is currently reviewing several possible options to renovate the playground area. The playground area has been measured. The Board is carefully considering the different needs of the community in order to determine what play equipment will best meet as many of those needs as possible, while staying within the available space. If there is something in particular that you would like to see in the playground, now is the time to speak up and let us know.

Regardless of what is chosen, the playground area will be getting a make-over in the very near future. We hope that everyone will be able to enjoy the fresh new look these repairs and renovations will have on the neighborhood.

OAK HIGHLANDS/DEER VALLEY
HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
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ANTIOCH TN 37011-0455



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661-4400



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