

The Good Life...

--- Published by Tamarack Trails Community Services Association ---
(608) 833-1615 – www.tamaracktrails.com / Office Hours M - F 9 am- 4 pm, or by Appointment

April 2023

Meeting Calendar

Meetings are open to all residents

Architectural Review Board

Wednesday, April 12 – 4:00pm

Maintenance Committee

Tuesday, April 11 – 4:00pm

Resident Activities Committee

Wednesday, April 12 – 5:00pm

Finance Committee

Wednesday, April 19 – 4:00pm

Board of Directors

Tuesday, April 25 – 6:30pm

Amenities Committee

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 – 10:30am

Event Calendar

(Please mark your calendars)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday

9 am – 4 pm

Or by appointment

Stacey Haberman
Association Manager
Stacey.Haberman@tamaracktrails.com

Jean Hilgers,
Office Manager
Jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com

**Just One Day of Your Life Can Change Someone
Else's Forever**



Home fires claim seven lives every day, but having working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death by half. That's why the American Red Cross is rallying volunteers to install free smoke alarms in Madison, as part of the Sound the Alarm event.

On Saturday, April 15, 2023, volunteers will install free smoke alarms, create escape plans and share fire safety information. Training will be provided.

Volunteer for a rewarding day at the Sound the Alarm event in Madison:
<https://www.redcross.org/local/wisconsin/about-us/our-work/home-fire-campaign.html>

**Sign up for a Red Cross Home Fire Safety Visit:
[redcross.org/Wlsmokealarms](https://www.redcross.org/Wlsmokealarms) or call 888-376-4056.**

Group Air Conditioner Cleanup

The staff at the Tamarack office has arranged for and will coordinate a group air conditioner cleaning and inspection for Tamarack residents. *R.A. Heating* will perform a 15-point annual inspection and cleaning of the cooling system for a discounted rate. The rate depends on the number of homeowners that sign up. A minimum of 10 residents must sign up for this offering to move forward. The normal rate for this service is \$125 and the group rate will vary with the number of participants (starting at 101 + tax per inspection with 8 residents and decreasing to \$96 + tax per inspection if more than 10 sign up. If you are interested in participating, please email Jean.Hilgers@tamaracktrails.com or contact the office at 833-1615.

The price includes - cleaning the air conditioner unit, a "Summer Cooling 15 Point Inspection", and the installation of a new standard 1" filter. The price does not include – Space guard, AprilAire, EZ flex or any highly efficient filters. Highly efficient filters (if needed) will be billed out at \$60.00 + tax at the time of the inspection.

Deadline for signing up for this service is April 24th.

West Area: Open House Details

The West Area Plan team has coordinated with other City departments and divisions on scheduling a West Area open house for Wednesday, May 10, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Lussier Community Education Center, 55 S. Gammon Road. It will feature the following divisions and topics:

- Metro Transit: [Network Redesign](#) and [Bus Rapid Transit](#)
- Engineering: [street and path construction projects](#), [watershed studies](#), and [greenway projects](#)
- Transportation: [Vision Zero](#), [Safe Streets Madison](#)
- Parks: [park development plans](#)
- Water Utility: [Well 14 chloride mitigation](#)
- Community Development: [affordable housing](#)
- Planning: West Area Plan

Additionally, West Area Plan background/existing condition maps have been posted to [the project web page](#).

Board and Committee Business

Board Notes for 3/28/23 meeting

The Board of Directors met in-person and by Zoom on March 28. 6 Directors and Association Manager Stacey Haberman were present, as were 21 residents. Director Jacobs was excused. Treasurer Larry White presented Tamarack's financial report and President Dean Ryerson addressed several topics. The major discussion topic was the new Book of Standards (BoS) created by the Architectural Review Board (ARB).

Several residents brought forward issues:

- Janet Hirsch and George Meyer had concerns about the current legal status of the Board to enforce provisions of the BoS. This was discussed later in the meeting.
- Les Mirkin expressed concern over inequities in fees for participating in events: If non-residents are part of an event at the Clubhouse (e.g., yoga), then all participants must pay \$1. Les proposed eliminating these fees entirely. Stacey Haberman noted that the annual revenue from these fees approaches \$900 and is a line item in the budget. The Board declined to change the practice and Les agreed given the total amount of fees collected.
- Elizabeth Goulette spoke to water damage in her unit. She had commissioned a survey which found that the damage was caused by improperly installed trim and siding. She requests a review by Tamarack to establish responsibility for the damage. Manager Haberman will follow-up on this concern.

Stacey Haberman reported on several issues including staffing and maintenance. Major points:

- 7 lifeguards are committed to work during the upcoming pool season.
- After interviewing 9 candidates, there are 2 strong possibilities for Maintenance Supervisor.
- 3 students are returning to assist with grounds/maintenance this summer.
- There were 13 work order requests in February: 12 maintenance and 1 grounds.

- There have been several calls regarding rotten interior and exterior wood. Preventive maintenance is our priority.
- We have 4 quotes for exterior painting on 50-80 Oak Creek Trail, ranging from \$49,500 - \$123,000.

Treasurer White reported that Tamarack finances are in good shape. The finance committee is analyzing projections for different inflation rates to ensure Tamarack future reserves are strong.

The ARB submitted the revised BoS to the Board for approval. As noted above, issues surfaced related to language in our governing documents. These issues require additional consideration. There was animated discussion about the process, content, and form of the BoS, which resulted in the Board deferring further action until the April meeting.

Dean Ryerson noted that April is Volunteer Recognition month and requested Board approval to hold a “thank you” event at the Clubhouse for current volunteer residents. The date set is Wednesday, April 19 from 5:30-7 pm.

In other action, Jayne Meyer has drafted a letter to be sent from Board President Ryerson to the city attorney regarding zoning changes and has created a list of legal issues for the Board to investigate. Paul Skidmore asked if Tamarack has an attorney of record; we do and will clarify that relationship. The Board approved this year’s No Mow May proposal, a lawn reseeding proposal, and the 2023 Recreation Policy.



OUT OF HIBERNATION – Just like many critters over wintering, NGT members are out of hibernation, busy and moving forward on our plans for 2023.

NO MOW MAY—Our 2023 No Mow May proposal was presented to both the Maintenance Committee and the Board in March and was accepted; we now move forward on much needed logistics. The 8 sites are well distributed throughout the Tamarack campus:

Site #1: 38-54 **Oak Creek** bordering the Sauk Creek Greenway

Site #2: 7404-7414 **Cedar Creek** bordering the Sauk Creek Greenway and the main swale

Site #3: 90-92 **Oak Creek** facing the main swale and Club House parking lot

Site #4: 29 **Mt Ash** bordering Tree Lane and Mt Ash (*Low Mow May test site*)

Site #5: 15-23 **Mt Ash** cul de sac plus 11 **Winterberry**.

Site #6: 26 **Bayberry** plus 2, 4, and 22 **Pin Oak** bordering the north side of Tree Lane

Site #7: 85-97 **Oak Creek** cul de sac plus 11 **Oak Creek**

Site #8: 1-19 **Hemlock** cul de sac bordering Westfield

Sites 1, 2, 3 and 4 are in their second year; the other sites are new this year. Thanks to all residents who have volunteered to participate at the 8 sites chosen for this season.

Low Mow May test site. As part of this year’s No Mow May event, NGT has designated one of the eight sites – site #4 listed above - as a test of the City of Madison’s/Dane County’s “Low Mow May” strategy. Unlike the other 7 sites which will not get mowed in

May, the LMM site will be mowed once in the middle of the month. More information about Low Mow May will be available at the Clubhouse beginning in early May.

We look forward to many residents touring sites and providing feedback. Watch for our colorful signs; pick up a map and a questionnaire at the Office and spend an afternoon visiting sites, seeing changes and maybe some sprouting flora providing much-needed food to the overwintered pollinators! *Don't forget to complete your questionnaire and drop off at the Office.*

EARTH WEEK EVENTS

Spring Clean Up. NGT has sponsored Clean Up Days where we've met other residents having an interest in the Tamarack grounds. This year we're hoping to coordinate two sites for this activity, both scheduled for Friday April 21st (rain date Wednesday April 26th). Watch for email blast on time, project, location, contacts, etc. Contact Paulette Harder at paulettejah@gmail.com if you would like more information. *Just for some background on Earth Day, which was birthed by former Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson, who in April 1970 proposed that the people take action and take ecological concerns seriously. Nelson too has been referred to Wisconsin's First Environmental Governor.*

No-Spray List Sign Up. Three times each year (around Memorial Day, the 4th of July, and Labor Day) our landscape contractor, Greenscapes, will apply a granular fertilizer and an herbicide to the lawns at Tamarack. If you would prefer that the area around your residence not receive these treatments, you can sign up for the "No Spray List" by contacting Angie Swan, our Grounds Superintendent at 833-5445. Join more than 80 of your Tamarack neighbors who are currently on the list.

INDEPENDENT WEEDING OF TAMARACK SITES— If you miss joining us on Earth Day, there are also a number of Independent Weeding Sites designated by Angie Swan, Grounds Superintendent, where you and a friend or two can weed at a time that works best for you. See map posted on the Clubhouse Bulletin Board later this month, query Angie on what is best to remove, and where to drop off the weeds. Thank you all for your efforts.

Activites and Events

Tamarack Water Aerobics Classes for 2023 Season

It is never too early to think about making a Big Splash and gaining some health benefits* while exercising with your Tamarack neighbors right here at the Tamarack Pool.

*Hours of Fun * Increased Range of Motion * Stronger Muscles * Improved Physical Health*
* Improved Mental Health * Better Heart Rate * Time Spent Outside *
* Getting Some Vitamin D * Getting to Know Your New Neighbors*

Morning Classes

9:00 - 9:50 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday, and
Friday

For dates and details contact:
Jean
jean.hilgers@tamarack.com or
Patti psponem@gmail.com
608-279-3149



Evening Classes

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, and
Thursday

For dates and details contact:,
Pat pjmaddox1@charter.net or
Teri teriedman@yahoo.com

New and Returning Participants always Welcome!

Save the Date for the Summer Kick-off Potluck

When: Sunday, June 11th

(Rain date- Monday, June 12th)

Time: 4 PM- 7 PM

Where: Tamarack Pool

Sponsored by the Residents Activity Committee



Tam Talks Thank You

The Residents Activities Committee would like to thank all the presenters who participated in our upcycling event! Sue Rapa showed us the sleeping mats she makes for the homeless using plastic bags, representatives from Remits showed us the mittens they make from old wool sweaters, Barb Halverson showed us her upcycled dolls in their new outfits that she donates to various groups, Georgiana Koska displayed old books made into gifts using book folding patterns and Diane Jungblut displayed her famous cake pops and shared all her tips for making them! (By the way, they were delicious!) We hope you all enjoyed the evening and perhaps were inspired to try your hand at upcycling!

The 2022-2023

Tam Talks Series

Come and learn about Madison's sister city, Kanifing, The Gambia, in western Africa from Greg Mickells and Bev Mazur.

When: Thursday, April 27th

Time: 7 PM - 8 PM

Where: Tamarack Clubhouse



Greg's and Bev's Tam Talk will focus on the Madison Sister City Delegation visit to Kanifing in The Gambia (western Africa) in late 2022. They went with the mayor of Madison, city council delegates and the Madison/Kanifing committee members, nineteen people in all, to further the relationship between Madison and Kanifing. The people of Kanifing showed them the ideas they gathered from visits to Madison which they had incorporated into their city government and municipal amenities. Highlights

included a reception with the Lord Mayor and the city council, and they were honored to have an audience with the president of The Gambia.

Sponsored by Tamarack's Residents Activity Committee

Seasonal Reminders & Projects

Landscape News

Debris pick up starts Monday April 17th. Do not place wreaths or plastic pots in yard waste to be picked up.

Areas to be mulched in 2023 are East of S. Westfield Rd. and South of Tree Lane

Plant replacements will start after Mother's Day

Please keep dogs out of flower beds. Bulbs are starting to come up!

Spring Cleanup will be done by Greenscapes

Snow damage repair will be done by Maple Leaf.

Please remove your No Blow flags from last year.

Call the office if you have concerns, please don't talk to the subcontractors.