

Wilderness Property Owners'
Association

WPOA

NOVEMBER 2023
NEWSLETTER

IN-PERSON ANNUAL MEETING

November 30

6:30PM

Fellowship Hall

Grace Community Covenant Church
5501 Wiggins Rd SE



Photo by [Johannes Plenio](#) on [Unsplash](#)

VOLUNTEER BOARD

OFFICERS

John Cusick

President

john@cnssecure.com

Nate Skuza

Vice President

nate@wildernesspropertyowners.org

John Cusick

Treasurer

john@cnssecure.com

Raghavendra Paturi

Secretary

ragpaturi@gmail.com

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Larry Rus

Philip Frisk

Brooke Allan

FIND US:

WEBSITE:

wildernesspropertyowners.org

EMAIL:

WildernessBoard@gmail.com

PO Box 466

Olympia, WA

98507-0466

MESSAGE FROM THE WPOA PRESIDENT

Welcome new Association members, and hello, current neighbors!
We are happy to share the November WPOA newsletter with you.

WE CAN'T SEE THE FOREST FOR THE TREES!

Over the past year, we have focused our attention on working through the Greenbelt management plan developed by South Sound Treescapes nearly five years ago. Much of the action on that plan got deferred during the pandemic, and many untouched problematic trees identified in it needed to be reassessed, and pruned or removed if warranted. This year, Raghavendra Paturi and Christi McGinley invested over 240 hours reassessing our greenbelts and, using surplus funds from the past several years, enabled us to complete most, but not yet all, of the plan recommendations. As we revisited our nearly 28 acres of green spaces with our hundreds of trees through the hot, dry summer, we became increasingly concerned about ensuring we're maximizing the health of these trees while minimizing fire danger. Toward that end, we have begun consulting with forest managers to determine if it makes sense to develop a long-range forest management plan to promote and maintain the health of our valuable community resource, our "wilderness."


TRAFFIC CALMING

Last month we submitted 172 signatures from Wilderness property owners in support of continuing to the next phase of the county's traffic calming program. The signatures gathered were more than needed, and we could have obtained many more, but many property owners were not home when we knocked on their doors.

According to the county traffic engineers, they have verified all the signatures, and we are now added to their "priority array for Traffic Calming funding." All the neighborhoods in this array are then further ranked in April to determine who gets funding for the year.

Be sure to attend the November 30 meeting to hear more details from the county engineers and get your questions answered.


ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION


 **WPOA ANNUAL MEETING.** The Annual Association Meeting will be **Thursday, November 30th at 6:30 PM** at Grace Community Covenant Church in the Fellowship Hall.


Guest Speakers:


- **7:00 PM** - A Thurston County Public Works traffic engineer will update us on the recent traffic study data collection and next steps.
- **7:20 PM** - Kirk Hanson, from the Northwest Natural Resource Group, will talk with us about forest management related to our greenbelts.

Details can be found on the WPOA website, including an agenda and logistics (<https://wpoadotus.files.wordpress.com/2023/11/wpoa-annual-agenda-30.11.23-1.pdf>).

 **EMAILS.** Please send us your email address if you have not already. It will reduce costs to the Association for mailings and ensure you receive messages from the WPOA Board. Send your email address to WildernessBoard@gmail.com.

 **WPOA WEBSITE.** Our website (wildernesspropertyowners.org) which contains information about the Board's current work and community resources, including Frequently Asked Questions about the WPOA Covenants and county and local resources.

 **COMMUNITY FEEDBACK.** If you have feedback, the best way to reach the board is via email at wildernessboard@gmail.com. We welcome your ideas, thoughts, and suggestions.

 **NEIGHBORHOOD AWARENESS.** As the days shorten, please keep an eye out as you walk or drive in our neighborhood for people, critters, and cars. The weather and early darkness can make this time of year challenging.

WPOA ASSOCIATION 2024 BUDGET



The WPOA Board proposes maintaining the same property owner dues amount (\$175) in the proposed 2024 budget categories. A table displaying the existing 2023 budget categories with actual or estimated end-of-year expenditures, as well as the proposed 2024 budget categories (colored blue, the last column), is available at

<https://wpoadotus.files.wordpress.com/2023/11/2023-budget-v-actual-estimate-december.pdf>

W P O A 2 0 2 4 D U E S

Please vote for or against maintaining the \$175 per lot annual dues assessment by email to vote@wildernesspropertyowners.org (please **include your property address**). Votes must be received no later than **7:00 PM November 30, 2023**.

WPOA 2024 annual dues are **due no later than January 31, 2024**. Statements will be sent in December 2023 via email to all property owners for whom we have an email address. Others will be sent a statement via USPS mail.

Late dues payments are subject to interest charges, which will be assessed monthly for unpaid dues. If dues are not received by April 1, additional lien preparation and recording fees will be assessed. Avoid all the associated expenses and hassles by paying your dues on time! **If you do not receive a statement via email or mail**, please contact the Board at WildernessBoard@gmail.com.

NEW WPOA BOARD MEMBER



Please join us in welcoming our new WPOA board member-at-large, Brooke Allan. Brooke joined us this month, having purchased a home in Wilderness this summer. She looks forward to serving her new community and we are grateful to have her!

