

Darien Club Owners Association

SUMMER NEWSLETTER July, 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan McNea - President

John Becker - Treasurer

Dr. George Battaglia - VP & Secretary

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Oak and Dale Properties

211 W. Chicago Ave., Suite 10

Hinsdale, IL 60521

Contact: Ellen Donovan

edonovan@oakanddaleproperties.com

Ph: 630-323-8810 x7 Fax: 630-323-8910

UPCOMING MEETING DATE

Thursday, July 29th, 7pm

Zoom Link will be Posted on Website

DCOA WEBSITE

Darien Club Owners Association

Website: <https://darienclub.com/>



ARCHITECTURAL APPROVALS

Exterior home improvements, including but not limited to, exterior facade changes (paint, siding, etc.), room additions, decks, pergolas, landscape and hardscape improvements, etc. are to be approved by the HOA prior to work commencing. Plans should be sent to edonvan@oakanddaleproperties.com. Please visit the Darien Club Owners Association Website to review the rules and regulations at Darienclub.com. Many projects are underway in Darien Club. Please be sure to submit your project for approval in a timely manner.

HOME MAINTENANCE

Maintenance differs from improvements in that you are maintaining the **existing** features of your home, landscape, and other features on your lot. Maintenance does not require approval from your HOA but upkeep and property maintenance is required to be in compliance with the HOA rules and regulations. Please be sure to inspect the exterior of your home/lot for any necessary maintenance to mailboxes, roofs, driveways, decks, patios, windows, paint, landscape, etc.

Your HOA is currently working on maintenance and improvements to community grounds and wetlands so that Darien Club continues to enjoy its reputation as a prestigious and beautiful subdivision to live in.

Homeowners and the HOA **work together** to make Darien Club a premiere subdivision and to uphold property values.



DRIFTWOOD PARK

Driftwood Park was established in Darien Club in 1999 and is part of the Darien Park District. Park equipment is currently 22 years old and residents have expressed interest in new park equipment. Darien Park District has the equipment on schedule for replacement in 2025 but is aware that members of the community would like the park improved sooner. Please contact Ellen Donovan if you would like to participate on the Driftwood Park Committee.

OAK TRACE DEVELOPMENT

Committee members have been working with Oak Trace and the Downers Grove Township to rectify nuisances created by the new development. Light pollution and other issues are being addressed. Blinds have been installed in some of the existing buildings. The Committee will continue to monitor and follow up on the development. Darien Club residents are encouraged to participate in future Downers Grove zoning meetings when Phase III will require approval. Phase III development could negatively impact Darien Club values. Your participation is strongly encouraged as it will require all Darien Club homeowners' voices to be heard. Please contact Cindi Lopez (see directory) if you can assist.

WETLANDS

Darien Club contracts with Native Restoration Services to provide wetland stewardship and services. The Board is currently creating a committee to review services needed for the Wetlands. If you are interested in serving on this committee. Please contact Ellen Donovan.

For all natural areas, whether they are wetlands or uplands, please do not dump landscape waste of any kind in natural areas. This includes but is not limited to: leaves, grass clippings, potted plants, soil, sticks, logs or any other garbage or materials.

If you are interested in cleaning the wetland area that backs to your property, please contact Ellen Donovan to provide options to work with Native Restoration for these services.

Excessive Speeding

Safety within a community is an important issue. Please remember to obey the posted speed limit in the subdivision.

Please report any concerning activity directly to the Darien Police Department:

Go on line and fill out the following form:
<http://www.darien.il.us/departments/Administration/FormsandPermits/Form-RequestforTrafficEnforcement.pdf>,

Call 911 and ask for the Darien Police Department, or call [630-971-3999](tel:630-971-3999)

Dogs

Residents should keep their dogs on their own property or on a leash when off their property. Please be thoughtful of others and pick up after your dog. Pet owners are responsible for removing defecation per City Code Ordinance 8-3-2C.



MAILBOX AND POST REPLACEMENT



Does your mailbox need maintenance, repair or to be painted? Spray paint can be purchased at Home Depot—Benjamin Moore in Navajo White color. Oak and Dale will conduct its **annual mailbox inspection in July**. **Please tend to any necessary maintenance and repairs.** If your mailbox is crooked, in need of painting or just in need of replacement, please be sure that it is taken care of to avoid the potential of being fined. Violation letters will be sent to homeowners.

Please visit <https://darienclub.com/> and click on the documents tab for mailbox specifications.

INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

The United States Postal Service requires that mailboxes be installed with the bottom of the box at a vertical height of between 41-45 from the road surface and should be set back 6-8 inches from the face of the curb or road edge to the mailbox door.

Oak & Dale will also conduct an **Annual Home Inspection** during July. To avoid letters and/or fines, please see the list below for areas on your property that may merit attention, including but not limited to:

- A. Peeling or flaking paint on house surfaces
- B. Neglected, overgrown, sparse, missing or dead landscaping, including but not limited to: dandelions, weeds, overgrown grass, etc.
- C. Deteriorating Driveways
- D. Broken fences, lawn furniture or abandoned fixtures on your front property
- E. Bicycles, toys, garbage cans and other items can not be in view from the front of your property
- F. Outdoor lighting that is broken, inoperable or deteriorated should be removed
- G. Repair or replace broken basketball stands and nets, there should be no evidence of rust
- H. Timely removal of holiday decorations
- I. Deteriorating or broken mailboxes (see above)

For further information regarding the above, please refer to The Darien Club Homeowners Association Rules and Regulations and the Design Manual or visit **darienclub.com** for a copy of the Rules and Regulations.

WHAT IS THE BOARD WORKING ON FOR THE ASSOCIATION?

The Board of Directors has many projects they are working on including but not limited to:

1. The Board is currently reviewing all contracts in place, services provided by all vendors and related costs.
2. The Board is currently reviewing the Darien Club Design Manual for necessary changes to allow homeowners the enjoyment of their property while maintaining the aesthetics of the Darien Club community.
3. The Board is currently working with the management company to conduct a review of all properties for compliance with the Design Manual rules so that the revised rules represent actual practice within the community.
4. The Board is working with the Village on replacement of trees on the islands as you enter from Cass Avenue. Trees provided by the village will be planted in the islands. Additional landscape to enhance the islands will be considered and reviewed by the board as allowed for in the budget. Village replacement of the dead trees in the Islands will result in a savings to the Association.
5. Other common area landscaping improvements will be reviewed by the board. Any improvements made will follow what was approved and allowed for under the 2021 budget. This includes dead tree removal, landscape replacements, new landscape, etc.
6. The Cemetery and Mausoleum views at the Cass entrance are currently under review. Screening options and costs will be reviewed for future improvements in the 2022 and thereafter budgets.
7. The Wetlands/Ponds are also under review for additional necessary work required to improve them. Options and costs will be reviewed for future budgets. A committee will be established to assist with this review.

OAK & DALE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT'S ROLE

Oak & Dale assists the Board of Directors with day to day management of the HOA, community, vendors, financial duties and other matters.

If any community member has questions or comments about the HOA or community, please contact Ellen Donovan by email at: edonovan@oakanddaleproperties.com.

Recommendations, comments, concerns, complaints, neighbor compliance matters, or reports of issues within the community or in the common areas should be in writing and directed to Ellen so that your comments can be sent to the Board members for review. Compliments are also welcome!

GARBAGE DAY RULES

Garbage, recycling, and brush should not be in visible view until 5pm the night before garbage pick up per the rules and regulations. Management has received complaints about garbage, including appliances and furniture being placed outside several days before pick up. If your intent is to donate items, please call local donation companies who will pick up items from your garage such as St. Vincent DePaul. Thank you for your cooperation.

SIGNS

No signs are permitted on properties in Darien Club except for "For Sale" signs. The Board will review the current rules to allow for Festive signs celebrating birthdays, graduations and accomplishments to be allowed for a specific period of time. Contractor signs are NOT allowed. Please remove any signs not in compliance immediately.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding the Darien Club HOA, please log onto the website at darienclub.com or contact management via email or phone. If there is interest in a Darien Club Block Party/Gathering, please attend an upcoming board meeting to let us know. Your Board and Management Company are here to serve you!