

Voice of the Highlands



A great place to call home!

February 2018



Homeowners can voice concerns via new form

Sometimes issues arise where

homeowner-to-homeowner communication has failed or is impossible. While the Board of Directors has limited authority based upon our governing documents, we have created an observation form where homeowners can communicate concerns to the Board. This form is another way that we can objectively listen to our neighborhood and assist where we can. <https://bloomingtonhighlands.com/community-observation-form/>



Volunteers needed for low-hanging branch trimming

The Board of Directors is soliciting volunteers to help trim branches and shrubbery over and alongside our community sidewalks. The project is slated to kick off at the beginning of March and will work in tandem with the help of Monroe County Highway Department. For more information, or to sign up, email: vp@bloomingtonhighlands.com

Important information on how to pay your annual HOA dues

Each year, the Highlands Subdivision Homeowners Association must collect dues in order to provide services to homeowners. Dues remain at \$95 for 2018. Payment options are check, cashier's check, or money order through mail. Check, cash, money order, etc. can be accepted in Tempo's office (213 S Rogers St #8, Bloomington, IN 47404). No online or electronic payments can be accepted. Kindly remit payments by March 17 to:



Highlands Subdivision Homeowners Association Inc.
P.O. Box 1695 Bloomington, IN 47402

The only way to confirm received payments is if the check clears your bank account. For payment plans, promptly phone Tempo Properties at (812) 336-2026.

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THE HIGHLANDS SUBDIVISION
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

Caring for pets in cold, winter weather



Winter walks can become downright dangerous if chemicals from ice-melting agents are licked off of bare paws. To help prevent cold weather dangers from affecting your pet's health, see the tips below!

- Bathe your pets as little as possible during cold spells.
- Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth.
- Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts.
- Remember, if it's too cold for you, it's probably too cold for your pet, so keep your animals inside.

Did you know?

February 4th is "Thank A Letter Carrier Day!"

There is mail in your mailbox six days a week, so let's take a moment to thank the person who puts it there! A simple smile, wave, and hearty "Thank You!", or a small token of appreciation to your mail carrier is always welcome. Please shovel around mailboxes during times of snow. Let's help make it easier for our carriers to do their job!

HOA reminder of the month:

Retrieve your trash cans from the curb after pickup. Totes left outside create an unkempt appearance and attract animals.

Nothing Better Than a Safe, Warm Fireplace

As the weather has been bitterly cold, there is nothing better than a nice, cozy fire in the fireplace. Though fireplaces can be great, they need proper attention to maintain safety and cleanliness. Here are a few tips:



- Fireplaces should not be used as furnaces. Use a fireplace for a short-duration fire — no longer than five hours.
- Open a window when using the fireplace to prevent the room from becoming smoky. The air coming in from the window will go up the chimney.
- Before making a fire, check to make sure the smoke will go up the chimney properly by lighting a match, quickly blowing it out and watching the smoke to see whether it's going up and out.
- Fireplace coals can remain hot enough to start a fire for up to three days, so always wait at least that long before removing the ashes.
- Have a certified chimney sweep inspect and clean the chimney when necessary (about every 80 fires or at least once a year). Have them show you how to check it yourself, too.
- Clean the firebox (the area where the logs burn) at least once a week. Leave about an inch of ash because it acts as insulation, allowing the coals to heat faster and retain the heat easier.