

January 2014



HILLER HIGHLANDS V HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

The Hiller V Newsletter

Why Did They Do That: TREES

Long term residents are familiar with the community concern with regard to when, where and with what should happen to the pear trees on the property; they have approached the end of life cycle. Lots of conversation and planning has been devoted to possible choices. Now, Mother Nature has just destroyed the planning, limited the choices and defined the time. The pear trees are infected with a highly contagious and terminal illness. There is an epidemic of "fireblight" in the Bay Area, not just here.

This is an informational notice to explain the sudden and dramatic removal of 29 tall, much loved trees. There is no choice but to do this or the fireblight, a viral disease, will spread to even more plant materials, including some specific kinds of ground cover, shrubs and other trees on the property.

Replacement of the tall trees with anything other than small/young trees is cost prohibitive. Pears are not a choice as the nursery stock available is in all probability also infected or will be quickly when placed in our infected soil. The shock to all of us will be extensive. We Landscape Committee folks are very sorry but this is not our choice. Mother Nature has spoken. If you have questions, please contact me.

Tina Diskon
HHV Landscape Committee

Association Rules Reminder

Living in a Common Interest Development (CID), such as the Hiller Highlands V Homeowners Association, involves conforming to certain rules and regulations to protect your rights and the rights of your neighbors. From time to time, the rules and regulations of the Homeowners Association are mistakenly violated. Below are some common rules violations that homeowners may not be aware of.

PARKING (complete parking rules are located in the Rules and Regulations)

Parking is explicitly **prohibited** at all times at the following locations:

In the street across the front of any residence driveway on the private streets.

In the circular drives located between 60 and 66 Starview Drive, and between 82 and 86 Starview Drive.

At any location that would impede or block access to another Resident's driveway.

GARAGE

Each Owner and Resident shall keep all garages in safe condition.

Each garage door shall remain closed except when necessary to provide ventilation for individuals working in the garage area.

Garages shall only be used for the parking of motor vehicles, storage and workshop purposes.

WINDOW COVERINGS

Window coverings installed in windows of any Residence that are visible from the street shall be of a light color (beige, white, or off-white). In no event shall aluminum foil, contact paper, sheets, newspaper or similar materials be placed in windows.

SPORTS APPARATUS

No sports apparatus of any kind shall be placed upon or attached to any Lot, Residence (including garage), or Common Areas (including private streets and Exclusive Use Common Areas) without prior written permission of the Board.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Skateboarding, rollerblading, and similar activities are prohibited at all times in the Common Area, circular driveways and private streets.

No illegal, noxious or offensive activities shall be carried out or conducted within the Development that may be considered an unreasonable annoyance or nuisance to neighboring property owners, including, but not limited to barking dogs, excessively noisy air conditioners, stereos, televisions, motor vehicles, etc.

Board Officers and Committee Chairs



John Diskon - President

(510) 540-0929

Mitra Moheb - 1st V. President

(415) 602-0405

Marlene Zuehlsdorff - 2nd V. President

(510) 704-1372

Lisa Kirch - Treasurer

(510) 848-6797

Joanne Brown - Secretary

(510) 848-8332

Steve Roland - Architecture Chair

(510) 644-1315

Tina Diskon - Landscape Chair

(510) 540-0929

Bob Sieben - Fire Prevention

(510) 841-2746

Bob Mehus - Lighting Chair

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The next Board meeting will be held on January 29, 2014 in the small room of the Hiller Country Club starting at **6:30 PM**. Homeowners are encouraged to attend.

Call for Candidates

The Hiller Highlands V Homeowners Association Board of Directors is comprised of five members who serve staggered two-year terms. At our Annual Meeting, on March 25, 2014, we will be electing three members to serve on the Board for two years. The Board of Directors oversees the operation of the Association and makes important decisions concerning our community. These decisions are made at the monthly Board meetings, which this year, have been scheduled on the last Tuesday of every month. Board meetings last, on average, about one hour. An additional hour, between meetings, is sometimes required to address issues that may arise.

In order to be considered for Board election, candidates must be nominated. Any member of the HHV, who is in good standing, may also nominate him or herself as a candidate for an open position on the Board. To do so, you should send a statement of intention to run for a Board position to Collins Management who will forward the statement to the Association's secretary for inclusion on the ballot. All nominations to the Board must be sent to Collins Management Company via fax, email or U.S. mail no later than February 17, 2014.

Updated Contact Information

Hiller Highlands V utilizes an emergency roster that provides contact information for each homeowner and resident. The list contains names and phone numbers organized into 12 groups according to address that was developed for distribution to the all residents and owners. This list is critical in case of an emergency. You have the right to request your phone number not be on this list. However, if you do so it will put you at a significantly increased risk in the event of a fire, earthquake or other emergency.

Please review the enclosed emergency roster to verify your contact information. **Attempts to call some have resulted in out of service or disconnected messages.**

If your information or your tenant's information is incorrect or needs to be updated, please contact Collins Management at (510) 262-1795. A form to update your information will be mailed to you. Please return the completed form via mail, email or fax. Also, if you haven't provided your email address or have changed your email address recently, please email it to michael@collins-mgmt.com.

If you are renting your unit, please remember that you are required to notify the Association and provide your tenant's name and contact information. For more information on the leasing or renting of your unit, please see sections 2.10 to 2.13 of the CC&Rs.

Why Did They Do That, Again?

Annually the Landscape Committee receives comments and complaints from homeowners about the fact that shrubs and plants have been "butchered", the crew has just cut them all to pieces, etc. Let me explain. This sort of pruning happens when plants and shrubs are in a "dormant" phase/during the winter most usually. The shrub is cut back by about 1/3, some more if they can tolerate it. Yes it looks ugly for awhile but then looks way better than before and is more healthy. Why do it?

The shrubs on the property go through this as a periodic renewal generally about every three to five years. The purpose is to pull foliage in, pull branches in thus curbing leggy growth. It also forces new growth to start from the bottom of the plant. If not done, plants can get out of scale for their location, be spindly and show reduced bloom.

We beg your pardon but this is one of the best shrub/plant management practices, right behind water, fertilizer and "whispering encouraging growth words". Yes, some of us do that.

HHV Landscape Committee