
Oakbridge Neighborhood News

Spring 2019 Edition

Neighborhood Board Changes

We welcome Abigail Darwin as the new President of our Neighborhood Association Board and Kraig Bodie, Brian Shah and Jordan Speicher as new members. Our all-volunteer Board welcomes any neighbors to attend the Board meetings to observe the Board members at work. The Board meeting dates, times and locations are posted on Nextdoor and on the neighborhood web site.

We extend a "Thank you!" to Ron Hay (who served as President for three years), Nancy Kern and Katherine Holt for their service on the Board.

Neighborhood Financial Funds

This year the Board found it necessary to significantly raise the 2019 annual dues paid by each residence towards common area expenses for two reasons: 1) rising costs across all expenses for lawn care, snow removal, water utility bills for run-off, liability insurance and other miscellaneous items and 2) the City of Madison special assessment for street and gutter repair on the neighborhood common areas.

To keep costs down, the Board obtains multiple bids for services, reviews options to lower insurance premiums and organizes volunteer raking events in the spring and fall.

The annual dues payment deadline was March 1st, 2019. Reminders were mailed to the residences yet to remit their dues. Effective May 1, for any residences that have not submitted their dues, the Board will place a lien against their property. Contact Jeff Wilson, Treasurer, katmando7474@gmail.com or 608-338-6658 with questions.

Common Areas Sidewalk Repair Special Assessment

The Board just received an estimate for 2019 sidewalk repairs to neighborhood common areas from the City of Madison for \$15,206.54. Admittedly, this estimate is a shock. Several board members met with the City Engineer and walked through the entire project with him. As it stands, the estimate is accurate. The Board has two options: 1) to hire a contractor to complete the work requiring a 50% payment upfront and 50% due at completion or, 2) to agree to a payment plan of 5 years with interest. We don't have the liquid assets in the neighborhood assets to hire an independent contractor. **We will discuss the impact of the City's payment plan on neighborhood homeowners at the May 7th Board meeting in the conference room at Alicia Ashman Library. All interested homeowners are invited to attend.**

May 17th and 18th

Neighborhood Garage Sale

The Garage Sale will be advertised on Madison Craigslist, Nextdoor, Facebook, an ad in the "Wisconsin State Journal" and signs at both entrances to the neighborhood. Here is your opportunity to take advantage of a spring cleaning event for those items for which you have no use any longer.



July 4th Children's Parade and Picnic

Plan to celebrate July 4th with our Annual Children's Parade and picnic. We invite the Madison Fire Department to lead the parade with a fire truck and sirens, typically about 11a.m. Parade participants gather at the neighborhood sign with their decorated scooters, bikes, trikes and wagons. After the parade the Neighborhood Board members grill hot dogs and serve a picnic including potato chips, lemonade, water and freeze pops. Last year's potluck was a great addition to the festivities! Please consider participating to meet the Board members and more neighbors!

Signs are placed at the neighborhood entrances to remind you of the Parade, Picnic and gathering time. Contact Jordan Speicher, 847-714-2451, if you would like to volunteer to help set-up or clean-up for this fun event.

Property or External Residence Changes

Additions, external improvements and alterations to your home or property must follow certain guidelines in our Neighborhood Covenants. The City of Madison requires a Board "sign-off" on plans prior to obtaining a building permit. **Contact a member of our neighborhood Architectural Review Committee, or you may submit your change request and your plans with this form** <https://oakbridgecommunity.com/architectural-review/>:

Kraig Bodie, kraig.bodie@hotmail.com

Ron Hay, candrhay@chorus.net

Brian Shah, brintlgr@gmail.com

Richard Russell, RichardSRussell@tds.net

Oakbridge Pool and Tennis Court Memberships

Enjoy a summer of fun and recreation for one household fee at our 2,240 sq. ft. pool and two full-size (36' x 120') professional tennis courts! Membership sign-up and a key exchange at the pool house, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., Saturday, May 5th and Saturday, May 18th or Sunday, May 19th, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

- A Red Cross-certified life guard is on duty daily
- Diving is not permitted (WACHR 90:08)
- Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult
- The Clubhouse has changing areas and restrooms

The pool opens Saturday, May 25th through Monday, September 2nd with hours: Mondays-Fridays: 12 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: 11 a.m. – 8 pm. The tennis courts open May 1st through September 30th.

Fee: \$375 per household

In May, a flyer with more details will be distributed throughout the neighborhood or Joan Henry will be available for additional information about these recreational facility memberships, 608-833-4410.

The Good Neighbor Project

The Madison Police Department recommends this community safety program.

When we take the time to get to know our neighbors, we feel a stronger sense of community. It's comforting to know we have neighbors who are looking out for us and will help us. A Good Neighbor Project can be as simple as you and your across-the-street neighbor agreeing to text each other if one of you forgets to close your garage door in the evening. Become acquainted with the neighbors in the three homes behind you, the three homes across the street and the neighbors on either side of you. Change your front outside lights to LED bulbs and leave them on all night. Learn more about this project at: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/documents/GNPStarterKit.pdf>

Madison Police Department Neighborhood Liaison

Detective Dan Hamilton is available to speak with you or a group about burglary prevention and/or burglary concerns in our neighborhood. You're encouraged to call police about suspicious persons or vehicles you observe. These tips often prove valuable in stopping or solving crimes.

Strong neighborhood organizations make a difference in a community. MPD's Burglary Crime Unit uses a multi-faceted approach with each police district to prevent, track and solve burglaries. Our goal is to be responsive to emerging trends and needs in each neighborhood.

Detective Dan Hamilton, Burglary Crime Unit, 608-266-4596, dhamilton@cityofmadison.com

Madison Police Department Vacation Watch Request

There are typical plans and preparations for a vacation— mail and newspaper holds, having someone mow your lawn or plow your driveway and notifying your neighbors to keep an eye on your home. The MPD can add offer extra patrol, when available, to our neighborhood during the time you're away for extended periods (longer than one day). Submit your information 72-hours prior to your trip on a form at this site: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/police/forms/vacationwatch.cfm>

Brush Collection Resumed April 1st

Brush includes woody material trimmed from trees, shrubs or bushes, tree and shrub trimmings over 18" in length.

- Pile brush on the terrace at the street edge away from trees, parked cars, fire hydrants, utility poles, mail boxes and other obstructions.
- **Do not put brush on the islands in the courts, in the street or on the sidewalk.**
- Do not put brush in bags, boxes, or any other container. Bundle small amounts of brush with string or twine, NOT wire. Bundles may not be more than 4 feet in length and may not weigh more than 40 pounds.
- Stack brush with the cut ends facing the same direction. Remove all roots, stumps, and dirt.
- Piles of brush and yard waste mixed together will not be collected. Keep brush separated from yard waste (a separate pick-up) when out for collection.

You can also take brush shorter than 18" to a Madison Collection site, 2½ miles west at 402 South Point Road.

Yard Waste Collection

Crews will complete at least 2 rounds each spring and 3 rounds in the fall, depending on weather. Yard waste includes:

- Grass clippings, leaves, weeds, garden trimmings, other plant debris and twigs less than 18" long
- Pumpkins, crab apples, pine cones, etc.
- Pile your leaves & yard waste at the street edge, not in the street. Leaves in the street or gutter are washed into our lakes, where the nutrients contribute to algae growth.
- Leave compostable paper bags open at the top so crews can see what is inside.
- Leave plastic bags open at the top. Bags will be slit open and either left on the terrace or put in a refuse cart.

DO NOT PLACE TRASH ON THE CUL DE SAC ISLANDS

No grills, trash, brush or bags of yard waste

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Volunteers Needed!

May 4th Neighborhood Leaf Raking

Join your neighbors for our spring leaf raking event planned at 10 a.m., May 4th, weather permitting. Meet at the neighborhood sign and take just a few hours to clean up the neighborhood common areas and keep costs down for the neighborhood. An event will be posted on Nextdoor. Thank you to those who have helped with the spring and fall neighborhood raking events in the past!



Neighborhood Website and Social Media

Bookmark the Oakbridge Neighborhood website to read the Neighborhood Covenants, archived newsletters and events such as the May Neighborhood Garage Sale and the July 4th Parade and Picnic.

<https://oakbridge.community/>

Join our Nextdoor site for free to stay in touch with each other on issues of importance for our neighborhood and neighbors. Report any crime or vandalism to your property so that we're aware. Ask for recommendations for nanny services or work on your home or property. List items for sale. Get the phone app, too.

<https://nextdoor.com/neighborhood/oakbridgewi--madison--wi/>



<https://www.facebook.com/OakbridgeAssociation>

Please Clean Up After Your Dog

Let's face it; stepping in dog poop is nasty! It smells! It is repulsive to deal with! Every responsible dog owner agrees... picking up after your dog is a MUST. No matter where or when it occurs there is NO excuse for not scooping the poop—whether you're walking your dog in the neighborhood or letting your pet outside where it can wander into a neighbor's yard. Because this continues to be a problem in our neighborhood, please know that:

- Madison ordinances require that dog owners carry materials sufficient to clean up dog feces when they are off their property and dogs are not permitted to defecate on any property, including your neighbor's, unless the waste is immediately removed
- It's common courtesy—cleaning up after your dog shows respect for your neighbors

2019 Oakbridge Neighborhood Board Members

Abigail Darwin, President, Legal Adviser	608-334-4971 akdarwin@gmail.com
Kraig Bodie, Vice President	218-780-8746 kraig.bodie@hotmail.com
Richard Russel, Secretary	608-219-7044 RichardSRussell@tds.net
Jeff Wilson, Treasurer	608-338-6658 katmando7474@gmail.com
Jordan Speicher, Website	608-203-9383 jordan@jspeicher.com
Laura Schweitzer,	920-382-4980 schweitzer2@uwalumni.com
Brian Shah,	608-513-2718 brimtlgr@gmail.com
Ron Hay	608-698-3747 candrhay@chorus.net

National Ped I.D. Week April 19 - 25

Dane County Humane Society

DCCHS offers both discounted I.D. tags for \$5 and microchips for \$15 at the main shelter for dogs and cats. Give your pet both visual and permanent identification for extra security. Micro-chipping services offered on a walk-in basis, weekdays, 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. and weekends, 12 p.m. – 5, and closed on Wednesdays.

DCCHS Main Shelter
5132 Voges Road, Madison
608-838-0413