



# NORTHWOOD TRAILS

## Newsletter

eNeighbors.com • January – February, 2022

### Notes From Your Board President

Julie Pickerill • [jpickerill61@gmail.com](mailto:jpickerill61@gmail.com)



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** Last year our theme was “Go above and Beyond” for your neighborhood, and boy howdy many of you did just that. New decks, covered and screened in patios, fences, siding, paint, roofs and updated landscapes. Even new room additions. Wow! Our neighborhood is looking good! Looking forward to what is in store for 2022.

**Northwood Trails dues for 2022 are \$500. 2022 Payment Options: 1) Pay balance in full by 2/1/2022, deduct \$25 from balance due. 2) Pay half of balance due by 3/1/2022, pay remaining balance due by 5/1/2022. A \$50 penalty will be added to any unpaid balance as of 5/2/2022.**

Take a moment to think about what committee you would like to volunteer for. I know everyone has a few moments here and there that they would be able to put towards volunteering in the neighborhood. Just think what we could do as a neighborhood if all 459 homes spent a few minutes a month to volunteer. Here is a list of the new officers and committee members that will make up the board for 2022.

#### Officers

President: Julie Pickerill  
Vice President: Fox Foxworthy  
Secretary: Sally Noltemeyer  
Treasurer: Bryan Kelling

#### Committees

Architectural: Andy VandenHull  
Communications/Website: Rick Pickerill  
Grounds: Gerry Buehler  
Pool: Susan Mages-Kelling  
Pond: Matt Noltemeyer  
Social: Abby VandenHull (Sally Noltemeyer – board liaison)

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact one of the committee members. Their emails are on eNeighbors.com. Our board meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at Grace United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. Our first one will be Tuesday, January 11. As always, the first 30 minutes of the meeting is open for homeowner input.

### Recycle Bins

*Rick Pickerill*

Fellow neighbors, if you are like me, you'd like to have recycle picked up each week along with the trash, but unfortunately recycle pick up is every other week. I've noticed many recycle bins at the curb on weeks when recycling is not picked up. To help with this, Olathe has an app you can install on your phone that lets you know when recycling is to be picked up. The app is called 'Trash Day'. You can find out when your recycle week is by opening the app. You can also set up a weekly reminder notifying you a day before. The app will also let you know when trash pickup will be delayed due to a holiday. This only occurs on rare occasions.

I've noticed also, many overflowing recycle bins, often caused by boxes that are not broken down. Per city code, boxes are to be broken down before putting them into the recycle bin. This takes very little time and saves a lot of room.

For more information, consult your 'Trash Day' app, or through your browser go to: [olatheks.org/government/utilities/trash/trash-and-recycling-collection](http://olatheks.org/government/utilities/trash/trash-and-recycling-collection).

## Pond Committee News

*Matt Noltemeyer*

Happy New Year!

December found our neighborhood water feature in holiday mode despite unseasonal warmth most days. The dock, bespoke in tasteful white lights and reflected in the serene water, was complemented by holiday displays from several neighbors' decks and fences.

A pond winterization subcommittee met Dec. 2. The aerator fountain motors were pulled for dry winter storage and annual maintenance thanks to Keith Read, who also strung the dock with lights. Ice-danger warning signs were added as secondary reminders to parents' primary directives that young neighbors never test the pond's unknowns: ice thickness and the depth of water below it. A sub-subcommittee applied a minimized water treatment to close the season.

Regular 2021 treatments were a multi-pronged attack on algae and the bottom-floating leaves that promote it. Other applications clarified the water, gave it color, and controlled water weeds along the perimeter.

Those efforts kept our pond from becoming a green mass akin to unmanaged ponds in the region. A healthy, thriving pond helped make the trails around the pond the most trafficked in all of Northwood Trails in 2021! (In a non-scientific highly biased survey).

Safe to say, the pond area was popular with neighbor and canine exercise enthusiasts; bicyclists young, old, and, on occasion, uniformed (thank you, Olathe officers!); and fishing fans during the season. Images of our pond and other terrific Northwood Trails amenities feature frequently in listings in the hours or days before homes flip to 'pending.'

Due to rising materials costs and upended global and domestic supply chains, the largest expenses in Pond Committee's 2022 budget are projected to be the chemical inputs. With that in mind, the subcommittee met in November with a regional pond expert for an on-site appraisal. The subcommittee will present the findings to the full committee in our first spring session and consider the purchase of bubbler devices that would work in conjunction with our fountains

(but reduce their daily runtime) to aerate the water and cut back the need for costly water treatments. More details to follow this spring.

The fish food machine departed for winter storage after a successful season. Catfish and bluegill ate many pounds of pelletized protein in 2021, amusing dock visitors with their hungry frenzies. The machine's profits will afford an upgrade to its protective housing courtesy of fish-feeder operations chief David Starks.

**Kudos:** Fantastic showing of holiday lights last month, Northwood Trails neighbors! Front yards were in fine form as always, and a growing number of trail-facing lights delighted us in several spots, including a dazzling display behind South Skyview Lane.

**Contact us:** Pond-centric queries, suggestions and comments are gladly accepted at [MattNoltemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:MattNoltemeyer@gmail.com). Got an itch for a volunteer experience with minimal time commitment and considerable social benefit, sub-question: do you like ponds? Consider joining the pond team next spring. Watch for 2022 activities here and at [eNeighbors.com](http://eNeighbors.com). All residents welcome.

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## Grounds Committee News

*Gerry Buehler*

The grounds committee is about to launch into a new year and we need people! Consider joining us. Your labor is not a requirement for you to be a big help. We need committee members to report areas that need to be spruced up, as well as to help plan new projects. Our goal is for Northwood Trails to be a well-maintained and inviting neighborhood to current and prospective residents.

On another topic, some areas of our neighborhood trails are nearly impassable. Please examine the path behind your home. Does it have branches that need trimmed? Are the leaves piled high? Your neighbors will be glad that you paid attention to those areas.

Our first meeting will be on the third Monday of February (21st) at 7 p.m. in our home at 18505 W. 114th Street.

If you would like to join our committee, contact Gerry Buehler at [gerrybuehler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gerrybuehler@sbcglobal.net).

## Architectural Committee News

*Andy VandenHull*

Hello Northwood Trails neighbors,

As the new chair of the architecture committee I just want to say that I hope all is well! I hope you all had a great holiday season. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know. Here's a little about me.

**What do you do for a living?** I work for a small Network Integration Services firm in Olathe.

**What do you do for fun?** I spend a lot of time with our kids, oil paint, and do some wood working for fun.

**What do you love most about our neighborhood?** I love this neighborhood's friendly culture and the people who make this neighborhood home.

**Fun fact about you/your family:** I studied history in graduate school, I started working full time in a cabinet shop at age 12 to help provide for my family, and I'm the oldest of eight.

## Welcome, New Neighbors

**Shawn Wesner**  
18325 West 116th Street

**Pam Webb**  
18310 West 117th Street

**Kathryn Rene & Trece Calabrese**  
19002 West 116th Street

### Do you need anything?

Our hospitality committee is here to help. Contact Brittany Craemer at [hospitalityNWT@gmail.com](mailto:hospitalityNWT@gmail.com).



The Bloomer family, Jeffrey family, and Rhodes family were just a few of many families who enjoyed the neighborhood Cookies with Santa event on Saturday, December 4.

## JOIN US ONLINE!

### [eNeighbors.com](#)

- Search for “Northwood Trails.” Email [support@eNeighbors.com](mailto:support@eNeighbors.com) for technical assistance.

### [Facebook.com](#)

- Neighborhood group: “Northwood Trails - KS.”
- Buying/selling: “Northwood Trails Buy, Sell, Trade”
- Children’s play group: “NWT Playgroup”