



# PIRCA NEWSLETTER

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## PINE ISLAND RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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### New Construction including sheds and fences

Once again, with warmer weather coming, please remember that any new construction including the construction and installation of sheds, fences, and driveways must be submitted to the Architectural Review Board for approval (per Pine Island Ridge's by-laws) before applying for a permit from the Town of Schererville.

A plot of survey with the location of the new construction indicated, along with the proposed material to be used should be submitted via our email address

([PircaBoard@PineIslandRidge.org](mailto:PircaBoard@PineIslandRidge.org)) or contact one of the Board Members for submission and approval. Remember even with Board approval, applicable ordinances for the Town of Schererville must also be honored.

While we certainly appreciate home-owners wishing to improve their homes, we as a community should adhere to a certain standard that our by-laws attempt to define. Pine Island's bylaws and covenants are available on our website --- [www.Pineislandridge.org](http://www.Pineislandridge.org)



### Change of Landscape Vendor

One of the major expenses of Pine Island is the care and maintenance of the large common areas throughout the sub-division. Because of a significant increase requested by our previous landscape company (Season's Landscape), we were forced to shop for a new landscape company. Not as easy as one would think. Because of the limited available labor, several landscapers were not willing to even quote the project. After many calls and visits, the Board selected Redwood Landscape Company and Forever Green (weed control and fertilizer) for the 2023 season.

Hopefully, this will be the beginning of a long relationship. With the extent of common areas and pathways, if you spot an area that was skipped or overlooked, please call a board member or email the Board ([Pircaborad@Pineislandridge.org](mailto:Pircaborad@Pineislandridge.org)) and we will address the issue with the appropriate company



## Common Area and Waterway Cleanup

This is a re-occurring issue!!! Please be aware that the common areas and ditches carrying water are NOT dumping areas for branches and leaves and grass. If you spot this happening, please contact a board member immediately. It has been difficult to obtain the town's assistance in clean-up when the blockages are obviously self-inflicted. The Town of Schererville has a great service for scheduled branch and leaf pickup, please don't clog the common areas, it is an expense we can do without.

## Monthly Board Meetings

All homeowners are welcome to attend our monthly board meetings. We meet the 3rd Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at Rosatti's Restaurant (located in the same strip mall as Walgreens and Subway on the corner of US30 and Burr Street).



## *Safety and Code Violations*

Anyone with information about suspicious activity in our subdivision or Schererville in general, can call the police department's anonymous tip line (219) 865-4646 or the non-emergency line at (219) 322-5000. If you spot an obvious code violation, please call Schererville code enforcement at 219-322-2211 Ext. 4. When you contact a board member, we can make the call but sometimes hearing the complaint first hand might speed up the town's response.

## We Still Need Board Members

The Pine Island Ridge Association is in need of board members. While this has been stated in the past; we may soon face a scenario where decisions will have to be made regarding the lack of members willing to serve, and unfortunately; our options are few.

Remember the Board only meets once a month for about an hour, this typically isn't a great time stealer. The advantage of having a more complete Board is that any work load is spread and thoughts and ideas for future projects and concerns are expanded for the good of the community. If you're not sure, try attending one of the monthly meetings just to see how the meeting is held. We're just home-owners like you trying to help the community.

## Save the Date

Our Annual Meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2023, Schererville Town Hall at 7:00PM

## Tennis Court Improvement

Hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter, a new tennis net will be installed in the tennis court located in the South Commons playground. The court was repainted last year and this should complete the renovation. Again, please use the court for tennis and keep other activities such as roller-blading off the court.



## Assessments-Thank you

Thank you to the many home-owners that promptly paid their 2023 assessments. The use of email in delivering the assessments has saved us a considerable amount of money. The number of email addresses has grown to approx. 65%, greatly reducing the postage costs. The collection process starts with either an email or USPS letter, the 2nd attempt is by USPS. If still unpaid, a third attempt is made by USPS with a late fee applied. Obviously the 2nd and 3rd attempts are an additional cost to us all. Sadly, after three attempts, we turn over the non-paying owners to the association's lawyer. This truly is not something we like doing to our neighbors, but everyone must be responsible

## Garage Sale

For years, Pine Island has run a garage sale. Ms. Robin Porter is once again organizing the event. There is a \$5.00 registration fee to help cover the cost of advertising, a map, and details of what you are selling. Please contact Robin at 219-746-7964. Drop off payment @ 8821 Clark Place. EVENT IS MAY 27TH, 9 AM to 3 PM. This event has been very popular in the past, please when shopping the event, keep your vehicle's wheels on the hard street surface. Nobody likes filling in the deep ruts caused when somebody parks on the soft grass shoulder of the street.

## Kiddie Parade

PIRCA is once again running a kiddie parade for the residents of the subdivision. You will need to pre-register for this event so we can plan to have enough supplies on hand. Registration can be thru email (PircaBoard@PineIslandRidge.org). We need child's name, age, address of Pine Island resident, and phone # (in case of rain-out) You can also register with Robin Porter at 219-746-7964. Robin is also looking for volunteers to help in running the event. Date is set for July 15th @10 AM. Please meet at the corner of Mathews and 85th Street. The parade will proceed to the South Commons playground for games and fun.

## PINE ISLAND PRIDE

The association spends much of the annual budget maintaining common areas making Pine Island one of the most sought after sub-divisions to live in. Junk cars in driveways, unkempt yards, unrepaired fences, unsightly junk besides a building do nothing but diminish not only that property's value but the property value of every home in the sub-division. We're just asking to try to keep your property neat and tidy, front and back, to maintain the high level of pride in our sub-division. If you spot something getting out of hand, please bring it to the attention of either code enforcement of Schererville or email the board at Pircaboard@pineislandridge.org

Along the same line, remember that RV's, boat trailers, and trailers are limited to a 24 hour limit on or near a property, based on a Schererville ordinance. Please place your trash containers curbside the evening before or morning of the designated pickup day, they should be removed the same day they are emptied. (town ordinance)

## Bike paths and Walkways

The Town of Schererville has been busy improving and connecting many of the bike and walking paths in the area. If walking with your pet, hopefully on a leash, please remember to bring along a pooper scooper for those unexpected 'accidents'. Keep in mind that the Town of Schererville requires that pets be licensed.



## Driveways, Sidewalks, Children and safety

With Spring in the air and Summer just around the corner, when parking by your driveway, please do not block the sidewalk with your vehicle. Remember most of the sidewalk traffic is typically small children who may be forced into the street to avoid your vehicle. This is an extremely unsafe situation for a child who may not be versed with the knowledge to look for traffic. Let's keep our children safe in the neighborhood. Please observe the posted speed limits, and remember "STOP" means stop. SLOW DOWN !!!!

www.pineislandridge.org

## VOLUNTEER PIRCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Joshua Lawrence 928-8737

Vice President: Eric Waligora 708-209-5955

Treasurer: Jim Onik 219-765-0540

Secretary: Yolla Blair 219-213-5641

Bob Smith  
219-484-0525

Thomas Wolfe  
219-794-9251

### Moving or refinancing:

You must contact the PIRCA Treasurer at least 10 working days prior to your closing date to receive a confirmation letter regarding your assessment status. If the Treasurer does not receive the adequate notice, you will be charged \$25-which will be exchanged for the letter.

For other helpful information, check our website,

[www.PineIslandRidge.org](http://www.PineIslandRidge.org)

To communicate with the board via e-mail, please send suggestions, comments, or complaints to:

[PircaBoard@PineIslandRidge.org](mailto:PircaBoard@PineIslandRidge.org)

These email will be directed to all current board members to assist you with your requests.

*Thank you for supplying your email address so PIRCA can save the expense of mailing this newsletter.*

### *Important Dates:*

*Garage Sale - May 27th*

*Kidde Parade - July 15th*

*Annual Meeting - October 17th*