

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

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## Yard of the Month

Congratulations to our April Yard of the Month winner, Rob, on Blue Mound Dr.! After planting 800 bulbs last fall, his front yard was bursting with bright, cheerful blooms this April! Thank you, Rob, for bringing a beautiful pop of color to our neighborhood this spring! While the blooms may already be fading, it's a lovely reminder to slow down and enjoy the beauty around us while it lasts.



## Spring Lawn Care Reminders

As spring weather settles in, we're seeing more lawn care activity around the neighborhood. Please remember to keep grass clippings off streets and sidewalks, as they can create slippery conditions and clog storm drains.

Additionally, while our HOA does not enforce a specific weed policy, the City of Fort Wayne requires grass and weeds to be maintained at 9 inches or less in height. Possible Tall Grass/Weed violations may be reported by calling 311 or visiting the 311 website, <https://fortwayne.thesmartcity311.com/>

Source: <https://www.cityoffortwayne.in.gov/1426/Tall-GrassWeeds>

For yard waste, grass clippings can be placed in your city trash cart (no loose piles), or bagged in plastic or biodegradable paper bags not exceeding 35 pounds. Branches must fit inside your cart, or can be taken to the Biosolids Facility at 6202 Lake Avenue. Leaves cannot go in the trash cart. Please take them to the Biosolids Facility, open April 1–November 30 (Mon–Sat 8am–6pm, Sun noon–6pm).

Source: <https://www.cityoffortwayne.in.gov/683/Yard-Waste>

If you notice a yard that needs attention, a friendly check-in with your neighbor can make a big difference! Sometimes yards need a little extra care due to travel, illness, or equipment issues. Working together helps keep our neighborhood looking its best!

## Spring Clean-Up Services



Our neighborhood landscape vendor is offering spring clean-up services to residents—perfect for getting your yard ready for the season. If you're interested, contact Raj at Uncommon Grounds Lawn & Landscape for pricing and to schedule your service. (260)446-6276

## Upcoming Events

✳ **Spring Garage Sale Weekend**  
May 14–16

✳ **Fall Garage Sale Weekend**  
September 17–19

Garage Sale weekend is coming up and we'd like to ask everyone participating to please refrain from placing individual signs at the entrance. We will have two "Garage Sale This Weekend, Thurs/Fri/Sat" signs posted at the entrance from 5/10 - 5/16. You're welcome to place directional signs within the neighborhood, but please remove them promptly once the sale is over. Wishing everyone a fun and successful garage sale weekend!

Have an idea for a future event?  
Email [shorewoodfw@gmail.com](mailto:shorewoodfw@gmail.com)

## Monthly HOA Meetings

Neighbors are welcome to attend our monthly HOA Board meetings, held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm at Westview Alliance Church (9804 Illinois Rd.). Meetings are a great opportunity to stay informed, ask questions, and be involved in what's happening in the neighborhood. We'd love to see you there!



## An Egg-cellent Event!

What a fantastic turnout for this year's Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt! With over 100 attendees, the event was filled with excitement, community spirit, and plenty of springtime fun.

Families enjoyed crafts, face painting, a special visit from the Easter Bunny, and delicious coffee from the Travelin' Tom's Coffee truck, before kids set off on an exciting hunt to collect the candy-filled eggs. It was wonderful to see so many neighbors come together to celebrate the season.

Thank you to our generous sponsor, Hoagburg Orthodontics, along with volunteers from the Homestead High School Key Club, neighbors (Allen Schnellenberger, Michelle and Chris Ruppert, Allison Wirth), and the current Board. From stuffing over 1,000 eggs, to helping during the event, we couldn't have done it without you!



## Update on the Repairs at our Entrance

We want to keep everyone informed on the status of repairs to the front entrance sign and landscaping. The HOA Board has been actively working with the driver's insurance company and the process has taken longer than expected. They have completed their evaluation and we are currently awaiting final confirmation on cost, coverage and next steps. At this time, a firm timeline is not available. We'll share updates in the Shorewood Facebook group as soon as we know more.

## Boats, Trailers, and RVs

Did you know, our neighborhood covenants do not allow temporary structures or certain items to be stored or kept on lots? This includes trailers, campers, RVs, boats, boat trailers, above-ground pools, storage sheds, and similar structures, unless specifically approved.

We understand that from time to time, residents may need to bring a boat, RV, or trailer onto their property briefly to prepare for a trip or unload after returning. In these situations, please email [shorewoodfw@gmail.com](mailto:shorewoodfw@gmail.com) with a quick note and the expected duration. This helps the HOA stay informed so that if a concern is raised, we can let neighbors know the situation has been communicated and is temporary.

Thank you for helping us maintain the appearance and standards of our neighborhood while allowing for occasional, short-term needs.

## Stay Connected: Join Shorewood HOA Life

We're working to improve and increase communication in our neighborhood by using HOA Life more. While we will continue to send mailed communications for annual dues and to announce the annual meeting, our goal is to use email for more frequent updates. With 385 homes in Shorewood, mailing paper updates is a significant expense, and not everyone uses Facebook, so email will help us share news, updates, and information more efficiently and cost-effectively. However, we can't make this transition without your help—we need your email address to keep you informed! Please take a moment to share your contact information so you don't miss important neighborhood updates. Your information will only be used for HOA-related purposes and will not be shared or sold.

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code to quickly share your contact info!  
Prefer a link? Visit: <https://forms.gle/gpzpwwPaJtvdNKrGA>

## Planning an Exterior Project?

Please remember that most exterior improvements require prior approval from the Board's Architectural Control Committee, as outlined in Shorewood's covenants. Common projects that require approval:

- Building or adding onto your home
- Fences, patios, decks, pergolas, or outdoor structures
- Exterior renovations/material changes (siding, roof, etc.)
- Expanding your driveway

All proposed improvements must be submitted via HOA Life for approval by the Architectural Committee before work begins. Submitting your request ahead of time helps avoid delays and ensures our neighborhood maintains a consistent and attractive appearance. If you're unsure whether your project requires approval, it's always best to check—we're happy to help guide you through the process!

## Pond Fountains Update

We'd like to share a quick update on the status of our neighborhood pond fountains: The fountain in the pond east of the entrance requires a motor replacement, while on the Sailwind pond, one pump needs to be replaced and electrical issues are being addressed with the other. We've reached out to Jones Lake Management to learn more about their fountain leasing program. This option would include installation, routine maintenance, and winterization, which may help streamline upkeep moving forward. We appreciate your patience as we work through these repairs and explore long-term solutions to keep our ponds and fountains looking their best.

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