
The Ridge Rambler



SRPOA Annual Meeting - July 20

The Saddle Ridge Property Owners Association (SRPOA) annual meeting is Saturday, July 20, 2019, at the Walland United Methodist Church. The gathering starts at 9:00, breakfast at 9:30, and the meeting at 10:00. At that meeting, the Association will elect three members to the Board of Directors. A call for nominations will be going out soon. Breakfast before the meeting is a potluck. Orange juice, water, coffee, plates, and all utensils will be provided.



Firewise Day and Spring Cleanup

Saturday, April 27 was **Saddle Ridge Community Clean-up and Firewise Day**. 22 Saddle Ridge residents came out on April 27 to clean up litter along East Millers Cove Road, remove invasive plants from roadsides and spruce up planter beds at the gate. There was also a crew working the new chipper.

All the new Firewise tools came in very handy. Saddle Ridge looks great!

\$25,000 in Firewise Grants

Thanks to all community members for supporting the Firewise program—and especially to those who worked on the sign project – conducted home inspections – helped chip and remove trees and other vegetation throughout the year.

Here's an overall breakdown of how the grant funds were spent:

- \$16,200 – purchase of the wood chipper (\$5,000) and ditch bank mower (\$4,300), bush hogging, and improving a choke-point
- \$6,200 – purchase and installation of the metal signs throughout Saddle Ridge
- \$2,500 – purchase of a backpack blower, trimmers, loppers, and other tools and safety equipment for property owners to borrow
- \$100 – miscellaneous supplies

We will continue to earn the Firewise designation by reporting our fire preparedness and maintaining wherever possible the 30' defensible space around our homes. Completing the monthly survey helps us report Saddle Ridge's designation as a Firewise community. Thank you.

If you want to borrow other equipment purchased with Firewise funds just let [Betsy Smith](#) know.



New Saddle Ridge Trash Barn

If you have been down to the barn area recently, you probably noticed the concrete slabs that have been poured near the trash barn and behind the barn. These slabs are for the new larger trash barn that should arrive in mid to late June. The new trash barn will be placed on the slab directly in front of the existing trash barn location. The new trash barn will be larger than the existing one and should be sufficient for our growing needs for a long time. The existing trash barn will be moved to the slab behind the barn and used as a tool shed.

When the new trash barn arrives, we plan to install it and move the old one all in one day. This will occur on a Monday soon after the trash is removed from the old trash barn. We will send out a notice as to

when this will occur because the trash barn will be closed that day to accommodate the move. After the barns have been moved, we will get Lamar back in to dress up the area in front of the doors. This should make the trash barn more user-friendly and prevent the muddy area in front from returning. Please bear with us during the transition period.

Thank you to the crew of Saddle Ridge residents who volunteered to prep the site for the new barn!

Please continue to follow our trash guidelines:

- No loose garbage. All garbage must be in a closed bag.
- No construction or lawn garbage. Household trash only.
- All boxes need to be collapsed and put to the side with cardboard, not in the walkway.
- Glass and Styrofoam are considered trash not recycling and need to be bagged with trash.
- No trash in the recycling bins ([check the list of appropriate items](#)).
- The barn is closed from 7 am to 2 pm on Monday for emptying and cleaning.



Treasurer's Report

The 3rd Quarter update on our financial statements, including the Operating Statement and Budget Variance Analysis, was sent via email to all members in April.

Our annual assessment collections have met our budget for the year. Additional collections between now and June 30 only add to our balance. We have also collected over \$14,000 from members who had not paid in previous years. We want to encourage all that have not paid for the current year to do so as soon as possible. Otherwise, they will not be in good standing with the association.

Through March, our total outflows are running very near budget. Still, a few items are running over budget and a few are under budget. One notable under-budget item is our bush-hogging and blowing budget for the year. You may have noticed that our financial report shows that no money has been spent in this area. That is misleading. In fact, we have spent \$960 in this area this year. All of that was reimbursed through our Firewise grant, which will not recur in future years. Also, our bush-hogging equipment stopped operating in mid-season, and we were unable to do as much mowing as we had planned. That won't be a problem in future years as we have used some of our Firewise grant to purchase a new mower. It will be in operation later in 2019.

You will also note that our Special Projects budget is nearly 27% (\$2,691.93) over budget. The primary cause of this problem is the major repairs we had to do on the culverts on Waters End Road at the lake. You will recall all the rain issues we had in February that led to this problem. The remaining expenditure areas vary from the budget by relatively few dollars.

As always, should you have questions, please send them to our organization email address, saddleridgepoa@gmail.com, and we will get back to you with as soon as possible.

The Wild Side of Saddle Ridge

It's almost summer and bears and other wildlife are a lot more active! Make sure your house and property are [Bearwise!](#)

- Never Feed or Approach Bears
- Secure Food, Garbage, and Recycling
- Remove Bird Feeders When Bears Are Active
- Never Leave Pet Food Outdoors
- Clean & Store Grills
- Alert Neighbors to Bear Activity

Be kind to our reptile and amphibian friends. Drive slowly and watch for wildlife.



No firing guns in common areas and no intentional harming of wildlife

The SRPOA Board would like to address an unfortunate incident involving guns and wildlife in Saddle Ridge at the barn recently. **First** and foremost, no-one should ever fire a gun or weapon of any kind on any of the SRPOA common properties. This is extremely dangerous. People, including young children, and pets, often hike the roads and the common areas and may not be visible. We expect all property owners, visitors, and contractors to abide by this – **no firing of weapons of any kind in common areas.**

In case you are not familiar with basic firearm safety:

A 22 short bullet can travel over 1 1/4 miles, and a high velocity cartridge, such as a 30-06, can send its bullet more than 3 miles. Shotgun pellets can travel 500 yards, and shotgun slugs have a range of over half a mile.

It would be tragic if someone was accidentally shot because someone fired a gun thinking there was no one around or did not realize how far and where the bullet might go.

Second, someone fired 4 shots at something down at the barn on May 28 a little before 9 am. We know that a newer 4 door white Ford truck with darkly tinted windows was in the area at the time but no-one has come forward to say what they were shooting at. We suspect they were shooting at the feral hog that had been frequenting the area and the hog was spotted a week later in the barn area with an injury. The hog has since been found dead. The Board had authorized the humane euthanasia of the animal and a USDA trapper had been contacted to take care of the hog. It died before we could find it. **No one should take it upon themselves to trap, shoot, or in any way remove wildlife from our common areas.** We value our wildlife in Saddle Ridge for many reasons. This animal suffered needlessly. It is illegal to hunt on

private property without the written permission of the landowner. It is also illegal to hunt wild boar without a permit. If anyone has information about the truck or driver please contact the board.

-Your SRPOA Board

Alcoa Utility Trims ROW

Alcoa Utility has been trimming trees in the right-of-way under the power lines throughout Saddle Ridge over the past few months. They are doing a thorough job of cutting back limbs that might fall on power lines and cause power failures or fires.



Welcome to Saddle Ridge

New property owners:

Jean Gordan and Dan Shaw - Journey's End

Steffen and Chelsea Miller - Overlook View

Christopher and Alana Myers - Waters End

SR Facebook Group

The Saddle Ridge members [Facebook group page](#) continues to be a great source for information within our community. We regularly post messages, alerts, concerns, and needs to this page. Living in this rural community, we don't often see each other, especially during the winter months, so the Facebook page is a way to communicate timely news such as power outages, fire alerts, wildlife sightings, events coming up, lost pets, or even suspicious traffic.

Contact Sue DuBois sodubois@gmail.com, to be added to the group. Please remember, this page is strictly for people who own property in Saddle Ridge.

Contact your SRPOA Board:

Email: saddleridgepoa@gmail.com

Board members and committee chairs are listed below and also on the [Saddle Ridge website](http://www.saddleridgepoa.com) - www.saddleridgepoa.com

President: Steve Foster - 859-494-7299

Vice President: Janet Kolarik - 865-805-0348

Treasurer: Smitty (G. Robert Smith, Jr.) - 615-631-5836

Secretary: Judy Pearson - 865-982-5729

Board Members:

Alane Wyss - 865-977-1533

Connie Evans - 865-304-2267

Sue DuBois - 865-307-2532

Tom Braun - 225-281-3889

Ken LaValley - 865-970-6410



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