



HAPPY NEW YEAR RIDGEWOOD HILLS

The RHSA Board hopes that everyone had a joy-filled holiday season and wishes the best of 2024 to all of our residents and the larger community. The holidays are a special time and remind us to be especially grateful to those who serve our country and are away from family and for all healthcare and essential workers who unwaveringly serve our community and our Nation.

And, now WINTER has finally arrived – and it seems a bit angry! Please keep yourself safe and check in on your neighbors – especially during the frigid temperatures and power outages. We are all in it together!

2023 Reflections

As part of our year-end newsletter tradition, we like to take the opportunity to pause and reflect on what we have and what we have been able to accomplish. Specific to our subdivision community, there were too many projects undertaken, but one very significant:

- We continued taking down and removing dead trees and had all cul-de-sacs maintained
- We are indebted to and thankful for the commitment, efforts, and hard work on the part of the Maintenance Committee members of the Board who secured the services to fill in the gaps and cracks in our streets. This was possible due to persistence and negotiation! The regular maintenance and contract for the winter road and summer Commons areas is a priority for the Committee and they did an outstanding job again this past year.
- A sincere “thanks” to every homeowner in our community for abiding by the deed restrictions and township requirements to maintain lawns and sidewalk trimming, as well as keeping garbage bins out of site.
- Also, very thankful to all dog owners who pick up after their pets. So grateful to those that do.
- The most significant undertaking of the year was the completion of the Deed Restrictions and Bylaws. The Incorporation documents approved in the Spring of 2023 are currently being registered with the State. The Declarations of Restrictions was approved (by over 75% of residents) and is currently under review with the Plymouth Township Attorney. This is a required step prior to being officially registered. It has been a very lengthy process, and we appreciate the support and patience of all involved!

The Board is continually looking for ways to cost-effectively maintain and improve our neighborhood and create opportunities to spend time together as neighbors. We welcome the engagement, suggestions, and volunteerism of all homeowners in this effort. If you have some time or talent to contribute, please thoughtfully consider joining the Board or even just volunteering to help with a specific project. All participation is welcomed and appreciated.

General Updates

- The week of January 8th was the last yard waste pick-up until the first full week in April.
Reminder: Plymouth Township does not do curbside leaf pick-up. All yard waste must be bagged or in a trash container with a yard waste sign.

BREAKING NEWS!!!!!!

- 2024 Dues
 - * Dues for 2024 will increase 5% and are set at \$205.00, payable by March 31st to avoid a late fee. Dues received late will need to include a \$30.00 late fee.
 - * Dues continue to be payable online via Cheddarup. The link is noted on our website as well as here for your reference: <https://rhsa-2024.cheddarup.com>

Payments made via e-check do not incur a service fee. Payments made with a credit or debit card will incur a service fee. Checks can also be sent directly to RIDGEWOOD HILLS SUBDIVISION ASSOCIATION at P. O. Box 5492, Plymouth, MI, 48170.

Winter Reminders!



Important (and friendly) reminders for the season:

- When the snow comes, please keep your vehicles in your driveway or garage so that the streets can be plowed efficiently.
- Residents use our sidewalks during the winter and snow and ice accumulation can be a serious safety hazard. **Please remember to shovel, clear, and/or salt the sidewalks for safe passage.**
- Plymouth Township requires that all sidewalks be cleared within 24 hours, and infractions can result in fines of \$85 per day. When clearing your driveway and sidewalk of snow please do not to throw snow into the street. We all need to work together to make our streets, sidewalks and driveways more passable and safer. It has also been suggested that it may be a good time to trim back any branches hanging over the sidewalks. As the trees do not have any leaves, it is an easier clean up!
- **If you are going out of town for a few days or somewhere warmer for the winter season, please be sure to make arrangements to have ice and snow removed from your sidewalks within the 24-hour time limit.** We also recommend you use timers for both inside and outside lights which will help your home appear lived in, thereby reducing the possibility of break-ins. The lights not only protect your residence but also your neighbors around you.
- Please watch the storm drains in the streets near your homes and in your back yards. Keep them clear of debris and leaves to prevent storm water runoff from turning into ice. This can cause flooding due to water backup and ice accumulation.



Maintenance Corner/Sub Improvement Updates

The maintenance team continues to work hard to keep our sub in great shape. A huge “thank you” for managing the landscaping and snow removal throughout the year and ensuring that our streets and drains remain in good condition!

*The snow contractor noted that there were some damages to lawns on the recent plowing. He said that this would be repaired in the spring. If any resident has experienced any damage, please take picture of the problem and email to Jon Pilon with the address etc. and he will make sure the contractor gets the information. Old Village has been very responsive in the past and we are confident that it will be taken care of.



- **February 2024**

2nd – 4th - Plymouth Ice Festival
(Downtown Plymouth)

14th - Last day to pay winter taxes without penalty
Valentine’s Day

19th- President’s Day

29th – Leap Year Day!

The Best Michigan Winter Festivals:

<https://www.travel-mi.com/Michigan-Winter-Festivals.html>

A Little Comic Relief

“New Year’s Irresolutions”

(written by Richard Lederer at Funnytimes.com)

*Our Comic Corner for this newsletter is dedicated to the new year “tradition” of making New Year’s resolutions. I hope you enjoy this article!

"We make New Year's resolutions, vowing to better ourselves in the coming year. But most of these resolutions go in one year and out the other and are forgotten shortly after they're made. In fact, roughly 80 percent of all New Year's resolutions are broken by the end of February.

I believe that taking a few moments to reflect on our shortcomings and optimistically plan to overcome them is better than making no attempt at all. And sometimes, when we are ready for change, those resolutions do stick – some for a lifetime.

When they drop the ball in Times Square on New Year's Eve, it's a reminder of what I did all last year. So, for this year,

- I resolve not to drop the ball.*
- I resolve to get better at pretending to know the words to "Auld Lang Syne."*
- I was going to quit all my bad habits, but I realized that nobody likes a quitter.*
- I resolve to take all the Christmas lights down by Easter.*
- I resolve to get in shape. Round is a shape.*
- I resolve to get more exercise, so I've moved the refrigerator into the basement.*
- I resolve to lose weight by inventing an anti-gravity machine. If that doesn't work, I resolve to help all my friends gain 10 pounds so I look skinnier.*
- I resolve to read more, so I'm going to put the captions up on my TV screen.*
- I resolve to leave the toilet seat down, as long as my wife promises to leave the toilet seat up.*
- I resolve to get better at multitasking, so I'm going to start texting while sitting on the toilet.*
- I resolve to stop making the same mistake twice. Instead, I'll make a different mistake each time.*
- I resolve to stop messing up my online passwords, so I've changed all of them to "incorrect." Now, every time I key in the wrong code, the computer reminds me that "Your password is incorrect."*
- I resolve to be more positive and less sarcastic. Yeah, sure.*
- I resolve to conserve water by taking fewer showers and baths.*
- I resolve to floss every day, and not just with wild abandon the day before my dental cleaning.*
- I resolve to stop repeating myself again and again and again.*
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- I resolve to stop hanging out with people who ask me about my New Year's resolutions.*
- I resolve to acquire all leftover 2020, 2021, and 2022 calendars and burn them.*
- I resolve to live forever. So far, so good. If I fail to keep this resolution, I will die trying.*
- I resolve to break all my New Year's resolutions. That way I can succeed at something.*

🐾 As your reader-friendly Attila the pun, my final Gnu Year's resolution is to tell ewe a gazelleon times how much I caribow ewe, deer. I'm a wildebeest of a punster, and you're thinking, "Unicorniest fellow I've ever met!" but I'm not out to buffalo or a llama ewe, so alpaca bag and hightail it out of here in camelflage.

May all your troubles last as long as the success of your New Year's resolutions!"

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