

Annual Security & Safety Management Committee Report

by: Tom Post

The Security and Safety Committee has been very busy and here are some things we are working on:

Our beaches will see some improvements, Main Beach has been designated as our handicap accessible beach, as it already has ramp access to the water, and given the hilly access to our others, this made the most sense logistically and cost effectively, too. One of our neighbors suggested a handrail be installed on one of the beach docks to make it easier to get in and out of watercraft. The committee fully agreed with this idea which will make getting in and out of watercraft much safer. We proposed that we extend this idea to include all our docks after a trial run at Meadow Beach. We put in our budget proposal for this coming year monies for purchasing another A.E.D. that will be placed at Otter Pond Beach House. This will give Wildwood better coverage as Otter Pond is far away from our other units.

As you have seen, we have new checkpoint ahead signage. Our Greeters tell us they can see a big difference and the new signs are doing a great job of informing our guests of the need to get "checked in" and the reminder of our Wildwood speed limit is a bonus. We were able to acquire the sandwich boards that the signs are mounted on for free, so we only had a very minimal cost.

Our new street signs are being put up as our maintenance crew can get time to do the installs. They are finding that many of the brackets need more than just new paint. Many are bent, have broken welds and some have had the tree grow around the bracket itself. This is a work in progress, and you will see new signs appear throughout the summer.

Tolland has experienced an unprecedented number of severe rainstorms in the last month creating havoc on our beaches and roadways. Everyone should use extra awareness as you walk around our community as many of our roadways have washouts just off the pavement which, if you fall into, could cause serious injuries. Our Staff is working hard (even when the heat stress index was near 100) to keep up with these issues, but it will take some time, so let's all be careful and Stay Safe.

During this year's paving projects, as the road is being paved, we may be adding speed humps into the pavement and removing the temporary rubber ones. We would also like to add a speed table with a crosswalk at Main Beach which will be safer than our current set up. These speed control devices would be operational all year long and not just during the normal season. They will make it safer for our bicycle riders too, as they will be able to just ride over safely and not have to worry about crashing because of the rubber speed blocks. As a bonus, maintenance staff will not be spending valuable time to remove, repair, and reinstall rubber speedbumps each year, and during winter, they will just snowplow over them.

On May 28, 2023 at about 4:45 am 14 cars in our Wildwood Community were riffled through and one broken into. Tolland's Police Chief responded and found the perpetrators on Burt Hill Road and gave pursuit. The bad guys tried to go out the back entrance but were stopped by our security gate and turned around and left via our main entrance. Our Board of Directors has asked our Committee to investigate options we can take for better security. Some of our charge is security cameras at our entrances and addition of a front gate system. We have already met with several vendors and are actively working towards making Wildwood a Safer community. Stay tuned for further updates. As we have previously reported, we are still investigating how we can save costs on our security system at our clubhouse, this is ongoing and with the addition of cable internet access should make a big difference in how we proceed. Right now there is something we all can do. **DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR CAR AND USE THE OLD PHRASE "LOCK IT AND POCKET THE KEY."** ONE OF OUR NEIGHBORS OUT FOR THEIR MORNING JOG, SAW THE SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE AND CALLED 911 to report it. This no doubt turned the tide of this rampage on our community. **WHOEVER YOU ARE, THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US.**

If you "SEE SOMETHING, PLEASE SAY SOMETHING!"