

Maple Hills Minute

January 11, 2024

Hello January

Journey of a thousand miles
Always starts somewhere.
Nothing will be achieved
Unless you take
Action. Momentum plus
Repeated efforts will take
You further than expected



Happy New Year Friends

Well Hello Maple Hills,

Happy New Year!!!

I hope that you each were able to ring in 2024 in a way that brought you joy and peace. Our house was in bed watching shows that made us laugh. We toasted at midnight and watched the Space Needle fireworks on tv, went outside and hollered Happy New Year then promptly went to sleep. It was what we needed to give us peace and joy and wish that for you.

I wanted to thank all of the volunteers that helped to make the Santa Pancake Breakfast! Santa was delightful and I loved my annual picture with him. Seeing so many smiling faces made my holiday season... and it made me so grateful to call Maple Hills home. I look forward to another great year with you! I look forward to seeing many new faces at events, the park, the pool, and lending your special talents for the greater good!

Have the best month available to you,
Katie Johnson, President

January Board Meeting Highlights

The monthly Board meeting was held in person on 1/10/22. Here's a quick recap of the highlights.

- Scout member, Shelby Mallard proposed installing a free little library near the pool for her Eagle Badge. The Board approved, pending installation details.
- Katie and Matt are working on a new website! We are looking forward to having a more user friendly platform to keep the community informed.
- The Board is working on remedying the flooding at the baseball field. A letter has been sent to neighbors to request help rerouting the water.
- We were able to move a substantial chunk of money from our reserves into a high yield 6 month CD.
- A new contract is under review for the Marlins swim team including an increased discount for HOA members.
- We have a list of capital improvements needed at the pool. For more info please see below.
- Rates for outside pool membership will be increased to \$700 due to high demand and capital improvement needs.
- The polar bear plunge was a success! (And also freezing... ok, 45 degrees but seriously freezing...)
- The Firehouse is available for bookings by members and non-members. See the website for rates and availability.

To see previous minutes, click here: https://maplehills.org/media_category/minutes/



Community Events

The Polar Bear Plunge was so much fun and SO COLD! All ages joined in and started the year with a "refreshing" jump in the pool! Everyone enjoyed warming up with doughnuts, bacon and warm drinks.

Friday, January 12th there is a Blood Drive at the Firehouse. There are still a few slots open. Use the link below to sign up.

https://donate.bloodworksnw.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/72950?fbclid=IwAR1owkLmlVwRjyFZk5PYzwo6d52eVWnV-s-NYht63ssS00V82_3qWqR3vyU

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will be on March 30th. Be on the look out for details on signing up to volunteer in the next few weeks.

Pool Capital Projects

Below is a list of planned improvements and repairs for the pool. If you have any expertise or connections that can help with any of them, please reach out to the Board.

Pool Deck Repairs

- Repair (chipped) broken concrete near deep area with concrete epoxy
- Spray all deck seams with moss killer
- Pressure wash expansion joint seams and drain inserts

- Recaulk damaged/loose deck caulking and drain inserts
- Replace drain covers (as needed)
- Repair gate latch to small pool (doesn't auto latch)

Air Quality Monitor

- Purchase and Install WiFi-connected air quality monitor

Plumbing

- Clean and/or repair floor drains in both changing rooms (not draining well)
- Upgrade rusted steel floor drain covers with bronze, stainless steel or chrome covers
- Repair boys shower faucets

Changing Rooms

- Remove boy's entryway white floor tiles to end of entry wall
- Grind boy's floor to make smooth & level
- Lay new (Blue) tiles to match existing floor
- Seal coat benches in both Changing Rooms with a clear waterproof sealant

Back Office

- Purchase & lay tiles to match Front Office floor

Pool House exterior

- Replace under-eave wood where hornets were removed

Maple Hills Marlins Swim Team

Did you know that Maple Hills has a youth swim team? The Maple Hills Marlins are a swim team for youth 5-18 that operates May-July through the Midlakes Swim League and is open to both MHMC members and non-members. In an effort to ensure that members are able to join the team, especially at those younger ages, we are working with the Marlins Board to provide information about the team as well as timely information about registration.

Registration typically opens late February/early March. If you are interested in signing your swimmer up, you will want to pay close attention to the dates when they are posted because the spots do tend to fill up fast. The age groups have a finite amount of slots for swimmers because the meets would take even longer than they already do if the slots were unlimited. The registration is tiered with the first slots being open to returning swimmers and MHMC members.

The season generally involves:

- An optional swim clinic in May.
- Swim practice every weekday after school by age group (Before the pool officially opens for the year)
- Swim practice every weekday morning when school is out
- Swim meets every Tuesday and Thursday. One is home and one is away.
- A Mile Swim fundraiser
- A commitment to volunteer hours with the team

Costs are being finalized and will be shared when available.

When the website is available, we will post it for reference as it contains a ton of information and documents to review.



Winter is Coming: Essential Snow Prep Tips for Our Neighborhood!

As the frosty fingers of winter start to grip our neighborhood, it's crucial for each of us to prepare for the impending snowfall. Snow, while beautiful, can bring a set of challenges that, if unprepared for, can disrupt our daily lives. This article offers practical tips to ensure you and your family remain safe, warm, and perhaps even enjoy the winter wonderland.

1. Insulate Your Home

Insulation is key to keeping your home warm and your heating bills low. Check for drafts around windows and doors, and consider weather stripping or caulking any gaps. Insulating your attic and basement can also significantly reduce heat loss.

2. Prepare Your Pipes

Frozen pipes can be a costly headache. Insulate pipes, especially those exposed to the cold or located in unheated spaces. Keep your home at a consistent temperature day and night, and consider leaving cabinet doors open to allow warm air to circulate around pipes under sinks.

3. Stock Up on Supplies

Before the snow hits, stock up on essentials. This includes non-perishable food, bottled water, medications, and pet supplies. Don't forget about a sufficient supply of rock salt or environmentally friendly ice melt, and sand for improved traction on icy paths.

4. Snow Removal Equipment

Ensure your snow shovel is in good condition, or consider investing in a snow blower if you have a large area to clear (Or just borrow Kevin Selkowitz's). Remember, it's easier to remove snow in layers during a heavy snowfall than to wait until it's all accumulated.

5. Winterize Your Vehicle

Prepare your car for winter conditions. This includes checking antifreeze levels, tire pressure, and the battery. Keep a winter emergency kit in your car with items like blankets, a flashlight, a first-aid

kit, and some non-perishable snacks.

6. Dress Appropriately

Dress in layers to keep warm during winter. Waterproof boots, gloves, and a hat are essential when venturing outside. Remember, it's easier to remove layers if you're too warm than to wish you had more if you're cold.

7. Plan for Emergencies

In case of a power outage, have a plan in place. Keep a supply of candles, matches, batteries, and flashlights. If you have a fireplace, stock up on dry wood. Consider purchasing a portable generator but remember to keep it outside to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

8. Stay Informed

Keep an eye on weather forecasts and heed any warnings or advisories. Subscribe to local alerts for real-time updates on severe weather conditions.

9. Help Your Neighbors

Remember, some of our neighbors may need extra assistance. Check on elderly or disabled neighbors before and after a snowstorm, offering to help with snow removal or errands. If you are on Facebook feel free to post on the community page if you need help with anything.

10. Enjoy the Snow!

Lastly, while preparation is key, don't forget to enjoy the beauty of winter. Build a snowman, have a snowball fight, or simply enjoy the quiet beauty of a snow-covered landscape. The hill by the baseball field is prime for sledding. It's a special time of year that can be filled with joy if we're well-prepared.

Kids Korner

Joke of the month

Q: What was Dr. Frankenstein's New Year's resolution?

A: To make new friends.

January Activities

Star Wars snow flakes

<https://www.anthonyherreradesigns.com/starwarssnowflakes>

Snowy water color art

<https://artfulparent.com/sticker-resist-starry-night-cards/>

Your 2023-24 Board Members

The Maple Hills Board of Trustees is a volunteer, member-voted group. Representatives serve 2 year terms.

President- Katie Johnson

Vice President- Kelly Walshe

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Secretary- Rebecca Schwenk
Clubhouse Trustee- Matt Nepsa
Park Trustee- Mike Peil
Pool Trustee- Jodi Skroch
Communications Trustee- Nicole Dudley
Events Trustee- Julie Alexander

Email: maple-hills-board@googlegroups.com

Website: www.maplehills.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/maplehills>

How to reach the Board? Get Information?

Ideas and feedback are welcomed!

Please use the following emails to reach the appropriate Board member:

- General Board Inquiries- maple-hills-board@googlegroups.com
- Events Inquiries- MapleHillsEvents@gmail.com
- Newsletter Inquiries- MapleHillsNewsletter@gmail.com
- Pool Inquiries- PoolMapleHills@gmail.com

- Pool number- (425) 228-5013

To find the Calendar of Events, how to pay dues, Bylaws, pool information, shelter reservations, Board meeting minutes, Firehouse reservation details, budget information and more:
www.maplehills.org

To subscribe to the monthly e-newsletter click below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_EzY2cfLCVOQNP1wkMEq6RI4crH6bEN5gneWp5N1hww/viewform?edit_requested=true



Maple Hills Newsletter

Maple is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters