

A banner image showing a mountain peak under a cloudy sky at dusk or dawn, with the text 'Sky Mountain HOA Newsletter January 2022' centered over it.

# Sky Mountain HOA Newsletter

## January 2022

### Welcome New Neighbors!

The hot housing market last year motivated a number of longtime homeowners to sell. We shall miss these longtime residents. And we welcome our new homeowners to our wonderful community! If you need information about the Homeowners Association, please visit our website [www.skymtn.net](http://www.skymtn.net) where you can find information about the neighborhood, our Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions which ensure that our neighborhood remains as great as it is.

### Neighborhood Bear Watch!

For many years, there has been a resident mama bear roaming the Sky Mountain greenbelt. In the past couple of months, mama and baby bear have been seen walking our neighborhood streets and sidewalks as early as 7PM and into the night. They have been turning over trash cans looking for food, and this has resulted in a lot of trash litter. If possible, please wait to move your gray garbage bin outside until morning hours, so this will help keep the bears from roaming the streets.

Did you know... that birdfeeders attract bears and rats? While it's a lovely idea to feed the birds, this practice has caused major problems for some of our homeowners. Because of our

wet climate, the Seattle area has a major problem with rats. Rats are attracted to birdfeeders. Several homes in the area had their crawl spaces invaded by rats, and owners ended up spending thousands of dollars sanitizing and replacing insulation. So please do not put out bird feeders!

### Crime Watch

We continue to hear of home and car break-ins throughout Bellevue and surrounding areas. Car break-ins have been especially bad in the last six months. They have occurred in golf course parking lots and hiking trail parking areas, as well as our own neighborhood. A vehicle was recently stolen from a home near Cougar Ridge Elementary School. Some very important advice:

- Always LOCK your car!
- Never leave any valuables in your car
- Never leave information with your address in your car. Burglars have broken into cars and then gotten the home address and robbed peoples' homes. You can take a photo of your car registration and keep it on your cell phone. Police will accept this as a valid way of documenting that your own your car.

## Snow Issues

The December snow was a treat for many and a pain for others. It sure lasted a long time! Many of us went 3 weeks without trash pickup and 11 days without mail. We learned that USPS will not deliver mail to your mail kiosk if snow is blocking their ability to drive right up to the curb. So you may get your mail sooner by shoveling the snow directly in front of and around your kiosk to allow normal access for the mail truck. **When driving the neighborhood streets during snow, please be especially watchful for walkers and drive extra carefully!**

## Dog Walking Business

Neighbors have complained about doggie doo left on their sidewalks and yards. Please be responsible and carry a bag and pick up after your dog. There are two dog bag and drop stations in the neighborhood. One is on the rim on 177<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, and the other near the greenbelt on SE 45<sup>th</sup> St at the bottom of the hill.

## What is the Role of the Board of Directors and the ACC?

The Sky Mountain Homeowners Association Board of Directors has the responsibility to protect, manage and maintain the community-owned property. This includes the Sky Mountain perimeter and interior greenbelts, common areas such as the islands located in cul-de-sacs, mail kiosks, and entrance monuments, etc. Below is a summary of topics discussed during the Annual Homeowners' Meeting in September 2021.

### Board of Directors:

- New members were elected to the Board of Directors. They are Jason Gee, Dave Johnson, Ting Hong, Christopher Ahl and Dee Dee Brochu.
- Members continuing to serve on the Board include Anton Fedorenko, Victor Wang and Russell Smith.

### ACC Report:

- The ACC is making house color approvals with an eye to keeping the neighborhood in step with current trends, which includes approving gray or dark gray colors.
- Homeowner were reminded to:
  - Submit approval applications for all exterior improvements
  - Maintain landscaping
  - Not store Boats/RV's on driveways or the streets
  - First try to resolve any CC&R issue with neighbors before calling the Board

### Landscaping Report:

- The 2021 Spring cleanup costs were lower compared to prior years due to less participation
- Routine everyday maintenance of the common areas and cul-de-sac islands continued
- Some dead trees in the common areas were removed

### Other Discussion Items:

- Homeowners should keep sidewalks free of leaves and pine needles to reduce hazards and clear the storm drains
- Homeowners can call the City of Bellevue directly to request repairs to the streets and curbs