



# Cottonwood West Homeowners Association

## Newsletter Spring 2021

[cottonwoodwesthoa.org](http://cottonwoodwesthoa.org)

### Annual Meeting

Be sure to mark your calendar to attend the annual meeting of the Homeowners Association. It will be held this year on April 20, 2021 at St Joan of Arc, 12735 W 58th Avenue from 7:30 pm and ending by 9:00 pm. Our meeting is downstairs in church basement. Some signage and directions will be on the exterior door. I suggest parking in back by the school (North side of the complex behind the church offices) and walking down the driveway and through the glass double doors (sign). Proceed down the stairs or take the elevator to the lower level. Proceed through the Durrie reception hall to the end of the room. Room 5 is slightly to the right at the end of the Durrie reception hall. As a thank-you to them we are mentioning their Wine Tasting fundraiser at the end of this newsletter.



### Trash Transition

When we negotiated our new year trash pickup agreement (included in your yearly dues) we invited three companies to give us pricing. Waste Connections gave us the lowest price,

similar to what we had been paying, if we would transition to using their standard 96 gallon trash cart. The reasoning here is their standard cart is compatible with the hydraulic lift on the back of the trash trucks. The biggest expense they have is labor. Because of the nature of the work, the next biggest is workman's compensation due to injury. Using these trash carts negates much of the injuries. Additionally they offered us a very good price on our semi-annual dumpsters, saving us hundreds of dollars. They offered the trash carts for free, and if you don't have one yet, please call 303-288-2100 and they will deliver them. It is important to note that if you need additional carts or have something special to pick up (hot water heater, Christmas tree) it will cost extra and you must make an arrangement to pay in advance. The extras pricing seems very reasonable.

### Dumpsters

The very popular dumpster program is back this year with dates you can plan on. The Spring dumpsters will arrive just before Memorial Day Weekend (always a time when many of our members are out cleaning up from winter). The Fall dumpsters will arrive just before Labor Day weekend, with actual dates promoted in the Summer/Fall Newsletter.



### 2021 Homeowner Dues



We still have some homeowners that have not paid their 2021 homeowner's dues. If you have not paid the \$240.00 annual dues, please send your payment to:

**Cottonwood West HOA**  
**PO Box 840**  
**Arvada, CO 80001**

### Driving

We've all seen signs saying "Drive like your children/grandchildren live here", A very good premise. This neighborhood has been blessed with many children. Let's take good care of them.



### Lock Your Cars

As isolated as we seem, there are still some roaming groups of troublemakers looking for a quick buck. When one neighbor's car was stolen a few years back, the police found the thieves had 32 credit cards lifted from other vehicles in this neighborhood. Recently a truck was removed from it's rightful home. Lock your doors. Lock your cars.

### Wine Tasting



As mentioned earlier, **St Joan of Arc Early Learning Center** is hosting a fundraising event for the school April 17 from 5:30 to 9:00 PM in the Orleans Hall. Heavy gourmet Hors D'Oeuvres, 30 different wines, beer and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Tickets are \$40pp or \$45 at the door and can be purchased by calling 303-422-4949. We thank them for getting us the annual meeting space.

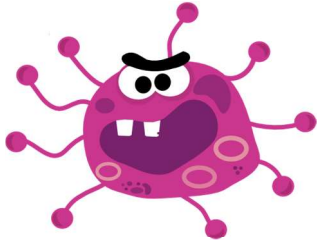


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### Too much virus



You may have noticed that we have postponed the annual meeting (usually held in April) and cancelled the block party (usually held August-September) due to all of us trying to figure out this whole virus thing. While we don't anticipate using the

phrase "new normal" we do anticipate a return to an old normal and will look for when we might do that. The board will continue to monitor conditions for safe group gathering and will call for an annual meeting as soon as it seems feasible. We do not look to do an online meeting as many of our members do not wish to learn Zoom and we want to allow for inclusion of everyone.

### Children at Play

We are pleased to see so many wonderful young couples with young children moving to the neighborhood. These children are our future and deserve our respect and care. Please watch out for children playing when driving through the neighborhood. There are few things more tragic than the unintended interaction between a child and a 2 ton vehicle. Eyes wide open, speed down low.



### Lets keep our children safe.

### Dumpster thoughts

Our semi-annual dumpsters are out right now and tend to fill quickly. We remind everyone that overfilling the dumpsters costs extra and we ask that you break items down and recycle cardboard boxes instead of putting them in the dumpster. The dumpster on Youngfield is overfilled by 3 feet and it has cardboard boxes and large furniture in it. We know that it is hard to get rid of stuff but a little reminder to help us out..



### Looking for a New Board Member

We welcome Pam Motyl as an addition to the board, bringing us back up to the traditional five members. However, we anticipate losing one board member in the near future due to her moving away. The Board reviews Architectural Control Committee requests for changes in structure or landscaping and sets the annual dues each member pays each year for trash collection, dumpsters and the Block Party. Having five members is important to prevent a tie when voting on an issue. It is not a difficult job, and many things are handled through email with only two to three meetings each year (even less at the moment). If you have an interest and would like to know more, call Bernie at 303-421-7943.



### Covenant Review



Covenants are important to us all and are the biggest reason our neighborhood looks appealing. We ask that you take some time and review them to see that your home is consistent with the items outlined there. If you do not have a copy of the covenants, you can find them at

our website at: [www.cottonwoodwesthoa.org/](http://www.cottonwoodwesthoa.org/) ...and click on "Documents".

Some things to think about are

- Paints and staining may need refreshing
- Mature trees and shrubbery may need trimming
- Landscaping, keeping weeds under control
- Fencing may need replacing

The word covenant means "agreement" and you should have had the opportunity to view the covenants before buying your home. When we all adhere to the *agreement* our home values are protected and our neighborhood looks great.

### ACC Forms

Just a reminder if you are thinking of painting, staining a different color, or doing any exterior work on your home, it is a good idea to submit an ACC form to the Board. Forms can be found at our website, click on the "documents" section.

Just print, fill it out, scan and send it as a PDF to [board@cottonwoodwesthoa.org](mailto:board@cottonwoodwesthoa.org) or drop it off at 12727 West 57th Drive or with any Board Member.





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### Looking After Your Dog

We have had many members inquire about letting others know how important it is to deal effectively with your pets. This neighborhood is known for its many dogs, and that is great until their activities spill over into your neighbor's yard or activities. Please keep your dog on a leash and see to it that your dogs refrain from leaving unsolicited gifts in the yards of others. Barking is also an activity that can greatly annoy your neighbors. Be mindful that the barking often occurs when you are not around but your neighbor is. A mournful howl is pretty much painful to listen to when one is trying to relax or sleep. There are many resources for training that can eliminate this disruptive and annoying behavior.



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**Lets keep our children safe.**

### Trash Collection

Our previous trash collector has been acquired by a new company, but the service remains the same:

Regular weekly pickup is at the curb by early Monday - Recycle biweekly, every other Monday.

Trash guidelines and the recycle schedule (Gold A week) are at:

[www.wcdenver.com/residential/](http://www.wcdenver.com/residential/)



### Looking for a New Board Member



Our Board of Directors is currently at four when our normal is five members. The Board reviews Architectural Control Committee requests for changes in structure or landscaping and sets the annual dues each member pays each year for trash collection, dumpsters and the Block Party. Having five members is important to prevent a tie when voting on an issue. It is not a difficult job, and many things are handled through email with only two to three meetings each year. If you have an interest and would like to know more, call Bernie at 303-421-7943.

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Some things to think about are

- Paints and staining may need refreshing
- Mature trees and shrubbery may need trimming
- Landscaping, keeping weeds under control
- Fencing may need replacing
- Trailers, campers, vans; anything other than common 4 wheel passenger vehicles cannot be parked on the street, but can be parked on the side or in the rear yards of any site so long as they are completely surrounded by a 72 inch fence as approved by the ACC.

The word covenant means "agreement" and you should have had the opportunity to view the covenants before buying your home. When we all adhere to the *agreement* our home values soar and our neighborhood looks great.

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Be sure to mark your calendar to attend the **Annual Meeting** of the Homeowners Association.



It will be held this year on Tuesday April 23, 2019 at the St Joan of Arc Orleans Hall, 12735 W 58th Avenue at 7:30 pm and ending by 9:00 pm. Simply come into the doors for the main hall in the west wing of the building and proceed down the hall (not far) to the **Lorraine** room on the right. Special thanks to our community neighbor St Joan's for providing this meeting space free of charge.

### Block Party



Our block party last September was well-attended and great fun. Please bring your thoughts on the timing of the block party to our Annual Meeting.

Some like an early summer date and some like a late summer date. We will discuss these options and any changes you'd like to see in how we do it.

### Porch Pirates

We know it's easy to look around this neighborhood and feel secure that things like theft and vandalism can't happen here. Nothing could be further from the truth. Cars have been stolen out of people's garages in this neighborhood in the past. When one car was recovered, Denver Police also recovered 30 credit cards that did not belong to the five young men who were driving in the car.



Even the Arabs have a saying, "Trust in Allah, but tie up your camel." Decorative items like flower pots can be used by UPS/FEDEX to hide your packages. Some people have a box for packages on their porch so at least they aren't so obvious. And keep your eyes open. Write down license plates of vehicles that don't belong.

### Dumpsters

The very popular dumpster program is back this year with dates you can plan on. Traditionally, the Spring dumpsters arrive just before Memorial Day weekend. Please let us know your thoughts on them and/or their placement throughout the neighborhood at the **Annual Meeting** April 23. Some items are not allowed, especially electronics under a state law that requires recycling. Details can be found under the "Documents" tab on our website.

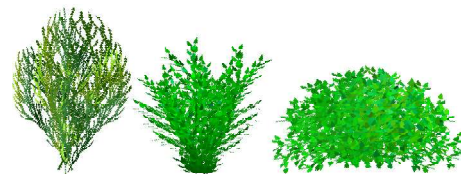


### 2019 Homeowner Dues

If you have not yet paid your Homeowner Association dues, time to ante up. As a point of information, your annual dues covers trash pickup, the Block Party, and the spring and fall dumpster program.

### Bushes & Trees Gone Wild...

It is of particular importance for all of us to keep our bushes, trees and shrubs neatly trimmed and in order.



This is the perfect time to use the Spring dumpster campaign for disposing of excess landscape growth. Front yards should have their landscaping maintained for the good of everyone here. We have on average two to three homes for sale in Cottonwood West at any given time, and out of respect for our neighbors we owe it to each of them to see that the neighborhood makes a good impression!

### Community Garage Sale

2019 would not normally be the year to host a community wide garage sale as we did last year and usually skip a year. Please bring your thoughts on this to the **Annual Meeting** April 23 for discussion.