

LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS, SUNLANDERS!

Welcome to the first ever (as far as we know) Sunland Landscape Newsletter. This twice-yearly communication will share helpful information, timely advice, and a smile or two. We hope you enjoy it.

Yes Dear, We Have Deer

What can you do about it? Not much!

If you can fence an area for vegetables and/or ornamentals, request permission from the Architecture Committee and go for it. No room for fencing? Plan what they don't like.

- Peonies
- Lavender
- Rosemary
- Daisies
- Poppies
- Daffodils

Or native Washington foliage:

- Rhododendron
- Azalea
- Ferns
- Foxglove

They will nibble your evergreen bushes and trees. They will cop a bite of a hydrangea or lilac as they saunter past. Don't plant roses and tulips where they can get at them, because deer can't resist them. They will eat geranium and begonia, although Sunset's Western Garden Book says they are "deer resistant".

Apparently, our deer can't read, as they will also eat Crocosmia and Clematis.

Love 'em or hate 'em, they're here to stay. Even if Fish and Wildlife personnel were to truck them out, as has been proposed, more would move in — SunLand is just that irresistible.



WALKING THE DOG 🐕

Did you get out and walk around your neighborhood this fall? Whether you have a dog or not, it's worth the time. Your neighbors have some amazing landscape ideas. You don't get the full effect driving, or even bicycling around. Tasteful yard ornaments — a ceramic baby deer peering from behind a bush. A covey of white stone quail trooping along under a wide window. Bunnies by the mailbox. Tiny ceramic birds glued to the roof of a mailbox hutch.

Yards outlined in stones, in short retaining walls, in rockeries. Gravel parking strips, weedless and well-maintained. Attractive greenery thoughtfully planted to please the eye not only of the homeowner, but of people passing by.

SEASONAL CLEANUP AND WINTERIZING

We hope you got the bulk of this work done before the weather turned colder. Because it sure is a lot harder to pull up stuff that's still blooming, isn't it? Nasturtium, Marigold, Geranium were still blooming well into Fall. But after one frosty night, they've all turned to black mush by now. It's much better to pull them up and have a clean slate of garden beds sleeping away peacefully through the cold months. And before you know it, Spring will be here and you will be ready to plant anew.

THINGS WE ALL KNOW... BUT SOMETIMES IGNORE

When we moved here, we were given a copy of the Sunland CC&R's — basically, rules for living harmoniously with our neighbors. As years go by, sometimes those rules and regulations fall into misuse.

Here are a few reminders.

Security lighting: Because there are only a few streetlights in Sunland, each homeowner is required to have a dusk-to-dawn automatic security light on the street side of their home. Is yours functioning okay?

Propane tanks need to be tucked away out of sight to the extent possible or camouflaged if visible from the street.

Parking strips need to be weed/grass-free.

Vines and bushes should be inside your own yard, not tumbling into your neighbors' space or common areas.

Fences: you are still responsible for the land outside your fence within your property boundary lines, so please keep it weed-free.

RVs, boats and trailers belong in the Sunland RV lot, not in your driveway.

Landscape maintenance: If somehow things have gotten away from you and you are overwhelmed, or age and infirmity make it difficult to keep up your grounds to required standards, contact a landscape committee member for help getting a plan together. Maybe it's a seasonal cleanup, or trimming of overgrown shrubs that you can no longer manage. We are a community of mostly seniors and sometimes we need help. Ask for it!

A SUNLAND TO BE PROUD OF

There are hundreds of examples of great landscapes within our boundaries. On the heels of fall's beauty, there was a bevy of colorful trees and shrubs presenting a breathtaking display of color against the dark green of fir and cedar trees. From the many species of maple — vine, Japanese, sugar, to golden sumac, dogwood and serviceberry. It's eye-popping if you take the time to look around you and admire the beauty of Sunland in Autumn.

There are three kinds of landscapes in Sunland. Whether you're gravel or whether you're grass.

The "**Oh Wow—Super!**" The "**Doing Okay**", and the "**Oh Oh—Needs Help**". Which one are you?

If you need help, remember your Landscaping Committee is here to advise you. Please reach out to landscaping@sunlandhoa.com.

We've Got Spirit, Yes We Do!

Halloween has come and gone (Thanksgiving too, wow!) and we hope you took the time to enjoy the many spooky and creative decorative displays around the neighborhood in October. Thanks to everyone who participated in our **Halloween Spirit Decoration Contest**, and for all your votes. In collaboration with the Recreation Committee, we're pleased to announce the winners, who each received prizes from local Sequim businesses.

1st Place: 161 Sunset Pl.
2nd Place: 117 Sunland Dr.
3rd Place: 119 Sunland Dr.

Pull out your lights. Dust off your giant reindeer, and be on the lookout for an announcement about a winter Holiday Decoration Contest soon. (And don't worry, we'll come up with a better name for it by then. Any suggestions?). Let's celebrate the season in Sunland Style and, most of all, have some fun with it.

SIGNING OFF

So that's all the words of wisdom from your SLOA Landscaping Chair and Committee for now. Thanks for helping to make Sunland beautiful (which has the added benefit of keeping our property values at the top of the market, too).

Together we can keep this the most sought-after residential community in Sequim!