



Deer Run Community News

Newsletter of the Deer Run Community Organization - February 2017

DRCO Annual Meeting

6:30 p.m., May 7th; Poulsbo Library

The Deer Run Community Organization (DRCO) Covenants, Rules & Restrictions require the DRCO Board to hold an annual membership meeting every May. The meeting has the following objectives:

- Update on the general and financial status of Deer Run
- Nomination and Election of Directors to serve on the DRCO Board
- Open discussion of issues and concerns
- Transaction of other business that may come up at the meeting

Every Deer Run homeowner is automatically a member and entitled to one vote per residence. The required quorum to conduct business on behalf of DRCO is 10% of the membership (15 members), either in person or by signed proxy. Members must be formally notified of the meeting at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

Election of Officers and Board Members

The terms of office of nearly everyone now serving on the DRCO Board will expire following the election of new officers; so most positions will be open for nominations. Yes, you can nominate yourself. Proxies and nomination forms will be mailed with the official notification of the meeting. Candidates should be prepared to describe their qualifications and experience, and explain why they wish to be on the DRCO Board.

Deer Run has been blessed with dedicated volunteers who give generously of their time; but no one should be expected to continue indefinitely. Being a Board member doesn't necessarily require a lot of your time, other than attending Board meetings. Serving as Treasurer, of course, requires a working knowledge of Quick Books accounting software.

**The DRCO Board has decided
not to have a Deer Run Annual Picnic
because of poor turnout.**

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DRCO

Board of Directors

Sandy Bullock
President & Treasurer

Sam Nighswonger
Vice President

Candy Peters
Secretary

**Debbie Munroe, Ken Roberts,
James Sharp**
At-Large board Members

Gene Bullock
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Our website: www.drco.org
Debbie Munroe - Webmaster

Board Meetings

If you would like to attend a board meeting, please contact us by email or phone for date and time. All Deer Run homeowners are welcome.

Deer Run Holiday Lights Winners

The Deer Run Neighborhood Association is pleased to announce the winners of our Holiday Lights Contest:

- **Clifford & Laura O'Brien**
2108 Bjorn St.

- **Troy & Carrie Harrel**
18130 Miss Ellis Loop

- **Patrick & Rebekah Musser**
18326 Miss Ellis Loop

Each winner received a \$50 Central Market gift certificate. There were so many beautiful displays this year, it was a tough decision for our contest organizers and judges: Debbie Munroe and Candy Peters.



Is it okay to feed birds? Gene Bullock

Is it okay to feed birds? During the past year or so, I have given presentations about birds for 20 community groups and organizations, and this is a questions I hear often. The answer is not so simple, because there are good arguments on both sides.

I am an enthusiastic and unapologetic feeder of birds! I can't imagine a world without songbirds, and love seeing and hearing them in my backyard. I lure them any way I can, with bird seed, suet, bird-friendly habitat and clean water, where they can splash all they want. I have a Purple Finch whose warbling trills are infectious with joy at being alive. And there can't be too many Anna's Hummingbirds with scintillating gorgets or American Goldfinches glowing like the morning sun to suit me.

Backyard bird feeders are a wonderful way to introduce young people to bird watching and connect people of all ages with nature. If it helps swell the ranks of those who love birds and care enough to help protect them, I am willing to promote it. Because people want to save what they know and love.

Bird watching gives a huge boost to our economy. It creates hundreds of thousands of jobs and pumps billions of dollars into local businesses. the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service estimates that 50 million adult bird watchers in the U.S. spend more than \$100 billion each year on seed, feeders, bird watching books, accessories and related travel.

But there are serious concerns that shouldn't be ignored. If you care about birds, you'll want to take all precautions to minimize the risk to your avian friends.



Among the biggest risks are avian diseases. When birds congregate around bird feeders, it increases the likelihood that sick birds will transmit disease to other birds. Bird excrement often harbors pathogens such as Salmonella that can multiply to toxic levels if feeders are not kept clean and regularly sanitized. Smaller birds like the Pine Siskins are often the first affected. When dead birds begin showing up around feeding platforms, it's time to

stop feeding for a couple of weeks to avoid reinfection by sick and dying birds. Scrub and clean feeding surfaces with a 10% bleach solution and thoroughly rinse. There are also commercial disinfectants that are supposed to be safe to use on bird houses and feeders.

Feeders can also make birds more vulnerable to Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks – and cats! It's estimated that domestic cats kill up to three billion birds a year. Feeders should be located close to the protective cover of trees and shrubs. And those who love birds, as well as cats, should keep their felines indoors.

Window strikes are another major hazard. Researchers estimate that more than a billion birds die each year because of building and window strikes. Windows reflect the surrounding foliage and look to birds like a clear escape path when they are spooked. Wild bird stores offer a variety of products that can help interrupt the images reflected on your windows and reduce fatal collisions.

If you feed birds, please keep your feeders sanitized, your seed, nectar and suet fresh, and make your backyard a safe haven with plenty of protective cover. Life is hard enough for birds without adding to the risks. Your birds will repay your care with joyful displays of sound and color that can make you feel happy as a bird.

Photos: Anna's Hummingbird, Pileated Woodpeckers, and an American Goldfinch by Carrie Griffis.



Deer Run Yard Sale - Saturday, June 3rd

Meet your neighbors and shop for bargains galore at the Annual Deer Run Neighborhood Yard Sale, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the first Saturday in June.

Deer Run and Meredith Heights schedule their annual neighborhood yard sales on the same day each year and share

the cost of advertising. So, after you've scooped the bargains in Deer Run, you can visit our hilltop neighbors and find even more bargains.

The date is chosen to avoid graduation parties and catch families before they leave town on vacation.

These yard sales are a wonderful place to find furniture, clothing, books, toys, tools, sporting goods and attic treasures.

Be sure to patronize the snack and drink stands offered by Deer Run's youngest entrepreneurs.

