

The Sentinel



NEWSLETTER

The Comeback

The *Sentinel* newsletter returns, providing a way to communicate a variety of topics versus individual emails. The newsletter will focus on the community, topics of interest, reminders, tips, upcoming meetings, etc. The purpose is to inform and offer a positive forum to get residents involved.

Suggestions are welcome, and residents can request information for publication. If you have something to share, we can publish!

The Sentinel will be published when there is enough information to share, which may not be monthly. Urgent or other info not appropriate for a newsletter will still be sent via email.

Topics for this first edition were developed based on themes from individual homeowner emails. Raising and / or maintaining property values and public safety have been top concerns.

CONTACT US

Suggestions / Requests



New! For residents on social media, there's a new, *private* Facebook group. The group is meant to complement (not replace) HOA comms. It is another means to connect / engage, make announcements, and inform. If you choose to join (we know 'not everyone is on social media'), click on the link above. Only homeowners can join.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

August 10, 2023 3:00pm MST

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

MCSO: 602-876-1011

Rural Metro: 480-945-6311

For safety issues, please contact authorities first. The HOA is happy to cascade information to residents raise awareness of broader community concerns, but it should not replace the authorities.

LANDSCAPING

Cleanup Update

The Town of Carefree has almost completed removing bushes and tree branches that were encroaching streets, blocking signs, or creating blind spots. Awaiting word whether the Town can remove bushes creating blind spots in the median on N. Cave Creek Road.

What's Next? It is owner responsibility to maintain your property. If your property touches multiple streets, please ensure all boundaries are attended, including the upper part of Stagecoach Pass (yes, this is in our neighborhood).

Tree branches & bushes should not encroach streets to create hazards. There are still several low-hanging tree branches extending into Leisure Ln. & 61st.

This time of year, weeds are of great concern. As much as possible, reduce fuel sources for wildfires on your lot.

Help us keep our community beautiful & safe!

Carefree Town Code: Section 6-1-2
Owner to Maintain Premises: *No owner, occupant or lessee of any property within the limits of the town, including buildings, grounds, lots, or contiguous sidewalks, streets and alleys, shall permit debris to accumulate or remain on such property if such material constitutes or may constitute a blight on the appearance of the neighborhood, a threat to surrounding property values or a hazard to public health and safety.*

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Tips / Awareness

Sentinel Rock does not have sidewalks, but we are fortunate to have wide streets and no incidents. However, near-misses with drivers have been reported. Landscape issues have been addressed to help. Here are tips we can do as pedestrians to remain safe & maintain a walkable community.

Did you know? When there are no sidewalks, **pedestrians should walk facing the direction of oncoming traffic (left side)**. This allows you to make eye contact with a driver to ensure they see you, giving you time to react if they are distracted. Hug the left side of the street.



It is the law. [AZ Leg: 28-796 Pedestrians on Roadways](#)

Ultimately, it is your decision where you walk. However, when you meet another pedestrian who is on the 'correct / lawful' side of the road, please yield. Our personal choices should not put others nor their pets at risk. Go here for driver & pedestrian safety tips: [NHTSA.gov](#)

DRIVER SAFETY

Tips / Awareness

- Where not posted, the speed limit is 25 MPH
- Please use your directional, even when there are no other cars. Pedestrians also want to understand your direction of travel
- It is illegal (State and Carefree law) to park facing against the direction of traffic (landscapers and construction workers are notorious). Crossing the street to park illegally or pulling away to cross back onto the right side of the road are 2 instances where a vehicle could accidentally hit a pedestrian. A few 'close calls' have been reported

LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

Meet Lynn Palmer

The Sentinel Rock Landscaping Committee welcomes back Lynn Palmer! The Committee has been inactive for some time, and Lynn is developing a plan for a [beautification project](#), so stay tuned! A bit about Lynn...

They moved to Sentinel Rock 7 ½ years ago from Houston. One of the first things she did was complete a Master Gardener course to learn more about the unique vegetation of the Sonoran Desert, with which she fell in love. Since then, she has also taken more courses and volunteered as a Horticulture Aid at the Desert Botanical Garden. She earned a Desert Landscape School credential from DBG in 2021. She also volunteers regularly at the Native Seed Garden in Cave Creek Regional Park. She became a Master Naturalist last year and volunteers with that organization. For most of Lynn's career, she was a PhD Faculty Biostatistician at the UTexas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, but is now enjoying life in the desert. She would like to work more with the Landscape Committee of the Sentinel Rock HOA to continue to beautify and enhance this community.

FIRE SAFETY

Tips / Awareness

FIRE DANGER IS EXTREME!

Source: <https://carefree.org/carefree-fire-department>

Defensible Space

Three R's of Defensible Space are:

- Removal
- Reduction
- Replacement

Most of the homes in our town are situated in desert areas with mostly native plants surrounding the property and with no fencing.

We recommend creating a 30-foot area of defensible space. Using the 3 R's (Removal, Reduction, and Replacement) the homeowner creates an area free of dried grass or other highly flammable dry vegetation - around the home.

A properly designed and maintained defensible space provides an area where firefighters can position themselves to protect your home. Also the elimination of potential fuel sources reduces the probability of the house being consumed in a wildfire.



Carefree Town Code Ordinances

FUTURE TOPICS

Options

1. Submit a photo to be published!
2. Yard of the month
3. Community events

