

Huntington Trails

www.huntingtontrails.org

POND OWNERS PLEASE READ* non pond owners too!

What is a stormwater pond?

Stormwater ponds are **man made features located in our neighborhood**. Three are located within Huntington Trails. These ponds **play a unique role in managing our surface water quantity and quality** and are **critical to reducing pollutants** in our natural bodies of water. Ponds treat incoming stormwater runoff by allowing particles to settle and algae to take up nutrients. They also help protect urban flooding and slow runoff velocity.

Who is responsible for Pond Up-keep?

The Huntington Trails HOA is responsible for the water quality of our ponds. However, it requires homeowners' cooperation to ensure that the water quality is maintained at a good level. This year, we have had a large amount of algae in the ponds - if you live on a pond, we need your help YEAR round to maintain the ponds.

What causes Algae? Nutrients (fertilizer, lawn clippings, dog poop etc..) can seep into the water and provide food for unwanted plants, like algae. Excessive algal growth can lead to decreased oxygen in the water that fish need to breathe, resulting in fish kills and overall unsightliness. High levels of algae can impede water flow causing street flooding during heavy rains.

Our stormwater ponds are being inundated with algae & aquatic vegetation. How do we get rid of it?

- 1) Please decrease the use of lawn fertilizers and do not use during the rainy season. When you do fertilize, please use slow release fertilizer. Do not fertilize within 15 ft of the pond (the buffer zone).

- 2) Work with your lawn care company (or yourself) to be sure that grass clippings are not dumped into the pond. This will reduce nutrients into the system. Also do not dump grass clippings on paved roads since those drain directly to waterways. Grass clippings are great if they stay on your grass! Remember "only rain goes down the drain".
- 3) We do have a professional company who has both a commercial business license and aquatic pesticide applicator's certification. They treat our ponds on a regular basis.
- 4) Bacteria and other pathogens from pet waste can create health hazards in ponds = pick up the poop. It is also best to wash your car at a car wash, not your driveway.
- 5) The land along the water's edge can be established as a **buffer zone** to protect the ponds. Apply no fertilizer or pesticides in the "buffer zone".
- 6) Debris: remove litter and yard/tree debris from your yard. Do not let tree limbs or palm fronds go into the pond. These can block drains.

* Information taken from UF/IFAS materials.



Grass clippings and other nutrients cause this ugly algae. Not only is it ugly, it plugs up the outgoing drains and can cause flooding.



Dawn Bringe

Ameri-Tech Representative

Ameri-Tech is the property management company for Huntington Trails. Dawn Bringe is our community representative. Please contact her if you have any questions or concerns:

Dawn Bringe, LCAM

Ameri-Tech Community
Management, Inc.
24701 US Hwy 19 N
Suite 102
Clearwater, FL 33763
727-726-8000 Ext. 235
dbringe@ameritechmail.com

2017 Board of Directors

Joe Incorvia, President
Tom Tracy, Vice President
Kathy Wilson, Treasurer
Lisa Hinton, Secretary
John Racine, Member



- No truck, trailer, boat, camper, recreational vehicle or commercial vehicle shall be parked or stored on any Association street provided, however, that nothing herein shall prohibit the occasional non-recurring temporary parking of such truck, trailer, boat, camper, recreational vehicle or commercial vehicle for a period not to exceed seventy-two (72) hours in any period of thirty (30) days.
- All vehicles parked on Association streets shall be operable and have a valid registration and current license plates.
- Vehicles parked in drives shall not block the sidewalk
- Vehicles shall not be parked adjacent to landscape islands. Service and safety vehicles are unable to serve the community when this occurs
- All vehicles shall be parked parallel to and within 12 inches of the curb
- Towing of vehicles at the owners expense may occur after receiving written notice. Towing may occur without notice in an emergency.



The full on street parking rules can be found on our web site: [http://
www.huntingtontrails.org/
HOADocuments/](http://www.huntingtontrails.org/HOADocuments/)

Recycling Tips by Jan

This is a follow up to my tips a few months ago. The most important thing is to "Recycle Right." When in doubt throw it out. Our home recycling containers are made to collect items that can be sorted by machines at a recycling processing facility. That means even though you might think an item can be recycled, such as a plastic hose, it can't be sorted at the processing facility. Even though plastic bags are "recyclable" they can't be sorted at the recycling facility. Thus, you sort the bags yourself by taking them to a grocery store. Other things to do to make your recycling container's contents easy to recycle:

- Leave the cap on the bottle or put the cap in the trash.
- Shredded paper in the garbage, unless you take it to your bank and ask them to recycle it with their shredded paper (it is definitely recyclable; however, the machines can't sort it out from everything else you put in the recycling bin) – extra tip – when placing shredded paper in your garbage, put it in a plastic bag to keep it from blowing around on a windy day when emptied in the truck.
- Cut large cardboard boxes in two so they slip out of your container when emptied.
- No Styrofoam of any kind even if has the recycling symbol on it. Take trays and egg cartons to Publix, all other Styrofoam in the trash.
- Glass items had to have had a cork, top, cap or lid on it to be placed in the home recycling containers – that makes it a bottle or a jar. All other glass items, such as drinking glasses, vases, picture frame glass and mirrors go in the trash.
- Pinellas County Solid Waste is now offering monthly collection of electronics and chemicals ten minutes from Huntington Trails. Collection is at the North County Satellite Site, 29582 US N 19, a couple of minutes south of the Home Depot at US Hwy 19 and Curlew. It is the 4th Saturday of the month from 9:00am to 2:00pm except for holiday months (Thanksgiving and Christmas) it is a week earlier.



Jan Tracy, your neighbor on Wyndham Way.

Did you know? Jan Tracy is the Solid Waste Program Coordinator for Pinellas County and she lives right here in Huntington Trails.

Annual Meeting - Huntington Trails HOA

6:30 PM // Wednesday November 15th

Safety Harbor Community Center 650 9th Ave South
Annual Meeting, Budget Approval & Board Elections



Join the Huntington Trails Social Network on [NextDoor](#)!

Join 83 of your Huntington Trail neighbors on Nextdoor - a social network for Huntington Trails. [click](#) to join. A great place to get recommendations and share local with your neighbors. There is even a Pet Directory!



Hello Neighbors, my name is John Racine. I have served as a Huntington Trails Home Owners Association (HOA) Board member for the past year (2017). Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, I have stepped down as a board member but will continue to serve as a liaison and webmaster for our HOA. I believe my life experiences will continue to help contribute to the community and the board of directors. I have about 20 years experience as a police officer, crime analyst, crime prevention officer and security manager. I also have experience as an Emergency Manager, IT guy, and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Manager working with FEMA Flood Maps. I am a US Air Force Veteran and my diverse work experiences have moved me around the country, subsequently landing me and my wife Peggy here in Safety Harbor.

As I mentioned, one of my duties on the board is taking care of our HOA website. You'll be glad to know that it is current and updated regularly as changes occur. Please visit the website at www.huntingtontrails.org and have a look. If you see anything that needs updating or is not correct, please feel free to email me at jkracine@gmail.com. I recently started a new job but will try to answer your email as soon as I can.

I will occasionally be writing Safety and/or Crime Prevention articles in our News Letter and encourage you to read them. I'll try to keep them current and interesting. Take a look at my article in this edition on Suspicious Persons. I'll see you in the neighborhood.

Something Looks Suspicious

Have you ever been driving in or out of your neighborhood and saw something that just didn't look right? Or happened to gaze out your window and saw a stranger walk by and your "spidey senses" tingled?

What about when you were simply working in your garage and a car drove by that made you look twice.

Well, whether you call it intuition, insight, compulsion, sixth sense or even a hunch; I call it instinct...and you should trust it. Because if your instinct tells you that something looks suspicious, it probably is.

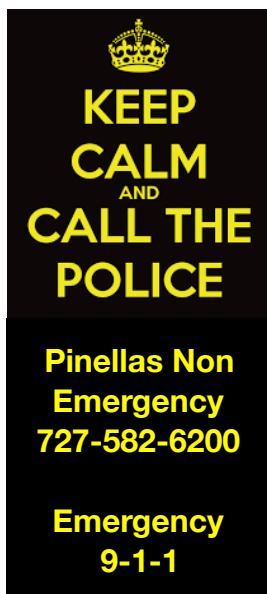
I can not tell you how many times, in my law enforcement career that I responded after the fact to a burglary, or a theft, or a vandalism, or any crime where someone in the community noticed something suspicious but didn't call the police. They thought that they were imaging things; or they didn't want to bother the police based on a hunch.

I'm here to tell you, PLEASE call the police. That's what they are there for; to investigate suspicious people and or circumstances. To stop crime before it happens.

If it's a person that we are talking about, then the police will come and talk to him or her and identify them and find out why they are in our neighborhood. If they don't have a reason to be there, then he will most likely ask them to leave. At a minimum, the officer will have their information in case a crime is discovered at a later date. And if a crime was about to be committed, then your actions probably stopped it, because now they've been identified by the police.

We live in a nice neighborhood and hopefully don't have to worry about this very much. But remember, bad guys don't burglarize bad neighborhoods, they go to the nice ones. So the important point to take from this article is: Trust Your Instinct. IF YOU THINK SOMETHING LOOKS SUSPICIOUS, THEN IT PROBABLY IS. Call the police.

- by Huntington Trails resident John Racine



Huntington Trails HOA
Community Emergency Response Team- CERT

Many residences were surprised to be contacted by the Huntington Trails Community Emergency Response Team before and after Hurricane Irma. There are faded signs at our entrances saying we are a CERT neighborhood. These signs disappear from our daily vision. Huntington Trails has had a Community Emergency Response Team for nearly 20 years. The good news, the team has never been activated for service.



This team of neighborhood residents was trained by the Fire Dept. under a grant from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). The Team is only activated during an emergency and when local emergency personnel cannot respond. If Hurricane Irma had affected us like the Hurricane in Houston or Puerto Rico, the response team would be the first level of response to the neighborhood until local, State or Federal emergency service personnel could reach us. Typically, the CERT group would check for neighborhood damage, assist with health issues or injured residents, turn off gas or secure areas with downed power lines to minimize further damage and organize the neighborhood to be as self-sufficient as possible. The CERT Team would be the primary communication point with outside emergency personnel.

During Hurricane Irma, the Team was placed in readiness stage but not activated. The Team identified which residents left town and who remained in their homes. This would have helped the Team determine which potentially damaged homes may have people inside who may need attention and to watch vacant homes for any inappropriate activity. The Team also helped notify out of town residences of any damage to their homes and when power was restored.

Most hurricane related injuries occur following the storm from loose electric lines, flooding, falls and heart attacks from clean up exertion. Please note, that although our homes are not in a flood zone, the streets leading into our subdivision may easily flood and can block local access. Our storm water ponds can also back up if outlets are blocked by debris. Potentially, high tides, storm surge and high quantity of rains could inhibit water from temporarily draining from the neighborhood.

Flood insurance is not required in our neighborhood. However, since we are not in a mapped flood zone, flood insurance is inexpensive and is well worth the investment given what we know as our potential for storm water problems.

In that the CERT team has been around for 20 years, I might kindly say, its members are getting past their prime for such activity. If some of our younger residents are interested in being trained for future missions, I would make the training arrangements. Once trained, there is little time commitment. Hopefully we can go another 20 years without being activated.

Joe Incorvia **Contact me at: joeincorvia@gmail.com**