



# WILLOWBROOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

FALL

2021

The Willowbrook Community Association's purpose is to maintain and enforce building restrictions imposed upon the property within the subdivision in which members reside to aid in maintaining the character of the neighborhood to promote the social, educational and general welfare of all members to afford a means for collective action in community projects.

## WCA BOARD MEMBERS

CALL OR TEXT WITH ANY  
QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

### PRESIDENT

Ryan Gabrielli  
205.715.2585

### VICE PRESIDENT

Aaron Klenke  
703.679.8229

### TREASURER

Melissa Gallagher  
619.787.0847

### SECRETARY

Michelle Sankovic  
248.842.4929

### SUB DIRECTORS

Greg Goodearl  
248.861.5283

Judy Blanchard

248.476.6941

Roukaya Achour

216.408.1025

Emails can be sent to:  
willowbrookhomeowners@gmail.com

If you have not yet paid your 2021/2022 dues please take a moment to do so. A bright neon pink invoice was mailed to all Willowbrook residents in September. If you did not receive one, please contact our Treasurer, Melissa Gallagher.

Dues are \$15.00 per year.

Thanking you in advance!

Hello Willowbrook Community Residents,

Where has the summer gone? It felt like it was yesterday that we were shaking off the last cold days of spring and now here we are. I hope everyone had a great summer, I know it was a long time coming after last year.

To start I have some exciting news to share. Our annual Halloween night Cider and Donuts is back! It will be hosted on the E. LeBost/Malott island, so come see us for some cider and donuts!

I'm also excited and proud to report that we had a very successful and seamless start to our island beautification. I am impressed with the effort and result thus far and commend the Beautification Team (lead by Monika) on their tireless efforts to get this started. It will provide a much-needed boost to our islands. I really look forward to the remaining improvements that are coming. With that being said, we are always interested in your opinion as to how we can improve our common areas, and if you have a suggestion, please let us know.

As the days get shorter, it means it is going to be dark out longer. Please consider putting on your porch lights to make sure our community is well lit. Not only do we have many kids returning to school, who walk to their bus stop, but we have had some recent incidents involving car thefts and mailbox tampering that has happened within the last few weeks.

Lastly, I want to welcome our newest member to the board (Roukaya), who has joined us this year. I also want to thank our returning board members (Aaron, Michelle, Greg, Judy and Melissa) as their efforts, and enthusiasm, have reinvigorated the HOA and has helped us establish a lot of positive changes to our community.

Hope to see everyone in a couple of weeks!

Ryan Gabrielli (President)

## *Community Beautification Update*

WCA community areas have been receiving some well-deserved attention this summer. In our last update, we mentioned removing damaged trees and overgrowth. Since then, with the help of a couple groups of volunteers, we have improved the Border Hill and Willow Lane islands of subdivision 1. Both community areas were cleaned up, had mulch spread under their struggling trees and grass seed added to fill in patches left after the removal of trees. Another twenty resident volunteers (cheered on by roughly twenty more residents), added approximately 800 square feet of native perennial flowers to islands in subdivision 2. The native plants will bring beauty and color from the spring into the fall, provide opportunities for pollinators, help clean stormwater and improve our ecosystem.

Later this fall, when the weather is more favorable, native trees will be professionally planted. One tree will be going on each of the following islands – Border Hill, Malott and W Le Bost. Commercial-grade benches have been ordered for three of the islands in subdivision 2. After some final touches to the Malott gardens next spring, we will have completed everything that was voted on and passed during our WCA Beautification Special Meeting this spring. We have been receiving a lot of positive feedback for the efforts and are excited to see it come together this fall!

In 2022, we will spend even more time on islands in subdivision 1. In our last newsletter, we included a survey for residents in subdivision 1. While the response was very low, we did receive feedback about removing the shrub from Willow Ct. If that route is preferred, we already have received one quote for the removal of the bush. We also have recommendations from the city for a small replacement tree or for a shrub. Before finalizing any plans for spring, we would like to get more input and involvement from residents regarding that island and the islands on Coral Lane and Millstream.

Going forward, we would like to find unique ways to beautify subdivision 3. Beautification looks a little differently here than it does for the rest of the subdivision, but opportunities are present. It has been encouraging to see the enthusiasm and effort we have received for WCA beautification so far.

Unlike some subdivisions that are able to hire companies for grounds maintenance, our association is volunteer-led and volunteer-maintained. It is these volunteer residents that make improvement projects feasible and enjoyable. We truly thank all of you who have contributed in whichever way you were able. We encourage anyone who would like to help to contact a board member for details.

### WCA BOARD 2021/2022

Our General Meeting was held on September 9, 2021.

The following individuals were voted in to serve during the 2021/2022 WCA term.

Ryan Gabrielli, President

Aaron Klenke, Vice President

Melissa Gallagher, Treasurer

Michelle Sankovic, Secretary

Sub Directors

Greg Goodearl

Judy Blanchard

Roukaya Achour

## Power Outages and the Power Team

With summer behind us (and winter yet to come), the neighborhood is in the time of year when power outages are at their least likely and, after the summer we've had, that's a good thing.

The State, the City of Novi, and residents have been very active trying to communicate with DTE how the frequent power outages affect their clients and effect change. DTE has been more active in the neighborhood trimming trees (the biggest cause of outages). For more information about DTE's tree policy you can go to <https://tinyurl.com/hp2n4n8a> There is even a form to request DTE come out and evaluate a tree near a line.

The best part of the power outages we experienced were the neighbors who helped each other. People shared electricity, and refrigerator/freezer space. They were outside talking with each other and laughing about the situation. One neighbor volunteered to be the "Power Team" to track outages and feedback and pass it along to anyone who might listen. They went out and offered to trim trees.

As autumn really starts going, now is a good time to look at your trees. Ice build-up can be just as dangerous as the wind to dead branches and wires. Feel free to reach out to your neighbors for recommendations for tree-trimming services. If you are a member of the neighborhood Facebook page (not affiliated with the WCA), there are usually plenty of people willing to provide their thoughts.

In the end, there isn't a neighborhood I would rather lose power with.



### Minutes from the September General Meeting

Minutes from our September General Meeting can be found on the official web page of the WCA

<https://willowbrook.gogladly.com/> They also can be found on the City of Novi website, go to COMMUNITY, go to drop down and find Homeowner Associations, scroll down to Willowbrook Community Association and there you will find the minutes.

### GFL Trash Pick-up

A form has been created for residents or home owners to leave feedback about problems with GFL Environmental's service. The goal is to form a team to present issues to GFL and the City on a regular basis, as needed. If you would like to be a member of the team, please contact a board member. Thank You.

<https://forms.gle/gyyZCxYFFGjG4hBR6>

## Police Liaisons

Recently the WCA board has re-engaged with the Novi Police liaisons that are assigned to the WCA. These officers are assigned to engage with the board members monthly to see if we are having any issues they may help with. They will also report any issues, they are aware of, that residents should know about.

Anyone looking for additional information on what services the department provides, they can be found on the city website

<https://cityofnovi.org/services/public-safety/police/community-programs>

The city also has a web based app called Crime Mapping:

<https://cityofnovi.org/services/public-safety/police/crime-mapping>

And for information on Emergency Preparedness:

<https://cityofnovi.org/services/public-safety/police/emergency-preparedness>

**Little Library update from resident Luiz Neto:**  
The little ones section is pretty empty of kiddos books.  
I will be removing some of the books that are crowding the library to open the space for kiddos books.  
If you have little ones books that you would like to donate, please let me know as I will be more than happy to get them off your hands!

**MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBER**  
Hello Willowbrook Community!  
My name is Roukaya; you can call me Rou. You may have seen me walking around the neighborhood with my little one, Leyla. My husband, Ali, and I moved to Novi three years ago from Ohio. Don't worry, we are Michigan Fans!  
I have recently joined Debbie Luke Homes working towards my real estate license. I have joined the board to make new friends, be engaged in the Willowbrook Community and share my ideas! Can't wait to meet you- please stop Leyla and me to say hello. If you need anything at all, we are happy to help. :)  
Roukaya Achour

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ANNUAL EVENT  
IS BACK!  
WCA HALLOWEEN  
CIDER & DONUTS  
SUNDAY, 10/31  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
E. LeBost & Malott  
Island  
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