



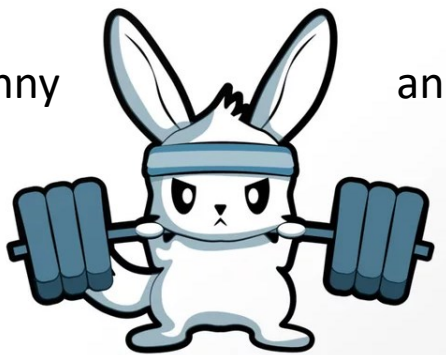
***"What a wonderful, friendly place!"***

**April  
2022**

## **Community Newsletter**

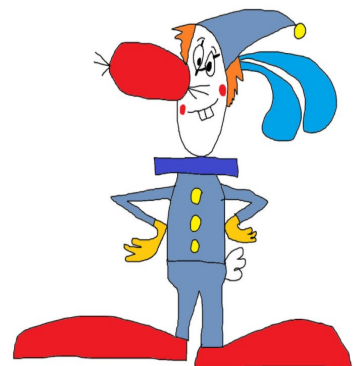
**Q: What's the difference between a healthy bunny and a clown bunny?**

**A: One is a fit bunny**



**and the other is a**

**bit funny.**



Happy spring from the tree in our circle! Landscaping like this makes Parkwood exceptional!



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### **Four-Sided Inspections Scheduled April 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>**

The Parkwood team will be performing their annual 4-sided inspections of your home's exterior & lot. Access to this property is permitted by law so long as reasonable notice is provided. Parkwood will be reviewing the conditions at your address for compliance to the Rules and Regulations. (I.e. moss on roof, disrepair, weeds, overgrowth...) Should any areas of concern be found, a checklist will be left highlighting remedies along with a date for re-inspection. We appreciate your consideration while we complete this task.

### **Spring clean-up will follow on April 19<sup>th</sup> thru the 21<sup>st</sup>.**

Parkwood will provide a dumpster for Residents to dispose of extra household garbage at the overflow parking area on the end of Frederick Drive. **We will NOT accept: batteries, paint, e-waste (computers, TV's, printers etc) oil, chemicals (strong cleansers, pesticides and solvents) appliances, large furniture or tires.**

**Y**ard Debris will also be accepted by the shop fence.

*During the above dates ONLY.*

Acceptable yard debris: Leaves, grass, weeds, shrubs, brush, branches, and other organic materials from pruning. Please do not leave debris in bags of any kind. (no plastic, eco, paper) They all must be emptied at site and taken with you.

**We will NOT accept: large tree rounds, stumps, plastic bags, or garbage of any kind in this area.**

**NO contractor dumping of any kind.  
This service is for Resident convenience only.**

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"It's great to see so many people participating in the Fit & Fall Proof class! Tuesdays & Fridays at 9AM people!"



# P.E.R.T.

## Parkwood Emergency Response Team

Hi Parkwood. Spring is here hopefully the weather will start to improve.

This month I want to talk about storing gasoline. Many of us have gas stored for lawnmowers, generators ect. Propane is also highly flammable and must be stored properly. Parkwood has rules ( section 7 paragraph c) fuel must be stored in approved containers. No glass or milk jugs. Standard colors for containers are Red= Gasoline, Yellow = Diesel, Blue = Kerosene, Green = Oil. If you don't have containers that are color coded make sure to label the contents clearly. Many

insurance policies state how much flammable stuff can be stored on your site, check your policy. If stored in your garage make sure the area is a well ventilated cool area away from ignition sources. Always keep a fire extinguisher near by. Use a fuel stabilizer to assist the freshness of gas such as STA-BIL , for 60-300 days. Store only the amount you can use in a reasonable time as gas does degrade

over time. Useful link American Petroleum Institute: safe storage and disposal of gasoline. I would like to thank Harry Alford for compiling this information. Stay safe out there, look out for each other. Goose.

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### Sustainability

**Sustaining our Environment ...for:**

**- The butterflies, birds and the bees, to say nothing of forests, oceans and people.**

We know we have environmental problems and for the most part feel helpless to do anything to address them. Here in the environs of Parkwood we have much to enjoy: Attractive layout, beautiful trees, woodland paths, and creative residents. There is much variety in the landscaping. Besides all that, we have no cars parked on the streets and not much traffic. We have choices about how we tend our yards, what we eat, the amount we drive and so on.

Yet we do struggle with what to do with our plastic, weeds, junk-mail etc. We know there are "issues". Besides what we may already be doing, there are seemingly small steps each of us could take to contribute to the solution. Such as: how we handle plastic, the kind of paper products we use, the use of energy and water, providing habitat for pollinators, how to avoid food waste. Most of such actions also save money!

It may not seem as though what one person does would matter, but if 20 of us of us made a small change, that would obviously have 20X the benefit. Say the effort would be to plant a small corner of the back yard with natives and pollinators. It could be a small planter-box or pot that could attract more beneficial insects such as butterflies and bees to our area.

There are also bigger things we all could consider.

In his book, "Regeneration, Ending the climate crisis in one generation" Paul Hawken writes, "Regeneration means putting life at the center of every action and decision. It applies to all of creation – grasslands, farms, people, forests, fish, wetlands, coastlands, and oceans. It applies equally to families, communities, cities, schools, cultures, commerce, and governments. "

How about we share what we are learning and take some action!

Jennifer Brodie

Be Well!

## The Upside-down Bird

By Ida Domazlicky and Jane Nicholas

Photo by Blair Dudek



Have you ever seen a bird walk head-first down a tree trunk? In the late 1930's, a young rural schoolteacher named John Kieran found that his next nature lesson in the state curriculum was about a small, rotund bird heading beak-first down a fencepost. Kieran, who had lived in the area for 12 years and had never seen such a thing, put the lesson aside as irrelevant. But as an outdoor enthusiast who slept outdoors most nights, Kieran awoke the next morning to see a black and white bird walking head-first down a nearby post. It paused, looked the man over, fluttered to a nearby tree, and went down head-first again. It was a nuthatch, so named because it takes seeds to trees, lodges them in a bark crevice, and hacks at them--hence originally "nut-hacks." On his walk to school that morning, Kieran was dumbfounded to notice four more nuthatches—all going down head-first. That day, he did teach the Nuthatch lesson. And years later, when he was a radio commentator, he popularized The Nuthatch Principle: "If you don't know it exists, you won't see it." I'm not sure how The Nuthatch Principle applies to such creatures as Bigfoot and faeries. But knowing what to look for does help you find it.

Or what to listen for, as well. In the case of our local Red-breasted Nuthatches, listen for a soft, repetitive, single-note call like the sound of a tiny tin trumpet. The sound has also been called "nasal and petulant," implying that the nuthatch has a bad temper. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Our Red-breasted Nuthatches are more likely than most birds to be tame. And yet, like hummingbirds, they do have an attitude. They are curious, coming to phishing calls humans make, just to see what's up, and sometimes staying around to chat. They are fearless enough to fight off swallows and other larger birds from their nest holes. And their energetic "ank-ank" calls in our Parkwood conifers can brighten a cloudy day.

Astonishingly, our tiny, smart nuthatches are also tool-users! As I write in late March, a female nuthatch is checking out the nesting box that my husband put up for Violet-Green Swallows. If she decides it's for her, she will swab the inside of the opening with sticky sap from fir trees--*using a piece of bark* to transport the pitch from the tree. Her mate will do the same on the outside of the hole. More often than not, nuthatches excavate nest holes 5-40 feet up in snags or older fir or spruce trees, using only their beaks. Then they line the nest with mosses or feathers and add the pitch. Probably the smell or the stickiness of the sap deters some predators. The nuthatches themselves will just fly straight in.

Red-breasted Nuthatches are one of nature's chic designs—black back, white face, a red tummy, and a neat black line through the eye. But they are declining in Washington state. If you'd like to help reverse that trend, avoid using pesticides to kill insects and plants. Nuthatches eat insects almost exclusively all summer and feed their babies only insects. So plant some natives that support local insects. Leave short snags standing unless they present a safety hazard. And maybe put up a nest box where rodents can't get at it, such as on the side of a house or on a metal pole. Directions can be downloaded at: <https://nestwatch.org/learn/all-about-birdhouses/birds/red-breasted-nuthatch/?region=pacific&habitat=forest> Let's keep Parkwood a welcoming home for our little nut-hackers!

**Bird update:** Violet-green swallows are back in the area, so watch for them over Parkwood. Bald Eagles are nesting above Dungeness Landing, and usually at least 6 eagles are visible from that parking lot, with binoculars. Ducks are now in their showiest plumage, and they are moving through. Turkey vultures are passing over in migration, as well. Enjoy the spring birds!