



# Eaglewood Homeowners Association

[www.eaglewoodalaskahoa.com](http://www.eaglewoodalaskahoa.com) · Summer 2026 Newsletter

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## Summer 2026

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### Independence Day

July 3 · Lions Park, 6 pm–midnight

#### Bear Paw Festival

Eagle River · July 8–12

#### First Day of School

August 19 & 20

#### Labor Day

September 7

#### Reminder:

Exterior changes require Design Committee approval

#### Inspections:

Jul 8 & 22, Aug 5 & 19, Sep 2 & 16

## News from the Board

May and June were busy months for your Board of Directors, who organized the Eaglewood Community Meet and Greet, the Annual Election, and the Annual Meeting. These events came together through the joint efforts of Roy Briley Property Managers and the Board.

We're pleased to welcome two new Board members, Mark DeVries and Louis Munding. Mark will lead the Design Committee, and Louis will head the Judicial Council. Continuing board members are Wally Thomas, Treasurer, and Sue May, who will lead the Communications Committee. I'll serve as Board Chair.

We also want to thank two retiring board members for their service: Steven Cook, who led Communications from June 2022 to January 2023 before serving as Board Chair, and Laura Friesen, who led the Design Committee since June 2024.

The Board remains committed to the original vision for Eaglewood: a well-planned community that's an attractive place to live, while preserving the area's natural beauty for current and future homeowners.

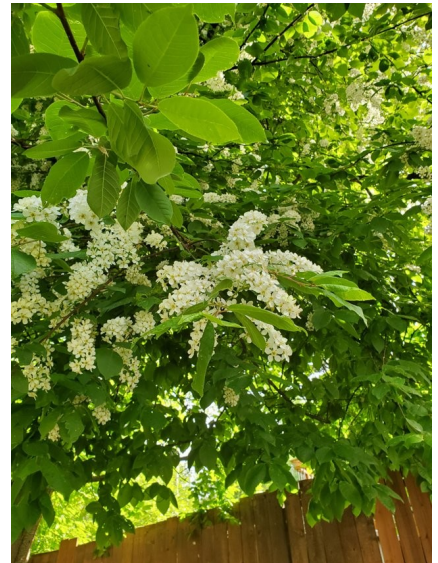
— **Deena Bradley, Chair**

## A Lovely Invader

With its drooping clusters of fragrant white flowers every May, the European bird cherry, or Mayday tree, is a popular ornamental — but it's also one of Alaska's most aggressive invasive species.

Introduced around 1959 by the Alaska agricultural experiment station, it has since escaped gardens and rapidly invaded stream sides and natural forests, taking over understories and forming thickets where native plants once grew. Birds spread seeds far beyond your yard, and its berries contain compounds toxic to wildlife — there have been documented cases of moose calves being poisoned in Anchorage.

Removal is tricky. Cutting alone is not effective — this tree readily resprouts from stumps, stems, and roots, including fragments. Small seedlings and young trees can be pulled by hand, and trees up to 2 inches in diameter can be removed with an uprooter tool, but all roots must be removed and the tree disposed of, or it will resprout. For larger trees, systemic herbicides can be effective, although they work slowly; herbicide can also be applied directly to a freshly cut stump. Consult the UAF Cooperative Extension Service for guidance. Tree-removal professionals will be cutting these trees when found in our common areas.



## Why We Don't Use Chemicals on Dandelions

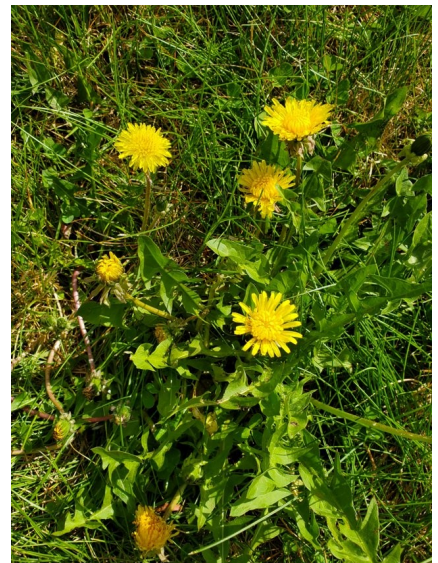
The use of weed killers on dandelions comes up a lot at board meetings and in conversations with homeowners. Here's why the Board and Operations have chosen not to use pesticides or other chemicals on our common areas.

Our kids and pets use these spaces constantly, especially during our short summers. Spraying chemicals means roping off areas and waiting for rain to wash the product in, all while increasing the risk of exposure through skin contact or accidental ingestion. It's also worth knowing that a couple of Eaglewood homeowners keep bees, and dandelions are one of the first food sources for bees and other pollinators each spring.

Many of our common areas are also part of the storm drainage system, channeling rain and snow melt away from roads and homes. Rain after a chemical application would wash pesticides straight into that system and on into the watershed, harming water quality and the fish and wildlife that depend on it.

Cost is a factor too. Treating an area the size of Eaglewood would mean hiring licensed applicators, installing and removing required warning signage after every application, and buying enough pesticide to cover all our common spaces. It adds up fast.

Instead, we manage dandelions through regular mowing. Our crews are out cutting the grounds daily, and once the first bloom fades, the flowers become much less noticeable. Mowing between blooming and seeding also keeps the plants from spreading further. That said, dandelions are everywhere in our region, so even a perfectly weed-free Eaglewood would see new seeds blow in from neighboring properties before long.



## A Friendly Face Behind the Wheel: Meet Your Roy Briley Inspectors

You may have noticed a car moving slowly through the neighborhood, pausing thoughtfully at each home. That's not cause for concern — it's one of our property management inspectors, making their rounds on a published schedule to help keep Eaglewood looking its best.

Their checklist is simple and includes holiday lights that have overstayed their welcome, trash cans lingering past pickup day, peeling paint on the eaves, or a roof that's grown a little too cozy with moss. Inspectors follow Design Committee guidelines and the requirements set out in our PC&Rs, with direction from the Board and Design Committee along the way.

This isn't about catching anyone out — it's about all of us. A well-maintained neighborhood is one we're proud to come home to, and one that holds its value for everyone.

The summer inspection schedule is: **July 8 and 22, August 5 and 19, and September 2 and 16.**

### HELP WANTED

*Eaglewood Ops is looking for three or four 16-17 year olds looking for some extra summer money on the mowing crew. Starting pay is \$15 per hour, with increases based on merit. Hours are 9-3, Monday through Thursday. Reply to Paul Dalleska, Operations Manager, at [eaglewoodops@gmail.com](mailto:eaglewoodops@gmail.com).*

## Living in the Urban-Wildland Interface: Two Free Programs to Protect Your Home

At our June 8th annual meeting, Stephanie Dufek from the Anchorage Fire Department's Wildfire Urban Interface program (WUI) shared an overview of current efforts to help protect homes from wildfire — including two free programs available to Eaglewood homeowners.

### Free Sprinklers and Hoses, Free Wood Chipping

The first program provides free sprinklers and hoses to qualifying homeowners. To participate, residents must sign up for Smart911 and live within the wildland urban interface — Eaglewood qualifies. Wetting down a home with sprinklers helps stop wind-carried embers, which can travel for miles, from landing and igniting a structure.

A second program launching later this summer will offer free wood chipping at participants' homes. To take part, residents need to engage with the Firewise program in one of the following ways: have a Firewise assessment completed within the last five years; complete and document a self-assessment (available on the WUI's site at the Municipality of Anchorage's Firewise Home Assessments page); or sign up on the WUI's waitlist for a Firewise assessment.



## Why It Matters for Our Neighborhood

Eaglewood's homes are largely 40-plus years old, which brings some built-in fire risk: wood siding, wood fences attached directly to homes, woodpiles closer than 30 feet from structures, and mature trees crowding close to buildings are common throughout the neighborhood. The good news is that there's a lot we can do to reduce that risk — and these two free programs are an easy place to start.

For more information and resources, visit [muni.org/Departments/Fire/Wildfire](http://muni.org/Departments/Fire/Wildfire).

## Swale Repair

Summer projects are part of ongoing repairs, replacements, and improvements needed in our community. This year, a problem identified after breakup is damage to the swales along our streets. Swales are the V-shaped grass margins along roads, specifically for conducting water away from streets and into the drainage system. While there is always some damage from plows, the main problem causing deep ruts is parking along the street, where some or all of a vehicle's tires are on the grass. During the summer, when the soil is firm, this is less destructive; however, in winter and spring, parking on the grass is damaging.



Areas in urgent need of repair have been identified for this summer, including some areas of N. and S. Mitkof and along Eaglewood Loop. Homeowners in the affected areas have been contacted individually. The contractor has worked in the neighborhood before and will make every effort to accommodate homeowners.

This year's repairs are estimated to cost \$125,000, paid for by our reserve funds. As Eaglewood nears fifty years, we face the challenge of aging infrastructure, just as our homes need new roofs and paint over time. The Board is committed to wise use of funds balanced with needed improvements.

## We Love Our Good Boys and Girls —

But their poop along trails and sidewalks, not so much. Remember to scoop the poop, and if you use one of those nifty little plastic bags, please don't leave it behind. There is no "Poop Fairy" coming along behind you!



**SCOOP THE POOP! Your dog, your responsibility — nobody wants to step in your dog's mess!**  
**Happy Summertime, Eaglewood Friends!**