

# Foxhall Community News – Winter 2024



**Upcoming Events:** <https://www.foxhall98516.org/calendar>

FCA Board of Directors Meeting: Tuesday March 14, 7:00 PM, via Zoom

FCA Annual General Membership Meeting: April 11, 7:00 PM, South Bay Fire Station

## Exercising Your Voice



If you have children under the age of 19, please help us with a short survey (<https://forms.gle/EJ9gcWsn9dCZaMgG9>) concerning school bus stops. Even if your children do not currently ride the bus, this confidential information will help us as we advocate for safe and convenient stops.

Come to the General Membership Meeting in April. Let us hear from you as we highlight news from the past year and report on future plans and projects.

## Serving Your Community

**Two of five positions on the Foxhall Board of Directors will be decided at our General Membership meeting in April.**

If you would like to apply your time and talents to serve of the Foxhall community, **please nominate yourself or another consenting homeowner for a position on the Board.** A form is included with this mailing or available through this link: <https://foxhall98516.org/news>

All nominations must be received by March 13<sup>th</sup>. Write-in votes will not qualify for election.

**Our Trails Committee is recruiting new members.** See their invitation at [foxhall98516.org/trails-committee](https://foxhall98516.org/trails-committee).

## Being Neighborly

Our individual properties and actions impact those around us. Our protective covenants are intended to preserve the quality of our neighborhood through some common standards. The FCA will also offer information to homeowners regarding governmental rules, regulations, and resources when related to potential conflicts among neighbors.

### Well Heeled Behavior

As loyal and loving as your pets may be, your neighbors may not share your confidence in their behavior. Please understand that encountering unleashed dogs on the trails or in our parks is very uncomfortable for some of your neighbors. Thurston County leash laws do apply throughout Foxhall.

### Do you plan to build or replace a fence?

The Board of Directors has approved of a set of guidelines for fences that share a border with our trail system. The intention is to ensure that new or refurbished fencing is compatible with our trail use and the safety of its users. <https://www.foxhall98516.org/architectural-committee>

## Can I Burn Yard Waste? The answer is, "Yes, but ..."

Yard waste fires are permitted, *but* you are encouraged to seek alternatives. Children and the elderly are particularly susceptible to health problems associated with smoke. The Olympic Region Clean Air Agency ([www.orcaa.org](http://www.orcaa.org)) will provide the required permit through an [online application](#), *but* there are limitations, such as the size and composition of the burn pile, and obeying periodic air quality and fire safety burn bans. Burn barrels and burning of trash are both illegal in Washington (no *but*s about it).

## Our Maturing Population (of trees)

Foxhall has a great asset in its maturing woodlands. Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar, Red Alder, and Big Leaf Maple grow impressively in this, their native habitat. Some threats to the health of your trees can be addressed through your attention and care.

**Strength in numbers:** High winds pose a greater threat to trees that have been deprived of their neighbors. Trees that grew within a cluster of trees have not developed the same resistance to winds as trees that grew on their own in exposed areas, so removing surrounding trees can make the remaining trees more vulnerable.

**Look out for invaders:** English Ivy along the ground and up tree trunks, as well as having its seeds spread by wildlife. It poses serious problems for trees. As an evergreen clinging vine, it makes its way up the trunks of trees and increases the chances of those trees being toppled in high winds. The sooner you act, the better.



Read about this noxious weed and how to control it at the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board website. [nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/English-ivy](http://nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/English-ivy)

Speaking of unwanted weeds, while our ground is softened by winter rains, this is a great time of year to pull up Scotch broom and tansy. For large plants you can rent a weed wrench from the Thurston County Conservation District (\$5 for a week). See <https://www.thurstoncd.com/services/equipment-rental/>

## Be Calm and Drive On

Thurston County Public Works is working with our Association to provide traffic safety measures. Both Foxhall Drive and Foxtrail Drive were monitored recently and showed vehicle speeds that indicate that our community would benefit from some efforts to slow our traffic. You will probably have noticed the flags on our speed limit signs. That is the first of some of the options that may be deployed.

We also expect to have a radar cart placed in a couple of places where speeds have been faster than desired. The radar cart is not an enforcement device, but an effective tool for addressing driver inattention to their speed. This and the flagging of signs are temporary measures and may be repeated in the future, as needed.



Physical speed deterrents, such as speed bumps or cushions, are options that the community may consider in the future.

Read more on our News page and through this link to [Thurston County's Traffic Calming flyer](#).

### Contact Your Current Board Members

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### Opt In to Email

Submit the form found on our website (on the Forms page located under the Documents menu).  
<https://www.foxhall98516.org/forms>