



Woodcroft Community League Newsletter

Spring 2022

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Message from Your Community League Board of Directors

We are sure that like us, you are wishing for spring to come early and to stay! These past two years have been challenging for everyone and at the time of writing this newsletter, we are planning for a return to a more “normal” spring and summer. Knowing that “normal” may still be a bit different than before, we hope to see many of you at the programs we have planned. If you are new to the neighbourhood, come out and meet some of your neighbours and community members. If there is someone new to the neighbourhood that lives close to you, invite them to attend with you. For new community members, our programs are almost always free, please come join us!

We want to thank everyone who took part in the Winterscape decorations this year. Unfortunately, due to a cold snap in December, we did not receive enough nominations to determine winners. We hope that next year, we will have community members out and about and nominating homes that they enjoy. Our community looked so great in the day and evening!

The Board Committees will be sending out a needs assessment survey. We appreciate your feedback on what you want our community league to offer, how we

offer it and if there is anything new you would like for us to consider. We want you to help us make sure that the programs and services we offer fit with what you feel our community needs or wants. Please fill out the survey. If you have filled it out, thank you.

This time of year for the newsletter is always a bit awkward, as we want to remind you to keep your sidewalks clear and use the sand at the hall for sidewalk ice but we also need to talk about spring weather. With the change of the weather, we will see more people of all ages out and about. Please watch for large mud puddles as you drive past people walking; watch for children running and playing; and keep an eye out for everyone on bikes, both pedal and motorized.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of the community members who were able to come out and volunteer at our casino in January. We greatly appreciate all of your help and support.

Our community league is made up of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering on a committee, at an event or for a specific project, please let our board chair **Arlene Huhn** know at arlene.huhn@woodcroftcl.org or 780-660-9684 (text or call) and she will connect you to the right person. See you at our next community event! 🍀

**Woodcroft
Community
Playschool**
Learning Through Play

Fully licensed, non-profit, parent-operated
Spacious 2nd floor of Woodcroft
Community League
Experienced teacher and teacher's aide

Registration:
Returning families and alumni - Feb. 1-6
Woodcroft residents - Feb. 7-13
General public - starting Feb. 14

woodcroftplayschool.com

Woodcroft Community Playschool Registration for 2022/2023

Woodcroft Community Playschool is currently accepting registrations for 2022/2023! We have two programs available for 3 and 4 year olds in a spacious classroom on the 2nd floor of the Woodcroft Community League Building. We would love to have you come join us! For more information please visit our website at woodcroftplayschool.com. Anyone interested in registering can also email woodcroftplayschool@gmail.com or text 780-993-9966 to make an appointment to drop in, ask questions and meet the teachers!

Gardening Sessions and Workshops

Time: 10AM–12PM | Cost: Free

Location: Woodcroft Community Hall & Rink (13915-115 Avenue)

To register, email Kelly at kelly.purdy@woodcroftcl.org

Gardening How To's

Join us at our beginner 'how to' garden event, where you will be shown how to plant, care, water, etc. We will have starter kits for everyone to help get you started with planting this season. Please register a week in advance for this event so we can prepare kits for everyone. Please note this event is weather dependent and will move to a virtual event in the case of poor weather.

Date: Saturday, May 7, 2022

Register by April 30th.

Photo by Jeremy Morrison on Unsplash



Composting 101

In trying to do our part of being stewards of the land, we have created an event that will show you the 'How To's' of composting, including do's and don'ts, what to use, and elements needed to have a successful compost. In addition, this event will provide you with resources to take your learning home! Please register a week in advance for this event so we can prepare. Please note this event is weather dependent and will move to a virtual event in the case of poor weather.

Date: Saturday, May 28, 2022

Register by May 21st.



Plant and Seed Swap

Did you plant too much this year? Maybe have some seeds laying around that you have never used? Join us for a plant/seed swap! Bring a drink, snacks and seating (blanket or chair) and come mingle with your fellow green thumbbed neighbors. Please register a week in advance for this event so we can prepare. This event will happen rain or shine - hope to see you there!

Date: Saturday, June 11, 2022

Register by June 4th.

Events

**Please note that all COVID protocols (if applicable at the time) will be followed for all of our events.*

Snowshoe & Kicksled Event

On Sunday, February 27, the Woodcroft Community will be offering snowshoes and kicksleds for residents to try out! Don't know what a kicksled is? Think dogsled but without the dog. Rentals will be free and can be picked up at the Woodcroft Community Hall, and will be first come, first served.

Date: Sunday, February 27, 2022 | Time: 10AM–4PM

Cost: Free | Location: Woodcroft Community Hall & Rink (13915-115 Avenue)

Backyard Birds

Destruction of habitat is a leading cause of species extinction. Learn how to use the land you have to create a wildlife habitat in your yard by adding native plants, shelter and clean water. Melissa has been working on her Woodcroft yard for 10 years, and specifically gardening for birds for the last 3 years. She now has nightly Northern Flying Squirrel visits, multiple species of annual nesting birds and this past year 72 different bird species that visited her backyard. She will show you what changes she made to her yard to create a Canadian Wildlife Federation certified urban wildlife friendly habitat.

Date: Saturday, March 26, 2022 | Time: 2–4PM

Location: Woodcroft Community Hall & Rink (13915-115 Avenue) –This event could be moved online

To register, email shayna.bowling@woodcroftcl.org

Adult Beach Volleyball

Interested in playing beach volleyball this year but don't have a full team together? Visit woodcroftcl.org and fill out the interest form so we can form local teams through the Edmonton Sport & Social Club (ESSC)! The more local teams we create, the more likely ESSC will schedule our games at the Woodcroft courts. All skill levels are welcome.

June is Bike Month

Woodcroft members and non-members are invited to track their cycling kilometers and pool results with neighbours. We'll then compare our kilometers to other communities over the entire month. Keep an eye out for further details or contact Dave (dave.kenny@woodcroftcl.org) if you're interested in participating.

Children & Youth Outdoor Soccer

Woodcroft Residents are invited to register their children (U4 to U19) for Spring Soccer with nearby community leagues. Each community league may have different registration dates, visit emsawest.com for details. Regular Season runs from May through June.



The Commonwealth Lawn Bowling Club

The Commonwealth Lawn Bowling Club (11420 139 Street NW) will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, May 28th and Saturday, June 18th from 10AM to 4PM. Their Youth and Family TRY IT Event is Sunday, May 29 from 1–4PM.

In the 2022 season, The Commonwealth Lawn Bowling Club will again be hosting a Youth Club (ages 10–18) on Sunday afternoons at 1PM and on Wednesday evenings at 6:45PM. Registration forms will be available early in May by contacting commyouth2021@gmail.com or at the club on Youth Registration Day on Wednesday, May 18. We look forward to seeing many of the Woodcroft youth back again! Registration fees for youth will be \$50 per player but financial assistance or waiving of fees may be provided upon request.

Easter/Spring Egg Hunt for Children

It is our hope that the Woodcroft Community Centre will be open once again for this ever-popular event. We are inviting you to join us for a Easter Spring Egg Hunt which will also include egg dying, craft activities and snacks. All are welcome to participate!

Date: Saturday, April 16, 2022 | **Time:** 11AM–2PM
Cost: Free | **Location:** Woodcroft Community Hall & Rink (13915-115 Avenue)

To register contact **Linda** at **780-452-4460** or email linda.thiessen@woodcroftcl.org. Please provide a contact name and email or phone number, the number of children participating and their ages. Helpers are always needed for this event. Please indicate if you are able to help with set up, activities, or clean up. Register by April 12.

Welcome to Summer Family Fun Event!

Please join the Woodcroft Community League in celebrating the upcoming summer season! Don't miss this opportunity for neighbours to come together to meet friends, welcome new community members and have some fun! If health restrictions allow, our plan is to offer a hot dog BBQ, cotton candy and more! Come out and learn how you can get involved in the exciting activities offered by our recreation committee, such as disc golf and pole walking. We will even have a bike tune up area set up for you to use!

Date: Saturday, June 4, 2022 | **Time:** 11AM–2PM
Cost: Free | **Location:** Woodcroft Community Hall & Rink (13915-115 Avenue)

Register by June 5th. To register, email **Kelly** at kelly.purdy@woodcroftcl.org.

#WoodcroftCL TALENTS UPDATE

Since September 2021 the Woodcroft Community League has been running a series called #WoodcroftCLTalents. We have met so many of our neighbours through the pictures and stories they have been sharing with us about why they like living in Woodcroft and the wonderful talents they have.

It has been so much fun learning about all the artists that live in our community. We have painters, weavers,

potters, a beader, a filmmaker and a graphic designer. If we ever needed to update or fix something in our homes we wouldn't need to venture far because our neighbours are experts in plumbing, heating, carpentry and renovations. We also met a community member who runs a day home, another neighbour who specializes in making playgrounds, real estate agents and three community members who work at the Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories. There is so much talent here in Woodcroft!

Thank you to everyone who has sent in photos and a description of their talents. We really appreciate it. Please feel free to send in more submissions to Brandy at brandy.yanchyk@woodcroft.org. We are always happy to hear about the talents in Woodcroft!

Watch Out for Black Knot Disease on Your Trees

Do you have Black Knot on your trees? If it is on City property call 311. Edmontonians are encouraged to help manage Black Knot on their own property. Below we are sharing information from the City for managing Black Knot on your property.

What is Black Knot Disease?

Black knot (*Apiosporina morbosa*) is a fungal disease that causes greenish brown to black swellings in the stems of cherry trees (*Prunus* spp.). Its spores are released following periods of warm, wet weather and are spread by splashing water, wind, birds, and insects.

The Problem

Black knot deforms branches and reduces their growth. Heavily infected trees often become stunted and may eventually die from the disease.

What You Can Do

Regularly monitor your cherry tree(s) for symptoms of black knot. Early on, the disease appears as small light brown swellings, usually found on new green stems. As the knots mature, the swellings will appear olive green with a velvety texture. Eventually the knots darken and harden. If you detect black knot, follow the guidelines (right):



- Prune out the infected branches between late fall and early spring when the plants dormant and the knots are easier to see
- Remove the infected branches to at least 15–20 cm (6–8 inches) below the knot
- It is best to prune an infected branch further back to a suitable location, such as a healthy collar, rather than leave a stub
- For knots on the trunk or scaffold branches, the main branches growing directly from the trunk, that can't be removed, cut away the diseased material down to good tissue and at least 1 cm (1/2 inch) beyond the edge of the knot
- Sterilize your cutting tools between each cut using bleach to prevent further spread of the disease
- Destroy infected prunings immediately, as they can continue to produce spores for months after being removed; galls can be sealed in a plastic bag and placed in your black garbage cart for disposal
- Black knot is a native plant disease well established throughout the province and is not regulated through any legislation. Creating a local bylaw therefore would be impractical, however, citizens are encouraged to help manage the pest on their own property.

Taken from: https://www.edmonton.ca/programs_services/pests/black-knot
Photo: wikimedia / Dibotryon-morbosum