



TO: All **Duneland Beach** Home and Property Owners  
FROM: Duneland Beach Association, Inc. - **Board of Directors**  
RE: Spring Letter to Members  
DATE: April 3, 2017

On behalf of the Board of Directors we hope that everyone enjoyed a delightful "mild" winter. Spring has officially arrived and in no time we will be enjoying the beach and Lake Michigan.

We encourage every member to attend the DBA Annual Meeting on Saturday June 24, 2017 at 10 am at St. Andrew's by-the-Lake on Moore Road. You will receive additional information approximately thirty days before the meeting. The annual meetings are a great opportunity for you to have a dialogue with your elected Board and other Association members.

Shown below are the key topics for the upcoming months:

#### **LEAF PICKUP**

**There is only one Spring leaf pickup: all leaves need to be at the curb by Sunday April 30th.** Our contractor will make one pass through the entire community beginning May 1st. Any leaves raked to the street after the pickup will be the homeowner's responsibility to remove.

The leaf pickup machine is vacuum-operated and pulls the leaves into a spinning blade that is very susceptible to damage from solid objects. Please rake only leaves to the edge of the road - NO rocks, bricks, wires, branches, etc. If you have small branches please put them in a separate pile for pickup. Do not place leaves or sticks in the garbage or recycling containers.

#### **BEACH (beach rules attached)**

Our Dune Restoration Project was started in 2010. Using funding from the Lake Michigan Coastal Grant, Save the Dunes developed a master plan for the restoration of our ailing fore dune. The Duneland Beach Association, using money from our dues, is funding the project again this year. We are also applying for grant money from several organizations to help fund restoration and improvement projects. We are being guided in our efforts by Jim Erdelac, formally with the Shirley Heinze Land Trust, and Sam Erdelac from Save the Dunes. In the fall volunteers removed trees and other non-native vegetation. In addition, Jim and Sam applied herbicide to control and prevent regrowth of the invasive species. In March, Jim spread the dried Blue Star and Sand Reed dune grass seeds that the volunteer group gathered in the fall. We continue to transplant dune grass to needed areas.

In the next few weeks we will be creating a designated path between Stops 35 & 36 for public safety vehicles (ATVs). Once completed, we plan to have a volunteer day to plant dune grass in the areas around the path.

**Important Reminders:**

-As recommended by all our environmental specialists, please **ONLY** use the steps at the DB beach stops (Stop 32, 33, 34, 35 & 36) to access our beautiful beach. The new ATV path is for public safety vehicles **ONLY** and should not be used to access the beach.

-Make sure to use your red beach tag when using the beach. If you have lost your red beach tag, please send email to [info@dunelandbeach.net](mailto:info@dunelandbeach.net). No RED tag=no beach access.

-Pets are prohibited to be on the beach from 10 AM to 6PM.

**SECURITY**

Duneland did experience one unoccupied home break-in during the last twelve months. This is the first such event in several years. Very little was found to be missing and there was no damage to the property other than the doorway. Such incursions continue to focus on homes that are owned by our part-time residents and appear to be unoccupied at the time. It appears to be "smash and grab" with the intent to break-in, grab as much as possible, and exit quickly with whatever they can carry. Duneland Beach Association has recently installed a 24 hour video surveillance system as an additional measure of protection for our community. Testing of the equipment is ongoing and our expectation is to have the system fully operational soon.

This occurrence reminds us that as a community we must be vigilant and always watch out for each other. For those of us that are full time, please help your part time neighbors by watching their homes during the weekdays and putting their garbage cans back near their homes after the Monday pick-ups. If you see vehicles or persons in your area that seem suspicious, write down the date, time, description, and if possible a vehicle license number and contact the police. If you see anything suspicious at a neighbor's home, call the Long Beach police non-emergency number (219-874-4243) for them to investigate. The best way to prevent crime is through homeowner involvement and communication.

**WATER**

The DBA purchases all of the water for residents, as a bulk purchase to save cost, and is paid for as part of your semi-annual dues. The board approved a new rule to reduce wasteful use of water. It requires all new or reinstalled automatic sprinkler systems to have a rain or soil moisture sensor. We encourage residents with existing systems to ask their sprinkler service supplier to install this enhancement, which most systems are equipped to use.

This spring an improvement is being made to the water system to increase the capacity and reliability of the water supply. A second connection to the Michigan City Water piping network is being installed at the eastern end of Calumet Trail.

### **GARBAGE AND RECYCLE**

Duneland Beach has signed a five year contract extension with Republic Services. There will be no change in the service schedule. Pick-up of both garbage and recycle is on Mondays, except from Labor Day through Memorial Day when the recycle will only be picked up every other week. Contact the DB Website [info@dunelandbeach.net](mailto:info@dunelandbeach.net) for extra or new containers, blue-recycle or brown-garbage, or if you have any comment on the service.

### **811 – CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**

We are members of the 811 – the call before your dig program in Indiana. Call 811 when you need to have your utilities located and our water lines will be included in the location process.

### **NO SOLICITING**

Our rules and regulations do not allow soliciting. Any service provider that comes to your home unsolicited, such as tree trimming or house maintenance and offers you a service is doing so contrary to our rules and regulations. Please inform them that solicitation is not allowed in Duneland Beach. As a reminder, **yard signage** (i.e. "For Sale" signs or those advertising contractor, school, political, etc.) is prohibited. Real estate open house or estate sales signs are acceptable not earlier than forty-eight (48) hours prior to any such sale and removed within twenty-four (24) hours of such sale.

### **EMAIL**

Please assist us in reducing cost and improve efficiency by emailing the seasonal newsletter and other important announcements to you instead of using the US Postal Service. Please use the email link [info@dunelandbeach.net](mailto:info@dunelandbeach.net) or "Leave a Message" on the main page of our website [www.dunelandbeach.net](http://www.dunelandbeach.net) and provide your latest email address with a request to have all communications sent electronically. This mailbox is monitored for messages and provides us another method of staying in touch. If you are interested you can leave your email address at this site and we can use that email address to provide you information and reminders.

The Board would like to take this opportunity to communicate with you as we look forward to another delightful Spring and Summer on the shores of Lake Michigan!

Michael Guenin  
President  
Duneland Beach Association