

# MIDWAY WOODS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter: July 2018

## EVENTS & DATES

**National Night Out** on Tuesday, **August 7, 6:30pm** in Dearborn Park

**Paid Patrol and Hooper Alexander Surveys:** deadline is Friday, **August 17**

**Midway Woods Association meeting** on **September 13, 6:00pm** at Blue Tarp Brewing, 731 E. College Ave

**Annual Midway Woods Association Meeting and Elections** for 2018/2019 on **October 4, 6:00pm** at Blue Tarp Brewing, 731 E. College Ave



To buy a Banner for your home, go to the Midway Woods Neighbors Facebook page. (\$30)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/midwaywoodsneighbors/>

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2017/2018

This has been a very busy first year for the newly established Midway Woods Association board members. Last Fall, we began with elections and role assignments and have continued with monthly leadership meetings to tackle old and new project ideas. We hosted the following Community Engagement and beautification events:

- Annual holiday party in December, and several Porch parties
- 5 neighborhood meetings at Blue Tarp Brewing
- Shoal Creek cleanup, co-sponsored by Rivers Alive
- March Madness street sign cleanup
- Annual neighborhood yard sale

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***To stay up to date with events and other important happenings in the neighborhood, please join our private Facebook group, Midway Woods Neighbors.***

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Have you ever heard the saying "it takes a village"? Well its true! We are always reaching out for volunteers to help our small board plan and organize the many projects and events for the neighborhood. There are 4 committees that need volunteers now to work with board members going forward. Please message the board from our Facebook page to sign up to HELP!!

- Community Engagement (Events, Potlucks, Parties)
- Environmental Infrastructure (Cleanups, Parks and Streets)
- Public Safety (Neighborhood Watch, Paid Patrol Leaders)
- Communication and Fundraising (Membership drives, Raffles, etc)

At the Annual Midway Woods Association meeting, we will be accepting nominations for board positions, but you must be a member of Midway Woods for a minimum of two weeks to be eligible (or to vote). For more information on how to become a member, visit our website [www.midwaywoodsassociation.org](http://www.midwaywoodsassociation.org).

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018/2019

Based on prior input and concerns from YOU, the board has been working hard on finding ways to improve safety and security and to beautify the neighborhood. The reverse side of this flyer contains 2 very important topics that require your feedback. In order to take next steps, we need you to reply to the surveys as quickly as possible using the online survey <https://tinyurl.com/MWASurvey2018>. The more participation we get, the better the decisions we will make as a neighborhood.

## FEEDBACK NEEDED ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

Link to surveys - <https://tinyurl.com/MWASurvey2018>

### PAID SECURITY PATROL (1)

In response to expressed interest from neighbors, the Midway Woods Association board has been gathering information about implementing a paid security patrol in the neighborhood.

- **How would the patrol work?**

The patrol would consist of off-duty DeKalb County police officers who are paid to patrol Midway Woods for a shift of four hours at a time. Midway Woods neighbors would sign up as patrol members, pay an annual fee, and their membership fee would pay for the officers' time. The more members who sign up, the more money there is available, and the more patrol hours we can pay for.

The board is looking for two people to volunteer as patrol coordinators. Patrol coordinators agree to check in with an officer at the beginning and end of his/her shift and take reports from the officer about any unusual activity that happened over the course of the shift. **We need at least two people to volunteer as coordinators, or this effort cannot move forward.**

- **How much would it cost?**

Membership costs \$150 per year per household. In order for the paid patrol to get off the ground, **we need 55 households to sign up** as patrol members. If at least 55 households do not sign up by **August 17**, this initiative will not move forward.

- **What are the benefits of becoming a patrol member?**

Having a police officer in the neighborhood on patrol will drastically shorten the response time if an incident occurs when the officer is on duty. Officers will also be able to monitor the neighborhood for speeders and other non-emergency problems. Patrol members will be able to request home security checks and reports from patrol officers while they are out of town. Patrol members can also request home security assessments to get advice about how their homes can be made safer.

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### HOOPER ALEXANDER SCHOOL PROPERTY (2)

An area between Dorothy Drive and Memorial Drive, formerly the site of Hooper Alexander Elementary School, has been vacant since the building was demolished in 2016 following a fire. The DeKalb County School Board was proposing the land be used as a parking lot for 80-90 school buses for an unspecified amount of time. Fortunately, due to the involvement of the Midway Woods Association board, the School Board has decided not to move forward with this plan. As a result, they are now considering selling the land. The School Board is interested in working with our neighborhood, through the Midway Woods Association board, to consider our input on what we would like/not like to see done with the land.

This survey is an opportunity for you to provide your feedback to inform the School Board as it decides what to do with this land, which comprises about 8.1 acres. It is important that we hear from as many of you as possible in order to provide the School Board with an accurate representation of the neighborhood's desires and concerns about the future development of this land.