

# Stonewood HOA

MARCH 2025

[www.stonewoodmaitland.com](http://www.stonewoodmaitland.com)

## SPRING CLEANUP IS COMING

It's that time again: Time to put out unwanted furniture, appliances, and household goods for the free Spring Cleanup.

From **March 24 through April 4**, solid waste crews will pick up large items without the usual extra charge. The cleanup includes large brush, branches, and tree trimmings up to ten feet in length and three feet in diameter.

Spring cleanup collection will occur on normal pickup days in Stonewood (Tuesdays and Fridays). Yard waste collection continues on Wednesdays, as usual.

A few "don'ts": The city will NOT collect electronics, tires, propane tanks, paint, motor oil, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, or other hazardous household waste.

All pickup materials need to be placed between the curb and the sidewalk before 7 a.m. on a regular collection day. Please keep items away from light poles, mailboxes, and trees.

This is the only community cleanup scheduled for 2025; let's make the most of it!

## ART IN ALTAMONTE

The work of more than 140 artists and craftspeople will be on view during Uptown Art Expo at Cranes Roost Park from March 28 through March 30. The free event features glasswork, jewelry, mosaics, paintings, photography, pottery, sculptures and more.

Visitors are invited to cast votes for the best of sidewalk chalk art in the "People's Choice Chalk Awards." Chalk artists can win cash prizes.

Tribute bands will entertain on Friday and Saturday. International street cuisine, food trucks, craft beer and wine are available throughout the weekend.

## HOA FINANCIAL REPORT

Thank you to the many Stonewood homeowners who have paid their dues in full for 2024-2025. Your prompt payment helps the HOA meet its obligations in a timely manner and operate more efficiently. We appreciate it!

As of March 1, a few properties still have unpaid dues. If you have an outstanding balance, you may have received a statement in the mail marked "Second Notice." If you aren't sure about your account status, please contact the HOA office via email at [stonewoodhoaf@gmail.com](mailto:stonewoodhoaf@gmail.com) or leave a voicemail message: 407-720-8010. We'll check it out.

According to the neighborhood covenants, dues unpaid after March 1 incur an additional late fee. Please let us know if you have questions.

## SUNPASS OR SCAM?

With the debut of "dynamic pricing" on local toll roads, some motorists may be overpaying because of bogus bills – frequently delivered in text messages.

State authorities have shut down hundreds of websites used in fake toll notices. The alerts sent to drivers are an attempt to steal identification and financial information, according to officials.

"Floridians need to be cautious when receiving texts or emails claiming they owe money for tolls as it could be a scam," said acting Attorney General John Guard. "These fraudulent SunPass websites preyed on unsuspecting Floridians and tourists, trying to steal personal information through fake billing notices."

Authorities warn that messages threatening penalties if immediate payment is not made are probably a scam. Officials suggest checking your account by going directly to the SunPass or E-Z Pass website, NOT by clicking links in an email or text.



**Website:** <http://stonewoodmaitland.com>  
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## KICKS FOR KIDS

The Altamonte Springs City Library is open, having survived potential closure last year. Staff and volunteers will be hosting kid-oriented events during spring break, March 17 through March 21.

Gravity Defying Fun | Monday, March 17

Groovy Good Glow Painting | Tuesday, March 18

An A-Maze-Ing Good Time | Wednesday, March 19

World Storytelling Day | Thursday, March 20

Game Day | Friday, March 21

Librarians also will distribute reading challenge sheets at the beginning of the week. Young readers are invited to tackle these tasks for a chance to win exciting prizes.

The library, at 281 Maitland Ave., is open Mon-Thu from 10-7, and 10-4 on Friday and Saturday.

## DOOR-TO-DOOR CAUTION

Spring is the season for solicitors to sell roofing services, tree trimming, and the like, door-to-door. You already may have encountered these surprise salespeople who “just happen to be in the area.”

Be aware that Altamonte Springs city code requires nearly all solicitors to register with the city and to carry proper credentials – even when collecting for charity.

Also, most charitable solicitors must carry permits showing the name of their organization and the starting and ending dates of their solicitation. Commercial representatives must show a copy of a city permit on request.

You may verify registrations with the Altamonte Springs city clerk: (407) 571-8116.

## SWEET SOUNDS IN TOWN

The Maitland Jazz and Blues Festival returns April 4 and April 5, with a dozen artists on two stages.

The free event is being held at Independence Square. Visitors can bring chairs and blankets for seating in front of the stages. Besides music, there will be food, drinks, vendors, and a kids play area.

Sisaundra Lewis, a former contestant on The Voice, will entertain. Other jazz artists include Ebony Carlson, and Laurel Hatfield and the La La Band. The blues stage features guitarists Chris Cain, Albert Castiglia, Artur Menezes, and the 501 Band. For details go to: <https://www.maitlandjazzandblues.com/>

## TIMELY TAX TIPS

With the deadline for filing income tax returns looming on April 15, Florida taxpayers may qualify in this year’s IRS Direct File program.

This free filing software is accessible on a computer, table, or phone. It includes a “direct import” feature, which allows taxpayers to get identification and W-2 information directly from IRS data. Taxpayers can check their eligibility for the program via online chat.

IRS Free File electronic filing also remains available this year. “Almost everyone” is eligible to file a return for free, according to the IRS, using software from eight companies that partnered with the agency.

You can create an online account at the IRS to see your payment history, scheduled or pending payments, and other tax details. You also can use this account to pay your tax bill or make estimated tax payments. To create or access your account, go to:

<https://www.irs.gov/payments/your-online-account>

For more tax tips, go to:

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-tax-tips>



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