

Sugarmill Woods Bulletin

December 23, 2011

Dear Residents,

It's time to again reflect on the events and memories of this past year and to be thankful for all of the good things that we have experienced with family and friends. Please take this time to enjoy the holiday season with those close to you. Best wishes to all of you and your families for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With the return of our seasonal residents and the great fall season weather, more people can be seen walking and biking in the community. All of us need to be careful when we are driving, riding bicycles, walking or jogging on the roads. On a regular basis, we contact the Citrus County Sheriff's Office to get their input on information that should be communicated to residents. Each year, we publish in a summary form some key points of the Florida Statutes which are enforceable in Citrus County.

We are providing this information to you again. Please share it with your friends and neighbors. We all need to do our part to keep Sugarmill Woods safe for all who live here and share the roads.

Rules of the Road

Drivers – Please be aware of and adhere to the speed limit on roads within Sugarmill Woods. Speed limits on Sugarmill Woods's roads are posted as 20 mph, 25 mph, or 35 mph depending on the type of road (i.e. Circle Drives and Cul-de-sacs, Side Roads, or Boulevards). Please make complete stops at all stop signs. Please be **“Very Cautious and Slow Down”** when approaching walkers/joggers or bicycle riders on the road. A law was passed and put into effect January, 2008 that states when passing a bicycle the driver must maintain at least three (3) feet of distance between the bicycle and the vehicle. The same should apply when passing walkers and joggers. Accidents can and do happen so please be careful.

Pedestrians – Please remember the roads are intended for vehicles. They are not sidewalks. When you are walking or jogging on the road, always walk on the left side of the road or shoulder facing the vehicles approaching from the opposite direction. Residents should always be cautious when walking or jogging on the road. You are required to yield to the vehicles so please step off of the road and onto the grass shoulder. Residents who frequently walk or jog for exercise purposes are encouraged to use circle drives, cul-de-sacs, and side roads which are safer because of the lower speed limits and less traffic overall. Please avoid the boulevards if possible. If walking in the early morning hours or late evenings, please wear some type of reflective clothing material to make it easier for drivers to see you. Always remember **“Your Safety is Your Responsibility.”**

Bicycle Riders – Bicycles are considered motor vehicles under Florida statute. This means all bicyclists must obey the same laws as motor vehicles, stop at stop signs, no passing on the right, etc. Bicyclists should always ride on the right hand side of the road with the flow of traffic. Please remember that bicycles are no match against vehicles so be careful and safe. Again, **“Your Safety is Your Responsibility.”**

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Duane Dueker,
President, Sugarmill Woods Civic Association

cc: Cypress Village POA, Oak Village Association, Southern Woods POA