

The Shoreline



Volunteer Opportunities

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Photo by Dan Law

Crosswalks and Pedestrian Safety

By John Brodman

What you need to know

Question: Why did the chicken cross the road? Answer: To prove to the possum that it can be done, safely. Judging by the evidence, it would seem like possums must be among the least knowledgeable critters on the planet when it comes to pedestrian safety on roadways, but possums aren't the only ones at risk. According to the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), there are more than 2,200 pedestrians involved in police-reported crashes with motor vehicles each year in North Carolina (this excludes bicyclists). Between 150 and 200 pedestrians are killed each year, and an additional 200 to 300 are seriously injured. Older adults and young children are especially vulnerable. Nearly 85% of pedestrians involved in collisions with motor vehicles traveling at speeds of 40 mph or more are at risk of dying from their injuries. Cars are bigger than we are. In a direct confrontation, pedestrians almost always lose. This article examines some things your town is doing to enhance pedestrian safety and presents some other information you need to know to avoid becoming a "possum."

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PKS Heritage Tree Program

By Pete Trebbe

"The trees, the trees; you've got to move to Pine Knoll Shores for the trees." That's what we heard from a friend as we were looking for a house in the area, and he was right. Not long after moving in, I volunteered as a member of the Community Appearance Commission (CAC), the group that monitors how our neighborhoods look. As I began research to learn what programs the town had in place to protect the trees, I quickly learned that Pine Knoll Shores is a Tree City. The Tree City designation is involved and requires a lot of effort to maintain the title. In addition to the Tree City designation, I was interested in a program to help protect and monitor the beautiful old trees in our neighborhood.

The CAC has enhanced the Pine Knoll Shores Heritage Tree Program to protect trees deemed to be irreplaceable (based on size, age, rarity and botanical, aesthetic or historical value). The commission has created a form for any homeowner in Pine Knoll Shores to use to nominate a tree on his or her private land or on public land for designation as a heritage tree. Members

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