

# Memorandum regarding patio drainage

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Woodsworth Maintenance Committee

FRIDAY, 6TH OCTOBER 2017

FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

Dear Residents of Wilton Street (with patios): —

## WHY IS PATIO DRAINAGE IMPORTANT?

### Commentary

Without proper drainage, that is, surface drainage and subsurface drainage, the following may occur:

- ☞ water may soak into the building foundations;
- ☞ the patio itself may settle/subside, throwing it off-level;
- ☞ general flooding may occur;
- ☞ landscaping may be ruined; and
- ☞ insects and bacteria may breed in standing water causing health issues, &c.

### Descriptor & Remedies

Our midrise patios use 2'×2' cement tiles, with gravel underneath.

- ☞ Between these tiles there are gaps which are needed for drainage. *They should be filled only with sand and kept free of soil, clay, and weeds;*
- ☞ To avoid/prevent clogging within the gaps and into the gravel, a geotextile layer (landscape fabric) can be useful. This would also prevent the drain pipe from becoming clogged with weeds, soil, dirt, debris, and gravel;
- ☞ There should be a gradient (pitch, slope, fall) towards the drain, of at least one percent (1%)—or better still— two percent (2%). This would represent the equivalent of a quarter inch ( $\frac{1}{4}$ " ) for every foot (1.0') or three-and-a-quarter inches ( $3\frac{1}{4}$ " ) for thirteen feet (13.0').

If you have any questions, please drop us a line or send us an e-mail (address below).

In the meantime, wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving this coming Monday!

Yours sincerely,

Sergey Nekrasov, for and on behalf  
of the Maintenance Committee

**\*\*For future reference only:** —the so-called "*French drain*" might also be used for patio drainage. This drain is a lined ditch, filled with gravel, sloping towards the drain.