



LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE

Volume 6, Issue 9
September 2007

Official Newsletter
www.lakesoneldridge.net

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



The fire truck visits Bay Meadows.

Lakes on Eldridge's National Night Out was a tremendous success even with the searing heat and many families on last minute vacations before school starts. There were 14 different events in LOE. Deputy Esquivel with the Harris County Sheriff's Department dropped by several events to answer questions on crime prevention. The Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department brought out 2 trucks later in the evening. Several events did report that they never got a visit from the fire truck. We were advised that a fire would take precedent over NNO activities. We hope this was not the reason for their delay but will try to have better scheduling next year. A few of the event hostesses did report back on their event.

The Bristol Waters village enjoyed an evening of hot dogs, chips, dips, cake, and even homemade waffles from neighbors who hail from Belgium! All in all, about 40 folks gathered throughout the evening to greet their old friends and begin new relationships with neighbors they had not yet met. Kids played and enjoyed art and crafts, while the adults spent time rediscovering how much fun it was to just visit for a while. The residents took time to discuss the importance of neighborhood safety and how being able to identify one another was crucial to that process. They had safety tips posted, along with a list of all of the cities nationwide that were participating in America's effort to strengthen communities and show support

for local law enforcement.

Bay Meadows event turned out nice and they had a pretty good crowd. They had an incident where the son of one of the newer neighbors crashed on his bike and had to be taken to the hospital by ambulance. Luckily, the EMTs were close by and the ambulance got there quickly. It ended up that the boy broke his arm in two places. To make matters worse, the family did not speak much English and did not know their way around the city. Rosa Clay helped out quite a bit and even drove some of the family members to the hospital. That is what the NNO is all about...neighbors helping neighbors.

In Lake Shore Estates pretty much everyone contributed snacks, drinks, plates, or something to the event. They had lots of food, drinks and great company. The boys LOVED the fire truck. The volunteer firemen were very friendly and professional. The adults enjoyed visiting with them as well and we all learned a lot about how the volunteer fire department works.

The Pebble Way/Crystal Falls NNO Block Party went well and was fun. Everyone said Jamie Power's brisket was divine. There were probably about 40-45 residents including kids that attended. People brought wonderful side dishes and there was more than enough food for everyone. Deputy Esquivel showed up at 9:15pm after everyone had packed up the food and most people had already left. There were about five or six kids around that had the opportunity to work sirens and sit in

(Continued on page 4)

Lakes on Eldridge

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

AMI.....	713-932-1122
Gate Attendant	713-937-8825
Sheriff - (non-emergency).....	713-221-6000
Cy-Fair Fire Department - (emergency)	281-466-6161
(non-emergency)	281-550-6663
Poison Control	1-800-764-7661
Texas DPS.....	713-681-1761
Waste Management.....	713-695-4055
(trash collection Mondays & Thursdays)	
Aqua Source.....	713-983-3602
(Service or emergencies 24hrs).....	713-983-3604
Harris County Tax Office.....	713-224-1919
Reliant Energy.....	713-207-7777
(give pole # of street which is out)	
Entex (gas)	713-659-2111
Time Warner Cable	713-462-9000
Houston Chronicle	713-220-7211
Metro Transit Info	713-635-4000
Kirk Elementary.....	713-849-8250
Truitt Middle School.....	281-856-1100
Cy-Falls High School.....	281-856-1000
Cy-Ridge High School.....	281-807-8000
Newsletter Publisher	
Peel, Inc.....	advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

LOE Board Of Directors

To contact a member of the Board of Directors, call Alex Taylor with AMI at 713-932-1122. Leave the number where you can be reached. Mr. Taylor will then forward your message to one of the following board members:

Bronson Clay	President
Deborah Dunaway	Vice President
Lindsay Buchanan.....	Secretary
Cory Hammond.....	Treasurer

Visit the Association Website:
www.lakesoneldridge.net

Airport Noise

LOE is now in the flight pattern for both Intercontinental and Hobby Airports, which means air traffic has significantly increased. If you are concerned over the noise make a call to one or all of the numbers below. It is the number of calls and the people taking time to make them that make the most effective appeal for change for this situation.

- Houston Airport Noise Complaints Hotline: 281 233-3900
- Air Traffic Approach Number: 281 230-8441
- FAA Hotline: 1-800-255-1111

For Information Only.

Board Seeking Volunteer for Website Committee

The Board is always on the lookout for volunteers to serve on the various committees that have been formed to make our community a nicer place to live. We are currently especially interested in finding someone with website development experience to join the newly formed website committee. The committee will be preparing recommendations for an updated web site, will implement the recommendations, and will be responsible for maintenance and administration of the site. If you are familiar with the technical aspects of website design and operation, we'd love to hear from you! Graphical design experience would be a plus, but is not necessary. Please contact AMI at 713-932-1122 if you are interested.

Article Submissions

*If you would like to submit an article or any information for the Lakes On Eldridge Newsletter, you may do so by sending the information to dsd1951@mac.com. This information should include your name. All information should be received **no later than the 12th of the month** and is subject to editorial approval as well as space limitations.*

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Saturdays and Sundays: Oct. 6th - Nov. 25th

Texas Renaissance Festival: Call 1-800-458-3435
or visit www.texrenfest.com.

October 3, 4, 5, & 6,

Round Top 40th Annual Fall Antiques Fair Location: Round Top, Texas
visit www.roundtoptexasantiques.com

October 5 - 7th

Gruene Music & Wine Fest: Benefiting Hospice and the United Way.
Call 830-629-5077 or visit www.gruenemusicandwinefest.org

October 5 - 8th

Greek Festival: Location 3511 Yoakum Call 713-526-5377 or visit
www.greekfestival.org.

October 13th & 14th

Pet Fest: Pet fashion shows, photography, service groups,
contests, micro-chipping, and rescue groups.
Location: Old Town Spring. Call 281-288-2355.

Saturday, October 13th - Sunday October 14th

Houston Italian Festival: Location: Houston Farm and
Ranch Club. One Abercrombie Drive. I-10 West - North on Hwy 6
Call 713-524-4222 or visit www.HoustonItalianFestival.com.

October 27th: 11am-7pm

German Festival: Free Admissions. Location: 24th Street
and Winnie, Galveston, Texas. Call 409-762-8477

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Lakes on Eldridge

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (Continued)



Eagle Bend NNO



Bristol Waters NNO

National Night Out- (Continued from Cover page)
the patrol car.

Bristol Banks had a great event despite the heat. One of the residents had a caterer bring meatballs and chicken pasta salad to go with the beer, wine and soft drinks. Everyone agreed they enjoyed renewing their friendships with their old neighbors and welcoming the two new families on the block.

Eagle Bend had a nice turnout. They served ice cream and soft drinks for the kids, beer, wine and appetizers for the more mature kids.

If your event was not mentioned here, it was just not reported by this writing and by no way is meant as a slight.

There are several telephone numbers the Sheriff's Department wanted LOE residents to have quick access to in their homes. The number to call for an emergency is 911. The non-emergency number for the Sheriff's department is 713-221-6000. The number for alarm assistance is 713-221-6000, and this is the same number that should be given to your alarm company for alarm calls. They also mentioned that you could call the Sheriff's Department, Crime Prevention Dept. at 713-225-3273 for a home inspection. A Deputy Sheriff will come out to inspect your window and door locks, which entitles you to a

5% discount on some homeowner's insurance policies (verify with your insurance company). There is no fee; this service is free.

A very warm thank you to Deputy Esquivel for visiting with our residents. Another very warm thanks goes to the firemen of Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department, Station #6 for coming out with the fire trucks.

A "Big Thank You" goes to the many, many dedicated volunteers for all of their hard work on behalf of their neighbors and Lakes on Eldridge subdivision as a whole. They are the ones that organized and made each of our events possible. It is people like these individuals that are willing to extend their hand to make the place we live be a real neighborhood.

If you missed the 2007 event, you might want to mark your 2008 calendar for the first Tuesday in August so you won't feel left out.

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Community Newsletter on the 1st day of each
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Lakes on Eldridge

LOE HAS LOST A FRIEND

On Saturday evening, July 28, 2007, LOE lost a resident and good friend. Dr. Mary Geda a resident of Indigo Falls village went for her evening jog. Within a couple of hundred yards of her front door she collapsed with a heart attack. The neighbors that rushed to help her did CPR and called 911. The EMS took her to a hospital. Dr. Geda had no identification on her person and her neighbors who lived on the same street did not know who she was. Her adult children were expecting a visit from her during the evening and when she did not show up they went to her house. Her cars, keys and purse were all there. She had just disappeared.

Her sons frantically called several hospitals the next morning. One of the hospitals told them that they did have a patient of her description, but that the lady had just passed away.

Dr. Geda was a pediatrician to many Lakes on Eldridge children as well as an associate professor at Baylor College of Medicine. She was an avid runner, having completed 5 marathons, as well as a golfer and bicyclist. This was a lady who was in excellent shape. She was an active member of the LOE Social Committee and came to almost everyone of our functions.

Dr. Geda organized the Indigo Falls National Night Out last year and had a tremendous turn out as she focused the entire event on

children's activities. She was also working on this year's event and very pleased that Indigo Falls was going to have one event this year and everyone in the village would get to meet each other. Little did the people who found her know; she was most likely the person who had put the National Night Out flyer on their door.

This same type of terrible incident happened here 7 years ago when a resident from Auburn Shores was jogging around the front lake, collapsed and died. He had no identification on him.

Please make sure you and your loved ones always have some kind of identification on yourselves at all times. It is also very important that we recognize we are not invincible. The heat can dehydrate even the most physically fit person. Drink plenty of fluids. It's extremely important to stay hydrated. Also, drink 15-20 minutes before beginning your workout and every 15 minutes throughout the exercise. Check the weather forecast. It's best not to participate in intense outdoor exercise sessions when the heat index registers in the dangerous zone.

In addition, please get out and meet your neighbors. This is never more important than in the event of an emergency but also gives us all a feeling of belonging to the community.



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Lakes on Eldridge

Waterfowl Cruelty is a FELONY

Mistreating or injuring the waterfowl is a FELONY according to the Texas Wildlife Department. On the 4th of July, three boys were spotted and photographed throwing lit fireworks into the culverts under the bridge near the clubhouse. A pair of swans had just gone into the culvert and was apparently the boys' target. The resident photographing them did not call the police. Many children have been seen in the past poking sticks at the swans, throwing rocks at them, and even throwing firecrackers on their backs. The police will be called on any person taunting or throwing items at any waterfowl no matter what their age. Remember this is a FELONY, which will remain on one's police record for a long time. Please warn your children to leave the waterfowl alone. They are here to add beauty to our neighborhood, not to be injured. Should any resident see mistreatment of the waterfowl, call the police first, and then call AMI who will give you the number of the people who are caretakers of the waterfowl.

The picture below is that of Brandy coming out of anesthesia after having his foot sewn back together. He stepped on a broken glass bottle in one of our lakes and almost bled to death.



Brandy coming out of anesthesia.

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See Someone Running a Stop Sign?

If you see someone running a stop sign in Lakes on Eldridge, please write down the date, time and license number and report all of this information to AMI at 713-932-1122. These people will be contacted about the incident.

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Lakes on Eldridge

GATE VANDALISM IN LOE



Ginger Ponds gate was vandalized.

On Saturday morning, August 4th at 10 o'clock, the Ginger Ponds gate was found to have been seriously damaged by persons unknown. The exit gate was open, pulled 15 or 20 feet northward toward Tanner Road. The gate frame was bent and broken. It appears as though someone approached the gate from the outside, hooked onto the gate and pulled it physically off the tracks with great force. There were NO SCRATCH marks on the concrete as would be expected if the gate had been hit from inside LOE and pushed toward Tanner Rd. There was NO PAINT residue found on the gate as from a collision with a vehicle. Amazingly, the pull chain was still in place, although stretched

tightly, giving the inside six or so feet of the gate a severe bend. The LOE gate attendant on duty confirmed that he had received a report of damage to the gate about an hour earlier and he had called AMI to request that repairs be ordered. It is believed that this damage happened between midnight and 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning. The Sheriff's Department was called and a complaint was given to the Deputy by Bronson Clay.

So far, we have no information as to who is responsible. It appears likely that LOE residents will just have to pay for this senseless vandalism. If you know or hear anything about this incident, please contact AMI at 713-932-1122.

Social Committee Needs You!

Do you enjoy the events we have had here in Lakes on Eldridge?

Do you think there could be more events for the neighborhood? Do you have some great ideas and would like to share them? Do you want to have some fun? We are always looking for volunteers in the community. If you would like to be on the Social Committee, please attend our meeting on Saturday, October 13, 10 a.m. at the clubhouse to plan upcoming adult and children events. If you cannot make it and would like to be included on our notes/minutes, please contact Deborah at dsd1951@mac.com or 713-983-9651.

Please Scoop Your Dog's Poop!

There are a few dog owners in our neighborhood that do not pick up after their dogs. PLEASE!! We have a beautiful community and it is such a shame to walk in the park and be confronted with some inconsiderate neighbor's dog's mess much less step in it. Everyone has an extra plastic bag in their home, just grab one before you leave the house for your walk. PLEASE SCOOP YOUR DOG'S POOP!



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Lakes on Eldridge

MINUTES FROM THE JULY BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of Lakes on Eldridge Community Association met on Tuesday, July 17, 2007. The following is a summary of what was discussed.

HOMEOWNER/GUEST FORUM

Lee Mueller was in attendance. Lee Mueller gave his report on the M.U.D meeting he attended on July 9th, 2007. M.U.D 341 reported that it needs \$300,000 for construction costs to connect to Harris County surface water. The M.U.D. reported that there is \$750,000 in the reserve fund that will be kept for projects in later years. The recycling is costing \$35,000 and this will need to be addressed. The M.U.D approved their proposed amendment to their agreement with LOE. The LOE Board briefed Lee Mueller on their concerns about that amendment and that they proposed to discuss it further with the M.U.D. LOE will also survey recycling usage to determine whether to continue it. The next M.U.D. meeting is scheduled for August 13th, 2007.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statements: The Board reviewed the financial statements for the period ended June 30th 2007. The Association had cash balances of \$433,104 in the Operating Fund. The total Replacement Reserve amount was \$105,757 for the same time period. Operating income year to date is \$493,328, with total expenses of \$466,981 showing a Surplus of \$26,347, which is mainly from the Sales Tax Refund.

Collections: The managing agent reported that \$16,277 in assessments was collected during June 2007. \$67,324 remains to be collected in delinquent assessments and fees. A Board member expressed very serious concern with the managing agent's handling and reporting of the Collections and cited several examples.

The managing agent committed to look into all these issues and provide answers to the Board. The Board also discussed various collection techniques and the managing agent was asked to arrange a conference call with the attorneys about them.

Tax Exemption: The Board reviewed the sales tax refund recap sheet provided by accountants via the managing agent. Approximately \$19,878 has been collected year to date. Approximately \$90,500 is still outstanding from several vendors. These companies are to be contacted by the managing agent about their time frame for payment. The Board requested that the managing agent ensure that all money collected from the Tax Refund is put directly into the replacement fund.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Architectural Control: No Architectural Control Committee Report was submitted at this meeting. The managing agent was asked by the Board to follow up on various old requests for action regarding ACC matters that did not appear to have been addressed by the managing agent.

(Continued on page 11)

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Lakes on Eldridge

Minutes- (Continued on page 10)

Access Control: No Access Control Committee Report was submitted for this meeting. The managing agent is to contact this committee to obtain his report for this past month.

The very poor performance by the gate attendants was discussed at length. The managing agent advised that this had been discussed with ISSC and that most of the current attendants had been let go by ISSC. Many of the attendants currently at the gate are temporary until new attendants can be hired and trained by ISSC. Once these new attendants are in place, the Board has requested that they meet with representatives from this new group to discuss the Board's expectations and to try to develop a more cooperative joint effort.

The Board agreed to reward the attendant who provided details of the driver who damaged the lamppost recently and thus permitted LOE to pursue this driver for reimbursement of all associated costs. \$50 was agreed as the reward, and suitable mention is to be made in the newsletter.

Parks & Pool: It was reported by the Parks & Pool Committee that the tennis courts are now being resurfaced as weather permits. Further improvements are cleaning and painting the twelve light poles, replacing the old hardened squeegees fixing the gate spring hinge and replacing the volleyball net along with repainting the poles with the instillation of a new winch to tighten the net.

There is a quote for chairs and umbrellas for the pool. Chairs are \$92 each for the basic style, \$161 for the acrylic top round tables.

\$119 for the 7 ft. umbrella, \$44 for the umbrella base, plus freight costs. The total for 24 chairs and 6 table sets will be \$4,900.48. After considering the money already spent on the Clubhouse this year and the fact that the pool season is now half over, the Board agreed that the pool furniture expenditure was deferred to next year. An arbor had also been suggested for the pool area and one Board member agreed to contact a resident architect to ask whether he would be willing to help with a design.

Landscape: The managing agent reported on behalf of the Committee that there was no report to present at the time of the meeting and that one would be requested. The managing agent advised that the rocks that had originally been reserved for the Tanner access gates had been sold and that new ones of an adequate size were being awaited.

Lakes & Wildlife: The managing agent reported on behalf of the Committee that there was no report to present at the time of the meeting. The Board has requested the managing agent see that in the new budget for 2008 it keeps allotted money dedicated to the wildlife in the community.

Website: It was reported that control of the website has been taken over and the new template that is being provided by AMI will be in place soon. The committee will re-evaluate the appearance and control/functionality of the website after the new template is installed. The Board has requested a 50% refund on the website since it has

(Continued on page 12)

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- Clean, disinfect toilets, tubs, showers
- Hand wash, disinfect floors

All Rooms

- Pick up and straighten
- Dust sills, ledges, wall hangings
- Remove cobwebs
- Dust/vacuum furniture
- Vacuum floors, carpets
- Vacuum stairs
- Vacuum under beds
- Change linens, make beds
- Empty trash

Windows

- Clean entry window & one set of patio door windows
- Clean window over kitchen sink

Lakes on Eldridge

Minutes- (Continued from page 11)

not been updated in some time. The managing agent will contact AMI Web Administration and have a refund schedule set up. It was requested that all pictures that the managing agent has taken be sent to the new Web Administrator as soon as possible.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

1st Draft of 2008 Budget: The Board reviewed the first draft of the budget for 2008 presented to them by the managing agent. The Board has requested the managing agent put a line item into the Replacement Fund budget for capital improvements for the community. The improvements are to include money \$12,000 for purchasing new pool furniture and a possible arbor to be put up at the pool. The Board has also requested that the managing agent set up a line item in the expense category for the wildlife committee of \$2,400. This first draft includes the increase in reserve funding that was originally projected before the sales tax exemption was received. The Board questioned whether it still needed to be increased so significantly since all the tax rebates have been being applied to the fund. A Board member agreed to update the original study spreadsheet and distribute it for review and comment. The Board will continue to review the budget draft with a view to finalizing it before the Annual meeting in November.

Deed Restrictions: The managing agent reported to the Board that there were 411 open work orders from the month of June with 59 orders being closed and 65 new letters being sent out. The managing

agent informed the Board that he was trying to visit the community more regularly in order to keep the list more current, and that the list was being changed to try to make it clearer.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Detention Pond Agreement: The Board reviewed the Amendment to the detention pond maintenance agreement and has declined to sign it until they can meet with the M.U.D Board and discuss their concerns with the proposed agreement. A Board member volunteered to draft comments for Board review. The managing agent was asked to contact LOEN and Villages at Lakepointe to advise them that LOE was not comfortable with the current amendment proposal and request that they hold off any approval that they may be considering.

Parking & Traffic violations: The managing agent's proposed revisions to the existing Parking regulations to cover Traffic violations as well were discussed and the managing agent was asked to reconsider how these changes were set up and then resubmit a new proposal to the Board.

Managing Agent responsiveness: The Board complained about the lack of timely answers from the managing agent to requests for information and action. The managing agent was requested to improve significantly in this regard and to provide reference numbers for action items in their replies.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors was scheduled to be held Tuesday, August 21st, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Beach Club.

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Lakes on Eldridge

Welcome To Our Newest Neighbors!

We have many new families who have moved into Lakes on Eldridge in the since June 1, 2007. If you have not already, please welcome our newest neighbors – go over and knock on their door to say “Hi”, or extend your hand when you see them outside. Everyone likes to feel welcome.

Bristol Waters welcomes Grant & Nancy Dedora

Eagle's Bend welcomes Jimmy & Marcela Lupher.

Bay Meadows welcomes the families of Nouredine Yah, Christian Genty, and Christophe Joly,

Pelican Pointe welcomes the families of John Zapalac and Christopher DeCuir.

Auburn Shores welcomes James & Jaclyn Jurach,

Eden Springs welcomes Ralph & Amy DePauw.

Crystal Falls welcomes Thuya Aung & Lay Myint.

Indigo Falls welcomes Boris & Yuliya Guz.

Crescent Bay welcomes the families of Adrian Beale and Tawsak & Ladawan Urwongse.

Teenage Jobseekers

Not Available Online

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Lakes on Eldridge

Lazy Gardener - Don't put grass down storm drains

By BRENDA BEUST SMITH

Several weeks ago, I mentioned seeing yardmen blow plant waste down a city storm drain. I said that homeowners need to take responsibility for the irresponsible actions of their workers.

An amazing number of readers responded, saying this is a problem that needs to be more publicly addressed.

Too many homeowners and lawn crews aren't aware of the difference between storm drains and sewers. Sewers carry sewage "black water" that comes from toilets and other household drains. It is sent, via underground pipes, to treatment plants. Typically, we don't see these pipes or openings.

Storm drains lead to a separate pipe system. Openings are visible from the street. They are designed to route rain runoff into large pipes that lead directly to major ditches, bayous and other waterways, which ultimately empty into Galveston Bay. There's no treatment or filtering of this water between your yard and the bay.

It is your responsibility to make sure that nothing but untainted rainwater flows from your yard into storm drains. Lawn clippings, leaves and other debris often clump, contributing to flooding in your neighborhood. And that's only the beginning.

If you've used chemicals on your lawn or garden, they may contaminate the water that runs off from rains or your sprinkler system.

Even nontreated lawn clippings do harm. When they decompose, they release carbon and nitrogen that feeds undesirable algae, which, in turn, use up oxygen in the water, contributing to fish kills. This is not just a matter of civic concern or responsibility. It's the law.

According to Herman L. Sanders of the Harris County Watershed Protection Group, "Sweeping grass, leaves, grass clippings, yard waste, etc., into a storm drain is cited as a civil solid-waste violation of State Municipal Solid Waste rules, Chapter 330.15 (a)(1). Civil penalties are \$50 to \$25,000 per day per violation. Criminal penalties, if pursued, are \$500 to \$100,000 per day per violation."

Debris-filled runoff from home landscapes has contributed to so much unnecessary flooding; it is being addressed by numerous Houston-area agencies, departments and organizations.

A great source for information is the Clean Water Clear Choice Web site, www.cleanwaterclearchoice.org, jointly hosted by Harris County, the city of Houston, and the Texas Department of Transportation.

If your organization would like a program on this subject, contact Dimetra Hamilton of the Harris County Public Infrastructure Watershed Protection Group at 713-290-3087.

The WaterSmart program also provides excellent, free programs for clubs. For details, call 281-218-0721 or access www.watersmart.cc.

Perhaps you only occasionally allow grass clippings, leaves and other plants to wash down the drains. But multiply your "occasionals" by the hundreds of subdivisions and thousands of homes in the Greater Houston area and it's easy to see why non-point source pollution is becoming a major concern.

Master Naturalist and environmental author Karen Breneman says the amount of non-point source pollution from homeowners and other non-industrial sources dumped annually in the Gulf of Mexico, much of it via storm drains, equals half the pollution caused by the Exxon Valdez in Alaska.

Upon request, staffers from Clean Water Clear Choice's Storm Water Inlet Marking (SWIM) program will attach a 5 1/2 -inch disk to the top of your street's storm drains warning, in English and Spanish: "No Dumping, Flows to Galveston Bay."

Want to know more about the storm drains in your area? The SWIM program can help. Its staffers are looking for more Houston/Harris County neighborhoods, as well as individual volunteers, to become involved. Free SWIM kits are available through CleanWaterClearChoice.org or 713-290-3000.

Even if you don't join, be a responsible citizen. Don't blow or sweep your lawn clippings into the street.

The best option, ecologically speaking, is to re-mow several times so the clippings will sink down into the lawn and break down quickly, providing valuable fertilizer. Alternatively, bag lawn clippings, allow them to compost and then spread them on the lawn. Don't put these bags out for the trash. This contributes to landfill problems.

If you send your clippings and other yard wastes off with your yardmen, please impress on them the importance of not flushing them down the drain.

If you have gardens in need of donated bagged lawn clippings to compost, let me know. I'll be glad to share that information. lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

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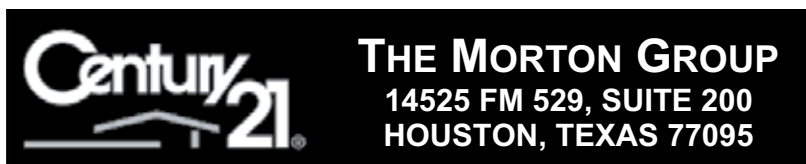
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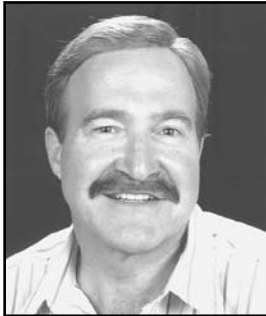
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