

Volume 14 February 2009 No. 2

RECYCLING & CONSERVATION

(Reprinted in part with Permission from Galveston Houston Council)
Submitted by: Barbara Lallinger

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE - "Home Chemicals"

Home Chemicals with corrosive, toxic or ignitable ingredients are called Household Hazardous waste (HHW). Hazardous products pose a threat to our health and the environment when improperly disposed. HHW should NOT be put in the trash, down the drain, into storm drains or burned.

Some HHW can injure sanitation workers, contaminate septic tanks and wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains and/or toilets and are dangerous to children and animals if left around the house.

HHW examples: cleaning products, pesticides, pool chemicals, automotive supplies, batteries, used motor oil, paint and antifreeze to name a few. Some collection centers accept only a certain type of HHW called BOPA, which stands for Batteries, Oil (motor), Paint (latex), Antifreeze. Before dropping off HHW, verify which type your local recycle center accepts.

Recycle - Good Idea

Use the entire product according to its instructions. Any leftover product should be sorted at a HHW Drop-Off center or collection event for reuse or proper disposal.

Reuse - Better Idea

Check to see if your area has a "reuse" center for HHW products.

Reduce - Best Idea

Buy the least hazardous product. Buy only what you need and avoid leftover product. Use a reusable micro-fiber cloth for cleaning as well as less toxic alternatives such as vinegar, lemon and water or baking soda.

PAINT - "Great on Walls - Bad in Water"

Each year, 2 gallons of paint is sold per person in the U. S. Much of that paint is thrown away and ends up in landfills. It is better to buy latex paint, but both latex and oil paints contain chemicals that can damage soil and water if dumped on the ground or thrown in the trash. Paint should NEVER be poured down the drain because paint chemicals, even if treated, can still harm the environment.

Recycle - Good Idea

Donate leftover paint to community organizations or take it to your local

recycling facility.

Reuse – Better Idea

Store paint correctly and it will last for

years. Place it upside down to form a tight seal around the lid.

Reduce – Best Idea

Use up any stored paint before buying new. When you buy paint, only purchase latex paint and only what you need. Try to use up what you buy.

TIRES - "Roll Them to a Recycler"

A tire for everyone in America! That is what is thrown away EVERY year. Illegally dumped tires cause many problems. Not only are tires unsightly, but they are also a breeding ground for mosquitoes, cause toxic smoke if burned and are very expensive to clean up. Tires can be recycled into many products. They are shredded and used to make new roads and parking lots. Shredded tires can also be used in place of gravel and rock around trees and in landscaping at local parks.

Recycle - Good Idea

Most tire suppliers will dispose of your old tires when you buy new ones. The cost is typically \$1 to \$3 per tire. If the cost is too low, the "recycler" might be illegally dumping them.

Reuse - Better Idea

Reduce – Best Idea

Buy products made from recycled tires whenever possible for landscaping jobs. Check tire pressure once a month. Proper inflation is critical for maximum tire life and good fuel economy.

HEAVY TRASH - "There's a Place for Every Piece"

Heavy trash refers to large items such as refrigerators, stoves, water heaters, air conditioners, washing machines, dishwashers, dryers, etc. Many of these items are

also known as "white goods". These appliances contain metals, glass, plastic and other materials that can be recycled and remade into other products. Unfortunately, they also contain toxins that can end up in our water and soil if discarded improperly.

Recycle - Good Idea

If you are buying a new appliance, check if the store will take your old one away for recycling at the same time. If not, hire a legitimate waste hauler to dispose of it properly.

(Continued on Page 3)

Willowbridge - Stonebridge

Important Numbers				
All Emergencies	911			
Harris County Sheriff				
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191			
Cy-Fair Hospital	281-890-4285			
CenterPoint - Street Lights & Outages	713-207-2222			
CenterPoint Energy	713-659-2111			
Jersey Village H. S. Project Prom www.jv	projectprom.org			
Darlene Murry				
Newsletter Publisher				
Peel, Incwww.PEELinc.con	n, 888-687-6444			
Advertisingadvertising@PEELinc.co	m, 888-687-6444			
PCMI/ Khara Mathews281-	-870-0585x1350			
Southwestern Bell - Repair	800-246-8464			
- Billing	800-585-7928			
Swimming Pool - Pay Phone	281-469-9004			
Swimming Pool - Lifeguard				
W. Harris County MUD #11				
Willow Place Post Office	281-890-2392			
Willowbridge Websitewww.willow	wbridgehoa.com			
Trash – Waste Management	713-686-6666			

Association Direct	ctory
Block Captains Coordinator	
Pat Dennard- Willowbridge	
Liz Gammel - Stonebridge	
Welcoming Committee	
Lynette Rink	lynette@lrink.com
Beautification Committee	,
Tom Heitzman	281-807-6937
Homeowners Association	
PCMI - Khara Mathews	281-870-0585x1350
	kmathews@stes.com
Clubhouse/Reservations	<u> </u>
Sherita Jeter	81-870-0585 ext 127
Pool Parties	
Greater Houston Pools	713-771-7665
Pool Tags	
PCMI	281- 870 - 0585
Marquee Coordinator	
Barbara Lallinger	281-890-8464
Newsletter Coordinator	
Bobby Knight	281-890-2384
Security Coordinator	
Julie Dubros	281-794-9032
Website Committee	
Robert Logsdon	281-970-1381
Yard of the Month Committee	
Nominate your favorite at: willowbridg	gehoa.com or Call
Khara Mathews at PCMI (2	81) 870-0585 x1350
Mothers of Young Children	
Cathy Chestnut	281-894-4768
Needlecraft Group	
Rebecca Vajdak	281-894-8258
Bunko	
Denise Ramponi	281-970-8151
1	

Board of Directors

Tom Heitzman Julie Dubros Kyle Survance Fred Edler	Vice President Secretary Treasurer
Robert Logsdon	

Willowbridge Homeowners Association Inc. - PCMI

Khara Mathews	281-870-0585x1350
E-Mail	kmathews@stes.com
	281-870-9170
f you have any questions or con	ments regarding the neighborhood

If you have any questions or comments regarding the neighborhood please contact the #'s above.

To Submit Articles:

E-Mail articles and photos to the following address: <u>articles@</u> <u>PEELinc.com</u>. Articles must be received by the 10th of the month for the following month's issue. Please specify on the article that it is to be published in the *WillowTalk*. Accurate and beneficial community information will be posted at the board of director's discretion.

Shobhana Kamdar, M.D. PEDIATRICIAN

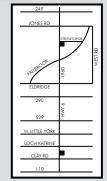
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Recycling & Conservation - (Continued from Cover Page)

Reuse – Better Idea If your appliance is in good working order,

donate it to a charity, or ask friends and

family if they have a use for it.

Reduce – Best Idea Only buy new appliances when absolutely

necessary. Keep your appliances maintained and in good working order and many can last 10 to 20 years.

STREET STORM DRAINS - "Keep Drains Clean and Clear"

Most streets have a 3 to 4 foot opening along the curb called the storm drain. Some of the drains have a grate on the ground in front of the opening, and some do not. Rain run-off flows into the drains and goes directly into local creeks, streams and Galveston Bay.

Run-off is not treated, so any material on the street surface, such as motor oil, gasoline or antifreeze will be mixed with the rain water as it goes into the storm drain.

Take Action:

- 1. Do not put anything into a storm drain (including leaves, trash and pet waste).
- 2. Clean up all chemical spills and drips outside your home before they reach a drain.
- 3. Avoid using excessive fertilizers, weed killers and other yard products so that rain run-off water does not carry the chemicals into the storm drain

IT IS DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL TO PUT ANYTHING INTO A STORM DRAIN! Putting pet waste, oil or chemicals in the drain contaminates the rain water. Leaves, grass and debris can clog the drain and cause street flooding. For more info, visit www. CleanWaterways.org.

ILLEGAL DUMPING - "It's as Ugly as it Sounds"

Illegal dumping is disposing of trash on public or private property without consent of the owner. Construction debris, vehicle parts, furniture and household appliances are common illegally dumped materials. Trash attracts rodents and flies. It contributes to environmental and health problems, as well as lowered property values. People usually illegally dump to avoid the effort it takes to properly dispose of waste materials and the disposal fees. Illegal dumping is not only ugly, but also expensive to clean up and paid for with your tax dollars.

Recycle – Good Idea Find out about "take-back" programs

when you buy new appliances. Place large items out on your heavy trash days in areas that offer heavy trash pick-up.

Reuse – Better Idea Donate parts and appliances to community/

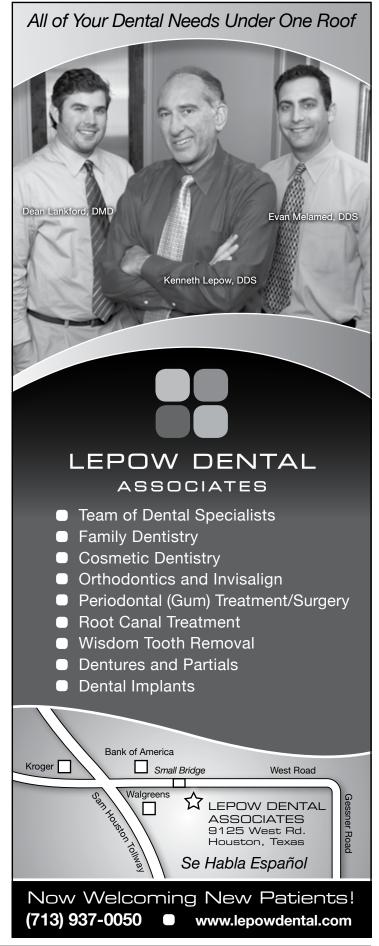
charitable organizations.

Reduce – Best Idea Buy only what you need and dispose of

all trash properly.

Don't want to wait for the mail?

View the current issue of the WillowTalk Newsletter on the 1st day of each month at www.PEELinc.com



Willowbridge - Stonebridge

Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the WillowTalk. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Willowbridge residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the WillowTalk by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or <u>advertising@peelinc.com</u>. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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"GUTTER CLUTTER" (aka storm drain trash)

Submitted by: Barbara Lallinger

As stated in a previous issue of Willow Talk, it is the homeowner's responsibility to keep the curbs and storm drains, bounding their property, clean and uncluttered. Doing so will aid the drains in doing their job more efficiently and will certainly make all of our properties look better! At this time of the year, this problem is compounded by many trees losing their leaves and the wind blowing them along the curbs. If there is dirt with grass growing in the cracks where the street meets the curb, it tends to create a dam effect and the water drains much slower than it should, especially when the debris and trash starts to pile up against the "dam". So, please be a responsible homeowner (or tenant) and keep our curbs and drains clean.

Following is a partial list of some of

the things I have spotted along the curbs and piled on top of the grates (not all of ours have a grate): leaves & branches; beer bottles & cans; juice boxes & bottles (glass & plastic); drink cups; partially eaten take-out meals (with and without ants); tennis and other rubber balls; paper & plastic bags; newspaper; bottle caps; fireworks debris; balloons; broken glass; cigarette butts (lots of them) & packages; plastic cigar tips; dirty diapers; nuts, bolts & screws; metal cans; nails, tar paper & shingle remnants (before & after Ike); money (coin & currency) and the strangest thing...a ferret (hiding in the drain).

Also, please remember that you are responsible if your contractors don't clean up after themselves. This includes your curbs, storm drains, sidewalks and any common areas adjoining your property.



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TALKING TRASH

Submitted by: Barbara Lallinger

Just a Reminder...Waste Management (WM) DOES NOT PICK UP THE NEXT DAY AFTER A HOLIDAY (or the next day, or the next day). This was painfully noticeable during the Christmas/New Year's Holidays. Their policy is to pick up on the next regularly scheduled day for both trash and recycling. Therefore:

Holiday on Monday: Trash will be picked up on Thursday (+ recycling).

Holiday on Thursday: Trash will be picked up on Monday (no recycling).

Trash and Recycling will be picked up on the following Thursday. Exception to Rules: If Christmas and New Years Day fall on a Thursday (as they did this year), Recycling will not be picked up for 3 weeks!!! Lucky for us, this should not occur for several more years!

By the way... congratulations to all the hardcore recyclers that held on and put it out on January 8th!! I'm not sure about the whole neighborhood, but many on my side had as many as 3 bins plus stacks, huge plastic bags full, etc. Another REMINDER PLEASE break down your cardboard boxes!! It will give you more room for other recyclables and is requested by WM. This is extremely important when putting boxes into the Albititi dumpsters at our local schools. If the boxes are not broken down, it causes them to fill up sooner than they should because the weight of paper going in on top of the boxes does not flatten and compress them.

STREET LIGHT OUT?

If you notice a street light out PLEASE report it to CenterPoint Energy. Please be aware that we pay for all of the street lights in our subdivision, every month, regardless if they are illuminated or not! Follow these steps:

- 1. Dial (713) 207-2222.
- 2. Choose a language preference.
- 3. Select option "4" (for street light outages).
- 4. Provide the 6 digit number (located approximately 5 feet up the pole), street name and closest address.

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meet our team

Huong T Le, MD

Quoc Le, MD

Alex Nguyen, MD

Blandina Sison, MD

Marian Allan, MD

Anthony Yee-Young, MD

Diana Malone, MD

Shital Patel, MD

Heidi Nashed-Guirgis, MD

Luz Marquez, MD

Jennifer Dong, MD

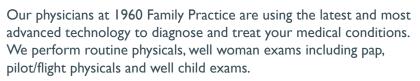
Haley Nguyen, MD

Tami Berckenhoff, PA-C

Brandi Valenzuela, PA-C

Sydney Payne, PA-C

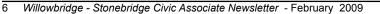
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Appointment press option 1

shots

Willowbridge - Stonebridge February 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				③		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Newsletter Deadline		③		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
				❸		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
				③		





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*****IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER****

- 1. The Maximum Speed Limit within Willowbridge and Stonebridge is 30 MPH!!!
- 2. We have several school zone signals inside the community and on West Road (inside: 20 MPH West Rd: 25 MPH).
- 3. The RED signs with STOP on them at various intersections means come to a complete stop, not Slow Then Opt to Proceed!

NOT AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Cypress Creek High School Celebrates Spring Cougar Day

Houston, TX, January 3, 2009

The Cypress Creek High School Athletic Booster Club will be having its annual spring fundraiser, Cougar Day, on Saturday, February 7th, 2009 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The community is invited to participate in the day's festivities, which will take place at the Cypress Creek High School football stadium complex, 9815 Grant Road, Houston.

Featured activities are: Baked Potato Meal Sale, Silent Auction, Concession Stand, Face Painting, Cake Walk, and Cougar Spirit Items sale. The day will also showcase the spring season boys' and girls' sports: Baseball, Soccer, Softball, Track & Field, Swimming, Golf, Wrestling and Tennis. Several of the teams will have scrimmages or do demonstrations.

All funds raised will go directly to support Cypress Creek's boys' and girls' athletic programs.

For further information, please visit the Cypress Creek Athletic Booster club website at www.cycreekabc.com or contact Jeneane Schultz at 832-444-7607.



SHOW HOURS

Saturday 9am-7pm Sunday 10am-6pm

TICKETS

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NEIGHBORHOOD SPRING FESTIVAL

Submitted by Rebecca Jones

COMING IN APRIL WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS

Co-Chairperson(s) needed urgently Adult volunteers needed Please contact Rebecca at 713-882-1552

Questions, Complaints, Comments?

Contact Khara Mathews at PCMI by e-mail: kmathews@stes.com or calling 281-870-0585, ext 1350. To ensure prompt attention and response please make sure you include your full name, address, and a contact number. Please remember that being polite and practical helps. We are all trying to do a good job and keep our neighborhood a pleasant place for residents.



WILLOWBRIDGE MARKET REPORT

Courtesy of "Super Dave"
#1 in Sales in Jones Rd and West Rd Area!

This market information report is provided to keep you informed of resale market activity in your subdivision.

	Jul 08	Aug 08	Sep 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08
\$300,000 +	1	0	0	0	0	1
\$270,000 - 299,999	0	1	0	0	0	0
\$240,000 - 269,999	0	0	2	0	0	0
\$200,000 - 239,999	1	1	0	3	0	1
\$170,000 - 199,999	0	0	0	1	0	2
\$170,000 -	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	3	2	4	0	4
Highest \$/Sq Ft	84.71	86.78	102.54	82.26		93.48

This chart represents resale homes that have sold and closed in the past 6 months according to the Houston Multiple Listing Service.

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Direct line: 281-477-0345

* According to information taken from the HAR ML

**Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2007

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