



The HPWBANA News

Volume 6, Number 3

March 2010

www.hpwbana.org

Termites

There are three main types of termites that can cause problems for homeowners in Central Texas- subterranean termites, formosan subterranean termites and drywood termites.

Subterranean termites have nests in the soil and must maintain contact with soil or an above-ground moisture source to survive. If subterranean termites venture above ground they make shelter (mud) tubes of fecal material, saliva and soil to protect themselves.

Formosan termites are a more aggressive type of subterranean termite. These termites have been spread throughout Texas through transport of infested material or soil. Formosan termites build carton nests that allow them to survive above ground without contact with the soil. Nests are often located in hollow spaces, such as wall voids.

Formosan termites feed on a wider variety of cellulose than other subterranean termites, including live plants, consuming both spring and summer growth wood whereas regular subterranean termites feed only on spring growth. Formosan termites have also been known to chew through non-cellulose materials such as soft metals, plaster or plastic.

Drywood termites do not need contact with soil and reside in sound, dry wood. These termites obtain moisture from the wood they digest. Drywood termites create a dry fecal pellet that can be used as an identifying characteristic. They have smaller colonies- around 1,000 termites- than subterranean termites; they also do not build shelter tubes.

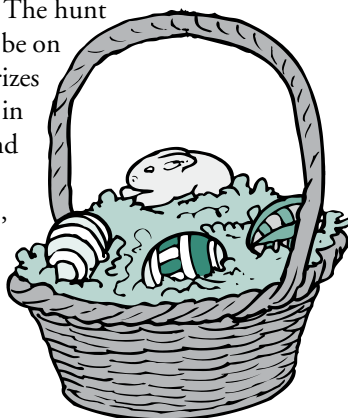
If you are concerned that you may have termites, call a pest management professional to inspect your home for termites.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

Perry Park Egg Hunt

The Perry Park Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 3rd. The hunt will begin at 9:30 a.m. Don't be late! The Easter Bunny will be on hand to give hugs and pose for photos with the children. Prizes will be awarded to the lucky ones who find the Golden Egg in each age category. Play "Guess the Number of Jelly Beans" and win, too! Don't miss this fun HPWBANA tradition.

Volunteers are needed to hide eggs and fill eggs. Also, we would welcome your donation of plastic eggs in good condition and candy for filling eggs. Please contact Chereen Fisher (chereen@austin.rr.com) or Carolyn Robinson (carrob99@hotmail.com) to volunteer to help with the egg hunt.



TROWEL & ERROR!

On April 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Mayfield Park will once again host Trowel & Error, the Spring event that annually attracts gardeners from all over Central Texas to hear experts give time-tested tips for beautiful gardens. Although the lectures begin at 10:00, the event "opens" at 9:30 for those early birds who want to purchase Mayfield's hard-to-find heirloom bulbs and perennials for your April garden and to stroll its garden paths in early morning peacefulness.

Sponsored by Friends of the Parks of Austin, Trowel & Error will feature Cindy Arredondo, succulent specialist, discussing Gardening in an Arid Jungle, Carolyn Williams, master gardener, who will lecture on Repeat Bloomers for Months of Color, and Amy Crowell, landscape designer and author, whose topic is From Container Vegetables to Perennial Edibles: How to Grow Food in Small Spaces.

Not to be missed will be the legendary raffle of "garden goodies". Everyone goes home a winner! It's a wonderful way, rain or shine, to spend a morning learning how to add color into your landscape while relaxing among gregarious peafowl, towering palms, flowering trees, and ponds filled with lilies....and for only a \$5.00 donation!!

For more information contact neenok@aol.com, (512) 453-7074 or mayfieldpark.org.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Austin Citywide Information Center 974-2000 or 311
Emergency Police 911
Non-emergency Police (coyote sighting, etc.) 311
Social Services (during work hours) 211
SPO David J. Knutson
Central West District APD Rep..... 974-5917
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line 210-698-1709

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The HPWBANA Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month except December. Meetings are held from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. All neighbors are invited to attend. www.hpwbana.org

HPWBANA is bordered on the north by 2222, on the south by 35th St., on the west by Mt. Bonnell Rd., and on the east by MoPac and by Bull Creek Rd. between Hancock Dr. and 45th St. Mail your membership dues to HPWBANA, P.O. Box 26101, Austin, Texas 78755

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Our Medians and Green Spaces... A Brief Update!

By Nadene Morning

As you drive around our neighborhood you may notice that many of our medians and green spaces have been landscaped and trees planted over the last several years. These efforts are the result of individuals getting involved and making improvements to areas we see often. The HPWBANA has a Beautification and Parks Committee that recruits help from the community to keep these areas looking great. Keeping these green spaces healthy was a definite challenge during last year's brutal weather.

Here is a brief update on just a few green spaces in our neighborhood:

Balcones Dr/Parkcrest Dr Median – This was the first big project for the HPWBANA Beautification Committee back in 2003 and years later it is still looking good. It is a drought hearty design and requires minimum maintenance. Volunteers water it during heavy drought periods and trim it up only when needed. Balcones Exxon lets up hook up to their water tap. HPWBANA had to adopt a section of Balcones Dr to get the necessary approvals to landscape the median. City approvals to landscape medians can be challenging to obtain but it can be done.

Ridge Oak Triangle (as it is called) - This is the large median at intersection of Ridge Oak Dr. and Lake View Dr. The HPWBANA Beautification Committee has been working with neighbors of this median since 2003 to landscape this green space. The trees were planted as an Eagle Scout project and the boulders along the edge keep vehicles from entering (to spin in the wide open space there). Landscape beds with native plantings were added over the years. Possible beautification projects for this year include more updates to this median.

Hancock Bridge SE corner – This small landscape bed is a burst of color in the summer. And the burr oak and elm tree planted along the bridge are growing beautifully. We would love to see interest in improving the west side of the bridge also. If there is a neighbor or two who would like to provide access to water and help tend

(Continued on Page 3)

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Our Medians - (Continued from Page 2)

the space we can help implement more tree plantings and native landscaping.

Highland Terrace median (Highland Terrace and Perry) - This landscape is the result of local families getting together to improve their immediate neighborhood. It is hard to believe that a few years ago this beautiful landscape was a cement covered median. Neighbors take turns caring for the landscape.

Parks! Perry Park is the only city of Austin Park in our area and we always have projects going on there. We will detail these in another article.

Pictures of all the HPWBANA Beautification and Parks Committee projects are posted on the HPWBANA website beautification and parks page. <http://hpwbana.org>

The committee can only take on another green space project if neighbors are interested in helping out with the project. We have found that it works best when neighbors close to an area help with the project and its maintenance.

If you are interested in helping out with any of the green spaces or discussing a new project please contact Nadene Morning, ntmorning@hotmail.com. And to all those that help tend these area – we Thank You!

Stage I Water Use Restrictions

Even with all the rain we have had this fall and winter, we are under Stage 1 Water Use Restrictions. Normally, Stage 1 Water Use Restrictions are only mandated during the driest part of the year, May 1 to September 30. Because of the severe draught conditions experienced this summer, restrictions have been extended.

In Stage 1, the following restrictions apply to the use of potable water:

- Commercial and Multifamily water on Tuesdays & Fridays
- Single family homes have 2 watering days a week
- Odd addresses: Wednesdays and Saturdays
- Even addresses: Thursdays and Sundays
- No outdoor irrigation between 10am and 7pm
- Hand Watering allowed anytime

Watering restrictions help conserve our treated drinking water and preserve water supply in the Highland Lakes. The full water use management ordinance may be found in Chapter 6-4 of City Code. Violations are Class C misdemeanors, with each instance punishable by a fine of up to \$500. To report violations, please use the on-line reporting form at www.WaterWiseAustin.com or call 311. More information and to confirm current Water Usage Restrictions can also be found at www.WaterWiseAustin.com

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72 MONTHS	3.89%*	\$125,000 AND ABOVE	1.41%****

REG. CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF \$1,000 REQUIRED		JUMBO CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF \$95,000 REQUIRED	
6 MONTHS	1.36%****	6 MONTHS	1.46%****
12 MONTHS	1.56%****	12 MONTHS	1.66%****
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Tech Tip of the Month

Signs of Malware

You all know there are millions of malware infections out there today. It seems as if there are tons of new infections that pop up everyday. In the past, I've written about how antivirus software and antispyware software don't always find all of the infections on your computer. After writing that article, I received several e mails asking, "How do I know if I have a virus?" Well, today, I will cover some of the signs your computer will show if it's possibly infected with a virus or some other type of malware.

1. Your computer slows down majorly. If your system slows down drastically, you may have an infection. Viruses and adware use resources on your computer. They can destroy files, send spam email, redirect or hijack your browser and many other things that will slow your computer down.
2. Internet browser crash. If your Internet browser stops working or shuts down often, you may be infected. Since most malware programs use the Internet to spread themselves, they will affect the performance of your browser. If your Internet browser just starts closing with no warning, you need to check for viruses.
3. Random e mails. Many viruses spread through e mail. If you use an e mail client, such as Outlook Express, MS Outlook or Thunderbird, a virus could infect it and start sending spam e mail out to all your contacts. If you start to receive strange e mails like "Message Undeliverable" or "Mailer Daemon," a virus may be sending e mail with your address.
4. Error messages at startup. If you start receiving error messages when you turn your computer on, you may have some type of malware infection. Malware programs usually turn on at startup and they sometimes cause errors, so you need to keep an eye out for that.
5. Things look "strange". I know that seems a little vague, but sometimes you open something and it just looks funny. If you didn't install something or make a change to your system, there's no reason why something would change. Computers don't make decisions on their own. If something has changed and you didn't initiate it, you should scan for viruses and malware.

Those are the five most common signs of an infection. Many of
(Continued on Page 7)

Don't Forget:

Daylight Saving Time
Begins March 14
Spring forward one hour.

Coming in April:

Good Friday Service
April 2 - 6:30 pm
Easter Services *(no Bible Life)*
April 4 - 9:30 & 11:00 am
Relationships Sermon Series

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www.ghbc.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 . Traditional Worship | 11:00 . Contemporary Worship | 9:30 & 11:00 . Bible Life Groups (all ages)

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

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HPWBANA Board Meetings

Please attend our next monthly meeting:

Monday, March 15, 2010

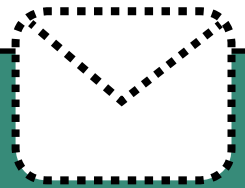
Yarborough Library

7:00-8:30 pm

The HPWBANA Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month except December. Meetings are held from 7:00-8:45 p.m. at the Yarborough Library, 2200 Hancock Drive. All neighbors are invited to attend.

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Tech Tip - (Continued from page 4)

them may indicate a virus, but that doesn't necessarily mean you're infected. Some of the signs could indicate a hardware issue or a program conflict. As a general rule, if you know of a recent change that caused the actions, it's probably not a virus. If the signs happen for no reason at all, you should be concerned and get your computer checked. Until next time, stay safe out there, my friends!

Mayfield Park and Preserve Workday

3505 W 35th St, Austin

2nd Saturday of Every Month Workday - 10:00 – 1:00

Come help out in a local park! Mayfield Park and Preserve has a workday the 2nd Saturday of every month to help tend the gardens, work on the ponds and help out in the preserve. Individuals and families are welcome. Children need to be attended by an adult. Please bring gloves.

Contact Nadene Morning with questions, ntmorning@hotmail.com, 467-8132.

Updates will be posted on <http://mayfieldpark.org/>

HPWBANA Stork Report

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