

Windermere Lakes

H O M E O W N E R S

A S S O C I A T I O N



August 2010

www.windermerylakes.net

Volume 4, Issue 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Just in case...its still hurricane season!

HURRICANE

Before

- Understand the difference between a hurricane watch and a hurricane warning. A hurricane watch means that a hurricane may occur within the next 24 to 36 hours. A hurricane warning means that a hurricane will probably strike your area within the next 24 hours.
- Prepare a survival kit.
- Plan your evacuation route in advance of the storm.
- Close any storm shutters and board up all windows.
- Stock up on drinking water and non-perishable goods.
- Have a supply of batteries and be sure you have flashlights and a portable radio in good working condition.
- Review how to shut off utilities in an emergency with all family members.
- Secure all outdoor objects or move them inside.
- Secure your boat or move it to a safer place.
- Fuel your car in case you must leave immediately.

During

- Listen to the radio for important storm information and instructions.
- If at home, stay inside and away from all windows, skylights and glass doors. Do not go outside, even if the weather appears to have calmed. The "eye" of the storm can pass quickly, leaving you outside when strong winds resume.
- If you must evacuate, leave as soon as possible and be sure to tell someone outside of the storm area where you will be.

After

- Stay tuned to the radio or television. If you have had to evacuate, return home only after authorities advise it is safe to do so.
- Avoid downed power lines.
- Beware and check for gas leaks or electrical system damage.
- Make temporary repairs as necessary.
- Promptly report the loss to insurance company or your local insurance agent.

FLOOD

Before

- Learn the flood warning signs and alert signals of your community.
- Collect emergency building materials if you live in a frequently flooded area: plywood, plastic sheeting, lumber, nails, shovels and sandbags.
- Prepare a survival kit.
- Plan and practice an evacuation route. Establish a meeting place should your family

(Continued on Page 3)

WL SOCIAL COMMITTEE CORNER

We could sure use some volunteer help on several events that we would like to plan during this year. Please think about it and if you can give a few hours of your time to make sure the events are the best they can be... give me a quick email at oldchristian@gmail.com and I'll be in touch!

See you next time,
Bill Wentzell
Committee Chair

BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDER

Watch for Children!



Windermere Lakes

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Sheriff's Dept.	713-221-6000
Center Point Energy - Customer Service (Gas).....	713-659-2111
Cy-Fair Fire Dept	911
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Animal Control.....	281-999-3191
Center Point (Street lights)	713-207-2222
Library	281-890-2665
NW Harris County MUD #29	713-983-3602
Aquasource.....	713-983-3604
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Landscape	Judy Maze
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Architectural Control/Deed Restrictions	TBA

*All Board members and Committees
can be contacted at www.windmerelakes.net*

* We are establishing our Committees for 2010 and need resident volunteers! If you are interested in participating with us, please contact us at www.windmerelakes.net for more details. This is a great way to meet your fellow neighbors and to help make our Windermere Lakes community a better place to live.

NEWSLETTER INFO

Editor.....	newsletter@windmerelakes.net
Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	www.PEELinc.com , 888-687-6444
Advertising.....	advertising@PEELinc.com , 888-687-6444

Windermere Lakes Classifieds

Have any items that you need to get rid of but think someone else could use? Have a useful service to offer your neighbors? Why not place an ad in the Windermere Lakes newsletter? Just send the info and a phone to the newsletter editor, and your ad will be run in the newsletter for two issues.

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Windermere Lake residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail newsletter@windmerelakes.com.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

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President's Message - (Continued from Cover page)

get separated.

- Review how to shut off utilities in an emergency with all family members.
- Check your insurance policy. Ask your agent or call a claim representative about flood insurance. Homeowners policies do not usually cover flood damage.

During

- Listen to a battery operated radio or television for the latest storm information. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Move to high ground, avoid rising waters and do not walk or drive through any floodwaters.
- Stay away from downed power lines and electrical wires.

After

- Listen to the radio and do not return home until authorities indicate it is safe to do so.
- Be watchful of snakes that may have found their way into your home.
- Throw away all food that has come in contact with floodwaters.
- Promptly report the loss to your insurance company or your local insurance agent.

Kevin McClard, President

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE LAKES...

We need your News!

There is really a good group of neighbors on each lake that meet and just have fun being around each other! If you live on or around any of the lakes, they want to invite you to their next event. Just contact us at newsletter@windmerelakes.net and we will put you in touch with their group. This is how great neighbors become great friends!

If you have some news or fun activities going on at your Lake, please let us hear from you!

We'd like to share the news in our future newsletters. Are you or someone in your family running in a marathon, have a new member in your family, children accomplishments or something you'd like to share in the newsletter? Any parties, birthdays, graduations, anniversaries or any other celebrations that may take place would be great shared with your other Windermere Lakes neighbors!

PLEASE SEND YOUR INFO TO US FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER TO: newsletter@windmerelakes.net

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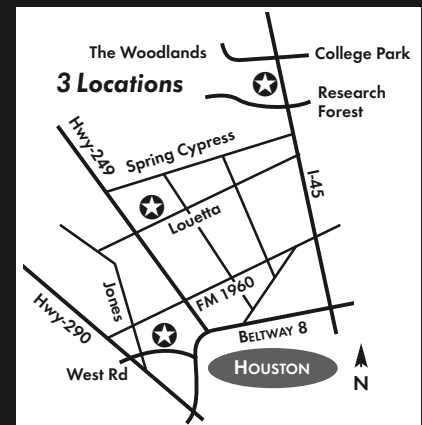


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WINDERMERE 'YARD OF THE MONTH'

Congratulations! The winner is.....10119 Ripple Lake

This winner's landscaping was great and impressed members of our committee as the selection for 'Yard of the Month' for JULY. In addition to the homeowner's well-manicured lawn, their very attractive variety of flowers, plants in the beds and the entryway pots really caught our eye.

The homeowner receives a \$25 Gift Card from Home Depot, bragging rights to the honor AND our WL Yard of the Month sign remains in their yard during the month. Thank you for taking the time to care for your yard and home appearance.

Thanks to those that always help make our neighborhood more beautiful.

Should you wish to nominate some well deserved neighbor, please feel free to do so. You can make your nomination online at www.windermerylakes.net - your contribution to the selection process would be appreciated!

We thank you!

Judy Maze

Chair, Landscape Committee



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LANDSCAPE FOCUS

Lawn Care Tip of the Month

Summer time brings the opportunity to enjoy our green lawns and springtime landscaping. Unfortunately this is also the time our lawns can exhibit signs of problems.

Two common problems we experience in the south Texas region include 1) out of control weeds (those tall sprouts that spring up in the middle of our yards) and 2) brown spots. Diagnosing the root cause of your lawn problem and addressing it early is the key to avoiding large problems later on.

Below are excerpts from a couple of the many websites that offer advice on addressing brown spots and weeds. Another excellent source for solutions to the problem is contacting a reputable lawn care professional. If your yard maintenance company is not proactive in addressing problems, consider asking for a referral from a neighbor who has a nice lawn, chances are they are taking preventive measures and can steer you in the right direction.

Lawn weeds: There are three basic types of weeds: grassy type weeds, grass-like weeds, and broad leafed weeds. Each requires a different method for control.

Some common lawn weeds are annuals. Sprouting from seeds, they develop, blossom and form new seeds, then die in the fall, repeating the process each year. Crabgrass is one such weed. Once these types of weeds take root, they are difficult to remove without harming the lawn. The ideal control prevents them from developing in the first place. See the following website for more information - www.american-lawn.com.

Brown Spots on the Lawn: When you see brown spots on the lawn, you could be looking at several different kinds of problems. Pet urine, a dull mower blade, brown patch fungus, even grubs can all be culprits. See the following website for symptoms and solutions - www.scotts.com.

Judy Maze

Chair, Landscape Committee

TIPS & INFO FROM THE BOARD....

Environmental Focus

As residents of Windermere Lakes, we are all fortunate to experience the beauty of nature and wildlife in the form of lake living. Many species of birds and fish live in our community and they rely on the lake and surrounding land and trees to make their home. Recently we have had an increase in lake trash which threatens these animals and negatively impacts our subdivision.

As community we can all take responsibility to prevent this from occurring. Please communicate with all contractors you hire to ensure they understand it is against deed restrictions to put any form of trash in the lake, including grass, tree and hedge clippings.

Moreover, it is extremely important to avoid putting chemical waste (paint, oil, soap, etc.) and trash in the lake.

IMPORTANT: If you notice this behavior, please contact the deed restriction committee at www.windermerylakes.net.

Paddle Boat Time!

Time to clean out your paddle boat and get ready for summer fun on the lake! Keep the water out to reduce chances of mosquitos!

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SUMMERTIME TIPS FOR YOUR PET

Summertime means special care for our pets. Excessive high temperatures and humidity, parked cars, jogging, beaches, swimming pools and "the wind in your face" can be hazardous to your pet's health.

LEAVE YOUR PETS AT HOME: Don't let that eager look as you pull out the keys cloud your judgment. Even if you park in the shade and there's a nice breeze blowing outside, the temperature inside a car can shoot up to dangerous levels within minutes (120 degrees or higher!) even with the windows down. Unlike humans, pets cannot perspire to cool themselves. The movement of air into and out of the lungs allows them to maintain their normal body temperature. Panting and salivation are outward signs that your pet is overheating. When humidity and temperature exceed the point at which these cooling mechanisms can maintain body temperature, heat stroke results – and that can mean permanent brain damage or even death to your pet. So don't take chances with your pet's life – leave him at home!!

SHELTER: Dogs and cats need to have a cool place to stay when the summer temperatures soar, either inside or out. When it's really hot, the shade from a tree will not keep your pet cool enough. He needs a doghouse or other shelter to protect from the heat. Dogs and

cats can get sunburned just like people. Their ears and noses, which are not protected by thick fur, are especially susceptible.

WATER: Make sure your pet always has access to cool, clean water, especially in the summer heat. Refill overturned bowls and freshen water, but never give your pet ice water, which can shock the system and cause severe upsets.

HEATSTROKE: Heat stroke is the common term for hyperthermia, which in pets means a body temperature higher than 103°F (39.4°C). Elevated body temperature becomes life-threatening when it reaches 109°F (42.7°C), which may occur under certain summertime conditions.

The most common cause of heat stroke is leaving a pet in a car, so never leave any animal in a parked vehicle in warm weather, no matter how briefly, even with the windows cracked. Heat stroke can also result from leaving a pet in a yard on a hot day without access to shade or water, from prolonged exposure to a hair dryer, or from excessive or vigorous exercise when it is hot.

Heat stroke is an emergency that requires safe, controlled reduction of body temperature. Get your dog into the shade immediately and douse it in cool water. Use wet, cool towels to provide relief while you transport your pet safely to a veterinarian or animal emergency service. Your vet may also advise you to use icepacks to quickly lower the temperature around the head.

BEACH AND POOL: If you take your pet to the beach, be sure to provide ample shade, as well, and hose him down after he has been in the salt water. Protect your pet's feet from the hot sand or pavement. Dogs' and cats' foot pads are very sensitive to heat and can easily blister.

While many pets love to swim, chlorinated water irritates your pet's eyes, and heat and sunlight around a pool are intense. Never leave your pet unattended around a pool. Once in, a dog cannot get out without help and may soon panic and drown.

TICKS AND FLEAS: Carefully go over your pet's body at least once a week to check for fleas, ear mites and tiny bumps or cuts. Bring your pet to the vet for a spring/summer checkup and use a good flea and tick repellent that your veterinarian recommends. This can come in the form of a dietary supplement or a powder or spray.

Hair is a natural insulator, whether it is warm or cool. In the summer, an animal's coat insulates against sun, heat and insect bites. Regular brushing removes dirt and loose undercoat, which cleans and cools your pet. When you brush, check around the ears, between toes, along the legs, at the lower abdomen and base of tail.

TRAVEL: If you plan to take your pet on a long car trip, take him on several short trips to condition him for the journey. Travel can be very stressful for a pet: try to eliminate as much of the stress as possible. When taking your dog in the car, have your pet ride completely inside the car with you, just like any other member of the family. Pets allowed to ride with their heads out the window and

(Continued on Page 7)



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Tips for your Pet - (Continued from Page 6)

those relegated to the back of a pickup truck are in danger of injury from debris embedding itself in their eyes, nostrils, ear canals and throat. Pets riding in the back of a pickup truck can overheat from the sun off reflected roadways or be injured during a rough ride, or actually be thrown out onto the road if you brake suddenly.

EXERCISE: Dogs are naturally designed for sprinting, not for uninterrupted running or jogging. During such exercise, the body temperature rises faster than excess heat can be dissipated. In the summer, exercise of any kind should be cut back and limited to the cooler, early morning or later evening hours. Be sure to walk your dog in the grass rather than on the hot pavement, as it will burn his padded feet.

*Do You Have Reason
to Celebrate?*

We want to hear from you! Email
newsletter@windermerylakes.net to let the
community know!

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