

# Trail Writer

*The Official Publication of the  
Winchester Trails  
Maintenance Assoc. Social Committee*

Volume 7, Issue 6  
[www.winchestertrails.com](http://www.winchestertrails.com)

June 2011

## Greetings Winchester Trails Residents,

It is hard to believe that school has ended for the year and summer is upon us. The pool is open "full" time now and the Board hopes you are able to enjoy the pool. We have been working with Greater Houston Pool Management to efficiently make effective changes to enhance your experience. Many changes have been made with some being noticeable such as the pads around the columns near the steps at the shallow end of the pool, while others are not visible, as they make the pool either code compliant or make pool operations safer. Many volunteers have helped to make the pool what it is, and these volunteers are owed a word of thanks. Last year GHPM provided us with some very good lifeguards, and we expect this year to be no different. The lifeguards are well trained and are there to make the pool safe for all swimmers. If you see something that they are doing well, please let them know as words of encouragement go a long way.

In the past few months, the Board has received numerous forms to be considered by the Architectural Review Committee. These are typically from homeowners who wish to improve their homes with new paint, windows, fences or even pools. The ARC tries to turn around these requests quickly, usually within one week, although the process does allow up to a month for review. We understand that once a homeowner makes a decision to make an improvement, they would like to proceed. The review is necessary to maintain standards of the Trails. While the vast majority of the applications are approved without the need for modifications or further information, should a request be denied, the homeowner can attend a Board meeting or contact a Board member to seek clarification.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, June 1 at 7:00 PM and we hope you can attend.

*Until next month...*  
*Walter*

## Easter Party In The Trails

We had a great turnout at the Easter party,  
and a fun time was had by all!  
Thanks so much to Lisa Wooldridge for  
coordinating this great party!



# Winchester Trails

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Jim Malone is the security representative for WT.  
His email can be found on the Security page of the Trails website.

## MUD #9 OFFICERS

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Planned Community Management, Inc. PCMI Winchester  
Trails management company subdivision questions call (Office  
9-5) .....281-870-0585  
Office number is answered 24/7/365. After hours pager on call.  
Sheriff, Non-911 Calls .....713-221-6000

*Report vehical tag number/type or description of person; as appropriate*

## NEWSLETTER

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MAY 2011

30 - Memorial Day / CFISD Student Holiday

### JUNE 2011

1 - Board Meeting 7 PM at the clubhouse

1 - Last day of school

2 - Pool opens with standard hours.

See pool schedule on website.

19 - Happy Father's Day!

21 - First day of Summer

### JULY 2011

TBD - Independence Day celebration -

Parade starts in morning at 9:30 AM

at entrance to neighborhood, followed by food  
and fun for the entire family at the pool.

4 - Happy 4th of July!

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## GREEN THUMB CORNER

The combination of a very warm April coupled with a severe lack of rainfall has caused a lot of stress in our yards this Spring, and now June is here with the real onset of summer heat. Try to give lawns a good soaking every few days to avoid too much damage. Trees also need deep watering, which is best accomplished by allowing a hose to trickle slowly all day at the base of the trunk, and this also helps to avoid the tree roots coming to the surface.

This is a good time to review the main points of lawn care and feeding to maintain good health and color and to choke out the weeds. There are some differences among the experts regarding frequency of feeding (some say three times a year, others say four), but they all agree on a first feeding in spring (as soon as the grass starts to green-up) and a final feeding in October to maintain root system health through the winter. During the summer months, my preference is two light feedings - one around May/June and one in July/August, because frequent light feedings are less likely to "burn" the grass than a single heavy application of fertilizer. Always make sure that the fertilizer is well watered in, and this is particularly true in hot and dry conditions.

The recommended lawn food for St. Augustine grass in this region is 15-5-10 or something close to it. The numbers represent the per-

centages of the three main plant nutrients, which are, respectively, Nitrogen (makes green foliage), Phosphorus (for blooms and stems) and Potassium (for overall vigor). Note that the three percentages do not add up to 100% - the rest of the bag is just "filler". There are also a dozen or more required micronutrients, but the only one to worry about is iron; the application of an iron supplement (such as Ironite) is very beneficial for grass, shrubbery and flower beds because our clay soil is naturally alkaline and needs something to balance the pH.

Set your mower for two inches height for St. Augustine, to protect roots from the sun (a bit lower for Bermuda), and try to cut a half to one inch of grass blade each time you mow; ideally, do not cut more than one third of the leaf surface. Try to catch the clippings for the compost heap, because if left on the lawn they can cause a thatch build-up. Another good approach is to use a mulching mower that reduces the clippings to a size that allows quick decomposition and returns the nutrients directly to the soil.

It takes some dedication to spend a lot of time out there in the hot sun, so try to make it easier by working in the relative cool of early morning or late evening, and don't forget to cover up for protection against sunburn.

*(Continued on Page 4)*



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# Winchester Trails

## MILESTONES

### New Teenagers - Happy 13th!

06/23 - Randa Poor

### New Drivers - Happy 16th!

06/02 - Aaron Diener

06/08 - Jess Dixon

### New Voters - Happy 18th!

06/01 - Avery Smith

06/12 - Geoffrey Calvert

06/22 - Allison Hickey

### New Adults - Happy 21st!

06/17 - James Moss

06/28 - Aaron Vaughn

06/30 - Mercedes Inocencio

### Happy 5th Anniversary!

06/10 - Brett & Tracy Wallin

### Happy 10th Anniversary!

06/16 - Steven & Susan

Wheelock

06/22 - Todd & Angie Drouin

### Happy 20th Anniversary!

06/01 - Dennis & Connie

Wenske

06/22 - Jeff & Tammy Mitcham

06/30 - Dennis & Patty Hayes

### Happy 30th Anniversary!

06/06 - Jim & Cheryl Malone

06/20 - Perry & Carolyn Hicks

### Happy 35th Anniversary!

06/05 - Gary & Karen Fleming

06/12 - Bill & Brenda Bell

Melissa Zmerzlikar [directory@winchestertrails.com](mailto:directory@winchestertrails.com)

## Green Thumb Corner - (Continued from Page 3)

Summer heat also provides good conditions for ticks and fleas to proliferate, so don't forget to spread pesticide granules on the lawn and shrubbery beds every six weeks, or use one of the newer products that claim to remain active for a full season. This will also control chinch bugs, which are likely to be chewing on the roots and producing nasty brown patches of dead grass.

Other things to do in June ..... Keep up the weeding and cultivation, and replenish mulch. Water thoroughly, especially azaleas and camellias, but remember that geraniums and bougainvillea prefer fairly dry soil. Keep pinching back chrysanthemum shoots to encourage branching for more blooms in the fall. With climbing roses, cut out the oldest canes and dead wood after the main blossom period, when it is easier to distinguish between old and new wood. Bloom is produced on new growth, so next year's blossoms may be reduced if pruning is delayed. Feed lightly and water heavily. For bush roses, continue normal grooming as flowers are cut; cut back stems to just above an outside bud, and keep the center of the bush open.

Strawberries should be fed with a balanced fertilizer (such as 12-24-12) after harvest. Mulch well. At this time of year you may be harvesting a range of vegetables including carrots, squash, tomatoes and peppers, but there's not much new planting to be done except maybe some succession plantings of beans.

Phil Richards, [Prich8935@aol.com](mailto:Prich8935@aol.com)



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## COLIN'S HOPE

Increasing water safety awareness and standards

Children under the age of 5 are at especially high risk.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

### DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE

Drowning is a leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

### JOIN US IN GETTING READY FOR A SAFE SUMMER IN THE WATER!

**June 14th World's Largest Swim Lesson at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels.**  
Join Colin's Hope as we partner with Schlitterbahn to try and break the world record for the World's Largest Swim Lesson on Tuesday, June 14th. Visit [www.Schlitterbahn.com](http://www.Schlitterbahn.com) for more information.

**June 26th Open Water Swim benefits Colin's Hope**  
Splash into Lake Travis for the Red Licorice Events Open Water Swim at the Mansfield Dam on June 26. The swim benefits Colin's Hope and you can choose from 800m, 1.2 mile or 2.4 mile options. Visit [www.redlicoriceevents.com](http://www.redlicoriceevents.com) for more information.

**August 27th & 28th 3rd Annual Colin's Hope Kids Triathlon**  
Athletes ages 5-15, mark your calendars for August 27th & 28th. Our Kids Triathlon will once again take place in the Lake Pointe neighborhood. Registration opens in early June and will fill up very quickly! [www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org)

For more information, check out our website at [www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org)



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Children who drown often do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They can silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.



**NOT AVAILABLE  
ONLINE**

## Sewer Line Work

You may have noticed some sewer line work in and around the neighborhood. As of 4/18/2011, most of the Winchester Trails streets are completed. The original work contract may be extended because of problems found on West Road section. The target date for completion is mid-September.

If you have questions, call the MUD office at 281.807.9500.  
*Thank you, [info@winchestertrails.com](mailto:info@winchestertrails.com)*

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# Winchester Trails

## Crime Report *April 2011*

**Editor's note:** This is a new article that we are planning to run monthly to help increase awareness and vigilance against crime in our neighborhood. Each article is intended to include the data reported during the full month before the publication of the newsletter. For example, since the submission deadline for this publication is the tenth of May, the data reported during the full month of April is included.

According to the reports by the Harris County Sheriff's Office, published on <http://www.CrimeReports.com>, the crimes reported in the Winchester Trails neighborhood during the month of April 2011 are as follows:

Breaking and Entering - Bent Spur Lane

Theft from Vehicle - Bent Spur Lane

***Please report any suspicious activity to  
the Harris County Sheriff's Office***

## Habitat for Humanity *Restore Store*

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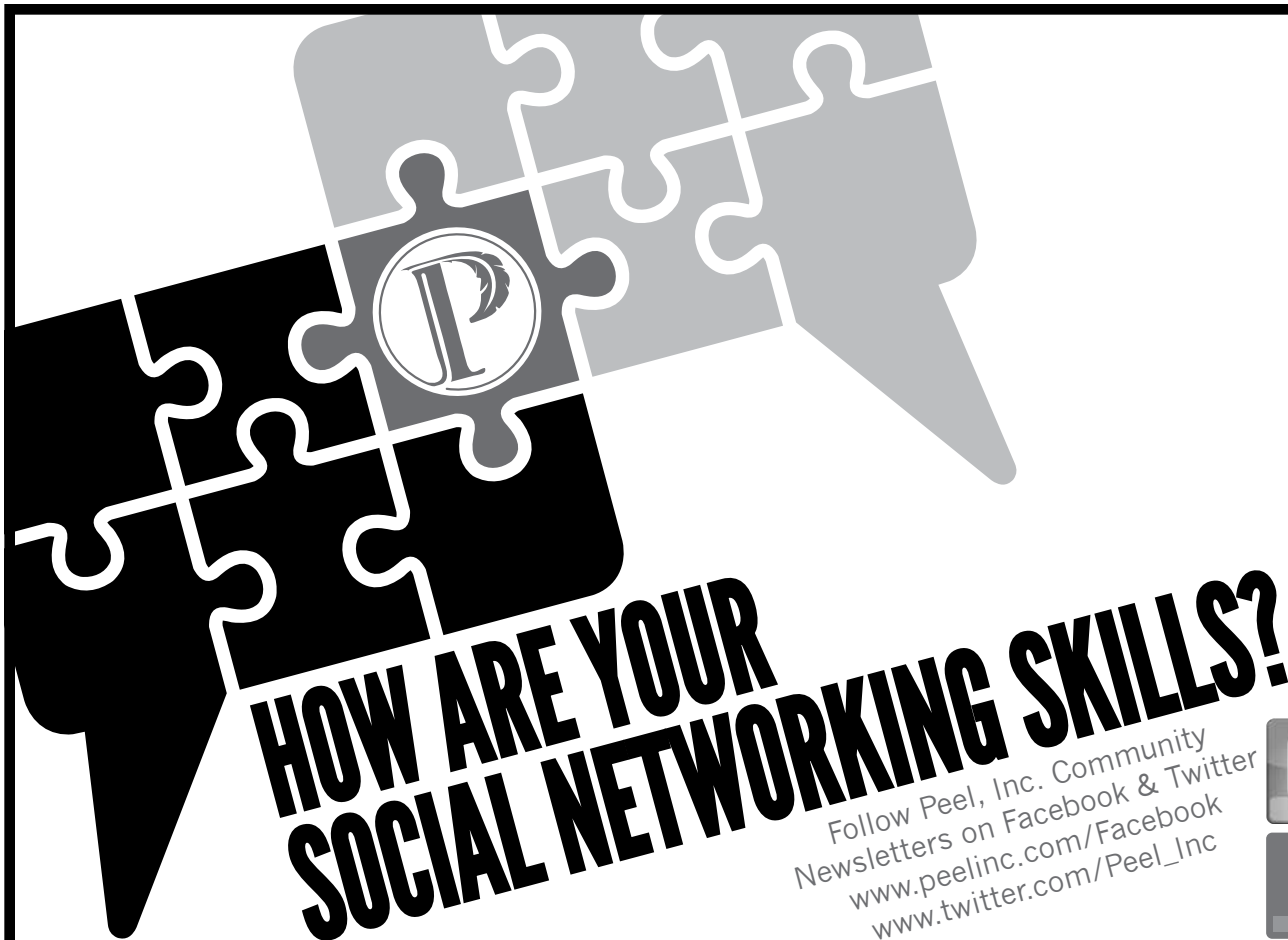
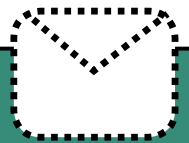
HRS: WED. – SAT. 9AM -6PM

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