

Trail Writer

*The Official Publication of the
Winchester Trails*

Maintenance Assoc. Social Committee

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www.winchestertrails.com

June 2012

GREEN THUMB CORNER

In contrast to 2011 we've had decent rainfall in the early part of this year, and our yards have recovered quite nicely from last year's drought. But May was a bit warmer and drier, 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 percentages 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.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 6 - Board Meeting 7 PM @ The Clubhouse

June 17 - Happy Father's Day!

June 20 - First Day of Summer

Winchester Trails

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Clubhouse Rentals
OPEN (*voicemail-calls returned w/in 24 hrs*)1-832-592-3297
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His email can be found on the Security page of the Trails website.

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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 Calls713-221-6000
Report vehical tag number/type or description of person; as appropriate

NEWSLETTER

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Crime report March 2012

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 March 2012 are as follows:

No crimes reported

Please report anything suspicious to the Harris County Sheriff's Department at 713.221.6000.



NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE

2012 Open Regattas at Seabrook Sailing Club

The Seabrook Sailing Club is hosting two major regattas this summer on Galveston Bay, open to all interested sailors. Whether it's challenging one design racing or family fun, Seabrook Sailing Club's summer regatta schedule has it all. We are looking forward to having local and out-of-town sailors join us for competition and fun on the bay.

Summer Solstice Regatta: Seabrook Sailing Club's annual Summer Solstice Regatta will be held on June 23 and 24, 2012. This year we will be kicking off the regatta on Friday night with fireworks and a keg! We encourage everybody to leave work early and bring a picnic. This regatta is open to all small sailboats and beginner racers are welcome. Lasers, 470's, Sunfish, windsurfers, Vangaurd 15's, and catamarans are regular classes at this fun event. This regatta is on the Texas Laser District 15 Circuit schedule, drawing Lasers from around the state. There will be one design starts for all classes with at least three boats. A Portsmouth handicap fleet will be formed for boats that do not make up a one design fleet. Official Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions will be posted on the SSC website nearer the time of the event.

Endless Summer Regatta: Each year, youth sailors from all over Texas and surrounding states participate in the Endless Summer Regatta at the Seabrook Sailing Club. The Endless Summer Regatta is the best attended event on the Texas Youth Circuit after Texas Race Week, with approximately 200 sailors, coaches, parents, and organizers coming to Seabrook and Galveston Bay. The youth sailors participate in 6 different fleets; the beginner sailors in the Optimist Green fleet, the experienced Optimist sailors in the Red/White/Blue fleet, Laser 4.7, and Laser Radial. Parents enjoy the view of the sailing course and Kemah from the clubhouse deck, while their kids put their skills to the test. Sailing is a great sport for kids that fosters self-confidence, independence, and responsibility. As skip-pers, they are in control of their own destiny; they make their own decisions, which have a direct result on their finish position,



Optimists on the downwind run at the Endless Summer Regatta

well-being, and boat condition. But most importantly, it's fun! The 2012 regatta will take place September 22-23, 2012. Official Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions will be posted on the SSC website nearer the time of the event.

The Seabrook Sailing Club has been providing safe, organized, and challenging

sailing for local sailors and guests since 1934. If you've been thinking about learning to sail, getting back on the water, or competing in our organized club races, check out what the Seabrook Sailing Club has to offer. For more information about SSC, contact James McTurk at SSCmembership@yahoo.com, or visit www.seabrooksailingclub.org.



*Chris and Leandra Kadlecak
10402 Gold Point Dr.*

Winchester Trails

POOL NEWS

The pool opened on Saturday, May 5th. Standard weekly hours start on Memorial Day, where it will be open on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 AM to 8 PM, and on Sunday from 12 PM to 8 PM.

If you missed your opportunity to pick up your pool tag in April, you can still get your pool tags by sending the registration form and a check in the mail (\$1.00 for each tag plus a \$5.00 administration fee) to PCMI, PO Box 219223 Houston, TX 77218.

Upcoming Event for Trails homeowners age 50 and older

We are planning to attend A Get Acquainted Luncheon for Precinct 4 which will be held on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending, you should make your reservation(s) directly with the Precinct 4 Senior Adult Program at 281-893-3726.

See the link <http://www.hcp4.net/senioradult/events.htm> for more information.

Contact Alice Brunson at 281-955-9045 if you are attending and would like to sit as a group.

We look forward to having you join us!

*Do You Have Reason
to Celebrate?*

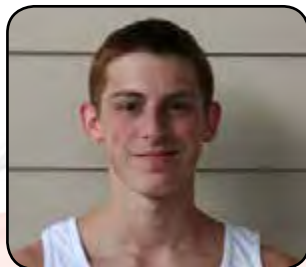
We want to hear from you! Email newsletter@winchester-trails.com to let the community know!

COME MEET THE LIFEGUARDS!

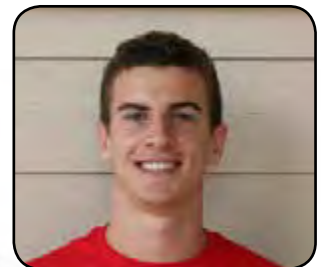
The lifeguards are ready to make the 2012 swim season a safe and happy season. Here are your lifeguards.



Kevin Courtright, Assistant Manager
Kevin is a senior at Jersey Village High school, and lives in Coles Crossing



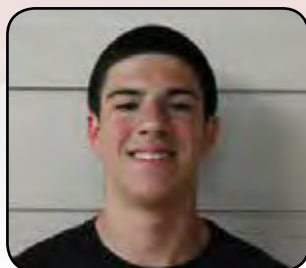
Mitchell Almonte
Mitchell is a junior at Jersey Village High school, and lives in Winchester Trails



Christopher Bulas
Christopher is a graduate of Jersey Village High school, and lives in Winchester Trails



Malorie Costello
Malorie is a junior at Jersey Village High school, and lives in Winchester Trails



Bowin Gutierrez
Bowin is a senior at Jersey Village High school, and lives in Winchester Trails



Emily Gwynne
Emily is a junior at Jersey Village High school, and lives in Winchester Trails.

DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE



COLIN'S HOPE
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DID YOU KNOW?

The **MOST** near-drowning and drowning incidents occur during June and July in Texas!

Please take these simple steps to keep your family safe in and around the water and have the **Best Summer Ever!**

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**WEAR LIFE
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**MULTIPLE BARRIERS ON
ALL POOLS & HOTTUBS**



**KEEP BACKYARDS &
BATHROOMS SAFE**



LEARN CPR



**CHECK POOLS/HOTTUBS
1ST FOR MISSING CHILDREN**



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ONLINE**

Winchester Trails

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community newsletters



Volunteers Needed

Independence Day Celebration coordinator

We need one or two people to serve as coordinators of the neighborhood Independence Day celebration in July. This is a fun neighborhood parade and pool event that everyone looks forward to. Won't you spend a few hours of your time to help make it a great event this year?

Contact Paulette Walker at 281-894-5708 or at paulette_walker@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Clubhouse Rentals coordinator

We need someone to coordinate the rentals of the clubhouse. For more information about these duties, contact Ron Matthews at info@winchestertrails.com.

SEND US YOUR *Event Pictures!!*

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture to newsletter@winchestertrails.com.

Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at www.PEELinc.com.



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06/22 - Emma Burns

NEW DRIVERS - HAPPY 16TH!

06/03 - Audrey Wood

06/05 - Nick Nation

NEW VOTERS - HAPPY 18TH!

06/14 - Dallas Kiser

06/29 - Allie Dixon

NEW ADULTS - HAPPY 21ST!

06/02 - Robert Sykes

06/27 - John Quirrenbach

HAPPY 15TH ANNIVERSARY!

06/10 - Haka & RosalRina Abdel-Khaleq

HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

06/12 - David & Jennifer Cargill

HAPPY 35TH ANNIVERSARY!

06/25 - Karl & Dawn Smith

Melissa Zmerzlikar
directory@winchestertrails.com



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