

West Lake Hills ECHO

Volume 1, Issue 1

July 2012



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ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make the West Lake Hills Echo possible. If you are interested in advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

ARTICLE INFO

The West Lake Hills Echo is mailed monthly to all West Lake Hills residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for the West Lake Hills Echo please email it to westlakehills@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

COVER PHOTO

Do you take great photos?

Do you take great photos? Would you like to see your photo published? We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming issues of the West Lake Hills Echo. Our deadline for submittals is always the 9th of the month prior to the issue. All photos should be submitted electronically by the deadline date in high resolution (300 dpi) to westlakehills@peelinc.com. Portrait (vertical) photos work best.

To view other photos submitted please visit www.PEELinc.com/WestLakeHills.

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the West Lake Hills Echo or other Peel, Inc. publications.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Police Department	512-314-7590
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue	
Administration Office.....	512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control.....	512-972-6060

SCHOOLS

Lake Travis ISD	512-533-6000
Lake Travis High School.....	512-533-6100
Lake Travis Middle School.....	512-533-6200
Lake Travis Elementary.....	512-533-6300
Hudson Bend Middle School	512-533-6400
Lake Pointe Elementary.....	512-533-6500
Lakeway Elementary	512-533-6350
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Bee Cave Elementary.....	512-533-6250

UTILITIES

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Pedernales Electric.....	888-554-4732
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Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Bee Cave City Hall.....	512-767-6600
Bee Cave Library	512-767-6620
Municipal Court	512-767-6630
Lake Travis Postal Office.....	512-263-2458
City of Bee Cave	www.beecavetexas.com

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- Pemberton Heights
- Plum Creek
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PEEL, INC.
community newsletters



WELCOME TO THE WEST LAKE HILLS ECHO

The West Lake Hills Echo is a monthly newsletter mailed to all West Lake Hills residents. Each newsletter will be filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information, and more.

If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports team, social group, etc., and would like to submit an article for the newsletter, you can do so online at www.PEELinc.com, or you can email to westlakehills@peelinc.com. Personal news (announcements, accolades, honors, celebrations, etc.) are also welcome as long as they are from area residents.

GO GREEN! Subscribe via Peelinc.com to have an email sent to you with a link to a PDF of the newsletter, or have an email sent to you instead of having a newsletter mailed to you!

Visit www.PEELinc.com for other newsletters published throughout the Greater Austin Area.

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 westlakehills@peelinc.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.





4th of July Parade!

The City's 7th annual 4th of July Parade
will be held on the 4th of July.

**Mark your calendar
and
join the fun!**

STAGE 2 WATERING RESTRICTIONS STILL IN EFFECT One Day Watering ONLY

STAGE **2** WATER RESTRICTIONS

RESIDENTIAL ODD ADDRESS	RESIDENTIAL EVEN ADDRESS	COMMERCIAL, MULTIFAMILY ODD ADDRESS	COMMERCIAL, MULTIFAMILY EVEN ADDRESS
AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEMS: BEFORE 10 A.M. HOSE-END SPRINKLERS, SOAKERS: BEFORE 10 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.			
Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday	Friday

REPORT VIOLATIONS TO 3-1-1

Stage 2 Water Restrictions remain in place for all Austin Water customers. Even though recent rains have lessened the effects of the drought and added more water to the lakes, the combined levels of Lakes Buchanan and Travis are still less than half full.

STAGE 2 INCLUDES:

- Watering with an irrigation system, hose-end sprinkler, or soaker hose allowed 1 day per week according to address
- Hand-watering allowed any time on any day of the week
- Automatic irrigation systems can only operate before 10 a.m. on your watering day
- Hose-end sprinklers and soaker hoses can be used before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on your watering day
- Only wash your car at home before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on your watering day and use a bucket or a hose with a shutoff nozzle
- Ornamental fountains may not be operated
- Automatic fill valves for swimming pools and ponds must be turned off
- No charity carwashes unless a waterless cleaning product is used instead of water

- No water to be served at restaurants unless requested
- No washing of sidewalks, driveways, parking areas or other paved areas

Our Stage 2 Frequently Asked Questions can give you more details about the restrictions.

Wasting water is prohibited year-round in Austin. To ensure you do not waste water, be mindful of leaking faucets, pipes, and irrigation systems operating with misdirected or broken sprinkler heads. Find out more about available Rebates and Programs to help save water and get information about detecting water-wasting leaks.

WATERING SCHEDULE VARIANCES

In limited situations, we may grant a variance from the watering schedule. Please note that applicants must follow the current watering schedule until a variance application is approved.

VIOLATIONS

To ensure that customers follow the restrictions, Austin Water staff is continuing enforcement. Violations of the mandatory restrictions will result in an official warning followed by a citation if the violation is not corrected. Citations will be issued in Municipal Court with fines starting at \$475. Report any violations by calling 3-1-1.

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**VISIT US
ONLINE**

Tech-Etiquette: Is there an App for Civility?

Submitted by Darcy Folsom

In today's age of apps and gadgets, it's likely that you or someone you know has benefitted handily from the ubiquitous smartphone in today's digitally-dependent society. If the question were posed to our current generation, "What item would you never want to be without?" it is fair to say that most individuals living in 21st century America would answer: "My phone!" Without our phones, it is certain that many of us would be lost. We would be unable to text, tweet, phone, email, face time, and even friend or like another individual. Would we really? Is American society becoming so dependent upon these technological devices that we are challenged to even recognize our our humanity within? How many young men and women know the value of the age-old adage "Never leave home without a smile?" Is who we were created to be, in

such competition with what we hold in our hand, that we have forgotten the simple value of kindness - shared in a smile, of gratification - by greeting another with a genuine handshake? Is it technology that propels our lives, or are we doing our best to prepare our lives to propel the technology that supports them?

Regardless of how many apps and buttons and gadgets, and even insurance, we carry on our smartphones, could it be that we have something even better when it comes to insuring our ability to connect with the people we like? Or to be-Friend those to whom we're attracted, or bring restitution to those un-Friended? Today's digitally-dependent generation has a challenge before them that none before have known. That is, being able to successfully pair technology with common courtesies. Remembering

what our grandmothers taught us about the civilities of life (carried in our hip pockets) may apply more today, than any app could ever provide. But pairing the art of civility with the current age of technology requires practice. The 21st century can only get better as those old-fashioned manners make their way from our pockets to the person next to us. After all, the words we speak are far more significant than the technology that transmits them. Why not polish a few points of etiquette this summer and complement your savvy skills on your smartphone? By doing so, you and your smartphone may just move from merely getting the message delivered, to doing so with principles that shape our character and improve our attitudes about both our electronic devices, and the lives of those who use them.

(Continued on Page 9)

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Tech-Etiquette - (Continued from Page 8)

TIP #1 - When you take a call in the presence of another person, you are communicating, "You are secondary; the caller is more important than you are." If you are expecting a call, let your companion know in advance, and excuse yourself before taking the call, limiting the call to under one minute. Never use a cell phone on a date, unless there is an emergency.

TIP #2 - If you find it necessary to use your smartphone while driving, make it a habit to get into your car, buckle up, and prepare your hand's free device to activate the call BEFORE starting your engine.

TIP #3 - Allow your personality, not your PDA to impress others. Avoid using novelty ringtones, and choose the vibrate option as much as possible.

TIP #4 - Remove your earpiece when not on the phone. Always keep your phone in a pocket or a purse, rather than laying it on the table next to you.

TIP #5 - When in a public place, refrain from using your ear buds to listen to your favorite playlist. Instead, be prepared to greet those who are near you, looking oncoming passersby in the eye, with a smile and "Hello!" This is not only courteous, but it is also a way to remain sure about your surroundings.



As you travel to the lake or the seaside with friends, consider the value that a few manners may add to the dynamics of your summer relationships. Ask the question – is there something more fundamental than a fancy app, or gadget insurance to satisfy our lack? What have we already been given as a way to connect with the people we like, and those we want to be-Friend? Rather than search your smartphone for the latest apps, ask your companion's permission to practice with them, as you begin to apply these principles of Tech-Etiquette. These courtesies will both benefit the words we speak and the actions we offer, as we engage those around us with the very acts of courtesy we desire for others to share with us. Practicing the art of civility alongside the technology that propels our lives, I believe we will see our digitally-dependent generation become the one to re-engage our culture with civility and the accomplished principles of common courtesy.

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WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A PET FOOD

Pet nutrition and pet food selection has improved significantly over the last few years, however, there is still a lot of confusion regarding what to feed our four-legged friends.

Following the horrific melamine pet food recalls of 2007, much research has been dedicated to learning more about pet nutrition and how pet food is manufactured and distributed to consumers. This has spawned a greater selection of high-quality, pet super-foods. However, it has also prompted some companies who still make cheap, low-quality pet food to simply change their packaging to dupe consumers into believing that they're buying food filled with wholesome fresh meat, fruits, and vegetables.

Don't be fooled! A pretty bag with pictures of cascading corn and carrots does not a quality pet food make. Read the ingredient label to see what's really in the bag and in your pet's food bowl.

Here are some things to look for in the ingredient label and to consider when choosing a food for your furry family members.

PROTEIN

A named protein and/or protein meal should be first on the ingredient list. For example, if you're buying a chicken formula pet food, look for, "chicken," or, "chicken meal," as the first ingredient, not chicken by-product. Remember: meal is a good thing, by-product is a bad thing. Also, if a protein source is not named - beware. For example, if the ingredient label reads, "meat meal," you have no way of knowing what the protein source is and should be wary. It could be anything from aardvark to zebra. The best pet foods have two or three protein sources in the first five ingredients listed.

Confused about the difference between chicken and chicken meal? Chicken, or any other protein source listed in the ingredient label, means that fresh meat was added to the mix before cooking. This is great! But just like our bodies, animals are about 70% water. So, when the mixture is cooked, the fresh meat in it loses volume, thereby decreasing

the amount of protein in the final product. Chicken meal, on the other hand, is chicken meat, bone and some connective tissue that has been cooked, dried and added to the mix before cooking, which ultimately increases the protein level of the food.

VEGGIES, FRUITS & WHOLEGRAINS

Like humans, pets benefit from the vitamins and enzymes in fresh vegetables and fruits. Look for quality produce and complex carbohydrates like carrots, spinach, pumpkin, etc. as well as whole grain rice, oats, and/or barley. These healthy foods have lower glycemic index ranges, which will keep your pet more satisfied and will help to avoid sudden drops in energy levels. Avoid highly processed grains such as corn, wheat and rice. As with humans, these are empty fillers and fast burning carbohydrates.

US SOURCED

Do a little extra digging to find where the ingredients of a food you're considering are sourced. Often, you can find this information on the manufacturer's website. If not, call them and ask. Look for foods made with ingredients from the US. This will help you take advantage of the strict, governmental regulations that watch pet food manufacturers and that are there to protect you and your pets from contamination. Furthermore, buying products made in the US is just plain good sense for the local economy and environment.

WHAT TO AVOID

By-products and by-product meals should be avoided for a number of reasons. First, you have no way of knowing exactly what the ingredient is, but you can be sure that it is a low-value portion of the animal. In addition to the ingredient itself being dubious, low-value products are not handled with the same care as higher-value products, so they could become rancid or exposed to harmful bacteria. Also

avoid sweeteners, which are added to poor quality foods to enhance palatability. Other ingredients to avoid are artificial preservatives such as BHA, BHT, and ethoxyquin, and artificial colors.

Once you've narrowed your choices down to a few based on quality ingredients, then consider your pet's specific health needs. Is your pet overweight, underweight, young, adult, or senior? Does he/she have allergies or itchy skin? There are high-quality foods that are formulated to address all of these issues and more.

After you've finally chosen a healthy pet food and are ready to purchase, be sure to check the, "Best By," date. In quality, natural foods, this will be about 12 months from the manufacture date. When dishing out the new grub to your pet, start by mixing it with a bit of his last diet to help his tummy transition. Do this for about a week, adding a little more of the new food everyday. By day seven, your pet should be ready for full servings and a fuller life.



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Pruning Guidelines

for Prevention of Oak Wilt in Texas

Oak wilt, caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum*, is the most destructive disease affecting live oaks and red oaks in Central Texas. Most of the tree mortality results from tree-to-tree spread of the pathogen through interconnected or grafted root systems, once an oak wilt center becomes established. New infection centers begin when beetles carry oak wilt fungal spores from infected red oaks to fresh, open wounds on healthy oaks. Wounds include any damage caused by wind, hail, vehicles, construction, squirrels, birds or pruning. Research has shown that both oak wilt fungal mats on infected red oaks and insects that carry oak wilt spores are most prevalent in the spring. Below is a brief description of how you can reduce the risk of fungal spread when pruning.

- Always paint fresh wounds on oaks, including pruning cuts and stumps, with wound dressing or latex paint immediately after pruning or live tree removal at all times of the year.
- Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites and/or trees.
- If possible avoid pruning or wounding of oaks during the spring (currently defined as February 1 through June 30). Reasons to prune in the spring include:
- To accommodate public safety concerns such as hazardous limbs, traffic visibility or emergency utility line clearance.
- To repair damaged limbs (from storms or other anomalies)
- To remove limbs rubbing on a building or rubbing on other branches, and to raise low limbs over a street.
- On sites where construction schedules take precedence, pruning any live tissue should only be done to accommodate required clearance.
- Dead branch removal where live tissue is not exposed.

Pruning for other reasons (general tree health, non-safety related clearance or thinning, etc.) should be conducted before February

1 or after June 30.

Debris from diseased red oaks should be immediately chipped, burned or buried. Regardless of the reasons or time of year, proper pruning techniques should be used. These techniques include making proper pruning cuts and avoiding injurious practices such as topping or excessive crown thinning. If you are uncertain about any of this information, you should consult with a Texas Oak Wilt Certified arborist, ISA Certified Arborist, or an oak wilt specialist from a city, county or state government agency such as the Texas Forest Service or Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

References (available at <http://www.TexasOakWilt.org>):

Appel, D.N., and R.F. Billings (eds.). 1995. Oak wilt perspectives: Proceedings of the Nation Oak Wilt Symposium, June 22-25, 1992. Austin, TX. Information Development, Houston, TX. 217 p.

Billings, R.F., and D.N. Appel (eds.). 2009. Proceedings of the National Oak Wilt Symposium. June 4-7, 2007, Austin, TX. Texas Forest Service Publication 166. 267p.

Prepared January 12th, 2011 in cooperation between Texas Forest Service, Texas AgriLife Extension Service and International Society of Arboriculture Texas Chapter.

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Welcome Fabulous!

The Fabulous Working Ladies is a thriving sisterhood of women serving in business, life and community. There is a need for women to connect, to help & support one another in business.

To share our life and experiences with others and we desire to make change in the lives of those in need, through local and nationwide charitable organizations.

Through the Fabulous Working Ladies Nationwide organization you will have the ability to do all of those things and more. We invite you to join our nationwide community. Help us celebrate one another. Help our community pay it forward.

With that being said...you are invited to "Fabulous Working Ladies of South Austin" Luncheon at Mandola's in Arbor Trails (MoPac & William Cannon) on Thursday July 26th at 11:30.

Please join us for laughter, sharing, having fun & giving back to the community we live in! For more information, please go to www.SouthAustinFAB.com but if you have any questions please feel free to contact Melinda McKenna @ Melinda@AustinReps.com



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Sodium is everywhere—swirling in the oceans, stored in vast underground crystalline deposits—and contained in just about every food and drink imaginable.

The fact is, sodium is as an essential, life-sustaining ingredient for every known plant and animal on the planet. Without sodium, our bodies would cease to function. Sodium helps our cells draw in nutrients, maintains balanced pH levels, enables nerve function and muscle contraction, helps regulate your heartbeat, and is a key component of your bones, explains Jose Mejia, M.D., a cardiologist for The Austin Diagnostic Clinic (ADC).

Yet too much of this essential element can pose serious health risks in people, including high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, and congestive heart failure. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the average person should only consume 2,300 milligrams (mg)—about one teaspoon full—or less, per day. If you are 51 or older, are black, or already have high blood pressure, diabetes, or chronic kidney disease, then you should limit your intake to 1,500 mg or less per day, Dr. Mejia adds.

“Unfortunately, the average American gets about 3,400 mg of sodium a day, which is far more than is recommended for good health,” Dr. Mejia says. “Keeping the amount of sodium you eat under control can be challenging, but understanding the main dietary sources of sodium is one of the best ways to start lowering your intake.”

SALT BY ANY OTHER NAME

One of the most troubling parts of monitoring your sodium intake is understanding how extensively the food industry uses sodium as a flavor enhancer and as a preservative in everything from bread to canned soup. And then there’s a matter of naming conventions. Common table salt, otherwise known as sodium chloride, is just one form of sodium. There are many other compounds that contain sodium, including monosodium glutamate (MSG), baking soda, baking powder, disodium phosphate, sodium alginate, and sodium nitrite (sometimes just nitrite).

“Most of the sodium we eat comes from processed foods and foods prepared in restaurants. Sodium is already part of processed foods and cannot be removed. Even fresh fruits, meats, vegetables and dairy products contain sodium,” Dr. Mejia notes. “However, food manufacturers and restaurants can produce foods with far less sodium. In addition, you can select lower sodium foods when possible, and you can cook more foods yourself to better control how much sodium you eat.”

SHOPPING SMART TO REDUCE SODIUM

The most practical way to reduce your sodium is by altering what you bring home from the grocery store. Many items like baked goods, breakfast cereals, soups, and lunchmeats are very high in sodium.

“Pay very close attention to food labels,” Dr. Mejia says. “It may add extra time to your shopping trip, but it’s important to understand just what the food industry means when it uses sodium-related terms.

Portion size is just as important. Frankly, it’s the only way to make sure you are not eating too much sodium.”

Here are some of the most common terms used on food packaging. If it doesn’t have a label, your best option may be to avoid buying it.

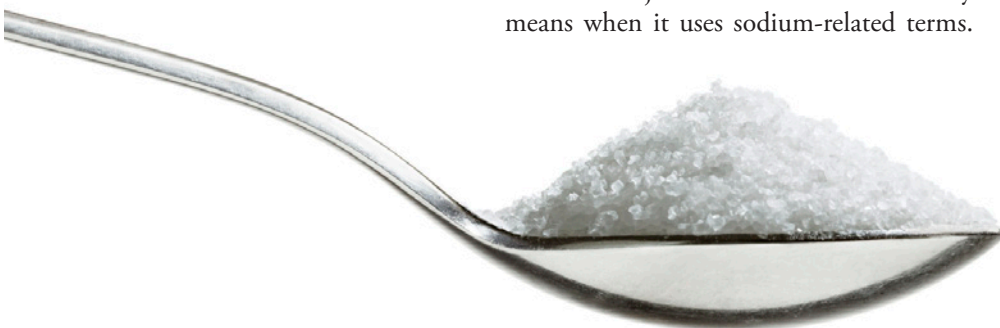
- **“Sodium free” or “Salt free.”** Each serving of this product contains less than 5 mg of sodium.
- **“Very low sodium”**- Each serving contains 35 mg of sodium or less.
- **“Low sodium”**- Each serving contains 140 mg of sodium or less.
- **“Reduced” or “Less sodium”**- The product contains at least 25 percent less sodium than the regular version. Check the label to see how much sodium is in a serving.
- **“Lite” or “Light in sodium”**- The sodium content has been reduced by at least 50 percent from the regular version.
- **“Unsalted” or “No salt added”**- Not salt is added during processing of a food that normally contains salt. However, some foods with these labels may still be high in sodium because some of the ingredients may be high in sodium.

A DASH OF SOMETHING ELSE

The widespread use of sodium means it can be challenging to avoid, especially if you are traveling with limited food options at airports. In that case, bringing low sodium snacks is a good option. At home, consider using alternative seasonings that are sodium free. Eventually, your taste buds will adjust to the lower sodium options.

“It takes some effort, but a low sodium diet can have tremendous health benefits,” Dr. Mejia says. “If you are concerned or curious, it may be a good idea with check with your physician about the amount of sodium you are eating.”

*Jose Mejia, M.D., Cardiologist
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