# SPRING REMINDERS

FROM HOA MANAGEMENT

With spring time quickly approaching we are asking all homeowners to look at your home and begin preparing for any improvements or maintenance that may be needed. Remember, the appearance of your property can greatly increase the property value of your home and your community. As a reminder:

#### **TRASH CANS**

Trash cans may not be stored in public view. Once trash has been picked up please store your trash can in the back yard or the garage.

### **OIL STAINS IN DRIVEWAY**

Please repair your vehicles so that oil stains are not in the driveway. Stains are very unsightly and are becoming an issue in the community. If you have stains in your driveway please take the necessary steps to remove the stains from your driveway.

### **LAWN MAINTENANCE**

Of course you know that you should mow, edge and weed your lawn on a regular basis, but when was the last time you trimmed your shrubs or trimmed your trees away from the sidewalk? Inspect your shrubs and trees to make sure they are trimmed neatly. If you notice a lawn that is not being maintained please contact PCMI at 281-870-0585. The Association has the right to "Force Mow" a property when it is not being maintained.

### **EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS**

Exterior improvements (storage buildings, landscaping borders, exterior paint etc.) made to your home other than what was originally done by the builder must receive approval. If you have made any changes to your home or plan on making changes please contact our office and request a home improvement form. Please take the time now to correct items which may be considered violations.

### **KEEPTHOSE LAWNS WATERED**

It is only early Spring and most of the lawns are full of weeds due to the mild winter experienced in south Texas this past winter season. Most of the "green" seen during the last inspection was due to healthy weeds and not grass maintenance due to lack of care. It is time to pull the weeds and treat the lawns to prevent the weeds from entirely taking over. Visit your local home improvement or garden center and start the process now to avoid receiving a reminder notice from your Association regarding the condition of your lawn. Get rid of the pesky dandelion weeds and the clover in your lawns (the dark green stuff overtaking the grasses).

It is also time to remove and replace all that dead grass with new sod. The replacement sod is more expensive than the extra watering and use of proper chemicals. It is up to you to stay on top of your lawn. Maintain the grass higher and water more often. Keep the edges trimmed including runners over sidewalks and curbs. Owners are responsible for the area between the curb and the sidewalks and corner lots are also responsible for the lawn areas around the corner to the end of your backyard. Use Round Up on weeds and grass in the expansion joints (those cracks put there to help keep your driveway from breaking up) on driveways and sidewalks. Set a high standard for the neighborhood and report anyone's yard in violation of these deed restrictions to www.silverlakehoa.com so they may be reminded to address these issues.



## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

DD 170DI1 COLDIEN CHEDIE
BRAZORIA COUNTY SHERIFF281-331-9000
POISON CONTROL281-654-1701
CENTERPOINT ENERGY (GAS)713-659-2111
Report streetlights out713-207-2222
(street lights need 6 digit pole #) www.centerpointenergy.com/outage
RELIANT ENERGY (ELECTRIC)713-207-7777
MUD #2 SEVERN TRENT
MUD #3 & 6
SiEnvironmental, LLC
BRAZORIA COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES
BRAZORIA COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES (street and curb repairs)281-331-3197
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### SILVERLAKE HOA INFO

### C/O KHARA MATHEWS

Planned Community Management, Inc. 15995 North Barker's Landing, Suite 162 Houston, Texas 77079 KMathews@stes.com 281-870-0585

HOA website: www.silverlakehoa.com/

Clubhouse Rentals contact Leslie Coffey lcoffey@stes.com

### **NEWSLETTER INFO**

### **EDITOR**

To Submit Articles/News..... silverlakenews@gmail.com

#### **PUBLISHER**

Peel,Inc ......www.peelinc.com, 888-687-6444 Advertising ........advertising@peelinc.com, 888-687-6444

### **ARTICLE INFO**

The Silverlake News is mailed monthly to all Silverlake HOA residents. Residents, community groups, schools, etc., are welcome to submit information. Personal news is also welcome. All submissions will be reviewed for content and approved by the Board of Directors and Newsletter Committee Chair. The deadline for submission is the 8th of the month before publication.

# Spring Landscaping & Gardening Tips

Here in Houston it's time to start planning for the soon to come spring gardening activities. For those of you who may need a little guidance on what your landscaping needs will be, and some helpful hints to properly prepare, we have outlined some of the most commonly asked questions. The following suggestions can help yield the desired results for you and your neighbors.

Before the weather starts to warm up have a plan to keep your landscape properly watered. This is very important. Those of you that have an automatic irrigation system can take advantage of this time to check it and make sure all repairs have been made prior to the extreme conditions we will face in the summer. Remember to set your irrigation controller to water between the hours of 2:00am and 6:30am. For those of you that do not have the benefit of an automatic irrigation system you will need to come up with a way to water with hoses and portable sprinklers. We suggest trying to use more than one sprinkler at a time if possible; this will save you some time. Set a schedule that will allow you to water in the early evening, when the sun is starting to set. Even though the best time to water is early in the morning this watering time may fit better in your daily schedule while still allowing you to help prevent the loss of water due to evaporation. Also make sure your hoses are in good condition and have no leaks. Don't over water and make sure your sprinklers are adjusted; this will help conserve water. The most important thing to consider is to evaluate the needs of your landscape and water accordingly.

Another item that many people have questions about is the type of fertilizer they should use and when to apply it. In our opinion, the most beneficial formulation for a spring lawn fertilizer with a post emergent, to take care of broadleaf weeds, would be the Scott's 29-3-4 blend with Atrizene. Another formulation we would recommend that is a well balanced lawn fertilizer without any post emergent would be a 15-5-10 blend. Both of these fertilizers will promote a healthy green lawn. There are also special formulated fertilizers for your hibiscus, azaleas, camellias, bougainvilleas and other plant material that have special needs. All or most of these fertilizers can be found at your local lawn and garden centers as well as the Home Depot located along FM 518. Fertilizer needs to be applied at the rate recommended on the label, using the recommended spreader. Please remember one thing, "more is not better", especially when comes to fertilizers blended to control weeds with herbicides. Fertilizers should be applied

(Continued on Page 3)

### **Spring Landscaping** (Continued from Page 2)

during the first two weeks in March. After the fertilizer is applied make sure to wash down or sweep off concrete walks and driveways, this will help prevent discoloration caused from iron.

If you have any perennial plant material, such as ornamental grasses, groundcover or other such plants, cut back these plants to a one inch stub after the last chance of freezing temperatures. Other plants that have been damaged from the cold weather may need to be trimmed instead of cut back. The trimming required for these plants may be minor; this will be up to you. Crepe myrtles will also need to be trimmed not cut back. When trimming your crepe myrtles remove any rubbing branches and deadwood then trim only the tips that are no larger than approximately 1/4 of an inch.

We recommend mulching all beds and tree wells, doing this protects your plant's root system as well as adds a rich clean look to your landscaped beds. Apply the mulch after you have completed all of your trimming and cutting back any of your perennials. Try not to apply more than two inches of mulch at one time.

Spring is a great time to start enjoying your lawn and all of your hard work; however this is just the beginning of our growing season and all of the work it takes to have a beautifully landscaped yard.

Enjoy your spring garden work!

Terra Management Services



#### MAR 1

4-6 pm

Dr. Seuss Birthday Party/ Silverlake Celebrates Reading

**MAR 4-8** 

Spring Book Fair

MAR 5

PTO Executive Board meeting

MAR 7

3:30 - 7 pm

Late night Book Fair

MAR 7

7pm

PTO General Meeting

MAR 7

7:30 pm

2nd grade Music Program

### MAR 8

Kindergarten Rodeo Day MAR 11-15

SPRING BREAK

**MAR 20** 

Spring Creek BBQ Spirit Night

**MAR 22** 

(during lunch)

March Birthday Bash

**MAR 28** 

Kindergarten Egg Hunt

**MAR 29** 

NO SCHOOL - Good Friday





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# SILVERCREST ELEMENTARY PTA NEWS

### 8TH ANNUAL STALLION STAMPEDE

On Saturday, April 6th, the Silvercrest Elementary PTA will host its 8th Annual Stallion Stampede. We will have a 1 mile walk, 5K and 10K. We will also have a pancake breakfast, silent auction, DJ and children's activities to make it a fun-filled family morning. We are currently seeking sponsors and silent auction items for this exciting event as well as volunteers. Our success depends on the support of the local community. We cannot accomplish our goals without the generosity of people like you. If you have any questions please contact Stefanie Gilman at skgilman@hotmail.com.

### LITERACY NIGHT

Mark your calendars for Literacy Night with an author visit at Silvercrest on March 7, 6-7:30 pm.

### **YEARBOOK**

It's time to order the yearbook. This year's book price will be \$25.00 each. Go to balfour.com and type in Silvercrest. Select Silvercrest from the drop down menu. You will then choose

yearbook on the following page. You have the option to purchase a 1/8 page dedication for \$5 each. You must complete the ad at the time of purchase. You will also have the opportunity to donate a yearbook to a child that cannot afford one. If you have any questions please contact dawn@comeaux.org.

It's time to submit your 2012-2013 yearbook photos. A handout with all the guidelines was sent home in your child's folder and is also available on our website, www.silvercrestpta.org. If you have any further questions, please contact dawn@comeaux.org. The final day for submitting photos is March 5th.

### PTA MEETING

Please plan to attend our next PTA general meeting on Thursday, March 21, at 6:30pm in the Silvercrest cafeteria.

#### **WEBSITE**

For more information about Silvercrest Elementary PTA and upcoming events, please visit our website at www. silvercrestpta.org.





## **BERRY MILLER JR. HIGH**

MARCH NEWS

Miller PTA "loves its teachers" and showered them in February with a Mardi Gras king cake and dessert day and also with festive decor on Valentine's Day, with themed desserts, snacks and punch.

Approximately 80 Berry Miller 8th graders will travel on an elective trip to Washington, DC and New York City over Spring Break! Traveling with Miller teachers and parent chaperones, the students will tour the nation's capital, along with its monuments and museums for several days, and then move on to New York City, where they will visit the 911 Memorial, Statue of Liberty and then enjoy "Spiderman" on Broadway! What a memorable and educational trip for our excited students!

#### DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

March 11 – March 15 – Spring Break, No school for students March 18 - PTA Board Meeting - guest, Turner principal Dr. Jennifer Morrow

March 22 - Band Concert

March 28 - Report Cards

March 29 - Good Friday Holiday - No school for students





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### References Available • Fully Insured NO PAYMENT UNTIL COMPLETION

bashanspainting@earthlink.net

# MILLER ROBOTICS TEAM HOSTS AREA COMPETITION

Berry Miller Junior High and its Robotics Club recently hosted a qualifier event for First Lego League of South Texas. Twenty-four schools participated, and over 300 people attended the event. All four Miller Robotics teams won awards, and earned a combined six trophies for the school. Two teams won 1st Place categories, and will advance to compete in the State Regional Competition in Houston.

This national program, for 9-14 year olds, is designed to motivate students about science and technology, and to teach them valuable employment and life skills. Miller's Robotics Club consists of 50 technology minded students, led by advanced science teacher Damon Rayburn. The qualifier event was an honor to host, as well as a huge undertaking – it incorporated the many combined efforts of Rayburn and his club members, their parents, area professionals who acted as judges, Dawson High's NHS students, area restaurant & store donations, and Miller's Executive PTA Board. Sound Connections DJ Entertainment provided emcee, music and entertainment, and the event was later featured on Houston TV news.

Miller Robotics Team Members (L) Zeke Ramirez and (R) Greg Lowry prepare Team 2's Robot for Competition















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