It's all right here

May 2013

Volume 2, Issue 5



Congratulations to the following recipients of YARD OF THE MONTH for MARCH 2013: Section 1: 9111 Brahms Lane Section 2: 7634 Rolling Rock Section 3: 7930 Adagio Avenue Section 4: 9503 Musical Court

Remember lake-facing (backyard) homeowners – Our May 2013 Yard of the Month recipients will be judged based on their backyard landscaping. This is the first time in our monthly judging to try this. We have also scheduled September 2013 awards to be based on the backyards. Good Luck!

On Saturday, April 13th, the Grounds Committee got "down and dirty"—we "beautified" the mulched area in front of the adult pool with flowering shrubs and perennials. We hope everyone enjoys the view. The pool plants are also being updated.

We welcome suggestions and resident involvement in the Grounds' Committee. Feel free to contact either Suzanne Fontenot-Williams at suzydiver@att.net or Diana Mintner at dianamintner@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you. And Congratulations to the following homeowners for receiving YARD OF THE MONTH for APRIL 2013:

Section 1: 7910 Ensemble Drive

Section 2: 7742 Allegro Drive

Section 3: 8718 Andante





IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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SECTION 4 WATER DISTRICT

Windfern Forest Utility District - 713-983-3604 - www.wfud.org

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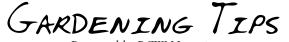
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ARTICLE INFO

The *Woodwind Lakes Newsletter* is mailed monthly to all Woodwind Lakes residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit 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 consideration please email it to <u>frank@sterlingasi.com</u>. The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

<u>Woodwind Lakes</u>



Presented by RCW Nurseries



May is the transition month, where Mother Nature will quickly move from wonderful spring weather to one of intense heat and humidity. Temperatures are steadily rising, so those of you with yards still planted with cool season annuals; don't be surprised when your flowers seem to melt away in a short time. Replace them now with annuals that can take the challenge of our summer weather. May is also the time to treat the yard for fire ants. According to the Texas Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Society, more people have died in Texas from reactions to fire ant stings than anywhere else in the US.

The good news is that you and your neighbors, working together, can control fire ants using the Texas Two Step Method. It was developed by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service of Texas A&M University.

The first step is to broadcast fire ant bait. They work best when they are fresh and lightly scattered over the whole yard. Yards can be baited beginning in May when daytime temperatures are above 70 degrees, and ants are actively looking for food.

The second step is to wait a week and then treat individual mounds. Try to limit treating individual mounds to those found next to house foundations, high-traffic or play areas. According to Paul Nester of the Texas AgriLife Extension, communities whose residents participate in this method at the same time are reducing fire ant populations by as much as 90 percent. He should know; he is the agent responsible for fire ant management in the Houston metro area. And he also knows a thing or two about chemicals. Prior to his current position he worked for American Cyanamid and Uniroyal Chemical Company.

If you only have one or two mounds, Nester recommends treating them with natural or organic methods, like mound drench products containing citrus oil or boiling water. He discourages treating the yard with broad-spectrum insecticides; they kill most other insects, including the beneficial ones. Attesting to this wisdom is an e-mail from a Tomball resident:

"I've lived in Tomball for 5-1/2 years and have not used insecticides except for fire ants. Now I don't even use them for fire ants. I use a mixture of water, soap, and cooking oil. It will kill most of the ants in the mound. If I have to go back later to get the rest, that's okay. As for not using chemicals, I have many birds, butterflies, lizards, spiders and even a couple of resident hog-nosed snakes. They keep my garden pretty bug free. I even see lady bird beetle larvae on some of the plants. But they probably don't get enough to eat. If I find them, I put them on the butterfly weed. That's where the aphids live."

It is a fact that fire ants can't be eliminated; but with patience, persistence and the right plan you and your neighbors can control their appearance in your community.

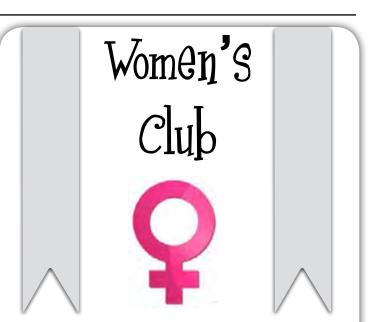


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Board Meetings

Regular Board Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Windfern Forest Utility District building located at 14410 Mauna Loa. Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. and all Residents are welcome. During Homeowner Input, Residents have the opportunity to address the Board. The agenda is posted on the WWL web site www.woodwindlakes.us



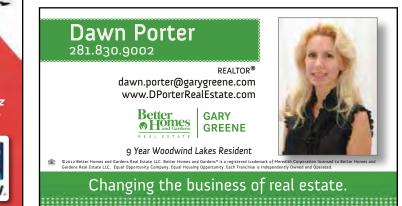


The Women's Club of Woodwind Lakes held their March 19, 2013 meeting in the home of Diana Mintner with Susan Bellinghausen and Barbara Henderson as co-hostesses. The speaker was Christiana de la Isla. Her topic was "Spring into Fashion". She used jewelry to demonstrate how to update your clothing to the new Spring needs. The Club members had an opportunity to purchase jewelry after the meeting.

The Standing Committee Chairman gave progress reports and informed the Club about items accomplished. Members were encouraged to join a Standing Committee that will continue making contributions during the coming year.

The next meeting of the Women's Club of Woodwind Lakes is April 16, 2013 in the home of Gulshan Hira. The co-hostesses for refreshments are Joyce Kraft and Marianne West. The speaker, from The American Red Cross, will share methods for hurricane preparedness.

The Club members are busy planning for the annual Recognition Luncheon on May 21, 2013. This event will install the new officers and recognize those who have contributed to the success of this year.



Brilliant Energy Texas OUC #10140

Mothers of Woodwind Lakes

Mothers of Woodwind Lakes is open to all families in the neighborhood. At this time we are mainly a forum to meet other families and gather resources that interest families.

The online web discussion group has had many active topics and resources for families with children of all ages...topics include items for sale, repair person resources, school information, networking for childcare and elder care.

Please contact Rebecca Waterman at 713-896-9796 or rebeccawaterman@sbcglobal.net if you would like to join the group and online discussion board. Your information will be shared with other group members only. There are no dues or time commitments.

BABYSITTERS NEEDED

Are you a resident who is interested in babysitting with the families in the neighborhood? The Mothers of Woodwind Lakes is collecting names as a resource to all residents. A short e-mail with your current information and fall schedule is very helpful even if you have been on the list before. Whenever you send a new e-mail it will get posted to the group again.

For more information contact:

Rebecca Waterman, Mothers of WWL

e-mail: rebeccawaterman@sbcglobal.net Phone: 713-896-9796

Pavilion & Adult Pool

Residents have been calling or e-mailing or texting since January to use the Pavilion. We are so lucky as a neighborhood to have this wonderful facility. It has even been used for a small wedding! The possibilities are endless. Using the Pavilion requires a form (downloaded and signed from the website), a deposit of \$50 and clean up immediately following the use of the facility. The deposit is then returned and the form is destroyed. Easy Squeezy!

For reservations contact Donna Jackson at 713-466-8668, kotilla@ hotmail.com,or on Facebook.

Moms In Prayer

Moms in Prayer (www.momsintouch.org) meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. at 8906 Opus Court. All moms with school-aged children are welcome to come pray for their kids and their schools. For more information, contact Kristah at kristah_slate@yahoo.com.



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CONTROLYOUR WEIGHT, MINIMIZE CANCER RISK

Controlling weight can help a person reduce the risk of cancer, said an oncologist from the NCI-designated Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine.

"We do not know exactly how and why obesity affects cancer risk, but we know there is an increase, so it is important for everyone to control their weight to minimize this risk," said Dr. Kent Osborne, director of the Duncan Cancer Center and the Lester and Sue Smith Breast Center, both at BCM.

Research has linked obesity to a greater risk of developing esophageal, pancreatic, colorectal, breast, endometrial, kidney, thyroid and gallbladder cancer, Osborne said.

In some cancers like breast cancer, there is also an increase in the risk of recurrence if a patient already has the cancer and is obese.

Many other factors, such as genetics, may play a role in cancer development, but keeping a normal weight is one thing people can change and it may help, he said.

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May is Texas and National Water Safety Month

LAYERS OF PROTECTION

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Water Safety Alert: 74 Texas children drowned last year. Keep your children and families safe in, near and around all bodies of water. Multiple layers of protection can prevent drowning.

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1ST FOR MISSING CHILDREN

WEAR LIFE

JACKETS

ALL POOLS & HOTTUBS

MULTIPLE BARRIERS ON

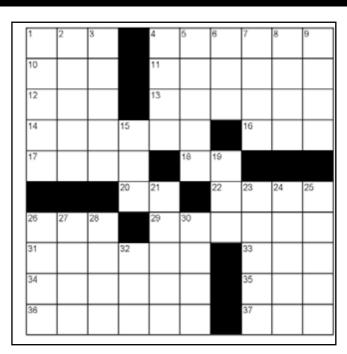


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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

DOWN

1. Lava

4. Casing

5. Money

7. Detail

2. Sleep disorder

3. Biblical outcast

8. Business note

9. Metal fastener

21. Capital of Ecuador

19. Cell stuff

24. Mud brick

28. Secondary

30. Rejoicing

26. Account (abbr.)

25. Inferred

27. Dress

32. Grain

23. Give

- 1. Bad (prefix) 4. Asks for legally
- 10. Monkey
- 11. Author of "Sense and
- Sensibility" 12. Gross national product (abbr.) 6. Tree
- 13. Plan
- 14. More humble
- 16. Swab
- 17. Retired persons association (abbr.) 15. Kilometers per hour
- 18. Education (abbr.)
- 20. Headquarters (abbr.)
- 22. Cool
- 26. Poisonous snake
- 29. African country 31. Penzoil is this (2 wds.)
- 33. MD
- 34. Build
- 35. Kimono sash
- 36. Walk quietly
- 37. Misty
- View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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Live Green **Creating a Waterwise Landscape**

Xeriscaping means using more native foliage and less water during their growing season maintenance. The end product will save you time and money. All it takes is some proper planning before you begin planting. Here are a few tips to help you get started:

1. Plan it out! Take time to assess your landscape. Have a soil test done, especially in newly developed areas, to know what you are dealing with. Think about the slope of your property and where different hydrozones will go.

2. Go native! Native plants are a key strategy to xeriscaping. Check out our recommendations of good native plants for your garden. Talk to your region's native plant society for more information about growing natives in your backyard.

3. It's a regional thing. Think about where you live and how your region impacts your garden style. Giving your landscape

a sense of place not only makes economic sense but the local wildlife will also appreciate it.

4. Don't forget the grass. Your lawn can go water-wise too! Plan for irrigation-friendly areas of turf or use grasses that need less water.

5. Mulch it! Mulches are great for conserving water. Choose one that looks good with the plants you've chosen for your landscape.

6. Relax and enjoy. Your investments will pay off soon. Enjoy your eco-friendly landscape and teach your friends and neighbors about its benefits.

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You're very excited — your mom and dad promised to take you on a fun camping trip this year. Or maybe your scout group is gearing up for an awesome canoe trip. Enjoying the beauty and nature of the woods is fun — if you are careful. Here are some tips to keep you safe.

PACKING BASICS

Before you leave, pack these few important things to make your trip more comfortable and safe:

- map of the area
- compass or GPS (learn how to use it beforehand)
- cell phone (though you can't be sure it will work in remote areas)
- whistle
- bottled water and food
- sleeping bag
- flashlight with extra batteries
- sunscreen and sunglasses
- waterproof matches (for an adult to bring)
- first-aid kit with gauze pads, adhesive bandages, tape, tweezers, and antiseptic
- waterproof tent (set it up beforehand to practice)
- warm clothing, clean socks, and rain gear INTO THE WOODS

Staying safe in the woods means using common sense. That means being aware of your surroundings and always camping with an adult. Never go into the woods by yourself. Some things you need to be careful of while you're camping are insects, poison ivy, extreme hot or cold temperatures, rain or snow, and areas where you could trip or fall.

BUGS

If insects bug you, ask an adult to set up camp away from the water and build a small fire. The water attracts bugs, and the smoke from the fire will keep most of the bugs away. Another thing you can do is to remember to keep the tent door zipped at all times, even if you're just going in or out for a minute. Also, turn off your flashlight before you enter your tent because insects such as moths are attracted to the light and will follow you.

Always check for ticks at the end of the day when you've been in the woods. Ticks can carry disease and germs. Some ticks are tiny, like the size of the head of a pin! You'll want an adult to help you inspect your body for ticks. Check behind your knees and ears, under your arms, and in your groin — that's where your legs meet your abdomen, or belly area. If you're camping with a pet, have an adult check your pet for ticks, too - dogs and cats can pick up ticks in their fur even more easily than humans. If you do find a tick, it needs to be removed. Get an adult to help you.

POISON IVY

Poison ivy is a plant that can cause an itchy skin rash in some people. Its leaves grow in groups of three, but the plant can still be hard to spot. If you accidentally touch poison ivy, wash the area with soap and water as soon as possible. The oil from the poison ivy plant can spread on clothes or even your dog. To try to prevent a poison ivy rash, there are products you can apply to your skin before going into the woods. Stores that sell outdoor equipment and sporting goods may carry them.

STAYING SAFE OUTDOORS Your Campsite

Roasting marshmallows and singing songs by an open fire are favorite camping activities. Adults, not kids, should start campfires. Adults also need to watch the fires and make sure they are out when you're done. Never leave a fire without anyone to watch it. Don't forget to put out your fire by dumping water or shoveling dirt on it when you sleep or leave your campsite. Feel the ground around the area where the fire was to make sure it isn't warm.

Your Food and Water

When you're exploring outdoors, eat or drink something only if an adult says it is

safe. Even if streams or lakes look crystal clear, they could contain germs and the water may not be safe to drink. Bring bottled water to drink. Likewise, never eat wild berries. Some are poisonous and it may be tough to know which are safe. Good snacks for the outdoors include fruit, trail mix, crackers, granola bars, bread, and peanut butter.

Your Clothing

Wearing layers is a good idea when you're outdoors. That way, you can take off a layer or two if you get too warm. Wear comfortable boots when hiking so your ankles are supported and you don't get blisters. Keep your arms and legs covered while hiking to avoid ticks and insect bites and wear kneehigh boots and long pants when you are in an area with snakes. Make sure to take rain gear, such as ponchos and waterproof jackets, to keep you dry if an unexpected shower occurs.

Watch Out for Wildlife

Although animals are cute to look at, wild animals are best enjoyed from far away. Don't go near or try to feed a strange animal. It's better to enjoy these animals at the zoo, in books, or on the Internet. To keep animals such as bears or wolves away from your campsite, keep it clean. Food and anything else an animal might smell must be packed away. In fact some campers put all their food, even candy bars, in a bag (called a "Bear Bag") and hang it from a tree branch away from the campsite. If they can smell it, the animals will be led away from where the campers are.

What if You Get Lost?

Stick with your group when you're in the woods. Carry a whistle and blow it if you get separated from the group. If you have a cell phone and it's working, use it to make contact with your group. If you do get lost, wait in a safe, sheltered place for an adult to find you. The sooner you're found, the sooner you can go back to having fun in the great outdoors! Reviewed by: Steven Dowshen, MD Date reviewed: June 2011

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