

Canyon Creek CHRONICLE

APRIL 2014

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

GET READY FOR SUMMER WITH A NEW AUSTIN WATER REBATE

Protect your landscape and your wallet with Austin Water's Drought Survival Tools Rebate. This rebate is available to residential Austin Water customers and customers of qualifying water providers.

SO HOW DOES THE REBATE WORK?

First, purchase the minimum amount of compost, mulch, and/or core aeration services for your landscape.

COMPOST:

1.5 cubic yards or 40 cubic feet

MULCH:

3 cubic yards or 80 cubic feet

AERATION:

Core aeration services for your entire front and/or back lawn area.

(Equipment rental is acceptable.)

Second, install the drought survival tool(s) on your landscape.

Third, fill out the Drought Survival Tools Rebate application found at www.waterwiseaustin.org and submit this along with receipts/invoices and photos of your completed work. A rebate check will be mailed to the mailing address within 4-6 weeks.

HOW MUCH IS THE REBATE?

You can choose to do any combination of the three; if you choose to do all three, you'll get a \$60 bonus!

Compost: \$30

Mulch: \$40

Lawn aeration: \$50

Complete all three and get a total of \$180!

WHY ARE THESE THINGS GOOD FOR MY LANDSCAPE?

Compost is great to work into the soil before planting or even around existing plants. But one of the best and often overlooked uses of compost involves your lawn. Compost is an organic material that hangs onto moisture and acts as a slow release fertilizer. Spread ¼" to ½" of compost over your lawn sometime this spring and you'll increase soil health and make the most of water on your landscape while avoiding toxic fertilizers. A simple equation to estimate how many cubic yards of compost (or mulch) you'll need is located below. Or you can turn cubic yards into cubic feet by dividing the cubic yards by 27.

(Length x Width x Depth of Compost) / 27 = # of cubic yards needed

Spreading mulch around trees and in bedded areas helps to retain moisture and keeps the soil insulated from the intense Texas heat. The above equation can help you estimate the amount of mulch you'll need and remember to mulch properly; see www.growgreen.org for tips.

Aeration (specifically core aeration) removes plugs of soil to allow oxygen, water, and nutrients to make their way into the ground and create a better growing environment for your grass. Don't use "spike" aerators which can actually cause more compaction.

Take a proactive approach with your landscape this spring and you won't find yourself using water as a Band-Aid later this summer! For program rules and more information, go to www.waterwiseaustin.org or call Austin Water's conservation division at 512-974-2199.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY 911
Fire..... 911
Ambulance 911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....512-974-5556
Hudson Bend Fire and EMS

SCHOOLS

Canyon Creek Elementary.....512-428-2800
Grisham Middle School.....512-428-2650
Westwood High School512-464-4000

UTILITIES

Pedernales Electric.....512-219-2602
Texas Gas Service
Custom Service.....1-800-700-2443
Emergencies.....512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig..... 512-472-2822
AT&T
New Service.....1-800-464-7928
Repair1-800-246-8464
Billing.....1-800-858-7928
Time Warner Cable
Customer Service.....512-485-5555
Repairs.....512-485-5080

OTHER NUMBERS

Balcones Postal Office512-331-9802

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.512-263-9181
Article Submissionscanyoncreek@peelinc.com
Advertising..... advertising@PEELinc.com

ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Canyon Chronicle. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Canyon Creek residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 9th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

DON'T WANT TO WAIT FOR THE MAIL?

View the current issue of *The Canyon Chronicle* on the 1st day of each month at www.peelinc.com

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

Home Improvements • Dream Vacations • Debt Consolidation

Make it happen with a

Low-Rate Home Equity Loan

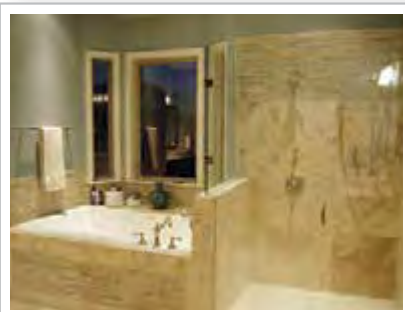
Apply today!

Austin 512-833-3300 | Toll-free 1-800-580-3300

RBFCU 
rbfcu.org

Loans subject to credit approval. Home Equity Loans are available only on property in Texas. Some restrictions may apply. Contact our Real Estate Center for complete details. Lender licensed by the National Mortgage Licensing System under registration number 563215.

Remodeling is a Pain in the Rear



New Creations

CUSTOM KITCHEN AND BATH

- 107 Five Star Client Reviews – Austin City Search 
- Best of Houzz 2014 - Client Satisfaction 
- Angie's List Super Service Award 2013 
- Design Build - Est. 2006 - Susan G Komen Supporters 

NewCreationsAustin.com or Call (512) 963-9043

We're Your Soft Cushion

NATURE WATCH

by Jim and
Lynne Weber

Ghosts in the Graveyard

Commonly found growing in rural areas including graveyards, Twistleaf Yucca (*Yucca rupicola*) is sometimes called 'ghosts in the graveyard', for when in bloom the clusters of white flowers on thin stalks appear as floating apparitions. But this common plant, which is widespread in our area, has a much more uncommon, mysterious association with a rarely seen butterfly called the Yucca Giant-Skipper (*Megathymus yuccae*).

Flying in the spring, the Yucca Giant-Skipper is a medium-sized, robust-bodied butterfly with a fast, powerful flight. Above, its dark forewings are elongated with a variable pale yellow outer band, and a yellow marginal border can be seen on the hindwings. Below, the hindwings are a dark blackish brown with a violet-white frosting and prominent triangular white spot along the leading margin. Males and females are similar, but females are generally larger and males have wider, more rounded forewings. Although fairly common, this species is like a ghost in the butterfly world, as sightings of adults are rare.

The most fascinating aspect of these butterflies is how they depend on the Twistleaf Yucca to carry out their life cycle. Males perch on low

vegetation or on the ground near twistleaf yuccas, awaiting passing females. Producing only one generation per year from February to May depending on location, the cycle begins when the female butterfly lays a single egg on the leaf of a Twistleaf Yucca. The young larvae (or caterpillar) feeds on the leaves of this plant and constructs small, individual silken shelters to protect itself as it grows.

Once larger, older larvae bore deep into the plant crown and feed within the root, constructing a prominent silk tent at the opening of the burrow. Active tents can be discovered by looking for larvae excrement (called 'frass') that is pushed out of the tent opening before the larvae pupates. In the spring, the adult butterfly emerges from the tent opening and allows its wings to dry before it takes flight and begins the search for a mate. Adult yucca giant-skipper do not visit flowers to feed, and it is unknown how long they live, or if they utilize other food sources.

Look closely and take care when performing your winter landscape cleanup, so as not to unwittingly destroy the tents that may be present on your Twistleaf Yucca plants. These ghosts of the graveyard may just be harboring ghosts of their own!



LEFT: *Twistleaf Yucca* bloom stalk

MIDDLE: *Yucca Giant-Skipper* tent (photo by D. Hanson)

RIGHT: *Yucca Giant-Skipper* (photo by Randy L. Emmitt)

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, look for our book, *Nature Watch Austin*, published by Texas A&M University Press.

OrganicSpa
-Massage

Gift Cards
Gift Certificates
Available Online

NOW OPEN

\$49⁹⁵
INTRODUCTORY
MASSAGE

\$25 OFF
ÉMINENCE ORGANIC FACIAL PACKAGE
FREE skin analysis FREE Aromatherapy
New customers only. Not valid with any other coupons.

- Waxing • Threading • Eminence Organic Facials
- Microdermabrasion • Hydra-Facial
- Bio Oxygen Facial • Deep Tissue Massage
- Trigger Points • Hot Stone Massage
- Detox Steam



\$40 OFF
HYDRA-FACIAL
(value \$149)

\$99
ORGANIC DETOX WRAP
INCLUDES BODY SCRUB, BODY WRAP, SCALP
MASSAGE, AND VICHY THERAPY (VALUE \$129)

\$10 OFF
WAXING OR THREADING



ORGANIC FACIAL



12850 RESEARCH BLVD
AUSTIN, TX 78750

OrganicSpa
-Massage

www.OrganicSpaMassage.com

512-MASSAGE





JOIN US FOR GOLF AND A GREAT CAUSE!

DATE: Wednesday, April 30th
 11:00 am Registration - 1:00 pm Start
LOCATION: Flintrock Falls Country Club
FORMAT: 4-person scramble
COST: \$165 per golfer*
 *Includes lunch, dinner and lots of swag

Register online at:
www.colinshope.org

Questions about the event?
**Contact Amy Domecq
 or Tracie Garvens**
amy.domecq@colinshope.org
 (512) 470-9470

we
 envision
 a WORLD
 where
 CHILDREN
 DO NOT DROWN

WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG

The Canyon Chronicle is a private publication published by Peel, Inc. It is not sanctioned by any homeowners association or organization, nor is it subject to the approval of any homeowners association or organization, nor is it intended, nor implied to replace any publication that may be published by or on behalf of any homeowners association or organization. At no time will any source be allowed to use the Canyon Chronicle Newsletter contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Peel, Inc.

DISCLAIMER: Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.
 * Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.
 * Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

**50%
OFF**



**PERSONAL
TRAINING
PACKAGE**

*Applies to on-ramp personal training with purchase of Northside Fitness membership



**REAL COMMUNITY
REAL RESULTS**

WWW.NORTHSIDEFIT.COM
 (512) 743 - 9873



Come see for yourself why we are

Voted BEST Private School



Equipped, Enriched, and Empowered to IMPACT THE WORLD

Now Enrolling Pre-K - 12th Grade

It takes courage to embrace the possibilities of your child's future. Let us show you how SCA can partner with you to IMPACT their lives!

DARE TO SOAR

Summit Christian Academy

\$100 off
New Student Fee

One coupon per new student enrolling



(512) 250-1369

www.SummitEagles.org



PEEL, INC.

308 Meadowlark St. South
Lakeway, TX 78734

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PEEL, INC.

CN



LET US HELP YOU
GROW YOUR NEXT

**BIG
IDEA**



PEEL, INC.
printing & publishing

CONTACT US TODAY!

512.263.9181

OR VISIT

PEELINC.COM