

# LONG CANYON *Gazette*

AUGUST 2014

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE LONG CANYON

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 8

## BOAT RAMP ETIQUETTE

### DON'T BE “*THAT GUY*” THIS SUMMER

*By Dave West, Austin Wakesurf*

With summer now officially here, our beloved lakes are filled with watercrafts of all shapes and sizes buzzing around towing enthusiastic tubers, intensity-high skiers, dedicated fisherman and exercise hungry paddle-boarders. However as the number of people using our aquatic playgrounds increase, so does the risk of accidents among the busy boat ramps and lakefront docks.

If you're planning on using these areas during the busy summer season, here are a few pointers to remember when launching and retrieving your boat:

1. Avoid unnecessary delays and blocking the boat ramp when launching your boat by completing as much of the preparation (loading of your gear) in the staging area as possible. Make sure your tie down straps are removed, battery is on, and that all your required safety gear, as well as ski's, tubes, coolers and towels are already in the boat.
2. If there is a dock at the ramp, ask your passengers to meet you there while you and another experienced person launch the boat without any unnecessary distractions
3. Use at least two experienced people to launch and retrieve the boat —one to drive the towing vehicle and one to operate the vessel). It is also a great idea to have all your dock lines and bumpers already in place prior to launching.
4. Launch your boat slowly and safely – ensure the area



immediately behind the boat is clear of other boats, personal watercraft and people.

5. As you approach the dock to pick up your passengers, have a dock line ready to hand off to someone on the dock and instruct everyone to wait until you tell them it is safe to board the boat.

6. At the end of you boating adventure, drop all your passengers off at the dock first and wait away from the dock while an experienced person retrieves your vehicle and trailer.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

### Boat Etiquette (Continued from Cover)

It's often best to leave all your equipment in the boat until you reach the staging area where you can safely unload safely.

7. When retrieving, do not pull your boat into a launch lane until the towing vehicle is at the ramp. The line is formed by vehicles with trailers, not by vessels in the water.

8. Have the driver of the vehicle tow the boat to a staging area where you can meet your passengers and begin unloading and wiping down. Always double-check your tie downs prior to driving away from the boat ramp area.

Also:

- Never block a ramp with an unattended vessel or vehicle.
- Alcohol and boating don't mix.
- Always wear a US Coast Guard Approved (USCGA) life jacket when conducting any type of watersport.
- Do not power load your boat: Propeller wash can erode the sediment just beyond the ramp surface, creating a large hole. The eroded sediment is deposited behind the propeller, creating a mound. Trailer tires can get stuck in these holes, and boats can run aground on the mound.

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## How's your "brisketiquette?"

With the summer vacation in full swing, the kids out of school, and noodles floating in the pool, it's no doubt the grill is staying fired up. But...before you kick off the flip-flops, here are a few barbecue etiquette tips to ensure your grill fest goes down as the best on the block. Wait. Barbecue etiquette, you say? Yes, it exists.

1. If you're invited to a barbecue party thrown by an individual/family, avoid showing up empty-handed. A side of coleslaw, apple pie, or pitcher of lemonade will do the trick.

2. A barbecue is an informal affair – no need to worry about which fork and knife to use. Go ahead and use your fingers in lieu of utensils. Larger pieces of food, however,

should be cut with a knife and fork. No need to get medieval on us.

3. If you're like many people who wonder what is the proper way to squeeze a lemon slice and a lemon wedge? Well, here is the answer: if it is a slice, don't squeeze it-just drop it in the glass. If it is a wedge, cup your hand over it to prevent squirting, and squeeze it into the glass. Who likes lemon pulp in the eye? Not me.

4. Corn on the cob vs. man. For most people, eating corn on the cob is one of life's biggest challenges. Okay, well, maybe it's just a challenge. The best way to approach a hot cob: simply, butter a few rows of corn at a time, hold the corn firmly by the ends

*(Continued on Page 6)*

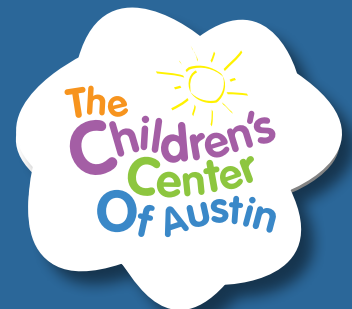


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## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



### 2014-2015 DISTRICT CALENDAR

**JULY 2014**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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**AUGUST 2014**

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**SEPTEMBER 2014**

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**OCTOBER 2014**

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**NOVEMBER 2014**

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**DECEMBER 2014**

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**JANUARY 2015**

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**FEBRUARY 2015**

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**MARCH 2015**

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**APRIL 2015**

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**MAY 2015**

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**JUNE 2015**

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28	29	30				

**IMPORTANT DATES**

First Day of School.....	Aug. 25
Labor Day.....	Sept. 1
Rosh Hashanah.....	Sept. 24-26
Yom Kippur.....	Oct. 3-4
Columbus Day.....	Oct. 13
Veteran's Day.....	Nov. 11
Thanksgiving.....	Nov. 27
Hanukkah.....	Dec. 15-24
Christmas.....	Dec. 25
MLK Day.....	Jan. 19
Spring Break.....	March 16-20
Good Friday.....	April 3
Bad Weather.....	April 27
Bad Weather.....	May 18
Memorial Day.....	May 25
Last Day.....	June 5

**CALENDAR KEY**

- New Teacher Staff Development
- Student/Teacher Holiday
- Staff Development/Student Holiday
- Bad Weather Makeup Day
- Proposed Testing Dates
- E** Early Release Day
- ◇** Last day, Nine-Weeks Period
- }** Last day, Six-Weeks Period
- Italic* First/Last Day Semester - Elementary
- Bold** First/Last Day Semester - Secondary

**PROPOSED TESTING DATES**

Oct. 20-23.....	TAKS Exit
Dec. 1-5.....	STAAR Testing
March 2-5.....	TAKS Exit
March 30-31.....	STAAR Testing
April 21-22.....	STAAR Testing
May 4-8.....	STAAR Testing
May 12-13.....	STAAR Testing

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# LONG CANYON

## *Brisketiquette (Continued on Page 6)*

with two hands (or use corn skewers), and eat a few rows at a time from left to right. If you prefer to skip the bite-off-the-cob approach, you may also cut kernels off of the cob with a knife, cutting in a vertical, downward manner.

5. Similar to corn on the cob, ribs are meant to be eaten with your hands. Given their messy nature, however, it's important to have napkins on hand. For this barbecue favorite, bibs are not necessary.

6. Sauce is boss, unless it isn't offered. While Texans are usually proud of their barbecue sauce, some barbecue purists prefer no sauce to appreciate the natural, smoked flavor of the meat. Ask for sauce only when you know it's available, or if your child requests it.

7. Grilled shrimp can be easy to eat or take a little work, depending on how it is served. As a general rule of thumb, if the shrimp has the tail on, you can use your fingers. Tails off, use a fork!

8. When hosting a large group, be sure to have a wide variety of food options for vegetarians and children.

9. To pick or not to pick? Your teeth that is. Often times, meat can be tricky to eat and require some dental maintenance. At every expense, avoid removing food from your teeth in public. Toothpicks may be used, but only in private. So what should you do if you notice someone else in the same predicament? Be discreet, but do tell.


10. Last and not least, respect the griller's domain. If the host/griller has samples to offer, he/she will do so. Never assume you may help yourself to try what "smells good."

Now that the fundamentals are covered, what's for lunch?

*This article was contributed by the National League of Junior Cotillions – Travis County, a contemporary etiquette, social skills and dance training program that serves 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in Austin. A parent informational session will be held at Barton Creek Country Club on Wednesday, August 13th at 7:30 p.m., and at the Lakeway Resort & Spa on Thursday, August 14th at 7:30 p.m. To RSVP for the informational session or learn more about the program, contact Directors, Marisol Foster or Courtney Duncan at 512.369.8302, or [duncan.foster@nljc.com](mailto:duncan.foster@nljc.com). Class enrollment is limited, but registration is now available online at [www.nljc-austin.com](http://www.nljc-austin.com).*





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**Aug. 28th:** Got2Swim 11k Lake Austin. View event details. [www.tinych.org/Got2Swim](http://www.tinych.org/Got2Swim)

**Sept. 14th:** Colin's Hope Kid's Tri! Registration is now open. [www.tinych.org/KidsTri](http://www.tinych.org/KidsTri)

**Ongoing:** Volunteers needed to distribute water safety packets. [info@colinshope.org](mailto:info@colinshope.org)

**Ongoing:** Colin's Hope Athlete Ambassadors needed. [www.tinych.org/AthleteAmbassador](http://www.tinych.org/AthleteAmbassador)

\*Source: Texas DFPS, Watch Kids Around Water



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& HOT TUB  
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