

LONG CANYON Gazette

DECEMBER 2014

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE LONG CANYON

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 12

TAKE CARE OF TEXAS

BY MANAGING YOUR LEAVES

As autumn brings cooler temperatures, it also signals the arrival of another seasonal display - falling leaves! While Take Care of Texas encourages you to plant shade trees to help lower your utility bills in the summer, these deciduous trees lose their leaves in the fall. Instead of raking and bagging them, where they will head to a landfill, put them back into your lawns and gardens as a valuable source of mulch and fertilizer. Leaves contain 50 to 80 percent of the nutrients a plant extracts from the soil and air during the season. Grass clippings, leaves, and other yard debris make up 20 percent of the trash sent to landfills each year. It costs Texans over \$250 million a year to collect and dispose of this waste. There are four basic ways to manage leaves and use them in landscaping:

Mowing: a light covering of leaves can be mowed, simply leaving the shredded leaves in place on the lawn. This technique is most effective when a mulching mower is used.

Mulching: a lawn mower with a bagging

attachment provides a fast and easy way to shred and collect the leaves. Apply a three to four inch layer of shredded leaves around the base of trees and shrubs. A two to three inch mulch of shredded leaves is ideal for flowerbeds. For vegetable gardens, a thick layer of leaves placed between the rows functions as a mulch and an all-weather walkway that will allow you to work in your garden during wet periods.

Composting: in addition to leaves, other yard wastes such as grass clippings, pine needles, weeds, and small prunings can be composted. Compost can serve as a soil conditioner that nourishes your yard and reduces the need for outdoor watering up to 60 percent.

Soil improvement: leaves may be collected and worked directly into garden and flowerbed soils. A six to eight inch layer of leaves tilled into a heavy, clay soil will improve aeration and drainage. The same amount tilled into a light, sandy soil, will improve water and nutrient holding capacity.

NEWSLETTER INFO

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181
Article Submissions..... longcanyon@peelinc.com
Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181

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Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Long Canyon residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail longcanyon@peelinc.com

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.



Recipe of the Month

"Pumpkin Pie"

- 1 can pumpkin 1 can evaporated milk
- 1 cup brown sugar, 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 t. salt ½ tsp. ginger
- 2 t. cinnamon ½ tsp. allspice
- ¼ tsp. cloves

Combine and mix well. Pour into pie crust. Bake at 425° for 15 minutes; then 350° for about 45 minutes.

Submit your recipes to info@peelinc.com.

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Kelly Peel

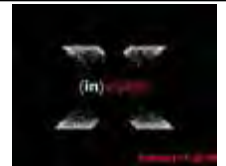
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TEDx
Youth@Austin
x = independently organized TED event



High School and Middle School Youth
are invited to **TEDxYouthAustin**

TEDxYouth is an annual forum created to bring youths into the **TEDx** movement. A group of youth speakers, adult speakers and performers will come together to share their "ideas worth spreading."

Explore this year's theme: (in)visible
"engaging stories, inspiring performances, and intriguing presentations"

When: February 14, 2015

Where: Westlake High school

Registration: FREE. Register Now!

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(in)visible

Hidden meaning discovered. Risk and faith intertwined. The power of fresh light. The courage of a declaration. The safety of anonymity when breaking new ground.

Welcome to (in)visible.

Our 2015 experience will celebrate what it means to make the invisible visible (... or not) as we strive to design a unique environment where brave ideas transform from timid whispers in the back of one mind to inspiring roars in the minds of many. Where important issues are exposed and preconceived notions thrown to the wayside. And exciting new connections become inevitable as we delve into the unknown of ourselves and the potential lying in wait all around us.

This is what (in)visible means to us in this moment, but what will it mean when our hard work has illuminated so much more? What will you discover? We can't wait to dive in together on Feb 14th. Nika Torabi, CPHS Ambassador

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ONLINE**

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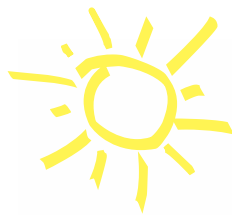
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