

NORMANDY FOREST



June 2015

Official Publication of the Normandy Forest Homeowners Association

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CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATING CLASS OF 2015



Scientists Seek Public's Help

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists are asking the help of Texas citizens in answering the question, "Where have all the Monarch Butterflies gone?"

Biologists have recently launched a project via iNaturalist.org to explore Texas milkweed to determine where it is, and how much is out there and are the Monarch Butterflies using it. The project developed as a result of concerns from the Midwestern United States that herbicide-resistant crops are resulting in increased use of herbicide to control weeds and a resulting loss of milkweed in that region. The loss of milkweed is significant since it is the only plant monarch caterpillars can eat.

Through this project, the Wildlife Diversity Program hopes to produce a map showing where milkweed is found in Texas, what species of milkweed people are finding, whether it is natural or cultivated, and whether monarchs are using it.

iNaturalist.org/Projects/Texas-Milkweeds-And-Monarchs



NORMANDY FOREST

NORMANDY FOREST COMMITTEES

THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

Danny Rodriguez 281-528-6640
Mark Lawson 281-651-8034

The Association has an active Architectural Control Committee that approves or denies all construction and any improvements. You may request an ACC form by contacting Chaparral Management 281-537-0957 or the association website. Please keep in mind that the Association has thirty days (30 days) to approve or disapprove any ACC and verbal approvals or disapprovals are not given.

SECURITY COMMITTEE

In the event of an emergency please call “911” or for Precinct 4 please program your cell phone with the number below.

Precinct 4 281-376-3472
Paul Diaz..... 281-651-8606

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Michelle Tsatsaronis michelletsatsaronis@gmail.com
..... 281-907-2276

POOL MAINTENANCE & LIFEGUARDS

Jeffery King 281-655-8675

CLUBHOUSE RENTALS

Chaparral Management / Valerie Overbeck..... 281-537-0957

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

John Nemec 281-651-8606 | jnemec@normandyforest.org
Paul Diaz..... 281-687-2045

POOL TAG COMMITTEE

George Tsatsaronis..... 281-323-9900

BLOCK CAPTAIN COORDINATOR

Karen Zuckero 713-504-6469

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Diaz | President 281-687-2045
John Nemec | Vice President 281-651-8606
Judy Doll | Secretary..... 281-528-9110
George Tsatsaronis | Treasurer..... 281-323-9900
Tim Benjamin | Director at Large..... 281-704-3570

BALLPARK RESERVATIONS

John Nemec | Coordinator 281-651-8606

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Gas | Centerpoint Energy 713-659-2111
Electric | Reliant Energy 713-207-7777
Phone | AT&T www.att.com
Sewer | Harris County MUD #28 281-353-9809
Trash | Republic Waste 281-446-2030
Fire Department | Spring VFD..... 281-355-1266
County Commissioner | Jack Cagle..... 713-755-6444

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Chaparral Management Company, AAMC
6630 Cypresswood Suite 100 | Spring, Texas 77379
281-537-0957 phone | 281-537-0312 fax
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OFFICE HOURS

9am to 5pm | closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:15 pm

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Be A Good Neighbor

- If you notice newspapers piling up on the sidewalk, please toss them into the trash
- Lend a helping hand to your neighbor with repairs or chores
- Keep dogs & cats on a leash at all times
- Always clean up after your dog or cat
- Fill any low spots on your property where water sits to prevent mosquitoes



Michael & Anita Jones

Jose & Mirna Cruz

David & Claudia Rodriguez

Tusar J. Patel

Thank you!

A very big “thank you” to our HOA President, Paul Diaz, for dismantling the old, rusty play equipment in the park. Paul saved homeowners \$3,000 by doing this work and we were able to put this money toward a shade over the new playground. We appreciate all you do, Paul!

Ball Field Rules

Coaches are asked to share both the ball field and calendar. If a certain week is completely filled up and a team has more than one day reserved, they may be asked to forfeit one day in order to allow another team (not already using the field that week) field usage. It is recommended all coaches bring a copy of their calendar reservation to the ball field to help resolve any scheduling conflict.

RULES:

1. The park, including the ball field, closes at 10:00pm. Violators will be reported to the Constable's office.
2. Only teams that have residents as the coach or player on the team may use the park.
3. Noise must be kept at a minimum.
4. Respect the property and privacy of all nearby residents.
5. No climbing over fences or entering resident's property to retrieve balls or other equipment. You must attain the homeowner's permission to enter any property.
6. No banging on the fences surrounding the park.
7. Any damage to surrounding homes or their property is the sole responsibility of the team and their coach.
8. Any infraction of these rules will result in the loss of ball field privileges for your team.

POOL INFO



Keep the pool area clean and use wastebaskets. The pool ladies room has a new baby changing table for infants and toddlers. There is also one in the clubhouse ladies room.

Please watch your children and keep them within reach. REMEMBER drowning is preventable!

SUGGESTIONS?

Have any suggestions or recommendations for the HOA Board? Please email them to our editor or come to an HOA meeting. We would like to hear from you!



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CONSUMER ALERT

Avoid the storm chaser roofing scam. Don't let hail damage hurt your wallet and property value. Red flags homeowners should watch out for when selecting a contractor to fix storm damage:

- The disappearing deductible
- Mysterious door to door salesman
- Fluctuating bid
- High pressure tactics

First steps after the storm

- Call your insurance agent
- Ask agent about process
- Wait to get estimates until after your adjuster has examined your roof

Selecting contractors

- Stay calm
- Be proactive selecting a company
- Avoid door to door solicitors
- Do your research check with BBB , Angie's List or similar
- Don't sign any document until you're sure you've selected the contractor you want
- Find a local reputable company
- Make sure it is in writing
- Verify bonding and insurance
- Check the company's referrals from neighbors and others you trust
- Avoid quick fixes and low prices
- Avoid contractors willing to "Save your deductible" which is unlawful
- Written manufacture warranties
- Protect your home and investment. Hire a local, well rated contractor.

Will We Erect A Brick Wall Around Normandy Forest?

The Facts About Why It's Up To You

Submitted By Richard C. Doll

For months there have been rumors that the MUD District would erect, a wall similar to the one at the Sanctuary Subdivision on Spring Cypress, around Normandy Forest. I wanted to present to you the facts, rather than let rumors fester.

Since August of last year, the MUD Board has been considering various projects meant to re-invest in the community. In 2016, our sub division will be 20 years old. The history of subdivisions in the area is that they peak in value at 20 years, and after that start to fall apart and lose value. The original residents sell their homes, new people move in, and gradually the resale price goes down. I think our subdivision is different than others because most of us like living here, and simply don't want to move. We don't want to buy the same house with a bigger mortgage, higher taxes, and still have to go through the expense of landscaping again and buying blinds ...again, besides being plagued with two years of emptying boxes.

Board believes, if we reinvest in our community and put a new face on it, we can change the pattern and insure we have increasing property value and still maintain the quality of life, we have managed to build together.

In the eight months the Board discussed the best way to make this happen. Two major projects have survived the cut. One is the Wall around the subdivision, and the other is developing some land near the detention pond into a Park. Both of these projects are expensive \$1M each. We simply don't have the available cash to do either without issuing a Park and Recreation Bond to pay for it.

The facts are:

- Over the last two years, the district has refinanced our existing Bonds, resulting in over a \$55,000 annual savings.
- That savings can pay for a new \$1M bond without increasing our current tax rate in any way.
- To build the Wall or the Park, will cost \$1.0M

To issue a Park and Recreation Bond, the residents will have to vote in the November 3, 2015 elections and give the MUD the authority to issue the bond.

As President of the MUD Board, I have proposed that we have a Town Hall Meeting for all residents in July or early August. At the Meeting, we will fully explain the plans, cost, the expense impact on taxes, the expected increased value of your home... as well as... hear feed back and input from you.

You will hear more about this over the coming weeks and months. When we schedule the Town Hall Meeting, I urge everyone to come out to get all the facts, have your opinion expressed, and hopefully make up your mind about our future.

NORMANDY FOREST

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ONLINE**

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RESIDENT NEWS

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Portable Fire Extinguishers



A portable fire extinguisher can save lives and property by putting out a small fire or containing it until the fire department arrives; but portable extinguishers have limitations. Because fire grows and spreads so rapidly, the number one priority for residents is to get out safely.

Use a portable fire extinguisher when the fire is confined to a small area, such as a wastebasket, and is not growing; everyone has exited the building; the fire department has been called or is being called; and the room is not filled with smoke.

To operate a fire extinguisher, remember the word PASS:

- **PULL** the pin. Hold the extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you, and release the locking mechanism.
- **AIM** low. Point the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- **SQUEEZE** the lever slowly and evenly.
- **SWEEP** the nozzle from side-to-side.

For the home, select a multi-purpose extinguisher (can be used on all types of home fires) that is large enough to put out a small fire, but not so heavy as to be difficult to handle.

Choose a fire extinguisher that carries the label of an independent testing laboratory.

Read the instructions that come with the fire extinguisher and become familiar with its parts and operation before a fire breaks out.

Install fire extinguishers close to an exit and keep your back to a clear exit when you use the device so you can make an easy escape if the fire cannot be controlled. If the room fills with smoke, leave immediately.

Know when to go. Fire extinguishers are one element of a fire response plan, but the primary element is safe escape. Every household should have a home fire escape plan and working smoke alarms.



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DROWNING IS THE NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF ACCIDENTAL DEATH FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE, AND A LEADING CAUSE FOR CHILDREN AGES 1 - 14.



13 Texas children have already lost their lives to drowning in 2015
DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE