



# The VOICE

A Newsletter for the Residents of Teravista

Volume 5, Issue 9

September 2015

## THE VOICE

*A Newsletter  
for the Teravista  
Community*

The Voice is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Teravista residents. Each newsletter will be filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information, and more.

If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports team, social group, etc., and would like to submit an article for the newsletter, you can do so online at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com). Personal news (announcements, accolades/honors/celebrations, etc.) are also welcome as long as they are from area residents.

**GO GREEN!** Subscribe via [Peelinc.com](http://Peelinc.com) to have an email sent to you with a link to a PDF of the newsletter, or have an email sent to you instead of having a newsletter mailed to you!



## ROUND ROCK NEW NEIGHBORS

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Whether you are new or lived here for years, WE WELCOME YOU!

Visit our website [www.rnewneighbors.org](http://www.rnewneighbors.org).

For more information, call Traci at 512-992-1069



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY .....	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance .....	911
Round Rock Police (Non Emergency) .....	512-218-5515
Georgetown Police (Non Emergency).....	512-390-3510
Travis County Animal Control .....	512-972-6060
Round Rock Animal Control .....	512-218-5500
Georgetown Animal Control.....	512-930-3592

### SCHOOLS

Round Rock ISD .....	512-464-5000
Teravista Elementary School.....	512-704-0500
Hopewell Middle School.....	512-464-5200
Stony Point High School.....	512-428-7000
Georgetown ISD .....	512-943-5000
Carver Elementary School.....	512-943-5070
Pickett Elementary School.....	512-943-5050
Tippit Middle School .....	512-943-5040
Georgetown High School.....	512-943-5100

### UTILITIES

Atmos Energy.....	1-888-286-6700
TXU Energy .....	1-800-818-6132
AT&T	
New Service.....	1-800-464-7928
Repair.....	1-800-246-8464
Billing.....	1-800-858-7928
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service.....	512-485-5555
Repairs.....	512-485-5080

### OTHER NUMBERS

City of Round Rock.....	512-218-5400
Round Rock Community Library .....	512-218-7000
Round Rock Parks and Recreation .....	512-218-5540
City of Georgetown.....	512-930-3652
Georgetown Public Library .....	512-930-3551
Georgetown Municipal Airport .....	512-930-3666
Georgetown Parks and Recreation .....	512-930-3595
Teravista Golf and Ranch House .....	512-651-9850
Teravista Residents Club .....	512-310-7421

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. ....	512-263-9181
Article Submissions .....	teravista@peelinc.com
Advertising.....	advertising@peelinc.com

## SEND US YOUR *Event Pictures!!*

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue.

Email the picture to [teravista@peelinc.com](mailto:teravista@peelinc.com). Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption.

Pictures will appear in color online at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com).





## FIRE ANT TREATMENTS

There are numerous ways to manage fire ants, but they are often broken into two categories- broadcast treatments and individual mound treatments. Individual mound treatments are used to treat one mound at a time and can be labor intensive and may result in more pesticide being spread into the environment. Broadcast treatments will spread product (granular or bait) over a large area.

Individual mound treatments include pouring boiling water onto the mound, using insecticide mound drenches, spreading insecticide granules onto the mound and watering them in, sprinkling insecticidal dusts on top of the mound or using bait-formulated insecticides around the perimeter of the mound. There are also many "home remedies", but be advised that many of these do not kill fire ants. Many home remedies make the fire ants move to a new location (often 1-2 feet away), but do not kill the ants.

Bait-formulated insecticides most often consist of a defatted corn cob grit coated with soybean oil; the soybean oil is where the active ingredient (what kills the pest) is dissolved. Worker ants collect bait as a food source and take it back to the colony to share with other ants, including the queen. Depending on the active ingredient, the bait may cause the queen to die or be unable to produce viable eggs, which gradually kills off

the colony. When using baits, results are often slower to observe when compared to individual mound treatments, but can provide 80-90% suppression for 12-18 months. A bonus to broadcasting baits is that the amount of active ingredient is generally very small, which places less chemical into the environment.

With any pesticide treatment, read and follow all label instructions. Make sure to water in the pesticide if the label instructs to do so. Failure to water in chemicals when recommended by the label does an inadequate job of killing the ants. Baits should not be watered in or used before a rainfall event; baits will not be picked up by ants if they get wet.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at [www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com).

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## TREE RETREATS

## NATUREWATCH

*by Jim and Lynne Weber*

One of the most common lizards in the Austin area is the Texas Spiny Lizard (*Sceloporus olivaceus*). It is also one of the largest, averaging 7.5 to 11 inches in length, with the females being larger than the males.

A Texas spiny lizard is often hard to spot, as its dorsal pattern can vary by locality, serving as adequate camouflage in its chosen habitat. Typically grey in color with black, white, or reddish-brown blotches or crossbands down its back, it blends in perfectly against the bark of resident trees. Its underside is usually uniformly light grey, and males commonly have bright blue patches on either side of the belly. The scales appear particularly pointed and spiny, and it has long toes and sharp claws suitable for climbing.

All of these features serve this lizard well, as it is diurnal and arboreal, spending much of its time in trees. While it prefers larger tree species with a significant amount of leaf litter below, such as live oaks, post oaks, red oaks, pecans, hackberries, and elms, it may also be found in brushy trees such as mesquites and junipers. This lizard can also be seen climbing on man-made structures such as fence posts, walls, and telephone poles, especially when the base of these objects is covered in brush.

Typically shy and wary, this lizard quickly retreats to the opposite side of a tree trunk in the presence of a predator or human observer. If startled when approached closely, it will suddenly jump from a tree trunk and flee noisily into the leaf litter below, making it almost impossible to locate. Trees not only provide protection for this lizard, but they also provide for its food. Being insectivorous, it can find cicadas, crickets, grasshoppers, beetles, ants, butterflies, and caterpillars in the leafy canopy.

Male Texas spiny lizards are territorial, often defending a single tree from encroachment by other males. When challenged, the two males will have what appears to be a push up contest, until one is intimidated enough to give up and scurry away. Active on the



*Texas Spiny Lizard*

surface from March to November, these lizards are reproductively active throughout the warmer months of the year. Females lay up to four clutches of eggs in a shallow depression in leaf litter, with hatchlings emerging 45-60 days later. In the cooler months of the year, they take cover for weeks at a time under rocks, logs, and in deep leaf litter, and are occasionally seen basking in the sun on warmer, sunnier days.

So when you're out and about in your yard or at a park, and you hear something skittering in the leaf litter or retreating up a tree, it most likely is a Texas Spiny Lizard!

Send your nature-related questions to [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto:naturewatch@austin.rr.com) and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, check out our book, *Nature Watch Austin* (published by Texas A&M University Press), and our blog at [naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com](http://naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com).



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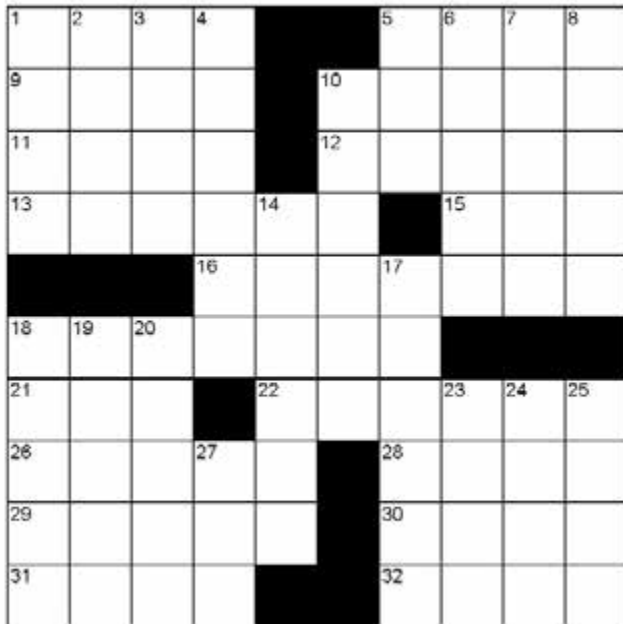
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### ACROSS

1. Canned meat brand
5. Recommend
9. Volcanic rock
10. Strength
11. Consumer
12. Refastens
13. Mire
15. Flurry
16. Remove a light bulb
18. Easier to get at
21. Frosty
22. Pretended
26. Spring flower
28. Basic's opposite
29. Buddy
30. Sliding toy
31. Ball player \_\_ Aaron
32. Food

### DOWN

1. Ghetto
2. El \_\_ (Texas city)
3. Maintain
4. Plunder
5. Vase
6. Measuring instrument
7. Point
8. Render capable
10. Public transportation vehicles
14. Short-tempered
17. Put a fold in
18. Catch a ride
19. Sporty car brand
20. Synthetic fiber
23. Ca. University
24. Abstain from certain foods
25. Chances of winning
27. Writing liquid

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