

SPRING has SPRUNG!

And so have the weeds! Please take a little time to spruce up your property. It will make you and your neighbors happy. Not to mention now that the winter lull is over, Graham Management will be doing their monthly inspections with a keener eye for homeowner violations. Some of the top violations that you can avoid with the proper maintenance are: weeds in the yard and flower beds (weed, feed, pull); weeds in sidewalk spacers; areas needing edging (yards, curbs, driveways, etc.); dead grass; mildew on house/garage; dirty/stained sidewalks and driveways, and stored items (visible to public such as cars that are not mobile, trash cans, recycle carts, etc.). Don't forget that easements bordering your property's perimeters and storm/rain gutters that run along your property's perimeters are also your responsibility.

In our yards we have to contend with many weeds with large numbers of rooting runners or large numbers of seeds. They put little energy into fruit or wood, and thrive on bacterially dominant, low-organic-matter soils. Some of the most prolific include: dollar weed, chickweed, nutgrass, Bermuda grass, Johnson grass, Virginia buttonweed, alligator weed and a personal favorite, Cleavers weed (aka stick tights) which is very sticky and spreads like crazy. This weed is said to be the inspiration for Velcro. All of these must be removed by their roots. Weed killers are an option but many are toxic. Try organic when possible. In any case, most are only temporary fixes.

Keep in mind that some things you may want to plant may legally be considered

"Noxious Weeds". Weeds are considered to be plants that are not wanted in a particular location. These plants are considered to have a negative effect on native environments and some are very invasive. Their impact often causes declines in native population of plants by reducing light, water and nutrients; allergic reaction; effects on the drinking water supply; damage to or reduction of agricultural crops; invasion of pasture lands and financial costs in managing them. Noxious weeds can be managed by using a combination of control methods, including mechanical, cultural, biological, preventative and chemical. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) lists noxious plants by state. They are categorized by: introduced, invasive and noxious plants. For list go to: plants.usda.gov/java/noxComposite.



HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!
"OLD GLORY" – LONG MAY IT WAVE

Born in Philadelphia on June 14, 1777, the flag of the United States of America symbolizes the patriotic ideals of a nation "conceived in liberty" and admired around the world from the dawn's early light to the twilight's last gleaming. Please support and honor our Veterans on this day.

Willowbridge - Stonebridge

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

All Emergencies.....	911
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Street Lights & Outages - CenterPoint Energy.....	713-207-2222
CenterPoint Energy.....	713-659-2111
Newsletter Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	www.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
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AT&T - Repair	800-246-8464
Billing	800-585-7928
Best Trash.....	281-313-2378
Vacation Watch - Harris County District 5	281-290-2100
W. Harris County MUD #11.....	281-807-9500
Willow Place Post Office	281-890-2392
Willowbridge Website	www.willowbridgehoa.com

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

Beautification Committee	
Jennifer Y'Barbo	jhybarbo@subhou.com
Homeowners Association	713-334-8000
Graham Mgmt - Tracy Graham	
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Clubhouse/Reservations	
Adrienne DelGiorno	713-334-8000
Pool Parties/Tags	
Sweetwater Pool Co.	281-988-8480
Marquee Coordinator	
Barbara Lallinger.....	281-890-8464
Newsletter Coordinator	
Barbara Lallinger & Krystina Cotton	
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Security Coordinator	
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.....	martin@juliedubros.com
Soccer Field Coordinator.....	
Jay Guarino	jvguarino@hotmail.com
Website Coordinator	
Angela Doray.....	willowbridgehoa@live.com
Yard of the Month Committee	
Nominate your favorite at: willowbridgehoa.com or Contact	
Jennifer Y'Barbo	jhybarbo@subhou.com
Lost Pet Coordinator	
Sonia Moore	msrco@aol.com, 281-955-8068
Welcoming Committee	
Gracie Galvan	281-732-0009
.....	galvangracie@hotmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HOA INFORMATION

Willowbridge Homeowners Association Inc. - Graham Mgmt
Tracy Graham 713-334-8000 || E-Mail | grahammanagement@sbcglobal.net |
| Fax | 713-334-5055 |
| 2825 Wilcrest Dr., #600 Houston, Tx. 77042 | |

If you have any questions or comments regarding the neighborhood please contact the numbers above.

HOA MEETINGS

Willowbridge/Stonebridge Homeowner's Association Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each quarter (Jan, Apr, Jul, & Oct) at the community clubhouse at 7:00 pm.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Committee meetings are the last Monday of each month.

HARRIS COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

To report street or curb damage, missing/damaged street signs and street flooding: (281) 353-8424 or www.hcp4.net.

If a resident wants to request a new sign or replace a damaged one, they have to go online and fill out a request.

STREET LIGHT OUT?

If you notice a street light out PLEASE report it to CenterPoint Energy. We pay for all of the street lights in our subdivision... every month... regardless if they are illuminated or not!! This is also a serious safety issue. To report an outage, follow these steps:

1. Dial (713) 207-2222.
2. Choose a language preference.
3. Select option "4" (for street light outages).
4. Provide the 6 digit number (located approximately 5 feet up the pole), street name and closest address.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Newsletter Article submission Deadline is 3rd of each month. Please give a 2 month advance notice.

DO YOU KNOW IRIS?

You should because IRIS (Immediate Response Information System), is a mass notification system implemented by WHCMUD #11 last year (notices sent in a summer water bill) and reported in the August 2015 edition of WillowTalk. Please see last paragraph of this article for a reprint of how to sign up.

Recently TOPS (Texas Operations & Professional Services, our water management company) began the process of repairing neighborhood dead end (cul-de-sac) flush valves which requires the water being turned off to all homes on that line for several hours and the excavation of front utility easements, sidewalks and possibly part of a homeowner's yard to locate and/or expose a dead end blow off main water valve (used to flush the water main to insure good water quality).

The first street (Willacy Ct.) unfortunately experienced "a failure to communicate" from TOPS to residents (according to TOPS), and was without water for 4 – 5 hours. TOPS says this has been corrected and homeowners signed up with IRIS will be notified online and others will receive a doorbell ring, knock on door or a Maintenance Notice via a bright orange door hanger.

From WillowTalk – August 2015: WHCMUD #11 has implemented a new mass notification service, IRIS (Immediate Response Notification System). The IRIS system will be utilized for both emergency and non-emergency situations and allows authorized WHCMUD #11 officials to create and rapidly disseminate time-sensitive messages to

every customer by landline telephone, cell phone, SMS text message and/or email addresses stored in the notification database. However, this database requires you, the customer, to log in and create and/or update your contact information. This can be completed through the secure link on the District Operator's web site: www.topswater.com.* We know that keeping your information personal and secure is important, but we encourage you to provide as many points of contact as possible. We believe that the ability to contact you in a time of crisis is vital. Please rest assured that we will not share any of your information from the database with anyone. The goal of the WHCMUD #11 is to be able to reach all customers quickly to keep you informed on issues that affect the community's safety and welfare. For example, we would inform you about boil water notices, drought water restrictions, water mainline breaks resulting in water service interruptions, and similar issues. The IRIS service is provided to

WHCMUD #11 customers at no extra charge. If you have any questions related to this service or if you need assistance with adding your information to the database, please contact TOPS at (281) 807-9500 and a customer service representative will be happy to assist you. *HINTS: You will be asked for your local ID – this is your 20 digit MUD account number. You will also be asked for a password and to verify it. The password requires a minimum of 6 characters which includes at least (1) lowercase letter and (1) uppercase letter.



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POOL RULES

In anticipation of another great swim season, the Willowbridge/Stonebridge HOA asks for your cooperation in following these official pool rules. Please remember that the lifeguards are there for your safety. Some of them may appear to be young however they meet the state's required minimum age (some are several years older than they appear) and all have completed the necessary training and certification to become a lifeguard and several have been lifeguards for several years. They are guided by state laws and directives from the HOA board. Last year they were subjected to verbal abuse several times during the season and in one case they felt like it might turn physical. Please pay particular attention to the last four (4) rules in this article. Your annual homeowner's assessment fees include payment for the lifeguard's services. They also pay Graham Management for management of the HOA's facilities, amenities, etc., so please make your dollars count.

- *Swimming is at your own risk.
- *No swimming without a lifeguard on duty.
- *The facility is for the EXCLUSIVE use of Willowbridge and Stonebridge residents and their guests.
- *All trespassers will be prosecuted.
- *Parents are responsible for supervision of their children.
- *No one 12 years of age or younger is permitted in the pool area without the supervision of a person 18 years of age or older.

EXCEPTION: PARENTS MAY AGREE to allow 12 year olds to come alone and they will be issued an adult wristband at time of distribution.**

- *Wristbands must be worn at check in and on swimmer at all times. If you do not have a wristband, you will not be allowed access into the facility. (A new color is issued each year, please destroy old ones.)
- *Residents are allowed (1) guest per pool tag. Guests within the pool area must be accompanied at all times by their host. Guests must sign in.
- *Regulation swimwear must be worn at all times. Cut-off jeans, basketball shorts, over-sized shirts or other inappropriate wear will not be allowed.
- *Disposable diapers are not allowed in the pool. Children under the age of 2 years must wear disposable swim pants or rubber pants.
- *No running or roughhousing around the pool.
- *No diving allowed in the pool, except in the deep end.
- *Anyone with open sores or wounds is prohibited from using the pool.
- *No glass containers allowed in the pool or around the pool area.
- *No pets allowed in the pool or pool area, except certified service animals (are not allowed in the pool).

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SPRINKLERS

(Continued from Page 4)

*No loud music, abusive or profane language allowed.

*Only small floating devices will be allowed in the pool area (at lifeguard's discretion).

*No skates, skateboards or bikes allowed in the pool area.

*No shampoo or soap of any kind may be used in or around the pool area.

*Pool will be closed with the first sound of thunder until 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder. Closure shall be at the discretion of lifeguards on duty.

*All swimmers must be cleared from the pool during the administration of serious first aid and during sessions from time to time as may be determined by lifeguards and state law.

*Failure to follow rules may result in your IMMEDIATE REMOVAL from the pool area and/or possible suspension from the pool for an extended period of time.

*Willowbridge/Stonebridge HOA will strictly enforce these rules and you will be asked to leave if disobeyed. Failure to leave the facility will result in the lifeguards contacting the authorities to have you removed.

*Report damaged/needed repairs to the facility or issues with the lifeguards to Graham Management at grahammanagement@sbcglobal.net or (713) 334-8000.

**Please note that anyone under the age of 18 may not use their wristbands for anyone under 12 years of age unless accompanied by an adult!

It's that time of year again when the temperatures are rising and the days are getting longer and we start up our sprinkler systems, sometimes after not using them for a few months. Here are a few tips to ensuring everything runs smoothly.

Q. How do I start up my sprinkler system in the spring?

A. Turning on your sprinkler system for the season is a little more involved than just flipping a switch or turning a handle. This is also the best time to run through the system and adjust or replace any misaligned or broken heads.

Q. When should I start up my sprinkler system?

A. You should start turning it on in mid-March. However, the weather in Houston is unpredictable and we can have overnight freezing as late as March. So it is recommend that you watch the weather and either drain the system or wrap their backflow preventer with heavy blankets if a cold snap is predicted.

Q. What maintenance is required to keep my sprinkler system running at its best?

A. Just as you may tune-up or make repairs to your car, the same should be done to your sprinkler system. The most important preventive maintenance steps we recommend are draining and winterizing your system every Fall to prevent freeze damage.

Q. What is a backflow preventer and why am I required to have one on my sprinkler system?

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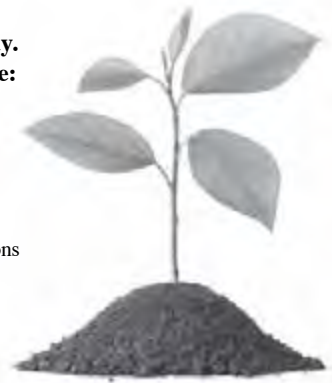
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A. Backflow preventers are safety devices that prevent water that has exited your house through your sprinkler system, from re-entering the house and possibly contaminating your drinking water with fertilizers or pesticides. They are required by law and regional building codes.

Q. What time of day should I water?

A. It is usually best to water in the early morning. There tends to be less wind, more water pressure and minimal evaporation. Watering at night could lead to disease and fungus in the turf. In the hot summer sun, watering in the afternoon could be counter productive since the water might evaporate before it is able to be absorbed.

Q. What is a Rain Sensor?

A. Rain sensors turn the system off if it is raining or has been for quite some time. This saves on your water bill and saves the turf from "drowning". Too much water is just as bad as not enough.

Q. What is Drip Irrigation?

A. Drip irrigation is becoming extremely popular. This allows you to water shrubs and flowers more efficiently. Drip emitters put water at the base of the plant to soak into the root base where it is needed, rather than on top of it. Emitters put out a regulated drip that can be changed to meet the needs of various plants. A 2' shrub needs less water than a 20' tree.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Watermelon Salad

- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 1 lime, zested and juiced
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 4 cups seeded watermelon chunks
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup mint chiffonade
- 2 cups baby arugula

Directions:

Add the white wine vinegar, lime zest and juice to a small bowl. Whisk in the olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Add the thinly sliced red onion and let marinate for 5 to 10 minutes as you prepare the rest of the salad.

Add the watermelon, feta, mint, and arugula to a large bowl. Toss with the vinaigrette and serve immediately after dressing.

Recipe courtesy of The Neelys, www.foodnetwork.com



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