



August 2016

Official HOA Newsletter for Lakeshore

Volume 2, Issue 8

Before the Bell Rings Back to School Safety

As boys and girls throughout the community sharpen their pencils and get ready to head back to class, it's important to ensure they have a safe school year. Here are some tips on how your family can be proactive and avoid potentially harmful situations:

Make sure your school has your child's updated emergency contact information. Write down any specific instructions that should be followed in case of an emergency, and have the school keep them in your child's file.

Talk to your child's teachers before classes start and alert them to any medical issues your child has. Also, explain to the teacher what he or she should do if the medical issues arise such as an allergic reaction, asthma attack or seizure and provide school personnel with emergency medication such as EpiPens/E (Epinephrine Auto-Injectors) and inhalers.

Help your children memorize important phone numbers so that they know how to get in touch with you and other trusted adults. Also, make sure those numbers are programmed into their cell phones, or provide them with a list of phone numbers that they can keep in their backpacks or wallets at all times.

Let your children know exactly who they can go home with after school if their regular ride can't pick them up, and make sure they know not to accept rides from people who aren't on the list.

If your children will be walking to school, walk the route

with them several times before classes start to make sure they understand traffic laws and can walk the route on their own. Also, find a friend or sibling they can walk with, and make sure they always use the buddy system.

Show your children which houses in the neighborhood they can go to in case no one is at home after school. Talk to the HOA board to see if there are any official safe houses in the community that your child can go to.

Report reckless drivers to the HOA board and the police to help make sure the neighborhood remains safe, particularly during times when kids are going to and returning from school.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

LAKESHORE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS CREST MANAGEMENT CO.

Community Manager

..... Liz.Trapolino@crest-management.com
..... 281-579-0761

Clubhouse Manager

..... lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net
..... 281-458-3345

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FIRE, MEDICAL OR LIFE THREATENING

Emergency

..... 9-1-1
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Humble ISD Police (Schools) 281-641-7900
Harris County Animal Control 281-999-3191
Texas Poison Control Center 800-222-1222

UTILITIES

Electric, (multiple providers) www.powertochoose.org
Power Outages 713-207-7777
Street Light Outages 713-207-2222
U.S. Water Utility Group 832-756-2143
Gas, Centerpoint Energy 713-659-2111

SCHOOLS

..... 281-641-1000
..... www.humble.k12.tx.us
Lakeshore Elementary 281-641-3500
Woodcreek Middle School 281-641-5200
Summer Creek High School 281-641-5400

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc 888-687-6444
Article Submission grandlakeestates@peelinc.com
Advertising advertising@peelinc.com

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Community Watch

George Casellas gcasellas@att.net

Garage Sales

Lakeshore Clubhouse: lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net

Landscape Committee

Rex Spikes: rexspikes@sbcglobal.net

Pool Committee

Harry Rockwood: hrockwood@aol.com

Social Committee

Elna Ermel: roneln@comcast.net

Tennis & Playground Committee

To volunteer, please email lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net

Notes to Self and other things...

Many thanks to the Social Committee for an awesome community pool party on July 16. Lots of good food and GREAT neighbors!

Next community event is September 17th for Lakeshore Community Night Out Against Crime. This is an wonderful event with an opportunity to meet our community law enforcement officers. More details to come.

Our Lakeshore Community Crime Watch committee needs volunteers to help. Please contact the clubhouse at 281.458.3345 for more information!

The pool days will change at the end of August from Tuesday thru Sunday to weekends only. Beginning August 27 the pool will be open on Saturday and Sunday only from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

From Your Landscape Committee:

Cut or have your lawn care crew cut with the mower on its highest cut setting. The lawn will need less water and will look greener and healthier. This will also make your lawn less vulnerable to some weeds.

Be kind to your neighbors and trim tree canopies so people can walk under them.

Bulk black mulch is bad for your plants as it is too high in nitrogen. The natural mulch we use in the community is better for your plants. If you must use black mulch use the Black Diamond brand.

For more tips on keeping healthy lawns, plants and trees go to randylemmon.com. He is the host of Garden Line on AM740 KTRH radio Saturday and Sunday from 6 to 10 am. If enough of you are interested we may be able to get him to come speak and take questions like he did a couple of years ago for the Ladies of Lakeshore.

Winners of Yard of the month must be in compliance with all HOA rules as well as the following:

- 1) Have a healthy green lawn with no weeds or brown spots.
- 2) Have your lawn freshly mowed at least once a week.
- 3) Have fresh mulch in beds with no weeds.
- 4) Have flowers that are healthy and lush.
- 5) Trees must be healthy.
- 6) Shrubs must be healthy and trimmed.





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Dead spots in the lawn? Look for chinch bugs....

Chinch bugs often appear in Texas lawns during hot, dry conditions. Usually damage starts in sunny locations or near driveway and sidewalk areas. Damage appears as irregular dead patches in the lawn surrounded by yellowing or dying grass. Chinch bug damage can be mistaken for other lawn problems like white grubs or fungal diseases, so confirmation of chinch bug activity is needed before choosing proper treatment.

So how do you tell if you have chinch bugs? The easiest way is to look for the insects. One way to look is to cut both ends out of a can, push it into the ground using a twisting motion and then fill the can with water for about 10 minutes and wait for any bugs to float to the top. Another way would be to get down on your hands and knees and part the grass to look for the insects. For both methods, samples should be taken in the damaged (yellowed grass), not dead, grass areas.

Chinch bugs are small (about 1/5 of an inch as adults; immatures are smaller). Adults are black with white wings containing triangular markings. Nymphs, or immatures, are yellowish or pinkish with a light colored band across their body. Nymphs do not have fully developed wings.

Treatment is usually a liquid or granular formulation. Liquid formulations are often bottles that attach to the end of the garden hose or concentrates that you mix with water in a tank sprayer. Granular formulations are applied with push spreaders and need to be watered in after treatment.

Treatment should be applied to the area where damage is occurring and several feet out from the damaged area; the entire yard does not have to be treated. All label instructions should be read and followed before and during the treatment.

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

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Keeping Pool Water Safe

Your backyard swimming pool may look refreshing, particularly on a sweltering hot day. But if it's not properly monitored, the water can harbor bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause what the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) call recreational water illnesses. Instances of these ailments, which include ear and eye infections and respiratory, intestinal and skin diseases, are dramatically on the rise according to the CDC; reported cases have more than tripled in the past 20 years.

If your home includes a backyard swimming pool, hot tub or wading pool, take the following steps to minimize outbreaks of infections:

- Be diligent about hygiene.
- Change diapered children well away from the pool and its surrounding deck, and make sure all swimmers take frequent bathroom breaks.
- Remind swimmers not swallow pool water and to shower with soap each time they enter or leave the pool.
- Don't allow pets in the water.
- Don't allow anyone who has an infection or illness to enter the pool area. And have a plan—and implement it immediately—if anything occurs that contaminates the water.

Be Aware. Check the water pH and chlorine levels regularly—or have it monitored regularly by a professional pool service—particularly during times of heavy use. The CDC website says the following signs can indicate whether or not pool water is safe:

- Water should be clear enough that you can see any painted stripes and the bottom of the pool.
- The sides of the pool should be smooth and not sticky or slippery.
- A well-chlorinated pool has little odor, while a strong chemical smell indicates a maintenance problem.
- Make sure the pool pumps and filtration systems are in good repair and operating as they should.

Be Informed. The chemicals used to sanitize pool water are themselves toxic if used, stored or applied improperly, so make sure you know how to handle them or have a professional pool service do it for you on a prescribed schedule.

Swimming pools are a great source of recreation, exercise and relaxation, and a little vigilance on your part can help ensure that you and your guests don't get sick.

Visit www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/protection/pool-user-tips-factsheet.html for more information about pool water safety.





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Social Media Safety

Social media has many benefits—it allows you to maintain connections with friends, make new contacts, build support networks, express yourself and share your interests. However, information should be shared with caution to protect yourself and your family. Here are seven top tips for social media safety:

1. Your personal information should be just that—personal. As hackers become more and more sophisticated, identity theft becomes a greater risk. And while it may be tempting to post pictures of your fabulous vacation, bear in mind that you're also letting others know you're away from home—making you vulnerable to a break in.

2. Use privacy and security settings to limit who can see what you share online. You wouldn't give details of your private life to complete strangers in person, so don't do it online either.

3. Remember that what you post online will stay online, so consider the long-term consequences. Could your social media presence prevent you from securing a job in the future? Would you want your coworkers to see this side of you?

4. Let your social network know your boundaries. For example, if you don't want images of yourself or your children posted online, let your friends and family members know.

5. Know what to do if someone is making you feel unsafe online. Some steps you can take include blocking the offender, reporting the person to the site administrator and removing him or her from your friends list.

6. Social media doesn't just spread information, it can also spread viruses and other risks to your computer. Defend your system by using the latest security software and web browser and installing updates regularly.

7. Protect your social media accounts by using password best practices. Long combinations of letters, numbers and symbols are the most secure, and separate passwords should be used for each account.

An advertisement for TexasDirectAuto.com. It features a small dog wearing a graduation cap and glasses, holding a sign with the Texas state flag. The text reads: "EASY AS 1-2-3!" and "SELL US YOUR CAR!®". At the bottom, it says "TEXASDIRECTAUTO.COM" with a small Texas flag icon to the left.

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Down the Drain



Washing your car may seem like a great way to beat the heat this summer while accomplishing something constructive on your to-do list. But you might want to think twice about the environmental impact before you park your car in the driveway and pull out your bucket, hose and old towels.

Even if you use a biodegradable cleaner, the soapy water that runs off your car when you hose it down not only contains detergent, but residue from automobile fluids like oil, gasoline and antifreeze. Each time you rinse your car, the contaminated water flows untreated directly into the stormwater system and eventually makes its way into streams and rivers. And, as the water runs out of your driveway and down the street toward the storm sewer, it also picks up other toxic

substances, like fertilizers, petroleum deposits and surface paint from the pavement. Parking your car on a grassy area while you wash it may help some, but the toxins will end up in the groundwater eventually.

As an alternative, consider using a commercial carwash facility. Whether a conveyor type, self-service, in-bay automatic or custom hand-wash business, these establishments are required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to capture and route their wastewater to a treatment facility before the water can be discharged into the sanitary sewer.

Toxic residues aren't the only reason to take your car to a commercial car wash. Rinsing your car at home with a garden hose can use as much as 10 to 15 gallons of water per minute, while professional car wash facilities can limit the water flow to as little as three to five gallons per minute. If you spend an hour in your driveway washing your car, you may have sent as much as 150 gallons of contaminated water directly down the drain. This is especially important in long summer dry spells.

So help the environment and save time this summer: leave car washing to the professionals.

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Pasta Salad

- 4 cups Elbow Macaroni
- 3 whole Roasted Red Peppers Chopped (more to taste, can also use Pimentos)
- 1/2 cups Black olives - chopped fine/ can use Calamari olives
- Add pepperoncinis sliced - to taste
- 6 whole Dill pickle slices -diced about 1/2 cup diced
- 3 whole Green onions sliced - white and dark green parts
- 1/2 cups Mayonnaise
- 1 Tablespoon Red Wine or Distilled Vinegar
- 3 teaspoon Sugar more or less to taste
- 1/4 Salt teaspoon
- Plenty of black pepper
- 1/4 cup Milk - more if needed
- Splash of Pickle juice - add more if needed/ can also add pepperoncinis juice also

Cook Macaroni in lightly salted water according to package directions. Drain and rinse under cold water to cool. Set aside.

Mix together mayo, vinegar, sugar, salt & pepper. Splash in enough milk (1/4 of milk) to make it pourable. Splash in pickle juice for extra flavor. Taste & adjust seasonings as needed. Set aside.

Place cooled Macaroni in a large bowl and pour 3/4 of the dressing. Toss and add more dressing if you if you like. (Dressing will seem a little thin, but it will thicken up as salad chills).

Stir in olives, Roasted red peppers(or Pimentos), pickles, and green onions. Add more of any ingredient if you'd like stuff going on. At the end, splash in a little more pickle juice and stir.

Chill for at least 2 hours before serving. Sprinkle with sliced green onion to serve.

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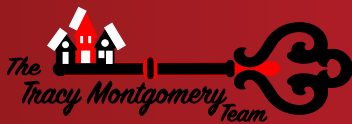
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Tracy Montgomery
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