

SENDERa

SENDERA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Oak Wilt Poses Serious Problem for Sendera

by Alison Carpenter

The HOA Board is reporting more cases of oak wilt in our neighborhood. With many new residents to Sendera, it's important that all of us stay well-informed and diligent about this threat, as one infestation can destroy everyone's trees. While there is no way to eradicate it, identifying the disease early can help prevent it from spreading. The following information is a reprint from last year's August issue about how to stay on top of the problem.

What causes oak wilt and how is it spread?

Oak wilt is a fungal disease that is transmitted by beetles. The beetles are attracted to open wounds on the tree, the result of pruning or weather damage. Once transmitted, the water system of the healthy tree is compromised, and oak wilt can be spread to other healthy trees via an interconnected root system.

What are the symptoms?

In this region of Central Texas, the trees primarily affected are live oaks and red oaks. On live oaks, leaves will turn yellow to brown starting at the veins. On red oaks, leaves will wilt and develop brown or bronze edges. Most live oaks will defoliate and die within 1-6 months of initial symptoms. Red oaks never survive and die within 3-4 weeks.

How to prevent the disease?

Use the following checklist when pruning your oaks:

- Paint fresh wounds immediately with wound dressing or latex paint.
- Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites or trees.
- Avoid pruning oaks unless outdoor temperatures are less than 50 degrees or more than 90 Fahrenheit, as the beetles that spread the disease are not active during extreme temperatures. An alternate rule of thumb is do not prune oaks during the spring (currently defined as February 1 through June 30).

- Immediately chip, burn or bury cuttings from diseased oaks.
- Do not store firewood near healthy oaks unless that wood is dried out or cured, or you are sure it is not diseased.

What do I do if my tree has oak wilt?

Call a certified arborist immediately to examine your trees. If you suspect a neighbor's tree has oak wilt, the best practice would be to tell your neighbor your suspicions, and then call an arborist to find out ways to protect your own trees.

The City of Austin participates in the Oak Wilt Suppression Project, a partnership of state agencies that aims to educate the public about oak wilt and provide cost-sharing and technical assistance to homeowners and neighborhoods. Visit <https://austintexas.gov/page/oak-wilt-suppression> to find out more.



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A Reminder on Fences, Roofs and Paint Colors

by Ron Urias

Hello Residents,

Many of us are using the summer break to make repairs to our homes and fences. The HOA Board would like to give a friendly reminder that fences in Sendera were originally constructed of cedar and therefore must be replaced with the same material. We will enforce this deed restriction if someone uses weatherized, "Yella," or pine to replace or repair a fence. If you are replacing the original fence, you do not have to send in a notice to the HOA unless you are switching to metal posts.

Roof colors in Sendera are also important, and any homes with RED roof shingles are in violation of our covenants. Please remember we have a color palette at senderahoa.org that addresses the acceptable colors allowed in our subdivision. If you're replacing with the original color then there is no need to contact the HOA.

Tom Franke and a group of residents have gone to great lengths to come up with a color palette for painting homes in Sendera. They chose the fold-out brochure from VALSPAR found at Lowe's. Those colors complement each other and are designed to bring out the best in a home's appearance. Thanks to the hard work of the committee, we've even contracted with Lowe's for a "Sendera" discount.

New Location, Better Playground for Sendera Place

The playground on Norman Trail has been successfully relocated and upgraded. Not far from the original site, this new site is now city-approved and in compliance with all of Austin's codes and regulations. Thanks to our HOA Board for facilitating this long process! Check NextDoor for a grand-opening celebration happening in August. The new site (left photo) has a canopy and ADA mulch, and the original site (right photo) will be returned to its natural state.





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Sendera Recreation Committee News

Submitted by Suzann Vera

Be informed about neighborhood events by joining NextDoor.com, the Sendera HOA Facebook page, or Sendera Moms Facebook page. Contact Suzann at suzannchili@sbcglobal.net or 512-291-0714 to volunteer for event planning. Any help is most appreciated! Whatever your schedule allows.

Movie Night at the Pool - August 6th

Jaws 2 will be shown at the pool on Saturday, July 9th from 8:00-10:00pm. The movie is free. Bring your own floats and chairs. If you would like to purchase snacks, there will be two food trucks for fun: a dessert truck and Kettle Corn.

The Sendera Fall Garage Sale will be held Friday & Saturday, September 23-24, from 8:00 am -1:00 pm. An ad will be placed in the Austin American-Statesman and on Craig's list. If you choose to participate on either/both day(s) have your items out by 8:00 am. All participants are encouraged to hang at least one sign.

National Night Out – Tuesday, October 6th

Burglary Prevention Tips

- Know your neighbors! (Minimum: both sides and the 3 across the street.)
- Keep brush trimmed/cut in view of front door.
- Alternate sounds and lights left on in house when not at home.
- Contact APD for a FREE home security survey.
- Install strike plates for bolted doors with 3-inch screws, a quality, heavy-duty dead bolt lock with 1 inch bolt, and quality, heavy-duty lock in knob set with dead latch mechanism.
- When replacing entrance doors consider solid core or metal doors.
- Keep garages closed.
- Keep parked cars locked.

Since getting to know your neighbors is one of the best things you can do to fight neighborhood crimes, consider organizing a block pot luck, walk, social, ice cream party, or other activity to meet and greet neighbors.



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In the Garden

by Pamela Kurburski

In May, we visited a heavy shade garden in Sendera Place. Because of the big trees all around, little direct sunlight makes it to the plants. To accommodate this restriction, the garden boasts lots of ferns, caladium, coleus and impatiens. Concern about exposure to mosquitoes drove us in early where we had a timely discussion about insect repellants. One member shared a recent article by Consumer Reports that rated various commercially available products. Repel Lemon Eucalyptus, Burt's Bees Herbal, EcoSmart Organic and California Baby Natural Bug Blend were top rated. Protect yourself every time you go out in the yard.

June's meeting was at the home of a member who has moved farther south along SH 45 in a newer subdivision. After tackling the front yard, she has moved on to making plans for the back yard that borders on a green belt. She says it's coming along but was not quite ready for a photo shoot. Then, to our delight, she gave us each a darling pot ornament, made of metal and glass and in the shape of a butterfly. There are times when nothing is blooming but we can always enjoy the whimsical, non-plant items in our garden.

In early July, I attended a meeting of the Maple Run Garden Club where they had a presentation by Colleen Dieter of Red Wheelbarrow, who stressed the importance of compost and mulch for both beds and turf areas to improve the health of the soil, thus naturally improving the health of what is planted. Colleen also provided a handout on plants she calls "Survivors" in that they perform well during droughts and extreme winters. She said she would be updating it soon to include those that do well during floods.

Even though it's hot, all that spring moisture has made fungal diseases like black spot and powdery mildew especially aggressive. Here's a surprising fungicide that you probably have in your refrigerator, MILK! Yes, cow's milk (whole milk, skim, it doesn't matter) is a natural fungicide. Spray every week. Because even plain water droplets can burn leaves in the heat of the day, it is best to spray early in the morning.

Sendera Garden Club meets on the third Thursday of each month. If you would like to join us, please call me at 512-940-8430 to find out when and where our next meeting will be held.



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