



## SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

By Stan Schoen | E-mail: [sschoen@worthamweb.org](mailto:sschoen@worthamweb.org) | August, 2016 | Website: [www.worthamweb.org](http://www.worthamweb.org)

There are pipes and ditches and digging all along Wortham Blvd at the park and lake in front of our neighborhood. What is going on?

There is a sidewalk going across the middle, from Wortham Grove entrance

A natural looking playground with small hills to climb on and slides built into the hill.

A new Pavilion

3 or 4 new picnic tables built next to the playground.

Boardwalk on the edge of lake with benches and walkway access

Dog Park with small dog and big dog divisions.

Move the Frisbee golf so it doesn't go over path or near playground, new baskets.

Plant lots of trees with sprinkler system

Additional benches, garbage cans, dog bag dispensers, etc.

Drainage – which is all the work and digging you have been seeing.

Our thanks go out to our M.U.D. #222 for their usual contributions to benefit our community. I can't express enough how fortunate we are to have such a wonderful board of our M.U.D. and all of their hard work to make our community truly one of a kind!

In addition we are going to have our very own Fire Station! It will be near the corner of Wortham Blvd and Wortham Center across from the HealthSouth Hospital and next to the office building.

National Night Out is an annual event which takes place the 1st Tuesday of October and for this year that is October 4. The purpose for this is several – it's a great time to meet your neighbors and that is first and foremost plus the opportunity to discuss safety. We have, in our recent history, had a big evening in the front of our neighborhood and decided to make a change this year to a more personal event. We are asking each block to have your own get together such as grilling hot dogs or burgers or whatever your imagination and likes are.

A review of the recent past:

The construction on FM1960 over 290 is starting up which is why those trees are being cut down on our side of the road. To learn and understand more you can go to [www.my290.com](http://www.my290.com) to get updates and see drawings of what it will look like. We are Project E. It will be a mess for quite some time and hopefully, we'll love it when it's all over and the traffic won't be quite as bad. When you get to the website

there is a lot of 'zooming' in and out to really see what's going on. It appears to me that the 'fly over' will start around the Sonic area and continue over 290 and the railroad tracks.

Caldwell (developer) is still working on the property in the front, directly across from Goode Company Barbeque. It appears there may be offices and restaurants and it is our understanding that they are still investigating their options. We will keep you posted as we learn more. This has been ongoing for several months now and they are a quality developer so I'm sure whatever is going in will be quality stuff.

Our neighborhood is in excellent shape! We are financially strong and still have not had to borrow money for any of our projects. Our swim team is going, well, White Shark strong! There is plenty of activity you can see by the pool and it brings so many of our families together and fine folks from other communities to see all we have to offer.

We have the pool, tennis courts, hike / bike trail, soon to be dog parks, pavilions, boardwalk, clubhouse – We are Wortham!

Welcome to Wortham, welcome to summer in Houston, Texas! Enjoy a wonderful, safe, FUN time with your family.

Thank you all for being such wonderful people, neighbors and friends. We are Wortham! Wortham, we're looking good!

Make it a great day! See you at my table.

## DO WE NEED TO BAG OUR GRASS CLIPPINGS?

*Help Reduce the Amount of Yard Waste Filling our Landfills*

Our Wortham neighborhood has about 700 homes with an average yard size of 8,500 square feet. Each home produces a minimum of 300 lbs. of grass clippings annually. This equates to 210,000 lbs. of grass clippings from our Wortham neighborhood alone. This volume of solid waste increases our garbage collection by at least 30% during April- September months.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### MANAGEMENT

Crest Management ..... 281-579-0761  
Heather Esteban (Manager) ... heather.esteban@crest-management.com  
Robin Motley (Accounting)..... Ext. 24  
Fax number ..... 281-579-7062

### BOARD MEMBERS

Stan Schoen ..... sschoen@worthamweb.org  
Jonathan Armstrong ..... jarmstong@worthamweb.org  
Steve Carter ..... scarter@worthamweb.org  
Rick Anderson ..... randerson@worthamweb.org  
Rebecca McShane ..... rmcshane@worthamweb.org

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Architectural Control  
Crest Management ..... 281-579-0761  
Clubhouse  
Lisa Teague ..... lcteague@sbcglobal.net, 281-894-5460  
Directory  
Mindy Armstrong ..... 281-970-2187  
Info. Signs  
Angie Haine ..... angiehaine@yahoo.com, 281-890-0186  
Neighborhood Watch Chair  
Betty Meinecke..... meinbetj@gmail.com, 281-890-4329  
Rebecca Skillern ... rebeccasvskillern@yahoo.com, 281-807-1720  
Park Committee  
Martin Mayne ..... martin@mayne.us, 281-955-2240  
Recreational Facilities Committee  
Rick Anderson ..... 281-890-4878  
Sports Fields Reservations  
Martin Mayne ..... martinmayne.park@mayne.us  
Social  
Rebecca McShane ..... 281-890-730  
Tennis Committee  
Dorota Jankovsky ..... 281-955-9626

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Life Threatening Emergency..... 911  
Fire ..... 911  
Sheriff's Department..... 911  
Poison Control..... 800-222-1222

### NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance ..... 713-466-4073  
Sheriff's Department..... 713-221-6000  
Harris County Health Dept..... 713-439-6000  
Animal Control ..... 281-999-3191  
Gas - Centerpoint..... 713-659-2111

### WATER & SEWER - MUD 222 (Municipal Operations)

Service & Billing..... 281-367-5511  
Street Lights ..... 713-207-2222  
Garbage & Recycling (Republic Waste) ..... 281-446-2030

*NOTE: If you have complaints about garbage service, after you call Republic Waste please notify Municipal Operations of your complaint.*

### U.S. POST OFFICE - FAIRBANKS STATION

7050 Brook Hollow West ..... 713-937-9108

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. Sales Office ..... 888-687-6444  
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(continued from Cover)

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension promotes a program "Don't Bag It" lawn care plan. 'Grasscycling' is a simple practice and the natural recycling of grass by leaving grass clippings on your lawn while mowing. Success depends on cutting a lawn frequently and producing small clippings that fall between standing grass blades.

Grasscycling depends on proper mowing techniques. Most lawnmowers in good working condition provide adequate cutting. Many standard lawnmowers feature a mulch setting, which cuts grass blades into small pieces. Small pieces decompose quickly and can filter through the grass canopy and down into the soil. Keeping the mower blades sharp, cuts grass cleanly. Mow regularly. (If mower doesn't have a safety flap covering the opening where bag fits, you may need to purchase a retrofit kit).

Rule of thumb: Do not remove more than 1/3 of grass blade height with each mowing. Mow grass when it's dry, as wet grass clings to mower blades and can cause grass to land in clumps. Also, damp conditions can encourage disease development. Mowing time is reduced when you leave the clippings because there's no bagging. And fewer bags add up to reduce the amount of yard waste filling our landfills.

Grass clippings are 75% water. Clippings quickly disappear through dehydration and decomposition, returning valuable moisture and nutrients to soil. Clippings are good organic matter containing 4% nitrogen, 1/2- 1% phosphorous, and 2- 3% potassium. These are the same valuable nutrients listed on purchased fertilizer bags. Leaving grass clippings that are mulched correctly can equate to free fertilizer and may provide up to 25% of your lawn's fertilizing needs.

Best time to water is early morning so there's less evaporation. Worse time to water is in evening when lawn stays wet all night. This encourages disease to develop. Lawns need about 1 inch of water every 5- 6 days during our warm growing seasons. Water deeply and less frequently to develop deeper, more extensive root systems. Deep roots help during drier weather. Shallow roots may make lawns more susceptible to stress and disease. Over watering can be wasteful and causes the lawn to grow faster requiring more mowing.

Grasscycling helps reduce adding fertilizers, helps with water usage and helps return nutrients back into the soil. However, grasscycling is not feasible in every situation. Long periods of wet weather or infrequent mowing are situations where grass clippings should be bagged due to an abundant volume. Look for biodegradable bags as some plastic bags are not environmentally friendly taking many years to decompose.

Whether cutting your own lawn, or using a lawn service company let's ask 'What are we doing with our grass clippings?' Think about how we use our time, money, and resources.

The information provided here is for educational purposes and provided from [www.agrilifeextension.tamu.edu](http://www.agrilifeextension.tamu.edu) and [www.Scotts.com](http://www.Scotts.com).

## Wortham Village

# 2016 Pool Hours

### AUGUST 2016: 1ST-21ST; 27TH AND 28TH

Monday - 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Tuesday-Thursday - 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Friday - 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.  
Saturday - 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Saturday (27th) - 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Sunday - 12:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Sunday (28th) - 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER 2016: 3RD, 4TH, AND 5TH

Saturday and Labor Day - 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Sunday - 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

## WORTHAM ARTICLES

Please submit your articles, neighborhood news items, birthday announcements by the 10th of the month to get in the next month's newsletter. Email: [dehoophr@icloud.com](mailto:dehoophr@icloud.com)



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# INCIDENT REPORT JUNE 2016

INCIDENT	OFFENSE TOTAL	INCIDENT	OFFENSE TOTAL
911 Hang Up.....	2	Information Call .....	1
Accident/FGSI .....	3	Meet the Citizen .....	5
Accident Major .....	4	Meet the Officer.....	1
Accident/Minor.....	6	MUD Building Check .....	30
Alarm Local.....	23	Neighborhood Check.....	15
Assault.....	1	Nuisance Abetment.....	1
Burglary/Habitat.....	2	Parking Lot Check .....	30
Burglary/Motor Vehicle.....	4	Prop Found/Lost .....	1
Check Business.....	16	Road Rage Inc.....	1
Check Park.....	17	Stranded MV .....	3
Child Cust Disp .....	1	Suicide .....	1
Contract Check.....	137	Susp Person .....	6
Credit Card Abuse.....	1	Telephone Harass .....	4
Criminal Mischief .....	3	Traffic Initiative.....	3
Disturbance/Family.....	2	Traffic Hazard .....	5
Disturbance/Loud Noise .....	3	Traffic Stop.....	25
Disturbance/Other .....	3	Vacation Watch .....	4
Domestic/Prevent.....	3	Vehicle Abandoned.....	1
Drug/OD/Poss.....	1	Vehicle Speeding .....	1
DWI .....	1	Vehicle Suspicious .....	5
Follow Up .....	2	Vehicle Stolen.....	1
Fraudulent Use ID .....	2	Welfare Check.....	2

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## Cinder's Block

Howdy, neighbors. I'm Cinder and I work for the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office. I'm a Wortham resident along with my 2-legger parental units, The Momager and my dad-chauffeur-best friend. What does a dog do at the Fire Marshal's Office? I work in the outreach program and, so far as I know, the HCFMO is the only fire/police agency with a canine dedicated solely to outreach. The HCFMO has another dog, Delta, who is an arson (accelerate detection) dog.

What am I? Well, obviously, I'm a dog but specifically a purebred yellow Labrador retriever. My full name is Fairview's Cinderfella YL. I hold AKC obedience titles of Canine Good Citizen, Advanced CGC and Companion Dog.

My job is to teach folks fire and life safety primarily. Some of your kids who go to the Cy Fair schools and local day cares may have told you about me. I also go to senior facilities to make sure they know about fire and life safety. I help my dad with some of the other outreach programs including "How K-9s Assist Humans in Everyday Life," "Use of an Accelerant Detection K-9," and "Who We Are." Dad also teaches forensics and health science classes at some of the

local high schools. We also do programs at the Children's Museum, the Scout Fair, various health fairs, SPCA Critter Camp, scout troops (think merit badges – my dad is an Eagle Scout), libraries, CFISD Club Rewind, community centers, YMCAs – lots of places. There is no charge for these programs – it's our job and we love it.

You can find me on Facebook at Cinder's Block where I regularly post my appearances for the week along with seasonal safety tips, funny things and information about some of the other jobs that dogs do. This is a "safe site" social media page for your kids, by the way. I'm very careful about what is posted.

If you are interested in a program for a group send me a "private message" on Facebook with your contact information and I'll have my dad contact you or you can go to [www.hcfmo.net](http://www.hcfmo.net), click on the "About Us" tab, then "Outreach Programs" The programs are described and there is an online form you can submit.

Did you know? We're getting our very own fire station in the near future! CyFair VFD will be erecting a fire station on Wortham Center Drive! I don't know the date of completion yet but if all goes well I'll let you know when as soon as I find out!



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# Wortham Villages

## Need to use the baseball or soccer field in the detention pond? Need the pavilion for a party?

Make a reservation so you can be sure it's available! The calendar is online at:  
<http://my.calendars.net/worthamvillages>

Once you check to see if the date is available, send me an email at:

[park@mayne.us](mailto:park@mayne.us) and I'll get you on the calendar too!



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# Wortham Villages



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<b>Name:</b>		<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>		<b>Phone Number:</b>	
<b>Date Leaving:</b>		<b>Date Returning:</b>	
_____ <input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M.		_____ <input type="checkbox"/> A.M. <input type="checkbox"/> P.M.	
<b>Lights on Timers:</b>		<b>Alarm System:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Vehicle Information: List any vehicles to be left in the driveway**

<b>Color:</b>	<b>Year:</b>	<b>Make/Model:</b>	<b>License Plate:</b>

<b>Comments/Instructions:</b>

**DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE, THIS SPACE IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY**

<b>Date and Time Received:</b>		<b>Date Removed:</b>	
<b>Date Posted:</b>		<b>Removed by:</b>	
<b>Posted by:</b>	<b>Beat:</b>	<b>Key Map:</b>	<b>Contract:</b>

Just fill out the form and return it to your nearest substation. For a list of substations, please visit our website: [www.sheriff.hctx.net](http://www.sheriff.hctx.net)

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# Wortham Villages

## WORTHAM VILLAGES BOARD MEETINGS

Wortham Villages Board meetings are open to all homeowner's. Monthly board meetings are generally held the third Wednesday of each month from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the offices of Crest Management (17171 Park Row, Suite 310, Houston, Texas 77084), but may be changed for various reasons, including due to scheduling conflicts. For an accurate notification of board meetings, dates and times please visit Crest Management's website [www.crest-management.com](http://www.crest-management.com), then click on communities, then scroll down to Wortham Villages and click on it. There is box for you to put your email address that will notify you when the board is going to meet. The board does meet on a regular basis, although do cancel occasionally if the board cannot obtain a quorum. If you are interested in attending a board meeting, we do ask that you contact Crest Management beforehand so time can be scheduled and set aside during the meeting to address your comments or request.

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## Fleas

Fleas are ectoparasites and females require a blood meal to produce eggs. After feeding on a host, females can produce about 30-50 eggs per day that fall off the host animal and into carpeting or other areas of the home or outside in areas where the animal frequents. Larvae feed on organic matter as well as partially digested blood excreted by the adult fleas. After fleas pupate, they hatch out of the cocoon in about 2 weeks, but pupae can remain dormant for up to 5 months waiting for a host.

Photo by Roger Meola.

A proper flea management program has two parts- managing fleas on any pets and managing fleas in the environment. A veterinarian should be consulted about flea control for pets; there are numerous products on the market that work well. Grooming the animal with a flea comb or bathing can help reduce flea numbers. When you find fleas on a pet, you most likely will need to treat the pet, inside the home and the yard. Treatment should be targeted to areas where the pet likes to hang out.

Fleas found in and around homes that do not have pets may be coming from wildlife. The attic and crawl spaces should be inspected to see if wildlife has moved into the area, bringing fleas with them. Wildlife should be removed with traps and the area treated with an insecticide labeled for fleas. After wildlife is removed, the area should be sealed so that wildlife cannot move in again.

Flea debris- hair and fecal material.

It is also possible for new homeowners with no pets to have fleas. This usually results from previous owners having pets. Fleas can remain dormant for several months and become active again when they sense vibrations from hosts.

Inside, vacuum regularly, getting under furniture and along baseboards to reduce flea eggs, larvae and pupae. Place the vacuum bag in a sealed plastic bag and throw away in an outdoor garbage can at least once a week so fleas do not hatch out and re-infest the home. Wash pet bedding in hot water. Bathe pets regularly and use a flea comb to remove fleas. Avoid walking pets in known flea infested areas.

Outside, pesticide treatments should target areas where pets frequent. Full sun areas do not need to be treated as fleas will not remain in these areas.

When treating for fleas, you need to treat at least two times. The second treatment should occur 10-14 days after the initial 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](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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## TENNIS TIPS

*By USPTA/PTR Master Professional - Owner, Manager and Director of Tennis  
Grey Rock Tennis Club, Austin, TX*



### How to execute The Forehand Service Return

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand, forehand volley, the two handed backhand volley, the serve, the forehand half-volley, the one-handed backhand volley and the overhead “smash”.

In this issue, I will offer you instructions on how to execute the second most important shot in the game of tennis: The Service Return, since it is the response to the first most important shot of the game: The Serve. In the illustrations, Jill Schmidt, player at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

**Step 1: The Ready Position:** When Jill is getting ready to return the serve, her eyes are focused on the tennis ball held by the opponent. Knees are relaxed and the hands are holding the racket with a relaxed grip.

**Step 2: The Back Swing:** Once Jill realizes that the ball has been directed to her forehand, she will turn her upper body and will take the racket back. Notice that the left hand is up in front to allow her to keep her center of gravity in the center. She has loaded her weight on her right foot and will be ready to step

forward to meet the ball

**Step 3: The Point of Contact:** Jill now is ready to step into the ball. She has kept her eye on the ball and her center of gravity now is shifted to the point of contact. Notice the left knee being slightly bent and the left foot is pointing to the ball meeting the racket

**Step 4: The Extension of the Point of Contact:** Jill is now directing the ball toward the opponent's court. Her eyes have now shifted toward her target and her body weight is now fully in front of her left foot. The left hand is still helping to keep the center of gravity in the center without opening up too early.

**Step 5: The Follow Through:** Once Jill has finished her stroke, the momentum of the racket continues to move almost to a point behind her neck. Her left hand is next to her body and her right elbow is pointing toward her target. Her body is now ready to take the “split step” with both feet in order to prepare for the opponent's returned shot.

Look for in the next Newsletter: The Two Handed Backhand Service Return





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