



Northlake Forest



October 2016

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LANDSCAPE NOTES

As was hoped last month, the flood erosion problem that occurred at the water fall area on Diamond Lake has been corrected. Sod was put in to facilitate regrowth in the construction area. Your Landscape committee is looking at the drainage problem off the back corner of the playground. Water run-off carries oils from the wood chips across the sidewalk. They are investigating a solution involving a basin drain at the corner with piping under the sidewalk connecting into the existing drainage system.

The pool plant plan was approved as a preliminary step towards improvement inside the pool fenced area. Dead bushes will be taken out and new color will be added. This first phase will now proceed since the pool season is over. There was some concern about the Crape Myrtles and the mess and work they create. The Landscape committee will look at the tree situation separately before next season (in next year's budget) and research if the existing Crape Myrtles should be replaced in favor of another species.

It has been noticed that individuals are planting trees, bushes, and flowering plants in the Association common areas. These areas are Association property and not open for individual enhancement. While it is assumed that there is no intention to extend private property but, rather, a wish to 'improve' the adjacent environment, it is still a violation. These plantings will continue to live and grow over the years, perhaps even beyond the current homeowner. As they do, maintenance and care will fall on the Association. Using trees as an example, if planted in the wrong spot, roots can become damaging to infrastructures. If planted too close together, proper canopy growth can be inhibited or roots will remain too shallow. Some tree species can become too large for their proximity to homes. Mowing becomes more difficult, trimming and thinning costs rise, mulching may become necessary, and some species are more prone to disease and insects. There are multiple reasons an Association

needs to manage its 'urban forest' and plants. As an Association, we already face two areas of overgrowth that need more attention. There are current maturing landscape areas needing rejuvenation and existing trees that are outgrowing developer placement. Irrigation is also always a concern.

Not wanting to be harsh, but anyone found to be planting in the Association common areas without board approval can assume you will be responsible for any cost of removal and restoration. If you have already planted in the common areas, please understand that those plantings became Association property and will be managed as needed. So, to possibly overstate the obvious, please refrain from planting in the Association common areas. If you feel there is an improvement needed, contact the Association through the web site or call me if you feel it is urgent.

Ken Amstutz, Board Liaison, 949-892-9948



NORTHLAKE FOREST

NLF COMMITTEES

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison Russell McPherson

LANDSCAPE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison Ken Amstutz

SAFETY/NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

Chair Kelly Moore
Board Liaison..... Russell McPherson

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison Fred Vasquez

POOL COMMITTEE

ChairTBD
Board LiaisonMaureen Cummings

NLF EVENTS / NEWSLETTER

ChairTBD
Board Liaison.....Rebecca Dessenberger

YARD OF THE MONTH

Chair Kelly Moore
Board Liaison..... Ken Amstutz

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All of our committees are seeking volunteers to help continue making our community a fun place to be. Just a little bit of your time can go a long way. If you are willing to help, in any way, please fill out a "Contact Us" form on the website.

NLF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Russell McPherson
Vice President Rebecca Dessenberger
Treasurer Ken Amstutz
Secretary Maureen Cummings
Director Fred Vasquez
PCM Michael Quast

If you notice a problem or have a concern about something within NLF, please complete the form on our website and bring it to the attention of the management company or Board member so that the issue can be addressed.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Planned Community Management, Inc. (PCMI)

Michael Quast

281-870-0585 Michael.Quast@STServices.com · www.pcmi-us.com
Northlake Forest HOA Website: www.northlakeforesthoa.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Mark Herman Constable, Precinct 4..... (281) 376-3472
Harris Cnty Sheriff's Office @ HWY 249 ..(281) 290-2100
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept @ Telge Rd.... (281) 550-6663
Harris Cnty Courthouse @ Cypresswood... (281) 376-2997

GOVERNMENT NUMBERS

Harris County Animal Control..... (281) 999-3191
Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services
..... (713) 439-6000
R. Jack Cagle - Community Assistance Dept.
..... (281) 353-8424
Social Security Administration 1- (800) 772-1213
Department of Public Safety @ West Rd.... (281) 517-1333
Department of Pubic Safety @ Grant Rd ... (281) 890-5440

POST OFFICE

USPS @ Spring Cypress..... (281) 373-9125
The UPS Store @ Spring Cypress (281) 304-6800
FedEx Office @ Barker Cypress..... (281) 256-8323

LIBRARY

Lone Star College CyFair Library
Circulation Desk (281) 290-3210
Northwest Branch Library
@ Regency Green Drive..... (281) 890-2665
Barbara Bush Library @ Cypress Creek (281) 376-4610

SCHOOLS

Administrative Offices (281) 897-4000
Farney Elementary (281) 373-2850
Goodson Middle School (281) 373-2350
Cy-Woods High School (281) 213-1800

UTILITIES

NW Harris County MUD #10..... (832) 467-1599
Best Trash (281) 313-2378
CenterPoint Energy Gas (713) 659-2111
Relient Energy Electricity 1-(855) 347-3232
..... www.powertochoose.com

NEWSLETTER INFO

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considered for publication*

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Snippets From Your HOA Board Meeting

The HOA meeting this month had many interesting topics discussed.

We discussed many issues to get the pool ready for the next pool season.

A new drinking water fountain was installed in the past month. The bathrooms are having new grab bars and sinks installed to replace the rusted ones that were there.

There will be some landscaping done to freshen the area up.

The wood in the covered patio area is rotting and needs replacing. That will be attended to during the wintertime.

Power washing will be done to make things look clean again before the pool reopens next year.

The tennis court now has 2 nice new benches inside the court for the tennis players to use.

DID YOU KNOW:

That we are not allowed to use the NLF water retention ponds as a wading pool, a swimming hole, a place to water ski, surf, boogie board, sail or kayak? Our ponds have a cement wall surrounding them which makes it extremely unsafe to get in or out. In addition

to that, think of all the yuk and bacteria in there!! THESE LAKES ARE WATER RETENTION PONDS, NOT RECREATIONAL WATER WAYS.

SIDE NOTE: Please plan on attending the NLF Annual Board Meeting on Dec 13 at 7pm. It is important for you to know how your HOA board is working for you and how your HOA fees are being put to use. This is also the one meeting a year when we have elections.

Before I joined the board this year I had always attended the annual meeting for the 10 years since we had moved into NLF. One thing always struck me as odd was the low number of residents who actually came and participated in their board meeting. I do hope you can make an effort to attend, it really will be worth your time.

To read more information about your board meetings please see the NLF website which gives detailed information.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EACH OF YOU AT ALL THE NLF HAPPENINGS.

Your Board Secretary, Maureen Cummings

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NORTHLAKE FOREST



Who is your Board?

This month we feature our Board President, Russell McPherson. He has been on the Board for 6 years and is self employed in medical sales for the past 12 years. He has lived in Northlake Forest for 15 years and for the past 17 years has been happily married to his gorgeous wife Lisa. They have 3 handsome boys and 2 beautiful granddaughters.

Russell joined the Board to get more involved in the neighborhood, in particular, learning and understanding how our HOA dues were spent and to make sure our property values increase. He has been

an inspirational asset and is very knowledgeable in the day to day running's of our subdivision. You will very often see him assisting with our community events, meeting with contractors and working closely with our management company.

He is a huge fan of Texas A&M Sports, Gig-Em Aggies! Russell loves playing golf and going to the river/lake/beach with his family to enjoy quality time together.

We truly appreciate all the countless hours Russell spends in running our community. Thank you Russell!!

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Vacation Watch Request Form

Great News! The Harris County Sheriff's Office has updated our Vacation Watch Request Form, allowing citizens to complete the necessary information, at their convenience, and just hit the submit button at the bottom of the page. The form will automatically route to the appropriate District and be provided to the officers that patrol that area / contract. All you need to do is go to our website at www.harriscountysoc.org, go to "Services" then "Public Programs" and tap on "Vacation Watch". Complete all the necessary information and hit submit. We'll take care of the rest. While on vacation, should any of our deputies discover something suspicious, we'll contact you with the numbers provided.

Fall Into Service

October 1 thru 31st. Visit JustServe.org, log-in (or register), look for ways to serve in the community and sign up to complete a project!



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Inspecting for bed bugs



Before the holiday travel season begins, it is wise to know what to look for when traveling so you do not bring home unwanted guests. Bed bugs are small, dark brown to reddish colored insects with no wings. Their bodies are oval and the color and size often depends on if the insect is engorged with blood. Immatures, or nymphs, resemble the adults but are smaller and lighter in color. Usually adults are about the size of a watermelon seed.

Most feeding occurs at night when bed bugs pierce skin while people sleep. The bugs inject a fluid while feeding that can cause some people (about 50%) to have an allergic response. The allergic response causes the skin to become irritated and itchy at the bite location.

After feeding (it takes about 12-15 minutes for a bed bug to become fully engorged), bed bugs crawl away into hidden areas- mattress seams, headboards, nightstands, behind baseboards as well as other locations. They prefer to hide in locations that are close to where they feed, but they will crawl several feet to get to a meal. Bed bugs hide in their chosen location for about 3 days while they digest the blood meal. Over time, congregation areas become marked with blood, fecal material, hatched eggs and cast skins of molted bugs.

When travelling, always inspect rooms thoroughly for bed bugs before moving luggage into the room. Luggage should be placed until the bathtub until the room has been inspected. Make sure to carry a small flashlight with for to help with inspection. When you return home, place clothing in the dryer (before washing) on high heat for about an hour.

Tips on inspection:

- Look in sleeping areas (bed, pull-out couches)
- Inspect linens as they are removed from the bed
- Check mattress and box spring seams, bottom of the box spring and near the mattress tag
- Inspect the dust ruffle
- If possible, lift the boxspring and inspect the bed frame
- If possible, pull out or remove the headboard to inspect behind it

- Check bedside tables and everything on them, including opening all drawers

If you find bed bugs, go to the front desk to inform them of what you found and request a different room. Do not get a room that is adjacent, above, below or across from the infested room (bed bugs can travel through wall voids to adjacent areas).

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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