



# POST

The Official Newsletter of the  
Plum Creek Homeowner Association

October 2016  
Volume 7, Issue 10



## Hootenanny on the Hill

Mark your calendars for October 8th when Plum Creek presents Hootenanny on the Hill from 11AM to 5PM. Join us for a day filled with fun for the whole family with races, music, games, and more.

Our festival begins in the wee hours with the Hootenanny Races - 10k/ 5K/3K/1K at 7am. Races will start and finish at the Dog Park!

Home Depot will be there with a craft for the kids and don't forget to bring your pumpkin masterpiece for our Pumpkin Decorating Contest which begins at 2pm!

We will also be hosting the annual BBQ Cook-Off at the Plum Creek Community Center. Teams will be collecting donations for samples with a portion of the proceeds going to the Hays County Food Bank. The BBQ competition is IBCA Sanctioned with categories for chicken, brisket, pork spare ribs, bean and a cook's choice. We still have a few spots open for judges for the cookoff if you would like to taste some outstanding BBQ please email Jennifer Balderrama at [recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com](mailto:recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com) to sign up.

For more information and updates check out our website at [www.hootenannyonthehill.com](http://www.hootenannyonthehill.com).

## Hays County Food Bank

Did you know that 20.2% of Kyle residents live below the poverty line? Donate to your neighbors in need at Hootenanny on the Hill, where Hays County Food Bank will be accepting nonperishable (labeled, sealed) food items, fresh produce, and monetary donations. Please visit <http://haysfoodbank.org/FoodDriveToolkit.pdf> for a list of what we need the most. Be sure to make your way by the BBQ booth as well - 50% of BBQ sample donations will benefit our annual Turkeys Tackling Hunger (holiday meal box) campaign!

## National Night Out 2016

Save the Date for this year's National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, October 4, from 6:00-8:30 pm. This is the major event for crime prevention efforts for the Plum Creek community in Kyle. People who communicate regularly with their neighbors will care more about each other and be more willing to keep an eye out and report suspicious behavior to the police department. There will be events at Decker, McNaughton, Haupt, and Kirby/Hellman greenspace Parks that evening. Each event will be hosted by Block Captains from nearby streets with visits from KPD, KFD, and EMS. So plan to leave your porch light on and head over with your family to the park of your choice that evening to show your support.

Block Captains are key persons in the Plum Creek Neighborhood Watch group. Officer Plant is our Kyle PD advisor and advises that block captains should encourage crime victims to contact the police. While a block captain does not have any law enforcement authority, he/she can facilitate unity, information distribution, and coordinate activities among residents on their street and is appreciated by the Kyle Police Department. Always remember to observe or report a crime or suspicious activity from a place of safety by calling 911 or 512-268-3232 (non-emergency).

The Kyle PD Animal Control Officer reminds all pet owners to register their pets with the City of Kyle. Kyle Police Officers now have an alert on their computer that tells them the name, breed, and color of each pet in a residence whenever they are called to respond to a home alarm, open door call, or any other emergency. If you want your pets to be added to this system, please mail or drop off the application with a copy of the pet's rabies certificate and a small fee. You will receive a registration tag to help law enforcement if the pet is missing or with rabies control.

The next Safety Committee National Night Out planning meeting will be August 18 at 6:30 pm at the Plum Creek Community Center. All interested residents are welcome to attend and bring your concerns and solutions for discussion. We look forward to seeing you.

Carol Peters & Denise Quinterri, co-chairs

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## Committee Contacts

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PLUM CREEK HOA WEBSITE: [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com)

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## Important Numbers

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### STREET LIGHTS, ROAD REPAIRS, STREET SIGNS

City of Kyle Public Works Dept ..... 512.262.3024

..... pw@cityofkyle.com

### ANIMAL CONTROL

City of Kyle Animal Control ..... 512.268.8800

### SOLID WASTE

TDS Customer Care Dept ..... 1.800.375.8375

### POWER OUTAGES

PEC ..... 1.888.883.3379

### SCHOOLS

Hays CISD ..... 512.268.2141

Negley Elementary ..... 512-268.8501

Barton Middle School ..... 512.268.1472

Hays High School ..... 512.268.2911

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## Newsletter Info

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Peel, Inc. ....  
..... [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com), 512-263-9181

Article Submission .....  
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## TIPS FOR A SAFE HALLOWEEN!

- Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.
  - Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
  - Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.
  - Examine treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating. Limit the amount of treats you eat.
  - Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you.
  - Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent skin and eye irritation.
  - Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.
  - Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.
  - Only walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.
  - Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
  - Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats unless you know the cook well.
  - Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Otherwise, stay outside.
  - Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.
- Expecting trick-or-treaters or party guests?
- Provide healthier treats for trick-or-treaters, such as individual packs of raisins, trail mix, or pretzels. For party guests, offer a variety of fruits, vegetables, and cheeses.
  - Use party games and trick-or-treat time as an opportunity for kids to get their daily dose of 60 minutes of physical activity.
  - Be sure walking areas and stairs are well-lit and free of obstacles that could result in falls.
  - Keep candle-lit jack-o'-lanterns and luminaries away from doorsteps, walkways, landings, and curtains. Place them on sturdy tables, keep them out of the reach of pets and small children, and never leave them unattended.
  - Remind drivers to watch out for trick-or-treaters and to drive safely.
- Follow these tips to help make the festivities fun and safe for everyone!  
From: [www.cdc.gov/family/halloween](http://www.cdc.gov/family/halloween)

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

## REACHING YOUR NEIGHBORS *and many others...*

- Avery Ranch
- Bee Cave
- Bella Vista
- Belterra
- Canyon Creek
- Cat Mountain Villas
- Circle C Ranch
- Courtyard
- Forest Creek
- Highland Park West Balcones
- Jester Estates
- Ladera
- Lakeway
- Legend Oaks II
- Long Canyon
- Meridian
- Northwest Austin Civic Association
- Paloma Lake
- Parkside at Mayfield Ranch
- Plum Creek
- River Place
- Rocky Creek
- Sendera
- Steiner Ranch
- Sweetwater
- Tarrytown
- Teravista
- Travis Country West
- Twin Creeks
- Villages of Western Oaks
- West Lake Hills

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## Street Addresses Needed In Alleys

*From Property Manager Adriane Carbajal*

Did you know that our alleys act as alternative routes for emergency services like police and ambulances?

However, many of our homes, especially in the older section, are not numbered in the alley. Over the years, house numbers have been painted on lot driveways, but sadly, the painted numbers wear away quickly and must be repainted every few years. However, mounted numbers offer a more sustainable and permanent solution.

Have you considered purchasing and placing your street numbers by your garage door for safety's sake?

In the newest sections of Plum Creek, residents are actually required to have their street number by their garage door, as indicated below:

From the Plum Creek Landscape Templates, Page 9 of 17  
Home Numbers - Alley Side of Home

On alley lots, in addition to the numbering system on the front of a home, the street number will be required on the face of the garage structure adjacent to the garage door. The numbers should be located 5' above the ground plane and should be 4" matte black metal letter form. It is preferred that the numbers be located just below a wall mounted sconce light to make the numbers visible at night.

However, the HOA wants to encourage everyone in Plum Creek to place their street address by their garage. These numbers help with violation notices and especially, emergency personnel locate your home with ease. So, if your home has an alley, please consider placing your address on the alley side, too.

Thank you for your assistance! If you have any questions, please contact me at [plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com](mailto:plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com)

## Plum Creek Irrigation Leaks

Plum Creek has many acres of common area property that needs to be watered regularly to keep it looking great. The irrigation system runs on battery or electrical powered zone controllers. The timers are used to set the irrigations systems to run automatically to reduce the manual labor involved of having a person activate each zone. At times, leaks occur or zones do not turn off as scheduled. There are many factors which irrigations systems to fail and cause unwanted run off. Here are a few reasons:

- The timers that run the zone are electrical or run on batteries. The timers fail to activate properly and need to be reset. Several causes are excessive heat, extreme cold, power outages, ground shifts, and age of the timer. Timers are replaced on an as needed basis.
- The valves in a zone controller can get stuck open. This is caused by soil intrusion into the controller valve or the age of the controller. These are replaced on an as needed basis.
- Changes in moisture levels in the soil cause the ground to shift and pull. This can cause an underground pvc line to break. We call these lateral line breaks. These are repaired when they are reported.
- A sprinkler head is broken off. Basically, it boils down to: being run over or water pressure unscrews the sprinkler head.

The irrigation company checks the sprinklers and zones monthly in phases. Since many hazards can happen to an irrigation system in a 30 day period like kids with sticks, runners, bicyclists, lawn mowers, golf carts, cars, it is hard to know exactly what is going on in each zone on a daily basis. We need help from owners and residents to keep us informed about irrigation leaks.

Report irrigation leaks to the Plum Creek HOA office at 512-262-1140 or to [plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com](mailto:plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com).



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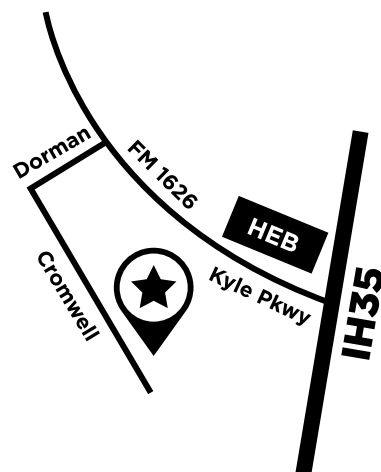
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# PLUM CREEK POST

## Lake/Park Committee

October 2016

**Lake improvements**-We have now installed 3 benches around the lake, and will soon be placing 2 more trash cans. We will also soon be treating the lake for excessive vegetation. We have approval for restocking the lake with grass carp this fall, and bluegill in the spring.

**Kirby Park improvements**-We will soon be installing a new bench, picnic table and trash can in Kirby Park. We have also gotten budget approval for a toddler playground early next year.

**Eagle Scout Projects**-We are working with Eagle Scouts to build and locate nesting boxes for owls, ducks and bats around the lake, and perhaps in some of the parks. Owls are very useful in controlling varmints such as field mice, and bats can be useful in reducing mosquito populations.

**Replacement of the playground structure in Decker Park**- We quickly replaced the structure when we realized that the old one had become hazardous. Though the new one is also wood, this one has a lifetime guarantee. (Reserve funds had already been set aside for this purpose a while back.)

**Greene/Kirby pocket park**- Residents around the pocket park have expressed interest in making improvements to that pocket park. The Lake/Park Committee is currently creating guidelines for such development. October meeting will be Tuesday October 25th at 1401 Kirby.

## Plum Creek Welcome Committee News

The Plum Creek Welcome Committee greets new neighbors moving into Plum Creek. We give every new resident a Plum Creek tote bag, which contains a Plum Creek HOA Welcome Packet, a Kyle Chamber of Commerce Guidebook, and a variety of items from local area businesses. Some of our volunteers also solicit local businesses for the promotional items to be included in the tote bags.

The Committee is currently working on three new initiatives:

- Beginning next year, we will be hosting a quarterly "meet-and-greet" for new residents.
- We have obtained a directory of area senior services, which we can provide for any elderly Plum Creek residents who may need them.
- We are also compiling a list of local contractors that we will make available to all Plum Creek residents.

The Plum Creek Welcome Committee will next meet Monday, October 17th at 6:30 PM at 1143 Sanders, (the home of Arcelia and Gary Gibbs). Any resident is welcome to attend.

## Looking to Buy, Sell or Invest in Real Estate? We Can Help!



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## At the Fence

### SIP AND SEW

October.....want to make a cute pumpkin....have an old wool skirt .....thread and needle. Come join Sip and Sew for a fun Fall evening.

Join our Sip and Sew group for ideas, assistance, encouragement and refreshments! Remember we have rug hooking, punch needle, knitting, crocheting, sewing, quilting, and needlepoint ....individuals willing to share their "love".

We meet the second Tuesday, October 11th, 6:30-8:45 PM at the Fergus/Haupt Community Center. For additional information please call, Iris Sandle – 512-405-0054 or Sandra Sigler – 512-405-0187.

Call Sandra if you are planning to attend the Make A Pumpkin so that we have enough supplies.

Come....Sip and Sew

### Remove Tree Stakes

Periodically check guy wires and stakes on newly planted trees to ensure the tree is well supported. Protect the tree trunk from guy wire damage with nibber hoses. Remove guy wires and stakes one to two growing seasons after the tree roots have become established. All tree and shrub species are susceptible to deer browsing. Trees may need to be caged with mesh wire until the canopy is taller than deer can reach.

### No Parking on Road Neck Downs

No parking is allowed if the road narrows, or creates a neck down affect. The neck down or narrowing of the road prohibits two cars from passing each other when a vehicle is parked in the neck down area. This is intentional to slow traffic throughout the community

There are locations marked with red brick in new sections of Plum Creek. There is no parking on the red brick. A vehicle parked in this area prohibits two cars from passing each other.

This concept can be applied to round-about. The road is only one car width wide. Vehicles parked in a round-about would prohibit passing of vehicles.

### CENTER STREET CATTLE BRANDS

The Center Street Bridge has a set of six cattle brands representations to pay tribute to Kyle's ranching heritage.

The Nance Family: Came to the area west of Kyle in the 1850's, establishing a cotton gin, various mills and meat packing plant. The late Robert Nance used this brand.

Hill Brothers Farm was one of the largest business enterprises in Kyle for over 60 years. The farm began in the early 1900's by Will & Ida Hill, second generation German immigrants.

The G.H. Moore brand dates back to the early 1900's.

Cecil Hughson was a Kyle area cattleman and family members continue to ranch west of IH35. Cecil's son "Tex" was a major league pitching star in the 1940s for the Boston Red Sox.

The Groos Family settled in Kyle in the early years. Johann Groos was in charge of surveying the right of way for the I&GN Railroad. This was the brand of Will Groos, who once ran the Kyle bank.

The Smith Family- Kirby Smith was one of the first African-American business owners in Kyle. Kirby owned and operated the Smith store in the early 1900s.



## Please Trim Those Trees!

Due to safety concerns, the HOA is evaluating street and yard trees that encroach on the sidewalk and streets. Since these trees belong to the homeowner, we want to provide residents with the opportunity to prune their own trees. The HOA requests that you prune your trees seven (7) feet above the sidewalk to prevent injury and fourteen (14) feet to prevent damage to emergency vehicles. Corner lots and round about lots need to clear limbs for sight distance of traffic signs and oncoming vehicular traffic at intersections.

City of Kyle and Hays CISD regularly drive through Plum Creek to inspect for drivability for large fire trucks and schools buses.

When raising your tree's canopy, follow proper pruning techniques, including cleaning tools between trees and wound spraying any cuts on all OAK trees to prevent Oak Wilt.

For information and diagrams about pruning visit:

[www.treesaregood.org](http://www.treesaregood.org)

<http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/PruneYoungTree.html>

[www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com)

For information about contacting local certified arborists or for questions or concerns about pruning, feel free to contact the Landscape Committee at [landscape@plumcreektxhoa.com](mailto:landscape@plumcreektxhoa.com)

So, get out there with your clippers and let's clear those sidewalks and streets!



## Greetings New Residents and welcome to Plum Creek!

Plum Creek is a great community. While you should have received a copy of the Plum Creek Declaration and Bylaws at closing, we thought the following basic information would be helpful.

- The Plum Creek HOA office is located at 4100 Everett Suite 150, near the Hays Performing Arts center and Plum Fit. The office number is 512-262-1140. The office hours are Monday – Friday 9 AM to 5 PM. The property manager is Adriane Carbajal: [plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com](mailto:plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com).
- Plum Creek HOA has a resident website: [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com). Request a resident login in to access pertinent documents in the Documents Library and other important information.
- The Welcome Committee delivers welcome bags to new owners. This comes the month after your closing date. If you have not received a welcome bag within two months after the closing, you can email [welcome@plumcreektxhoa.com](mailto:welcome@plumcreektxhoa.com).
- Parking in the back alley ways is prohibited. The alleys are for ingress and egress only. You can park in driveway or in your garage. The front streets have limited street parking and are usually public streets. Try not to block your neighbor's house.
- Garbage pickup is on Tuesdays. The trash and recycling cans need to be stored out of view by the following day to prevent getting a violation notice. The recycling schedule is located on the City of Kyle website under <http://www.cityofkyle.com/utilitybilling/city-kyle-solid-waste-collection-information>
- Xeriscaping is allowed in Plum Creek. To add xeriscaping you must submit an Architectural Review Committee Approval Application (ARC form) with an installation plan and the survey. This form is located in the Documents Library on the Plum Creek HOA resident website.
- Any permanent exterior improvements to the house may require approval from the Architectural Review Committee. Review information in the Architectural Changes menu link on the website: [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com).
- Whether you are a renter or buyer, your yard is important so you'll need to keep it maintained.
- Enjoy the pool! If you do not have a pool key or recreational ID or your pool key does not work, contact the Plum Creek HOA office.
- Annual coupons are issued to all residents who are not set up for the ACH draft. Owners will receive a payment statement which will provide a payment history for the new homeowner account. You can set up an automatic draft at [www.goodwintx.com](http://www.goodwintx.com) with the account number on the coupons. Call Goodwin Customer Service with questions about the ACH draft: 512-502-7515. Haven't received your welcome letter from Goodwin Management? Call the Plum Creek HOA office and verify that

we have received your correct mailing address.

- Sign-up for the Weekly eNews. This emailed weekly edition of news is generated from the Plum Creek website. This is an opt-in subscription located in your User Profile on the private resident menu of the Plum Creek website.

These are some of the basic and frequently asked questions. Want more reading? Log onto the Plum Creek website and review the Documents Library for copies of governing documents, Plum Creek Post newsletter, or check the Events Calendar to find dates of planned community events. Visit the website at [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com). Welcome to the neighborhood!

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- 1/4cup brown sugar
- 1tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1/4cup butter
- 2teaspoons vanilla
- 2cups Cinnamon Chex™ cereal
- 2cups Wheat Chex™ cereal
- 2cups Honey Nut Chex™ cereal
- 8oz pecans

-In small bowl, mix brown sugar and pumpkin pie spice; set aside. In small microwave-safe dish, microwave butter on High about 30 seconds or until melted. Stir in vanilla. In large microwaveable bowl, mix all cereals and pecans. Pour butter mixture over cereal mixture, stirring until evenly distributed. Add sugar and spice mixture and stir until coated.

-Microwave uncovered on High 5 minutes or until mixture begins to brown, stirring every minute. Spread on wax paper or a cookie sheet to cool. Store in airtight container.



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## 4 Spices with Surprising Health Benefits

When it comes to adding flavor to your favorite meals, there's more to seasoning than salt and pepper alone. There's a whole world of spices out there that can take your cooking game to the next level and offer some surprising health benefits along the way.

Spice up your meals with these top picks that are as healthy as they are versatile.

### 1) Oregano

Fun fact: One teaspoon of oregano has the same amount of antioxidants as three cups of spinach. This healthy herb also contains potassium, zinc, iron, protein, calcium, magnesium, and fiber.

Try it: Add a few pinches of oregano to a dish of melted butter. Brush it on fresh-baked dinner rolls for a flavorful finish.

### 2) Cinnamon

Sure, it's a tasty addition to all-things sugary and sweet, but did you know that cinnamon can help reduce blood sugar levels? Plus, it's been shown to help improve brain function, promote better heart health, and even protect against diabetes.

Try it: Top baked sweet potatoes with a dash of cinnamon and nutmeg. These two spices pair well together and their woody aromas make them top picks for holiday dishes.

### 3) Nutmeg

Speaking of nutmeg, did you know that this spice can help prevent cavities? It can also naturally detox the body, improve digestive health, and reduce inflammation and pain.

Try it: Sprinkle a pinch of nutmeg onto your morning bowl of oatmeal and pair it with your favorite fresh fruits.

### 4) Cumin

One tablespoon of this spice contains 20% of your daily iron, which plays a big role in carrying oxygen to all of your cells. It can also boost your brainpower and keep your immune system in tip-top shape.

Try it: Add a dash of cumin to your next batch of chili. It will add a hint of spice without turning up the heat.

*Donna Kelly-Konopka*

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on balances up to \$15,000 when qualifications are met  
Plus ATM fee refunds nationwide.\*\*

\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of May 19, 2016. A minimum deposit of \$50.00 to open account. Rate tiers are as follows: Reward Rates 2.50% APY applies to balances of \$0.01 - \$15,000 and 0.50% APY paid on balances over \$15,000 as long as qualifications are met each monthly qualification cycle. Base Rate 0.05% APY will be earned on all balances if qualifications are not met. All balances will earn 0.76% APY to 2.50% APY as long as qualifications are met. Rates may change after the account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings.

\*\*ATM fee refunds are awarded on next statement cycle after qualifications are met.

### FirstStar Rewards Savings

# 1.05%<sup>APY\*</sup>

on balances up to \$50,000 when qualifications are met

\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of May 19, 2016. A minimum of \$50.00 to open account. Rate tiers are as follows: Reward Rates 1.05% APY applies to balances of \$0.01 - \$50,000 and 0.50% APY will be paid on balances over \$50,000 as long as qualifications are met each monthly qualification cycle. Base Rate 0.05% APY will be earned on balances if qualifications are not met. All balances will earn 0.57% APY to 1.05% APY as long as qualifications are met each cycle. Rates may change after the account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings. Account available to Texas Residents only.

Kyle Banking Center  
800 West FM 150  
Kyle, TX 78640  
[www.firstlockhart.com](http://www.firstlockhart.com)

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# WHISKEY FOUR

## CUSTOM APPAREL



**We offer custom apparel of all kinds including one-offs for any occasion.**

**How does it work?** Lets say you have a design you would like for a one-off custom shirt. We take your idea and design it for you. Once you approve the design we make it available in our store for you to purchase.

**Who do we work with?** We work with individuals as well as partner with organizations and businesses. Some of our partners are CrossFit boxes. We relieve the box owners of the hassle of mass shirt orders by creating their very own

store within W4 Apparel. This allows their members to visit our site and order their shirts directly. We create custom designs at their request and even toss in a few of our own. We offer the same service for non-profits, businesses, and organizations of all kinds.

Visit us online and view our Partners to see who we are currently working with.

We would love to partner with you as well!

***whiskeyfourapparel@gmail.com* ★ 512.791.7453**

***whiskey4apparel.com***

