



## Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As of November 8th, our project is still tied up in permitting with the City of Houston. All our forms have been submitted and it's only a matter of waiting out the permitting process until construction can begin. The Board of Directors will approve the final contractor budget at the December meeting, so please be sure to attend.

The Board will also be finalizing the pool reconstruction contract and the security systems contract at that time. Several different vendors have been solicited to bid on the security systems to provide a safer and more secure park and building than we currently have.

Please make sure to look for your end of the year statement in the mail. This year, the POA has retained a third-party service to mail and collect payment on the annual invoices. This year, for the first time, payment can be made by check or credit card. Please make sure to read and follow the directions carefully as there will no longer be a way to drop off a check at the office.

I hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday season and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our December meeting.

Alec Luong, AIA

President – Briarhills Property Owners Association.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Emergency .....	911
Constable ( <i>Closest Law Enforcement</i> ).....	281-463-6666
Poison Help .....	1-800-222-1222
Library and Community Center.....	832-393-1880
City Services.....	Call 311
Citizens' Assistance.....	713-247-1888
Public Works.....	713-837-0600
Neighborhood Protection.....	713-525-2525
Animal Control.....	713-229-7300
Wild animal problem .....	713-861-9453
Hazardous waste.....	713-551-7355

### OTHER UTILITY SERVICES

Street light problem.....	713-207-2222
.....	(then 1 then 4)
Power out/emergency .....	713-207-2222
Gas leak suspected.....	713-659-2111
Before you dig.....	Call 811

### BRIARHILLS SERVICES

Trash collection .....	281-368-8397
Amenity tags .....	281-558-7422
Tennis courts.....	281-558-7422
Pool parties.....	281-558-7422
Clubhouse rental.....	281-558-7422

### ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Briar Hills Beat. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Briar Hills residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

### NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Article Submission.....	<a href="mailto:briarhills@sbcglobal.net">briarhills@sbcglobal.net</a>
Advertising.....	<a href="mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com">advertising@PEELinc.com</a>

## POA OFFICE INFO

### OFFICE HOURS 2016

Monday – 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Saturday – 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

And by appointment

*\*Beginning September 12, the BPOA physical office will not be open. It will re-open when the construction of the new clubhouse is completed sometime in early May 2017. However, the BPOA Office Manager will continue to maintain the above regular office hours during this time period, except on these days: November 24, December 24, and December 26.*

### OFFICE CONTACT

Street Address.....  
..... 14300 Briarhills Parkway, Houston, TX 77077

Mailing Address .....

..... P.O. Box 940548, Houston, TX 77094-7548

Telephone.....281-558-7422

Email .....

[briarhills@sbcglobal.net](mailto:briarhills@sbcglobal.net)

Website .....

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

Every resident is encouraged to register in the Briarhills POA website. This allows you to have access to various up-to-date information about the BPOA that is not available to the public. You will also be able to immediately receive, by email, important announcements. Your information will only be used for official BPOA communication and will not be shared.

### SWIMMING POOL

Closed for construction.

### TENNIS

A key is required to access the tennis court amenities. To obtain a tennis key, please check the Briarhills POA website.

### CLUBHOUSE

Closed for construction.

### POA MAINTENANCE FEES

Invoices for BPOA dues are mailed in early December. Please contact the POA office if you do not receive your invoice by December 15. Non-receipt of the invoice does not preclude payment of the dues.

## October 2016 Security Report Summary for HOA and POA

Alarm Local .....	2	Open Door/Window.....	1
Animal/Humane.....	1	Parking Lot Chk .....	1
Burglary/Hab.....	1	Solicitors.....	3
Burglary/Motveh.....	3	Special Assign.....	1
Check Park.....	42	Susp Person.....	7
Check School .....	1	Theft/Other .....	1
Chk Public Infra .....	1	Traf Initiative .....	5
Contract Check .....	442	Traffic Stop .....	5
Incident Report.....	8	Vacation Watch.....	66
Information Call.....	38	Veh Suspicious.....	7
Meet the Citizen.....	13	Warrant Service .....	1
Meet the Officer.....	1	Welfare Check.....	1
Neighborhood Chk.....	19	<b>Total Count for Period : 671</b>	

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# REBECQUE & NANCY'S BEAT

Now that the election is finally over about half of us are happy. Because I wrote this the day before the election, I do not know in which 50% category I fall. As your election judge hopefully I saw all of you at the polls.

Can you believe that the holidays are almost here? One of my favorite things to do is to go the Lights in the Woodland Heights along Highland Street and Bayland Avenue. Though you can drive through, it is more fun to park and walk the streets. Many of the homeowners offer cookies and some have entertainment in their front yards. At this event one year I saw some of the Nutcracker cast performing. This year Lights in Woodland Heights will be on December 10 from 6:30 pm to 9 pm. Every year I say that I am going to go to see the Zoo Lights in Hermann Park. There is a charge for this, but I understand that it is well worth it. While you are driving around, try out Inwood and Bellmeade in River Oaks. The homeowners there have several charming old fashioned settings where you can take your family Christmas pictures.

On December 10 at the Palmer Alley Gallery in City Centre you can see 20 unique themed ice sculptures plus more.

Once again Heritage Texas Properties at 14340 Memorial Drive will be decorated for the Holidays. Bring your children in all of their new holiday clothes from 5 pm to 7 pm on December 7 to have their free pictures taken with Santa. Heritage will be accepting unwrapped toys at that time that will be donated to Candlelighters, an organization that supports children with cancer and their families.

I decided that climbing a ladder to hang lights may be more of a challenge than when I was younger. This year I will have the motion laser light projection spotlights shining on my house.

We hope to see you at some of these fabulous events. Better yet, will you be one of our neighbors with your own enchanting decorations?



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## Timely Tips for December Gardeners

Working in your garden is an excellent escape during the holidays. It's a great time of year to do some of the heavy work in the landscape as opposed to sweating it up in the heat of the summer.

Don't put up the mower yet. Although turf grasses have stopped growing, you can use the mower to chop up and recycle the leaves back into the lawn or for a compost pile. Prepare gas-powered engines for winter. The owner's manual is the best guide to winterizing a lawn mower, tiller, garden tractor or other equipment.

Drain and store garden hoses and watering equipment in a readily accessible location. Lawns and other plants may need an occasional watering during prolonged dry spell.

In general, once the weather gets and stays cold, pruning of deciduous plants (ones that lose their leaves) can be safely done. Evergreen hedges can be sheared or cut back in the winter also. Wait until February to prune your roses. Remember – Do Not Top your Crapemyrtles! Simply prune to remove seed heads and shape.

Prepare for the cold weather before it hits! One of the best things you can do for your landscape plants is to provide a 2 to 3 inch layer of mulch. Mulching is necessary year round but during the colder periods it provides a layer of insulation for the roots. Water your landscape well before a cold spell. A drought stressed plant is more

susceptible to freeze damage. For more tender plants, purchase frost cloth for extra protection. Cover the plant completely allowing the edges to come all the way to the ground, utilizing the heat which radiates from the ground.

December is a perfect time to plant trees and shrubs so they can develop a strong root system for next Spring. Cool weather color such as Pansies, Snapdragons, Cyclamen, Flowering Cabbage and Kale add splashes of color to your landscape. Spring flowering bulbs can be planted now once they have been properly chilled. Make your home beautiful for the Holidays with a stunning assortment of floral quality Poinsettias, Cyclamen, freshest greenery and Christmas Trees. Add a mix of new indoor and tropical plants to energize your home.

Remember to provide food and water for the birds this winter. You can attract just as many birds with a bird bath as with food, especially during the dry spells. To draw a diversity of birds provide a variety of seeds, like sunflower, thistle, safflower and millet; plus suet. Once you begin putting out bird food, continue feeding them through the spring time.

Information is courtesy of Calloway's Nursery at [www.calloways.com](http://www.calloways.com).

# REACHING YOUR NEIGHBORS

*and many others...*

- Atascocita CIA
- Blackhorse Ranch
- Briar Hills
- Bridgeland
- Canyon Gate at Northpointe
- Cardiff Ranch
- Cypress Creek Lakes
- Cypress Mill
- Cypress Park
- Eagle Springs
- Fairfield
- Grand Lake Estates
- Lakeshore
- Lakes of Fairhaven
- Lakes of Rosehill
- Lakes on Eldridge
- Lakes on Eldridge North
- Laurel Creek
- Legends Ranch
- Meyerland
- Normandy Forest
- North Lake Forest
- Park Creek
- Park Lakes
- Riata Ranch
- Ricewood Village
- Shadow Creek Ranch
- Silverlake
- Steeplechase
- Sterling Lakes
- Stone Forest
- Summerwood
- Towne Lakes
- Village Creek
- Villages of Decker Oaks
- Villages of NorthPointe
- Walden on Lake Houston
- Willowbridge
- Willow Pointe
- Winchester Country
- Windermere Lakes
- Woodwind Lakes
- Wortham Villages

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# The Briar Beat is Looking for Submissions!

The Briar Beat would like to build community between neighbors by sharing in each other's celebrations and losses. Thus, please submit news of any birth, wedding, or death of a Briarhills resident, or a family member of a resident, to:  
[briarhills.briarbeat@gmail.com](mailto:briarhills.briarbeat@gmail.com)

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## SOLID WASTE COLLECTION - GENERAL INFORMATION

Trash and recycling collection service is provided by Waste Corporation of America (WCA) - [www.wcawaste.com](http://www.wcawaste.com).

### TRASH COLLECTION

**Type of Collection:** Refuse will be collected two (2) times per week on Monday and Thursday. Containers and bags shall be placed at their collection points by 6:30 am on the designated collection day. Refuse is defined as waste generated inside the house. Items must be either in light weight metal or plastic containers, or sturdy plastic trash bags (not "kitchen" bags). Containers and bags should not exceed fifty (50) pounds. All permanent trash containers, after being emptied, will be returned to their point of origin in the same condition in which they were taken, normal wear and tear expected.

**Yard and Tree Waste:** Placed at the curb on your designated collection days. Trees, shrubs, brush trimmings and fencing must be bundled in lengths no greater than four (4) feet with no branch diameter exceeding three (3) inches. The bundling is required to allow quick pickup and size limitations are required to avoid damaging the equipment in the crushing process.

**Heavy Trash and Waste Collection: Bulky Waste Items:** Furniture and appliances (stoves, refrigerators, washer, and dryers) will be picked up on Thursday. Exclusions: hazardous waste, carpet, and construction debris resulting from remodeling or demolition operations. By Federal Law, refrigerators and freezers, or any other items containing Freon must be drained of Freon and have an accompanying bill to validate such service was performed.

**Unacceptable Items:** For reasons of government restrictions, personnel and community safety, and protection of equipment, the following items cannot be collected: gasoline, motor oil and used oil filters, paint and other similar liquids, vehicle tires and batteries, and large pieces of metal such as car fenders or engines. Debris from construction and remodeling such as carpet, rocks, bricks, concrete, dirt, sand, gravel, roofing, lumber, fence boards, and large pieces of glass also cannot be collected. Potentially dangerous materials such as sharp objects, glass, metal, and the like should be properly identified and separated from other trash and/or double wrapped to avoid potential injury to the loader.

### RECYCLING

**Type of Collection:** Recyclables will be collected once per week on Friday. Designated recycling containers are provided by WCA. These containers may be obtained by contacting WCA or the Briarhills POA office. Recyclables shall be placed at their collection points by 6:30 am on the designated collection day.

**Acceptable Items:**

- Paper: newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, envelopes, office paper, construction paper, colored paper, folders, paper bags, phone books, holiday cards and greeting cards
- Cardboard: corrugated cardboard boxes, paperboard boxes (cereal, soda/beer, egg, shoe boxes)
- Containers: aluminum cans, tin cans, steel cans, empty aerosol

cans, aluminum foil, plastics #1-#5 & #7 (milk, soda, water, juice, shampoo, detergent, pool supplies, pet food), metal pots and pans, copper, scrap metal (nails, screws, gutters)

**Commonly Mistaken Unacceptable Material:** plastic bags, styrofoam, wrapping paper, used pizza boxes, coat hangers, paint and solvent containers, light bulbs, mirrors, windows, dishes and cups, pyrex pans, wet or soiled paper, paper towels, facial and toilet tissue, disposable plates and cups, milk and juice cartons (wax-board containers)

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** Collection of refuse shall not start before 6:30 am or continue after 7:00 pm on the same day.

**HOLIDAYS:** WCA may decide to observe any or all of the following holidays by suspension of collection service on the holiday. In the event the holiday falls on the pick-up day, refuse will be made on the next scheduled pick-up day.

- New Year's Day Labor Day
- Independence Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Memorial Day Christmas Day

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*Wishing You Happy Holidays!*

**Pecan Clusters**

7 oz. jar marshmallow cream	1/2 stick butter
3/4 pound chocolate Hershey kisses	2 cups pecans
6 oz. can evaporated milk	2-1/2 cups sugar

Place marshmallow cream and kisses into a large bowl. Set aside. Combine sugar, milk, and butter in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook for 8 minutes. Pour over marshmallow and chocolate, stirring until well blended. Stir in pecans. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto waxed paper. *Delicious!!!*

***We would love to work with you.***