

## **Information for New Residents**

First and foremost- welcome to the neighborhood! Moving into a new community is both exciting and stressful. As your professional community association management company, we are here to help. There are many useful tips on living in Parkside at Mayfield Ranch as well as links and number that you will need to set up your utilities below. If you have any questions that are not answered below, please contact the Southwest Management Services office and we will be happy to assist you.

#### How do I obtain a pool key?

Please login to the community website with your user name and password and complete the online request form -Pool Use Agreement. Here you will agree to the terms and conditions of using the amenities, purchase, and submit your request to the management office. All requests will be filled

within 48 and the card will be mailed to your home address on file with us. **How do I obtain a mailbox key?** 

Please take a copy of your closing papers or lease to the local post office box and they will issue a mailbox key.

#### How do I reserve the amenity center for a private event?

We make reservations easy for you! Please log in to the community website with your user name and password provided, and click on Activities-Reservation-Request a Reservation. There you can view dates available and submit your request. You will receive a response and further instructions from our office.

Who maintains the ponds at Parkside at Mayfield Ranch? The Parkside MUD maintains the ponds.

## THE BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Our community is more than just a neighborhood. In many ways, it's a lot like a business. Collectively, our regular annual assessments amount to tens of thousands of dollars that need to be budgeted carefully and spent wisely. And our neighbors who have volunteered and been elected to serve on the association's board are responsible for making critical decisions—on our behalf—about managing the community and our money.

Our board also develops long-range plans—like when the parking lot will need to be repaved and when the elevators will need to be replaced—about the parts of the community that are shared property. The board must set aside funds so that these kinds of projects can be accomplished on schedule or even ahead of schedule in the event there's an unexpected breakdown.

The board also sends out requests for bids and contracts with vendors to do the work necessary to maintain our shared amenities. Board members decide who will do the best job of replacing the roof at the best price or who will be the most reliable company to hire to mow the grass and remove dead tree limbs.

The board's decisions can have a significant impact on the community's appearance and, consequently, on our property values. Regardless of our professional manager, the board ultimately is responsible for overseeing association operations. Be sure to communicate with the board regularly, observe board meetings, and attend annual meetings to elect responsible board members and to participate in the conversations about significant community issues.



### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### ON THE WEB:

Parkside at Mayfield Ranch Official web site:

www.southwestmanagement.net/parksideatmayfieldranch/home.asp

Parkside at Mayfield Ranch Official Facebook page:

#### **COMMUNITY PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY:**

First Service Residential

PO Box 342585 Austin, TX 78734

Phone: (512) 266-6771 Fax: (512) 266-6791

www.fsresidential.com

#### **E-MAIL CONTACTS:**

Board of Directors: ..... board@fsresidential.com

(for feedback and requests to address the board at meetings)

General Info Amenity Center & Pool Info:.....

.....info@fsresidential.com

 $(\textit{for general questions about your Owners Association, Reservations $\not c$^* Pool Keys)}$ 

#### Lifestyle Director:

#### Community Manager:

Sophie Carrington.....sophie.carrington@fsresidential.com

#### Assistant Manager:

Lauren Dominguez .........lauren.dominguez@fsresidential.com

### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

#### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY	911
Fire	911
Ambulance	911
Williamson County Sheriff (Non Emergency)512-	943-1300

#### **SCHOOLS**

Leander ISD	512-434-5000
Parkside Elementary School	512-570-7100
Stiles Middle School	
Rouse High School	512-570-2000

#### **UTILITIES**

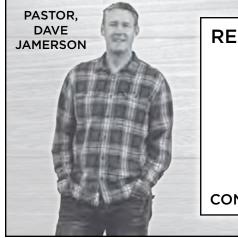
AT&T/Uverse (phone, internet, cable)	866-288-2020
Atmos Energy	888-460-3030
City of Georgetown	512-930-3640
Pedernales Electric Co	512-331-9929
Time Warner (phone, internet, cable)	512-576-3521
Wastewater (Parkside MUD)	512-930-3640

### OTHER NUMBERS Williamson County Phone

williamson County I none	
Williamson County Road Department	512-943-3330
Parks & Recreation Department	512-943-1920
Williamson County Regional Park	512-260-4283
Williamson County Animal Shelter	512-943-3322
Georgetown Post Office	512-868-9925
Georgetown Animal Control	512-930-3592
Round Rock Animal Control	512-218-5500
Travis County Animal Control	512-972-6060

#### **NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER**

Peel, Inc	512-263-9181
Article Submissions	Parkside@peel.com
Advertising	advertising@neelinc.com



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## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media has many benefits—it allows you to maintain connections with friends, make new contacts, build support networks, express yourself and share your interests. However, information should be shared with caution to protect yourself and your family. Here are seven top tips for social media safety:

- 1. Your personal information should be just that—personal. As hackers become more and more sophisticated, identity theft becomes a greater risk. And while it may be tempting to post pictures of your fabulous vacation, bear in mind that you're also letting others know you're away from home—making you vulnerable to a break in.
- 2. Use privacy and security settings to limit who can see what you share online. You wouldn't give details of your private life to complete strangers in person, so don't do it online either.
- 3. Remember that what you post online will stay online, so consider the long-term consequences. Could your social media presence prevent you from securing a job in the future? Would

you want your coworkers to see this side of you?

- 4. Let your social network know your boundaries. For example, if you don't want images of yourself or your children posted online, let your friends and family members know.
- 5. Know what to do if someone is making you feel unsafe online. Some steps you can take include blocking the offender, reporting the person to the site administrator and removing him or her from your friends list.
- 6. Social media doesn't just spread information, it can also spread viruses and other risks to your computer. Defend your system by using the latest security software and web browser and installing updates regularly.
- 7. Protect your social media accounts by using password best practices. Long combinations of letters, numbers and symbols are the most secure, and separate passwords should be used for each account.





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# **Conservation Begins at Home**

There are many small changes you can make to your outdoor—and indoor—surroundings to adopt environmentally conscious habits that could reduce your carbon footprint. Luckily, making careful choices can be easy with the right tools and information. Check out the following advice for taking a few small steps to a more sustainable living space. Remember to check the association's rules for guidelines and possible restrictions prior to beginning any projects.

Try composting. Compost is a natural way to enrich planting and gardening soil with nutrients from kitchen waste like apple cores, banana peels and coffee grounds mixed with plant matter like yard clippings and fallen leaves. The keys to successful compost are time, ventilation and heat. You can start with a medium-sized container and a lid that includes ventilation holes placed in direct sunlight, if possible. Remember to be mindful of where you place the compost on your property to decrease the likelihood of offensive odors seeping into your neighbor's living space.

**Grow your own herbs and garden veggies.** Even if you don't have an outdoor gardening space, you still can grow herbs and vegetables indoors in small containers. Herbs like oregano, rosemary and mint require little maintenance and can thrive if placed near a bright or sunny window. Vegetables like tomatoes and carrots also



can be grown indoors with the proper care. Check your local home improvement store for seed packets and guides for getting started. And, don't forget to use your compost to enrich that soil!

#### Consider using drip irrigation.

Drip irrigation uses a slow-drip watering method to hydrate your lawn and garden on an ongoing basis instead of running a sprinkler system or hose for several intermittent periods. Running drip irrigation often can be both a cost-efficient and environmentally responsible alternative to traditional watering methods, but be sure to consult a landscape professional to learn about which plants and foliage benefit most.

**Use solar-friendly outdoor lights.** Several products on the market now employ the use of small solar sensors or panels to help reduce the amount of electricity used for outdoor lighting accessories. Semi solar-powered lantern lights, walkway illuminators and attached light fixtures are available at many home improvement stores. Opt for energy efficient light bulbs to go with your solar-friendly outdoor lighting accessories whenever possible.





# home sweet home

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# **NIGHT DRIVING TIPS**

Driving at night can be tricky—especially through neighborhoods or dimly lit landscapes—so it's important to keep in mind a few basic guidelines to make sure you and your vehicle both are well-prepared for the trip. Consider the following suggestions to help get you to your destination safely.

**Ensure headlights are aimed properly.** If you think your headlights are casting light too far above or below your line of vision on the road, you may need to adjust their aim. You can do this either by following instructions in your vehicle owner's manual or seeking help from a vehicle maintenance professional.

**Dim dashboard lights.** Most vehicle makes and models come with a dimmer for the instrument panel. Make sure it's set to the lowest brightness to limit distraction. Also remember to turn off overhead or visor lights while driving, which also can limit visibility at night.

**Don't wear tinted glasses.** Yellow lenses sold to enhance nighttime driving could actually decrease visibility instead of amplify colors and objects. If you wear prescription lenses, opt for an anti-reflective coating, and clean them thoroughly and frequently to optimize effectiveness at night.

**Learn how to spot animals and objects.** While driving at night, be on the lookout for wildlife creatures' eyes, which can easily be spotted as pairs of glowing retinas. Any animals' eyes—like raccoons or deer—typically will reflect the light from your headlights long before their true shapes come into view.

**Don't focus on headlights in oncoming traffic.** Keep your eyes on the road in front of you and avoid looking into the headlights of oncoming traffic—especially if you notice a car using the highbeam headlight setting. If the headlights on the car behind you cause a glare in your rearview mirror, adjust the mirror.

**Clean your windshield.** Use a clean microfiber cloth or newspaper to clean the windshield—inside and out. Make sure the windshield is streak- and smudge-free before driving at night, and try to avoid wiping window condensation with your hands. Fingerprints and oils from your skin can cause streaks that limit visibility in the dark.

Know when to use your fog lights. Many vehicles come equipped with fog lights, which typically are located underneath the front headlights and are aimed low, where fog usually appears on the road. Fog lights also can be useful on a particularly dark road to further illuminate your path.

**Adjust your exterior mirrors.** Pointing your side-view mirrors down slightly can help reduce glare from other drivers' headlights and still allow you to see by tipping your head forward a few inches.

**Have your eyes checked.** Your eyes' ability to keep moving and scan the landscape rather than solely focus on one spot is imperative for successful nighttime driving. Visit your eye doctor for regular checkups to determine whether prescription lenses could help you see better at night.



# **Baking Soda**

Most of us already know that a teaspoon of baking soda in the batter will make the muffins rise, but who knew that a pinch of it mixed with scrambled eggs will make them fluffier or added to water will make steamed vegetables stay green?



Aside from cooking, however, everyone knows that an open box of baking soda in the fridge will absorb strong odors. But did you also know that baking soda in the bath water can relieve itchy skin caused by bug bites or poison ivy? And that pouring a cup of baking soda followed by a cup of hot vinegar down a stopped up drain will unclog it? Baking soda also can be used to polish tarnished silver, remove rust stains, extinguish a grease fire, and freshen toothbrushes and clean dishwashers and coffee makers. Add it to kitty litter and the laundry to help freshen and deodorize. Sprinkle baking soda on a wet sponge to scrub residue off a cast-iron skillet. Or use it on sidewalk and driveway cracks as a non-toxic weed killer. A dusting of it around pet food bowls will keep ants away too.

A couple of cautions about baking soda, though: Its magic powers fade with time, so check the expiration date on the box. Most important, don't mix it with other cleaning products. The chemical reaction could be toxic.

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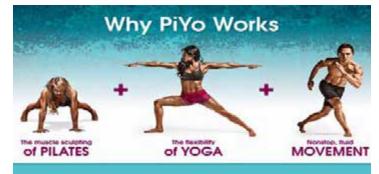
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Questions? Contact kimberly.pierron@gmail.com





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