

Meyerlander MONTHLY



Volume 5 | Issue 5

MEYERLAND.NET

MAY 2017



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MEYERLAND | 9607 Cedarhurst Drive
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Amy Hoechstetter MCIA General Manager
Catherine Martin, Randi Cahill Office Staff

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Central Time
Closed Saturday, Sunday, and holidays.

Telephone 713-729-2167

Fax 713-729-0048

General Email office@meyerland.net

Architectural Control randi@meyerland.net

Community Assistance catherine@meyerland.net

4999 West Bellfort St., Houston, TX 77035

Visit our website at www.meyerland.net

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Joyce Young

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Send comments to meyerlander@meyerland.net

Publisher - Peel Inc. www.peelinc.com

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Cover Credit

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner captivated the audience as the keynote speaker at the MCIA Annual Meeting in March.



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Amy Bernstein

713.932.1032

abernstein@BernsteinRealty.com



Leora Kahn

713.826.9109

lkahn@BernsteinRealty.com



Judy Levin

713.204.8807

jlevin@BernsteinRealty.com



Elise Niefeld

713.298.1623

eniefeld@BernsteinRealty.com



Laura Perlman

281.796.1798

lperlman@BernsteinRealty.com



Sondra Rosenthal

713.870.3790

srosenthal@BernsteinRealty.com



Mindy Tribolet

713.502.5915

mtribolet@BernsteinRealty.com



Lisa Yambra

713.870.8530

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2017 Annual Meeting in Review

By Shirley Hou

The 2017 Meyerland Annual Meeting was held at Lovett Elementary School on March 23 with an audience of over 250 residents in attendance. President and Section 8 West Director, Dr. Larry Rose, opened the meeting by reflecting on the accomplishments of the past year. He stated that the Association continues to work closely with homeowners and builders to rebuild many parts of the neighborhood that were impacted by the Memorial Day Flood of 2015 and Tax Day Flood of 2016. Dr. Rose also stated that the Board has expanded its communication with the City of Houston and Harris County Flood Control District to ensure that the neighborhood's needs are being met. Despite what some social media reports say, Dr. Rose concluded that "Meyerland is still a beautiful and desirable place to live." Attendees of the Annual Meeting also received a paper survey asking their opinion about whether or not Meyerland should allow garage sales. Residents can either complete the paper survey or complete an electronic version found at www.meyerland.net.

Chief Deputy Brian Harris of Precinct 5 and Executive Chief Troy Finner of the Houston Police Department and other officers from both organizations spoke of their continued commitment to protecting Meyerland. A complete list of resources from the Constable may be found at www.constablepct5.com. Gary Zika, Program Manager at the Harris County Flood Control District, gave an update on Project Brays. Steve Costello, City of Houston's "Flood Czar", spoke extensively about the City's efforts to reduce the risk of flooding in the future, such as addressing drainage problems with open and closed ditches. Mayor Pro-Tem Ellen Cohen gave an update on how District C Council funds were used to improve Meyerland. Her efforts resulted in \$54,000 appropriated to new playground equipment at Meyerland Park. In addition, \$65,000 went to youth programs, including programs at the Jewish Community Center. The electrical boxes at N. Braeswood and South Rice also received an artistic paint job.

The City of Houston's Mayor, Sylvester Turner, gave the much anticipated keynote address. He addressed a wide range of topics including Houston's pension reform proposal, flood projects, road and infrastructure projects, and ordinances to curb homelessness and panhandling. Mayor Turner asked that residents contact their Texas

House of Representatives and State Senators to support the Houston pension reform package. In his words, "It is not a perfect plan, but a very good plan" that will move our great city forward. His speech was followed by questions that were collected via email beforehand and presented to the evening's panel of speakers.

The evening concluded with the recognition of all current Board of Directors and the announcement of the new 2017-2018 Board of Directors. The Most Outstanding Director award went to Gerda Gomez, Section 7 Director. Special thanks went to longtime supporters Brena Moglovkin and Terry Cominsky of Martha Turner Sotheby's for sponsoring the refreshments and gift cards for the door prizes. The evening ended as usual with several lucky residents winning the raffle drawings for their attendance. The meeting adjourned and residents continued to mingle, enjoy refreshments, and talk with their elected officials and volunteer Directors.



Board Update

Here's what your MCIA Board of Directors has been working on:

- In January, the Board approved a Request for Proposal (RFP) so that MCIA can take bids from homeowner association companies to fill the General Manager position and perform other back-office operations.
- The Board approved a first-quarter budget for 2017
- Revisions to Section 8D Deed Restrictions will be presented to the Board in April. The changes to Section 8D make them more consistent with other Deed Restrictions that were recently passed in Meyerland.
- A revised Fee Policy was passed at the February meeting and the new fee schedule goes into effect on May 1.



Houston Bike to Work Day

By Joyce Young



May is Bike Month and on May 19, 2017, Houston will host its National Bike to Work Day. The celebratory bike ride takes place in and around Houston and will explore the City's famous off-street trail

network including Houston's first two-way separated bike lane known as the green mile.

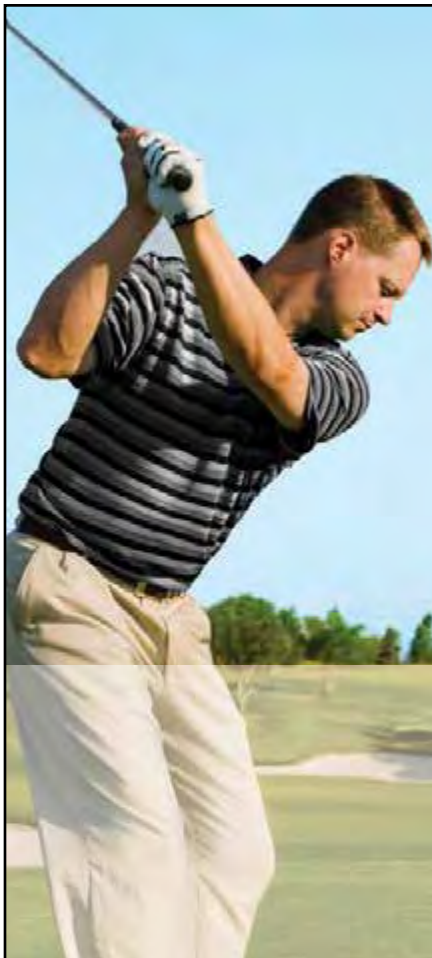
The festivities begin at 7 a.m. with registration, vendors' booths and safety tips. The rollout begins at 7:30 a.m. with the Houston police department and volunteer bicyclists leading the way. The post-ride celebration includes a free breakfast, music and giveaways. The festivities are open to everyone, but all riders must be registered.

For more information and to register, please see www.houstonbikeways.org.

This Issue Was Brought to You By...

The Meyerlander Monthly celebrated its fourth birthday in April. For the past 48 months, the MCIA Publications Committee has diligently investigated, written, edited and photographed news from around the Association and neighborhood. We are looking forward to covering even more interesting news this year!

Publications Committee members, from left: Gerda Gomez, Shirley Hou, Amy Hoechstetter, Joyce Young, and Gerald Radack. Marlene Rocher (not pictured)



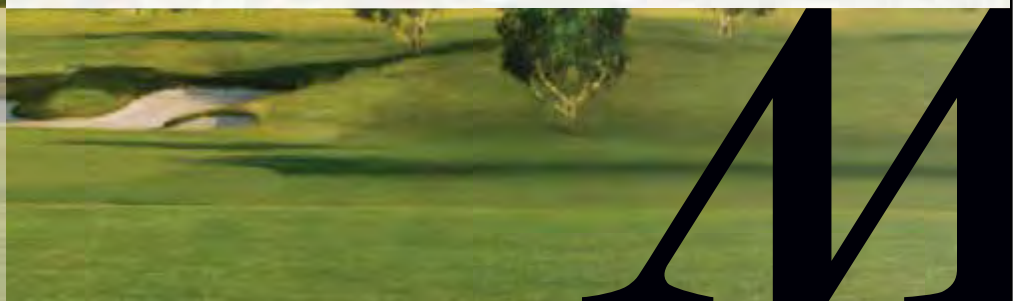
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May, 2017						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2 T/R	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Trash	10 Tree!	11	12	13
14	15	16 T/R	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Trash	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 T/R			

June, 2017						
Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Trash	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 T/R	14 Junk!	15	16	17
18	19	20 Trash	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 T/R	28	29	30	

MCIA Deed Restriction Rules: Weekly - Put garbage and recycling containers, as well as yard trimmings, etc., on the curb no earlier than 6:00 p.m. the evening before pickup. Remove containers no later than 10 p.m. on trash pickup day. Monthly - Put heavy junk/tree waste at the curb no earlier than Friday 6 p.m. before the 2nd Wednesday heavy junk/tree waste collection.



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Lovett Elementary Band Takes Top Honors

By Pauline Mathiesen



Ginny Croft, Lovett Band Director

On March 24, 2017, the Lovett Elementary band took the stage at Waltrip High School for the 2017 HISD Waltrip Concert Band Festival. The festival is an annual competition that takes place over four days and is open to elementary, middle and high school bands in Houston and the surrounding areas. This year Lovett was one of only six elementary schools to participate. Other Meyerland-area schools to compete included Parker Elementary, Meyerland MS, Pershing MS, Pin Oak MS, and Westbury HS.

In this festival format, schools do not compete against each other. They are judged independently based on criteria set forth by the University Interscholastic League (UIL). Criteria include tone (balance between and within sections, intonation), technique (accuracy in notes and rhythm, articulation), and musicianship (dynamics, tempo, musical understanding). There are three independent judges who give each band a rating of I through V, I being highest and representing a superior level of musical skill and technique. All bands are judged on the same criteria, regardless of level and age. This was Lovett's 26th year participating in the Festival under the direction of Lovett Band Director, Ginny Croft. And for the 26th year in a row, the band earned all level I ratings from all three judges, also known as the Sweepstakes Award.

For Mrs. Croft's band, preparation is the name of the game. "We have five keys to a #1 performance: stage presence, tone quality/intonation, balance & blend of parts, dynamics & rhythms, and correct notes. People don't always realize how much more there is to music than just playing the right notes. We start there, but we add in all of the other pieces that transform those notes into a song." Participants are all members of Lovett's Concert Band. They start working on contest pieces as a group in January and they are tested on all three contest pieces approximately one month prior to the competition. A student must pass at least one song test in order to participate in the Waltrip Festival. Therefore students who enter Concert Band in the Spring semester have the opportunity to go to Waltrip. "Stage presence is the biggest unknown with these kids. We talk about it, and we try to practice, but they don't know what it's like to be on the big stage in front of the judges until they're actually there," says Mrs. Croft. She tells them often, "It's not just you playing your part. You have to learn to blend together and find balance with the other instruments."

And all the preparation certainly paid off. "When we got to Waltrip and saw the scores posted from the morning's performances, the kids started to get a little nervous. They saw that of these middle and high schools – not one of them had gotten a perfect score from all of the judges yet. So they knew it might not be as easy as they thought." But after hearing them play, Mrs. Croft knew they had done well. "I realized how far we had come as a polished group, even just since our performance at HISD in November."

Students had gathered in Waltrip's courtyard to wait for the final results to be posted. It didn't take long for word to get out that they had scored all level I ratings and they were going home with the Sweepstakes Award trophy. Students celebrated as they realized that their hours of practice and persistence had paid off. Mrs. Croft brought the trophy back to Lovett where it will remain on display as a reminder of what can be accomplished with hard work and dedication.

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Kolter Students Open National Chinese Language Conference

By Shirley Hou

Kolter Elementary School participated in the tenth annual National Chinese Language Conference in Houston on April 6-8. The National Chinese Language Conference (NCLC) provides a platform for sharing new ideas and best practices in the fields of Chinese language teaching and learning, Chinese arts and culture, and U.S.–China educational exchange. Thirty selected students from the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade Chinese language magnet classes represented the school in a performance in front of over a thousand people during the opening ceremony at the Hilton Americas. Under the direction of Kolter's Chinese Language teachers Ms. Liling Yu and Ms. Wen Chen, they recited the children's poem, "Crescent Moon, Little Boat" and sang a poem written from the Tang dynasty. The event's speakers included Mayor of Houston, Sylvester Turner, HISD Superintendent, Richard Carranza, and other distinguished leaders representing the Asia Society.

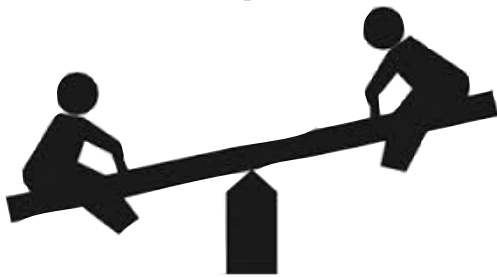


An advertisement for TexasDirectAuto.com. The background is bright yellow with radiating lines. In the center, the text "SELL US YOUR CAR!" is written in large, bold, black capital letters. Several dogs are positioned around the text: a light-colored dog at the top left, a small black dog at the top right, a small tan dog in the middle, two golden retriever puppies at the bottom left, and a brown and white dog at the bottom right. At the bottom, there is a blue banner with the TexasDirectAuto.com logo (a stylized 'T' with a star) and the website name "TEXASDIRECTAUTO.COM" in white capital letters.

Meyerland Park Upgrades

By Joyce Young

In March, the City of Houston through the efforts of Council member and Mayor Pro Tem, Ellen Cohen, approved approximately \$54,000 in funding for playground equipment upgrades for Meyerland Park. The park is located on 6.77 acres of land at 5151 Jason St. and is adjacent to Lovett Elementary School. The existing playground equipment will be demolished and new equipment will be installed. The new equipment includes, but is not limited to, double and curved slides, panels, square decks and poly roofs, ladders, arches, 4-seated seesaws, motorcycle and animal shaped spring riders. The new playground equipment will replace the deteriorated equipment and will continue to provide the community with a safe and



vibrant playground in which all Meyerland residents can enjoy. The park improvements will begin in the next few months.

Director Spotlight



Fred Wasden is the newly elected director representing Section 8 West. He has been a resident of Meyerland since 1992 and currently lives with his family at 5223 Valkeith. Previously he lived on Birdwood in Section 3. Fred and his wife, Kay, a pianist, have two children: Kate, a college freshman and Ben, an 8th grader. He has worked at Shell for nearly 28

years in a variety of technical and managerial positions.

Fred ran for a Board seat in order to bring his neighbors' concerns regarding security and infrastructure to the Board. Since last year, Fred has been and continues to be a committed member of the Ad Hoc Flood Committee where he applies his professional expertise in fluid mechanics and project management. He is excited about the opportunity to contribute to the Board's established committees and build on the strong practices and relationships in place.

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Mosquito Repellents

As mosquito season is ramping up, everyone is (hopefully) aware of possible disease transmission by mosquitoes. It is important that you protect yourself when spending time outside.

Activity times for mosquitoes can vary. Most people are familiar with the four D's- DRAIN (standing water), DEET (wear some repellent), DUSK & DAWN (stay indoors during dusk and dawn to avoid peak populations) and DRESS (wear long sleeves and long pants). While this is still good advice, it may be a good idea to spread the dress and repellent advice for anytime you spend time outdoors.

When outside, wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt in light colors to reduce the number of mosquitoes that can reach your skin. Repellent should only be applied to clothing and exposed skin. Do not apply repellent underneath clothing! If you want to apply repellent to your face, spray your hands with repellent and rub it onto your face. Do not spray repellent directly into your face or near eyes or mouth. Make sure to apply repellent outdoors. Do not allow children to handle repellents. Wash hands before eating, smoking or using the restroom.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends using a product registered with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) containing one of the following active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535 and some of the products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus.

DEET, also known N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide or N,N-dimethylbenzamide, was developed by the U.S. Army in 1946 to protect soldiers in insect-infested areas. Pesticides containing DEET have been used by the general public since 1957. Products containing DEET should not be used on children younger than 2 months of age (read the label and check with your pediatrician if you have questions). DEET has a slight odor and may have a greasy feel to some people. It may damage plastic, rubber, vinyl or synthetic fabrics. DEET may be irritating to the eyes and skin for some people. DEET comes in a wide variety of concentrations, so choose the one that will work best for your situation.

Picaridin was first made in the 1980's and resembles a natural compound called piperine (which is found in plants used to produce black pepper). Picaridin has been used in Europe and Australia for many years, but has only been in the U.S. since 2005. Picaridin is non-greasy and is odorless.

IR-3535, or 3-[N-Butyl-N- acetyl]-aminopropionic acid, ethyl ester, was developed in the mid- 1970's and became registered for use in the U.S. in 1999. It is registered as a biopesticide by the EPA because it is functionally identical to a naturally occurring substance (an amino-acid). It may dissolve or damage plastics and may be irritating to the eyes.

Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or PMD (para-menthane-3,8-diol) are essentially the same thing; PMD is the synthesized (lab created) version of oil of lemon eucalyptus. "Pure" or "essential" oil of lemon eucalyptus is not labeled as a repellent and has not undergone testing and should not be used as a repellent product. OLE/PMD has been on the market in the U.S. since 2002. OLE/PMD should not be used on children younger than 3 years of age. The natural product (OLE) has known allergens within it while the synthetic version (PMD) has less of a risk to allergens. This product is classified as a biopesticide. OLE/PMD has a varying range of residual, some offering about 20 minutes of protection while other products may last up to two hours.

Many factors play into how long a repellent will last for a person. Some of these are:

- The concentration (or percent of active ingredient) of the product. You can find the percentage on the product label.
- Person's attractiveness. Some people are more attractive to mosquitoes than others (and no scientific research has proven that it is because of eating garlic, taking vitamin B, using tobacco products, etc.). A person's genetic code plays a large part on what makes a person so attractive to mosquitoes.
- Frequency and uniformity of application. In other words, how often is the repellent applied and how good of coverage did you get?
- Activity level of the person. The more active the person is, the more sweat they produce which can cause the repellent to wash off the surface of the skin.

As a word of caution, there are products that combine sunscreen and insect repellent. The CDC recommends that if you need sunscreen and repellent, that you choose two separate products. Sunscreen should be applied more often than repellents.

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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SUMMER CAMPS

By Joyce Young

Summer is fast approaching and the school term is coming to a close. Listed below are several options to keep your child/children entertained and learning throughout the summer.

Beth Yeshurun Day School - 4525 Beechnut St.
www.byds.org

Kids Robotic Academy - 4007 Bellaire Blvd.
www.kidsroboticacademy.com

Salle Mauro Fencing Academy -
4007 Bellaire Blvd.
www.sallemauro.com

Coder Kids - Bellaire, TX
www.coderkidstx.com

Monart - 4007 Bellaire Blvd.
www.houstonmonart.com

Gerry and Greta's Art Camp Adventures,
10371 Stella Link
www.artcampadventures.com

Sew Nice and Easy - 5000 Locust St.
www.sewniceandeasy.net

Crossing Borders Preschool - 2353 Rice Blvd.
www.crossingborderspreschool.com

Digital Media Academy - 6100 Main St.
www.digitalmediaacademy.org

Gymnast Factory - 2520 Albans Road
www.gymnastfactory.com



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* The Meyerland CIA does not endorse any products, services, or goods mentioned in the newsletter.

Places to Swim Near Meyerland

By Shirley Hou

Summer is here, and that means swimming! While Meyerland doesn't have a community swimming pool, there are different options nearby from which to choose. Each pool has its own membership rules, hours, and fees. Call for specific information before going.

Maplewood South/North Community Pool

10425 Rampart Street
Houston, TX 77096
(713) 721-4185

Willow Pool

10500 1/2 Cliffwood
Houston, TX
(713) 723-7669

Westbury Swimming Pool

10605 Mullins Drive (@ Willowbend Blvd.)
Houston, TX 77096
(713) 723-2192

Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center

5601 S Braeswood Blvd.
Houston, TX 77096
(713) 729-3200

Evergreen Swimming Pool

4500 Evergreen Street
Bellaire, TX 77401
(713) 662-8284

Bellaire Town Square Family Aquatic Center

7001 5th Street
Bellaire, TX 77401
(713) 662-8280

Weekley Family YMCA

7101 Stella Link Blvd.
Houston, TX 77025
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and Architectural Interest.
Cindy Cook



Meyerland

Gorgeous 5/4.5 with Master Down
Gameroom and Huge Backyard
Jerry Rozen



Meyerland Area

Excellent Value and Versatile
Floorplan offers 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Linda Ricca



Meyerland

Massive 5/4.5 with Pool.
Mid-century on Cul-de-sac.
Bob Reader



Meyerland

Stunning Mid-century Modern 5/5
Fully Remediated, Sparkling Pool.
Cindy Cook \$679,000



Meyerland

Over 4,600 sqft 6/4.5
Approved for elevation grant.
Marie Caplan



Maplewood

Beautifully Updated 3/2 boasts
Expansive Backyard.
Julie Fischer \$395,000



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Design and Installation

- 30 years experience with native landscaping
- Degreed designers
- escorted nursery visits
- extensive maintenance knowledge
- we do woodcrafts, hardscapes & irrigation work

Quarterly Care

- our most popular service
- many service add-on options
- build your own plan
- outstanding results
- you control scheduling

Lawn Care & Monthly Maintenance

- 3 Lawn Care plans
- balanced billing plans
- online ordering
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- add-on service options
- Degreed managers
- extensive experience with turf issues and plant care

Other Services Offered:

Quarterly Turf Care

Turf Installation & Rejuvenation

Tree Works

Irrigation & Drainage



Our Mission is to put 5% back into the communities we serve:

Nature Discovery Center-Boy Scouts of America-West University Little League and Softball
Willow Meadows HOA-Westbury Little League-St.Thomas More Parish School-Parker Elemen
McNamara Elementary-West University Elementary-Bellaire High School-Kolter Elementary
Twain Elementary-Braeswood HOA-Keep Houston Beautiful-St.Thomas High-Lamar High
Westbury Baptist Church-Parker Elementary-Herod Elementary-Bellaire LaCrosse-YMCA

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SPECIAL

Turf Aeration &

Fertilization

Includes application
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Average size yard

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Why Aeration?

- * Stimulates root growth
- * Enhances water uptake
- * Reduces compaction
- * Improves oxygen content
- * Enhances nutrient absorption

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OR CALL US TO SEE
WHEN WE ARE IN YOUR AREA



Why Aeration?

Aeration is a process of penetrating a surface in order to create a permeated surface in order for air or rather, oxygen, to enter. Oxygen is critical for the ability of roots to uptake nutrients. Core aeration where plugs are actually removed, also allows creates areas where roots will have the ability to grow in when sod is trying to grow through our compacted gumbo soil.

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