



# HPWBANA

HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES  
AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

# THE HPWBANA NEWS

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

## LETTUCE RECYCLE!

*by Dena Houston*



### RECYCLING ON THE ROAD

On a recent road trip, it became very apparent to me that recycling collection bins are often non-existent. Many gas stations (where we clean the trash out of our car when we stop for gas) don't have recycling collection bins. In addition, there is no recycling collection at any of the State rest or picnic areas in Texas.

#### WHAT TO DO?

As we were having lunch at a rest stop near Abilene, I looked at our aluminum drink cans, looked at the trashcan, and had to make a decision - throw them away or hang on to them for the week we would be traveling. I knew these cans wouldn't be going into my landfill, but I just couldn't throw them into another community's garbage dump.

So, a decision was made. We set up a recycling collection bag in the car and a box in the cabin we rented. At the end of our trip, we brought a week's worth of recyclables back to Austin and put them into our single stream recycling bin.

#### CHANGES AT THE RECYCLING REUSE DROP-OFF CENTER

On a recent trip to the Recycling Reuse Drop-Off Center, I discovered that you have to deposit your hazardous materials at one drive through drop-off point, leave the Recycling, Reuse Center, re-enter, and take your electronics to another drive-through area.

This is a problem if you are there on a Saturday when there are many cars waiting in line to get into the facility.



### GOOD NEWS!

The Recycling Reuse Drop-Off Center has made a change in their procedure for Saturday. On Saturdays, you can now drop off hazardous materials AND small electronics in the hazardous waste drop-off location without having to leave and re-enter the center. You still have to leave and re-enter the center to drop off large electronics like TV's.

#### QUESTIONS FROM OUR READERS (AND THE ANSWERS):

**WILL THE CITY PICK UP BAMBOO WITH THE WEEKLY YARD TRIMMINGS COLLECTION?** Yes, providing it is cut into 5-foot lengths or less. The City prefers that bamboo be bundled with string because it is easier to handle. You can also cut it into smaller pieces and put it into the large yard waste bags available at Lowes, Home Depot, and other hardware stores. The City also requests that thorny plants, like rose bushes, be put into bags rather than cans. It is safer for the workers handling it.

Here is a very informative City of Austin recycling website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>.

Stay tuned for future tips that will include creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to: [recycling@hpwbana.org](mailto:recycling@hpwbana.org)

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APD REP. - Officer Darrell Grayson ..... 512-974-5242

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The HPWBANA Board meets on the first Monday of each month except December. Please go to [HPWBANA.org](http://HPWBANA.org) for our current meeting location or contact [president@HPWBANA.org](mailto:president@HPWBANA.org).

HWPBANA is bordered on the north by 2222, on the south by 35th St., on the west by Mt. Bonnell Rd., and on the east by MoPac and by Bull Creek Rd. between Hancock Dr. and 45th St. Mail your membership dues to HPWBANA, P.O. Box 26101, Austin, Texas 78755

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### TICK CONTROL IN THE YARD



This article covers what to do about ticks in your yard. I didn't want to make it too long, so I decided to just link to sources giving information on how to treat pets or yourself/ family.

Ticks are arachnids with two body regions, eight legs (except the first stage out of the egg has only six legs and is called a seed tick), and no antennae. Ticks come in a variety of sizes depending upon if they are nymphs or adult, male or female, engorged or not. Ticks require a blood meal before molting to the next stage of their development as well as adult females requiring a blood meal before laying eggs.

Since ticks can feed on multiple hosts during their lifetime, including humans and other animals, they are capable of transmitting disease organisms through their bite. For more information on diseases transmitted by ticks see this link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/diseases/index.html>

Ticks wait hosts by climbing up vertical surfaces such as vegetation, fences or shrubbery. When a host brushes past, ticks grab on and locate a suitable spot for feeding. To reduce ticks in your yard you

can try some or all of the following:

- Keep grass mowed
- Clear brush, weeds, or overgrown areas
- Discourage wildlife
- Remove debris from the yard
- Treat yard with insecticide making sure to go up surfaces as ticks will climb upwards to grab onto a passing host
- Treat pets

For information on how to deal with ticks on your pet(s) see this source: [https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on\\_pets.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_pets.html)

For how to avoid getting, properly inspecting for, or removing ticks from yourself or family members see this source:

[https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on\\_people.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_people.html)

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](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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# Wildland Fire Precautions

With warmer temperatures and drying vegetation, residents need to be reminded of the need for wildfire/brush fire safety awareness and preparedness.

Do not park vehicles on the dry grass. The heat from the vehicle's exhaust system can cause the grass to catch fire.

Remove combustible materials from around your home. Keep grass mowed short.

Pack critical medicines, important documents, and family heirlooms to be ready to leave at a moment's notice.

Agree on an evacuation plan that includes what to do if you get separated and where you'll go in case of evacuation.

### TEN SIMPLE STEPS TO PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM WILDLAND FIRE

Wildfire can strike home if you have not taken some steps to protect your house and property. The actions and precautions listed below are designed to help you prepare your home and lessen the threat of wildland fire damage to you and your property.

1. LPG/propane tanks should be far enough away from buildings for valves to be shut off in case of fire. Keep area around the tank clear of flammable vegetation.

2. Store gasoline in an approved safety can away from occupied buildings.

3. All combustibles such as firewood, wooden picnic tables, boats and stacked lumber should be kept away from structures.

4. Clear roof surfaces and gutters regularly to avoid build-up of flammable materials such as leaves and other debris.

5. Remove branches from trees to a height of 15 feet or more.

6. In rural areas, clear a fuel break of at least three times the fuel length around all structures.

7. Have fire tools handy such as: ladder long enough to reach your roof, shovel, rake and a bucket or two for water.

8. Place connected garden hoses at all sides of your home for emergency use.

9. Assure that you and your family know all emergency exits from your home.

10. Assure that you and your family know all emergency exits from your neighborhood. (Balcones Drive, 35th Street, Perry/45th Street, Hancock Drive, Mount Bonnell Drive and RM 2222)

Each family should be proactive to prepare for emergencies: Prepare a Basic Emergency Supply Kit; Make a Plan for Safety and Communicating with Family; Be Informed; and Get Involved in Preparing the Community.

A wealth of information to help you is available at:

<http://www.ready.gov/wildfires>

<http://txforestservation.tamu.edu/main/article.aspx?id=8512>



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# Shoal Creek Conservancy

You're invited to join Shoal Creek Conservancy for the first of a series of three Shoal Creek Trail: Vision to Action Plan community meetings. The Conservancy, a local nonprofit organization, is partnering with the community and the City of Austin to develop a plan to improve, connect and extend the Shoal Creek Trail. The first meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 21st at the Cirrus Logic Conference Center downtown, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Get involved, learn more, share your input, and enjoy cookies generously donated by Upper Crust Bakery at this first meeting.

Imagine hiking or biking on a continuous pathway from Lady Bird Lake to the Domain. The improved trail will encourage green, human-powered transportation, provide a setting for outdoor family activities, and inspire Austinites to discover Shoal Creek's hidden natural gems. When complete, it will span over 10 miles and link destinations such as Austin Community College, Pickle Research Center, the University of Texas, and Downtown Austin. The new trail will connect the Shoal Creek Trail to the Northern Walnut Creek Trail to the north and the Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail to the south. For more information on the Vision to Action Plan and meeting details, visit [shoalcreekconservancy.org/trailplan](http://shoalcreekconservancy.org/trailplan).

Shoal Creek Conservancy also regularly organizes volunteer service days along the creek. If you are interested in volunteering by yourself or with a group, please visit <https://www.shoalcreekconservancy.org/events> or contact [volunteer@shoalcreekconservancy.org](mailto:volunteer@shoalcreekconservancy.org) for other volunteer opportunities. Thank you in advance for your help making Shoal Creek cleaner, safer and more beautiful. To learn more about the Conservancy and support its work, visit [shoalcreekconservancy.org](http://shoalcreekconservancy.org).



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## Membership Survey

A survey is included with the membership renewal form so that neighbors can express the areas of emphasis for the Board. As reported at the June 5, 2017 HPWBANA Board Meeting, 120 memberships were received during April and May representing 216 members and 12 neighborhood businesses.

Ninety-three survey responses were received through June 1. The respondents were asked to rate which category was most important on a scale of 1-5 with 1 equaling the greatest interest. The results are:

	Neighborhood Preservation	Per Cent	Transportation & Safety (Constable Patrol)	Per Cent	Beautification	Per Cent	Events	Per Cent	Other	Per Cent
Number of Times Selected as 1	30	34%	41	46%	12	13%	3	3%	3	3%
Number of Times Selected as 2	27	33%	20	25%	27	33%	4	5%	3	4%
Number of Times Selected as 3	11	15%	14	20%	33	46%	10	14%	3	4%
Number of Times Selected as 4	8	13%	4	7%	6	10%	41	68%	1	2%
Number of Times Selected as 5	1	5%	2	10%	0	0%	5	25%	12	60%
Number of Times X is selected	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

*Please join HPWBANA for 2017 and express your area of emphasis for the Board.*

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