

THE *Current* Shadow Creek Ranch

AUGUST 2017
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Shadow Creek High School Band

Every other year, bands from across the state submit concert recordings to the Texas Music Educators Association as a part of the state Honor Band competition. The bands' recordings are judged against other groups at the Region, Area, and State levels throughout the summer. After placing first at the Region level of the 5A competition a couple of weeks ago, the Shadow Creek Wind Symphony competed at the Area level at the end of last week, and was advanced to the State level of the Honor Band competition! This is the first time that an Alvin ISD high school has been named a State Honor Band Finalist, and places the Shadow Creek Wind Symphony among the most outstanding bands in Texas.

That the Wind Symphony, in its first year, is competing against bands comprised mostly of juniors and seniors makes the accomplishment even more impressive. Reaching the State level of the TMEA Honor Band Competition is a huge accomplishment for the young Shadow Creek Band, Shadow Creek High School, Alvin ISD, and our community. We are extremely proud of the work of the students and staff of the Shadow Creek Band over the past year, and are very excited for the 2017-18 school year!

The Shadow Creek High School Band is directed by Josh Mooney, Diana Garcia, Fred Patrick, Lou Boldrighini, and Devin Greenlee.



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Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	281-245-3090
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Alvin Senior High	281-331-8151
Manvel High School	281-245-2235
Alvin ISD Administration	281-338-1130
Alvin ISD Transportation	281-331-0960

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Gas - Center Point	713-659-2111
Trash Removal - City of Pearland	281-652-1600

CITY

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Pearland Utility Billing - Water Dept.	281-652-1603
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Pearland Police Dept - Non-Emergency	281-652-1100
Pearland Public Works.....	281-652-1900

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Brazoria County Health Department	979-864-1484
Animal Control.....	281-756-2265
Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST	713-341-1000

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Peel, Inc.	1-888-687-6444
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Chinch Bugs: No Easy Fix

By Nathan Riggs



The heat and high temps of July and August aren't the only culprits that take a toll on your landscape and lawn. If your St. Augustine grass is looking sad and jaundiced, it may be under attack.

Summertime means a lot of different things to people — grillin', fun in the sun, barefoot

walks in the lawn and other outdoor activities.

Unfortunately, the hot temperatures in July and August also have a daunting impact on local lawns and landscapes by creating water stress. When St. Augustine lawns in full sun become water stressed in July and August, they fall victim to attack by the Southern Chinch Bug (*Blissus insularis*).

Chinch bugs suck the sap from the grass at the point where the blade emerges from the runner, or rhizome. As they feed on the sap, chinch bugs release saliva into the wound, causing the grass to turn yellow and die.

This yellowing usually begins at a central point and radiates in a circular pattern outward as the chinch bugs expand their feeding area. St. Augustine grass is a chinch bug's favorite meal, but Bermuda and Zoysia grasses may be attacked as well.

Here are a couple of ways to test for chinch bugs in the affected area.

- Drench method: flood an area on the edge of the sick grass with a soapy solution (2 tablespoons of liquid soap to 1 gallon water). If chinch bugs are present, they will emerge from the grass to get away from the soapy water.

- Flotation method: take a metal can with both ends removed and push one end into the ground at the border of the sick grass. Slowly fill with water and see if chinch bugs float up. Repeat for several different areas.

Once you've determined chinch bugs are present, you must target the infestation. To reduce chinch bug populations, treat a 15-foot radius around the damaged area with a liquid insecticide approved for turf grasses. It is NOT NECESSARY to treat the entire yard because a) non-target beneficial insects will be adversely impacted by the treatment, and b) chinch bugs won't be present in the entire yard.

After treatment, you must PATIENTLY rehab the affected turf areas. Do not overwater your grass in an effort to get it back to health because the root system is still recovering from the chinch bug onslaught. Instead, water thoroughly, but infrequently to encourage a deeper, more drought-tolerant root system.

Secondly, avoid over-fertilizing your grass. Too much nutrients in the soil will encourage weed growth as well as place stress on the damaged root system. Aerate the affected turf areas to allow nutrients, water and oxygen to reach the root zone and get those roots back on the road to recovery.

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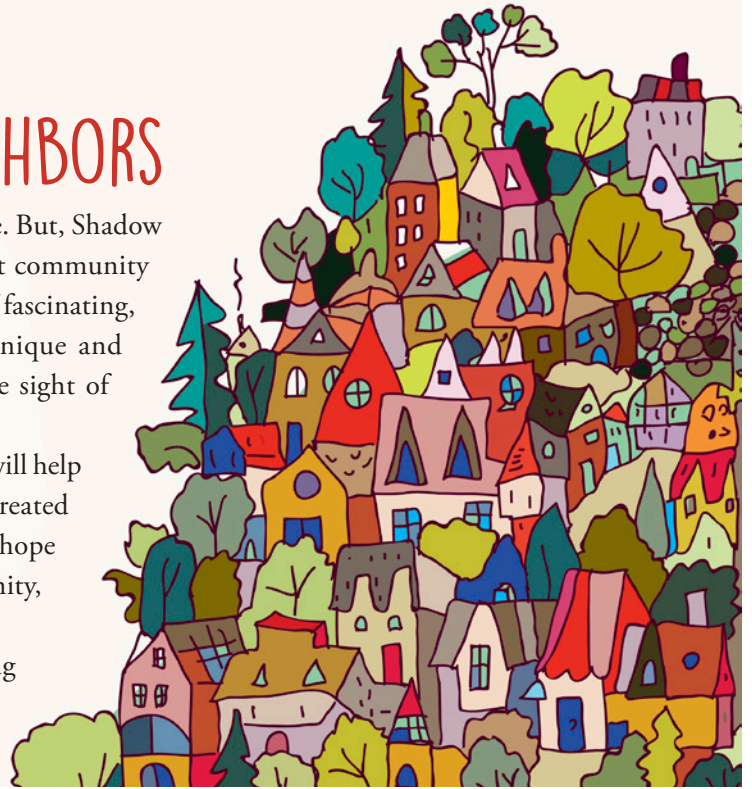
SHADOW CREEK RANCH

INTRODUCING GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

We are all very fortunate to call Shadow Creek Ranch home. But, Shadow Creek Ranch is more than just a place to live; it is a vibrant community brimming with family-friendly neighborhoods, chock-full of fascinating, talented people. Our variety is what makes us so both unique and extraordinary. However, sometimes, we get so busy, we lose sight of how interesting and diverse we've become.

We believe that getting to know the people who live nearby will help us create a sense of belonging and shared identity. We have created a column entitled, "Get to Know Your Neighbors" which we hope will strengthen connections, build trust in our wider community, and contribute to a happier neighborhood for everyone.

If you know of a person or a family that you believe is making Shadow Creek Ranch a better place to live, please let us know. We would like to introduce them to your neighbors.



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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

KidsRStrong2 Family Fun Day at Victory Camp

What: KidsRStrong2 is offering a free family fun day for children and youth who are currently, or have recently battled a life-threatening medical condition. Families and close friends are invited to attend, in an effort to strengthen the family bond, and allow the children and youth to enjoy a day filled with fun and joy, away from the confines of the hospital walls. Activities offered include: zip line, bumper boats, swimming, water slides, go carts, and more. Breakfast and lunch provided.

Where: Victory Camp
1407 Victory Ln.
Alvin, TX 77511

When: Saturday, August 5, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Price: Free

Event Details and Registration Info: www.kidsrstrong2.org/ffd

Venue Details: www.victorycamp.com

Info: Must RSVP in advance to be a guest of honor, or to volunteer at www.kidsrstrong2.org/ffd.



At the Alvin ISD June 13 Board Meeting, the Alvin ISD Education Foundation provided an update and presented a check totaling \$199,714, which represented their annual contributions to the students and staff of Alvin ISD for the 2016-17 school year.

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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

DARK CHOCOLATE COCONUT OATMEAL COOKIES



Ingredients

1 cup butter, melted	1 tsp baking soda
1 cup brown sugar, packed	1 1/2 tsp cinnamon
1/2 cup sugar	1 cup shredded coconut
2 eggs	1 1/2 cups extra dark chocolate chips (or just dark)
2 tsp vanilla	2 1/2 cups old fashioned oats
2 cup flour	
1 tsp salt	

Directions

Preheat oven to 350. Line baking sheets with parchment paper and set aside.

Melt butter and let cool for several minutes (to room temp)

In a stand mixer, beat sugar and butter for several minutes until creamy.

Mix in eggs and vanilla and beat for another minute.

In a separate bowl combine flour, salt, soda, cinnamon, and coconut.

Slow mix dry ingredients into wet ingredients and beat until combined.

Stir in extra dark chocolate chips and oats.

Place one inch balls of dough on cookie sheets lined with parchment paper and bake for 10-12 minutes. Let cool for several minutes then move cookies to cooling rack.

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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

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