



USING WATER WISELY – NOT JUST FOR ADULTS

North Harris County Regional Water Authority (NHCRWA)

Everyone can use water wisely kids included! All living things need water to survive. Sadly, we have taken our water supplies for granted and have not always been careful about how we used this valuable natural resource. Our drinking water is going to cost more in the future, so it is important that we learn to use it wisely.

A huge amount of water is used outside the home...for lawns and gardens. Kids may not design and plant these areas but they are often responsible for helping to maintain them. Here are some water sparing tips.

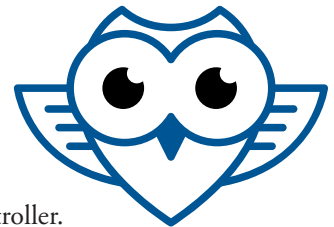
- Adjust the lawn mower to a higher setting. Longer blades of grass will shade the ground and this helps hold moisture longer.
- Water only when necessary. Providing a deep soaking less frequently will help build good roots for better drought resistance.
- Water the yard, not the sidewalk or concrete. If there's a sprinkler system, tell your parents if any of the heads are not functioning.
- Tell your parents if you notice any leaking faucets around

the house, inside and out! Leaks can waste hundreds of gallons of water!

- In every case, only use the amount of water you actually need. Make a commitment to conserve – look for new ways to use water wisely in and around your home,
- Before you reach for the faucet, ask yourself, "Is it worth the water?"

Top 6 Water-Saving Tips for Your Yard

1. Don't water too much!
2. Use native plants!
3. Water deeply, water less!
4. Minimize thirsty turf areas!
5. Use a rain sensor or smart controller.
6. Zone irrigation to match water needs!



STOP STORMWATER POLLUTION!

North Harris County Regional Water Authority

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) warns that **Stormwater Runoff Pollution** may well be the biggest single threat to the quality of our drinking water.

Rainwater either seeps into the ground or "runs off" to lower areas and bodies of water. On its way, runoff water picks up and carries potential pollutants like pesticides, fertilizers, motor oils, **pet waste**, and soap suds – which can be harmful even in small quantities. This runoff rushes on – **untreated** – to creeks, rivers, water reservoirs and lakes where it can harm fish and wildlife, kill native vegetation and negatively impact or contaminate sources of drinking water. **Think of it this way: If it is on the ground, it could end up in your drinking water!**

Use common sense to minimize the risk that your activities will

endanger the environment. If you wash your car, use soap sparingly, pour the bucket of soapy water into the sink, **not the storm drain**; and consider washing the car while it is parked on a grassy area, not the driveway, or have it washed commercially where water is recycled.

Thanks to aggressive public information campaigns, pet owners are getting the message that if their dog makes a "deposit" in a public place, the owner must "scoop the poop" and place in the trash or in an appropriate receptacle usually found in parks.

From your HOA – **How did you dispose of your fireworks debris?** Remember, it is illegal to intentionally dispose of trash, grass clippings, kitty litter, grease (and the list goes on) in the **stormwater drain**.

Willowbridge - Stonebridge

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

All Emergencies.....	911
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Street Lights & Outages - CenterPoint Energy	713-207-2222
CenterPoint Energy.....	713-659-2111
Newsletter Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	www.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Advertising.....	advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
AT&T - Repair	800-246-8464
Billing	800-585-7928
Best Trash.....	281-313-2378
Vacation Watch - Harris County District 5	281-290-2100
W. Harris County MUD #11	281-807-9500
Willow Place Post Office	281-890-2392
Willowbridge Website	www.willowbridgehoa.com

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

Beautification Committee	
Jennifer Y'Barbo	jhybarbo@gmail.com
Homeowners Association	713-334-8000
Graham Mgmt - Mandi Moody	
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Clubhouse Reservations	
Amy Conley.....	713-334-8000
Pool Parties	
Amy Conley.....	713-334-8000
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Barbara Lallinger.....	blallinger@hotmail.com
Newsletter Coordinator	
Barbara Lallinger & Krystina Cotton	
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Soccer Field Coordinator	
Jay Guarino	jvguarino@hotmail.com
Website Coordinator	
.....	willowbridgehoa@live.com
Yard of the Month Committee	
Nominate your favorite at: willowbridgehoa.com or Contact	
Jennifer Y'Barbo	jhybarbo@gmail.com
Lost Pet Coordinator	
Sonia Moore	msrco@aol.com, 281-955-8068
Welcoming Committee	
Gracie Galvan	281-732-0009
.....	galvangracie@hotmail.com
Tennis Coordinator	
Cory Fein.....	coryfein@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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HOA INFORMATION

Willowbridge Homeowners Association Inc. - Graham Mgmt
Mandi Moody..... 713-334-8000
E-Mail grahammanagement@sbcglobal.net
Fax 713-334-5055
2825 Wilcrest Dr., #600 Houston, Tx. 77042
*If you have any questions or comments regarding the neighborhood
please contact the numbers above.*

HOA MEETINGS

Willowbridge/Stonebridge Homeowner's Association
Meetings 4th Thursday of each quarter (January, April, July
& October) at 6:00 pm at the clubhouse.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Committee meetings are the last Monday
of each month.

HARRIS COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE

To report street or curb damage, missing/damaged street
signs and street flooding: (281) 353-8424 or www.hcp4.net.
If a resident wants to request a new sign or replace a
damaged one, they have to go online and fill out a request.

STREET LIGHT OUT?

If you notice a street light out PLEASE report it to CenterPoint
Energy. We pay for all of the street lights in our subdivision...
every month...regardless if they are illuminated or not!! This is
also a serious safety issue. To report an outage, follow these steps:
By Phone: During normal business hours (7 am – 7 pm)
• Call (713) 207-2222
• Give the Customer Service Representative the 6 digit pole
number (located approximately 6 feet up the pole), the street
name and closest address.
• Online (anytime): centerpointenergy.com

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Newsletter Article submission Deadline is 3rd of each
month. Please give a 2 month advance notice.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE (NHCRWA)

EVERY YEAR:

- We generate around 14 MILLION TONS of food waste which translates to about 106 pounds of food waste per person. Only about 570,000 tons of this is composted, a 4.1% recovery rate.
- We throw away about 28 BILLION bottles and jars.
- Each of us **throws** out about 4.5 POUNDS of garbage a DAY... that's a staggering 56 TONS a year.
- Disposable diapers LAST for CENTURIES in landfills. An average baby will go through 8,000 of them!

Where does all of this trash end up? FIFTY-FIVE percent gets buried in landfills, 33% gets recycled and 12% goes to incinerators. With a little forethought, we could reuse or recycle more than 70% of the waste that goes to landfills, which includes valuable materials such as glass, metal and paper.

YOU CAN HELP...

1. Recycle or Reuse everything that possibly has another use.
2. Start a compost pile at home and use grass clippings, table scraps and yard debris to create mulch.
3. Electronics and motor oil can be recycled. Dispose of them properly, and household chemicals, too, at specially designated centers.
4. Purchase items with less packaging and buy recycled products whenever possible.

STOP THE CYCLE: TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE MOSQUITO CONTROL

Did you know that mosquitoes carry multiple diseases, most recently discovered, ZIKA? Or that a female mosquito can lay a raft of 100 – 300 eggs every third night during its lifespan? Or that this can equate to a single mosquito producing over 4 million offspring in a single season (even if only 25% of each generation survives), according to the American Mosquito Control Association?

The location where mosquitos are breeding is key to controlling them. Determine where they are breeding.

Possible sources include:

Small decorative ponds and fountains, ponds, over-irrigated and poorly drained lawns, old tires, water cans, buckets, wheelbarrows, tall grass, tree stumps, tree holes, bushes, saucers under potted plants, children's wading pools, drain outlets from air conditioners, heavily wooded areas, and clogged gutters.

After determining where they are breeding contact a pest control company to spray or if you like to DIY, go to your local hardware store and purchase chemicals and either a sprayer or fogger. Remember, getting rid of the source is 3/4 of the way to ridding your yard of the pesky insects!



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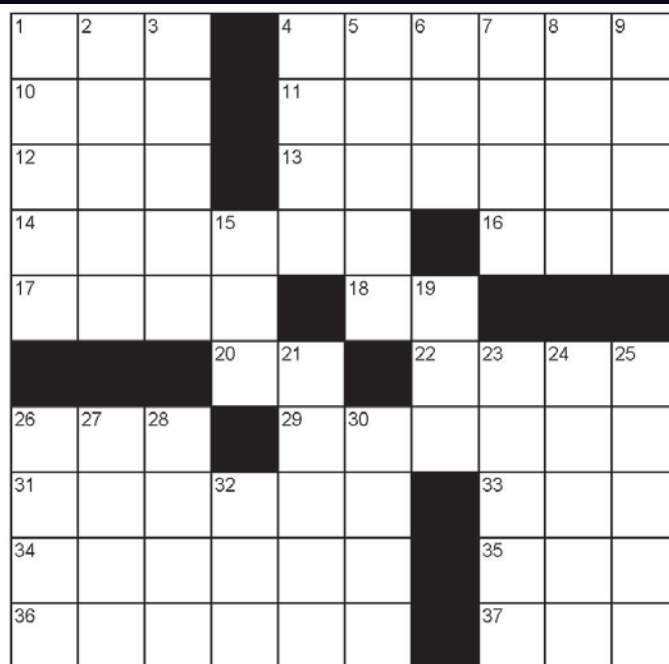
Willowbridge - Stonebridge

FLY AWAY HOME

Well, they didn't get to fly away home; however 53 of our resident ducks recently got a ride to their new home. The MUD contracted with a company licensed to humanely remove and relocate them with instructions to take them at least 25 miles from Waller Park. As reported in the June newsletter, the ducks have multiplied again to a point that the neighborhood can't sustain the numbers for feeding purposes, causing them to spread out seeking food and destroying many resident's flower beds and grass. Please stay vigilant and do not feed the ducks. They won't starve and they will eventually seek food elsewhere. If you find duck eggs, either eat them (if you know they are fresh) or throw them into the pond to feed the fish and turtles. Also, even though Easter is 8 months away, please keep in mind that those cute little ducklings that you want to buy for your children and grandchildren grow up, they are then turned loose to live at the park, subjecting them to being relocated in the next roundup. The ducks are not always "our" ducks as they fly between us, the Jersey Village retention pond, Willowlake, and other various retention ponds and subdivisions surrounding us. Also, be aware that Muscovy ducks breed year round. In the first week of July, two parents were spotted on Dallam Ct. with 19 babies! At that rate it will only take about 4 more hatchings to have the park and surrounding areas overrun again.

By the way, the next time you go to **Waller Park, take a deep breath.** Doesn't it smell better? It's not just the duck poop being decreased...stay tuned!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1. Kimono sash
4. Hype
10. Really cool
11. Hateful
12. Sailor's yes
13. Dissolved substance
14. Replacement car
16. British drink
17. Flower start
18. Book of Samuel abbr.
20. Arkansas
22. Fish lifting hood
26. Popular president's initials
29. Portugal's peninsula
31. Elicit
33. Titan
34. Destroyer
35. Single
36. Stretched circle
37. Little bit

DOWN

1. Toothbrush brand
2. Marsh
3. Utopian
4. Tights
5. Bad smells
6. Lube
7. Mope
8. Stringed instrument
9. At sea
15. BB association
19. Stage of life
21. Got up
23. Jargon
24. Female singer ____ Apple
25. Colorless
26. Gambling game
27. Beat severely
28. Churn
30. Floating ice
32. Card game

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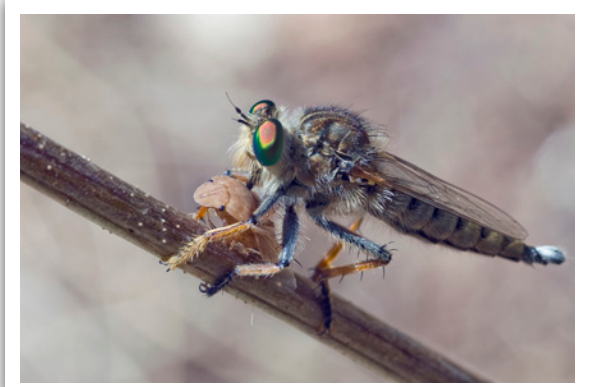
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BUGS & FUNGUS AMONG US!

What do chinch bugs, brown patch and take-all patch have in common? All three can wreak havoc on your lawn!



CHINCH BUGS

These tiny bug's damage normally becomes noticeable in August when it's hot and dry; however, various weather conditions (isn't it usually hot and dry all summer into the fall here in Houston?) can change the dateline for these critters.

An infestation causes patches of grass to turn brown, with a distinctive line between live and dead grass. Think you have them? Cut the ends out of a coffee can. Screw the can into the soil along a half-dead, half-live area. Fill with water. Look for floating tiny, black bugs with white wings folded against their bodies. Chinch bugs normally attack St. Augustine grass, but may also feed on Bermuda and Zoysia grass. To treat, use an insecticidal soap. In the future, mow St. Augustine grass as high as your mower will allow. Taller blades retain more moisture, require less watering, put down deeper roots and shades out weeds like Bermuda grass.

BROWN PATCH (FUNGUS)

The first sign of brown patch is circular patterns of dead grass blades. In two to three weeks, new leaves may emerge in the center of the circular patch, giving distressed areas a donut shaped appearance. The affected grass turns brown and grass blades rot and break off from the runners. Brown patch is also partial to St. Augustine grass. It can spread in an area of one to fifty feet. It occurs in late fall through early spring and is promoted by wet weather or frequent watering. To treat, use a fungicide on the affected area.

TAKE-ALL PATCH (FUNGUS)

The first sign of take-all patch is a yellowing of the grass and a darkening of the grass roots. The grass then thins in irregular shapes. The darkening of the roots indicates rotting. The roots can rot so extensively that the grass can be easily pulled up. Take-all patch fungus does exactly as its name implies. It rots the roots so badly that if not treated it can eventually kill the whole lawn. This fungus mainly spreads during the fall, winter and spring, when there is more moisture and cool or mild temperatures. By this time the damage is done as symptoms usually do not appear until the hot, stressful days of summer.

Some general rules to help avoid all three of these conditions are:

1. Raise the height of your lawnmower to reduce stress.
2. Avoid over watering/fertilizing.
3. Maintain good drainage.
4. Thin out tree branches to brighten super shady areas.
5. Aerate your lawn once a year.
6. At the first sign of disease, determine what it is and treat accordingly (in Houston it could be all three!).

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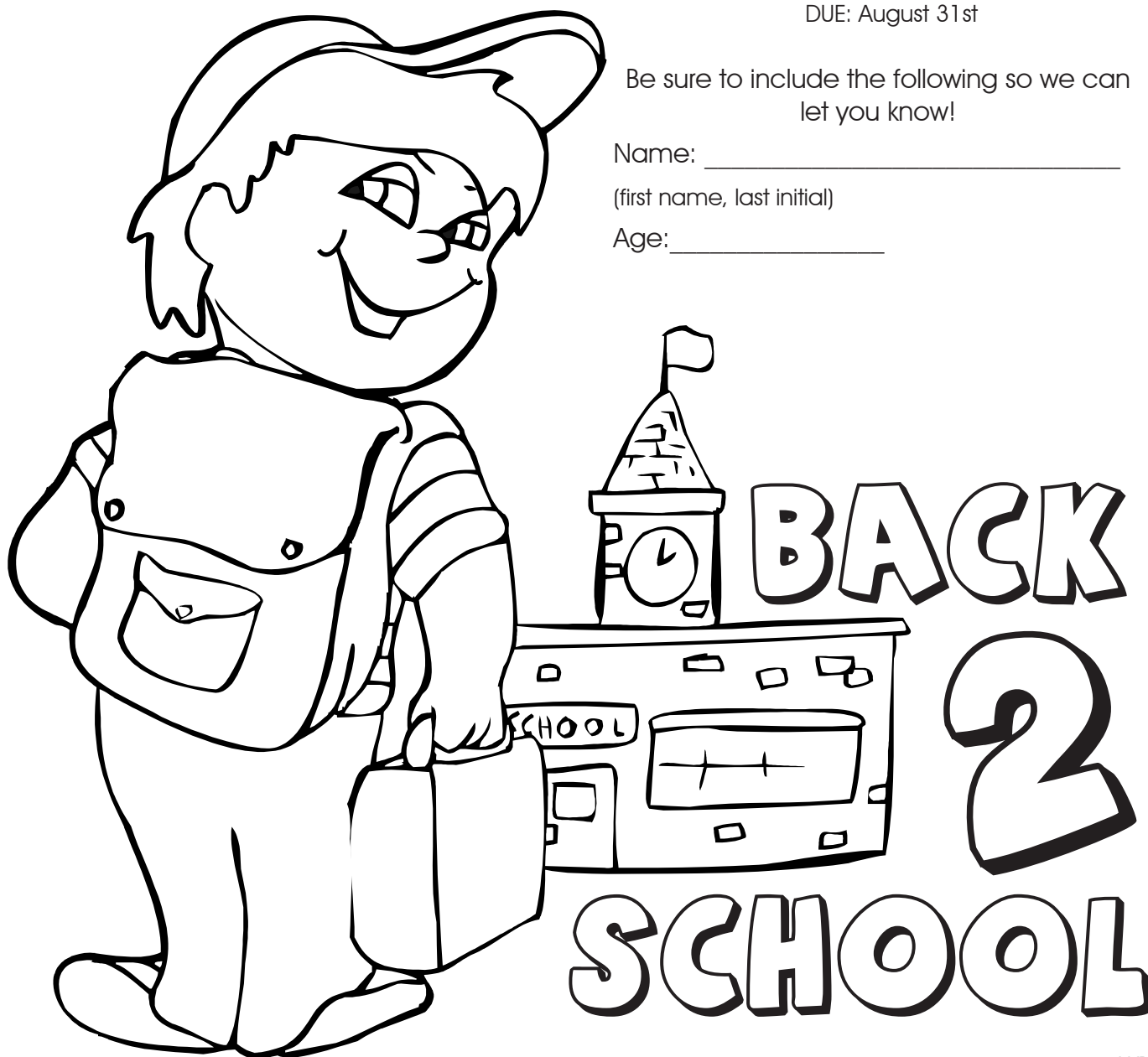
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Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name: _____

(first name, last initial)

Age: _____



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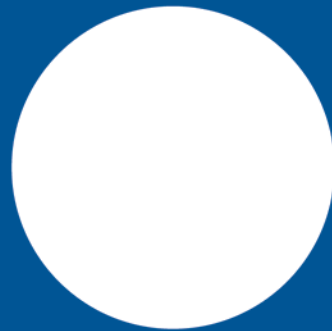
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