



Northlake Forest

HERALD

January 2018

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHLAKE FOREST HOA

Volume 8, Issue 1

Happy
New Year!



ACCESS TO NORTHLAKE FOREST ON-LINE

If you are new to the neighborhood – WELCOME! To gain access to important information go to our official website page www.NorthLakeForestHOA.com and select Register. Enter the required information and your access will be approved shortly.

Please note, we have several ways to communicate with residents, via our NorthLakeForestCommunity Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/NorthlakeForestCommunity and via Nextdoor www.northlakeforest.nextdoor.com. Our main source of communication is via our website.

If you have any comments and concerns you would like addressed by PCMI and/or the Board, please fill out a “Contact Us” form via the website and we will respond as quickly as possible.



Upcoming Events: TBA

NORTHLAKE FOREST

NLF COMMITTEES

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison..... Russell McPherson

LANDSCAPE

ChairTBD
Board Liaison.....Paul Rath

SAFETY/NEIGHBORHOODWATCH COMMITTEE

Chair Kelly Moore
Board Liaison..... Russell McPherson

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Chair Fred Vasquez
Board Liaison Ken Amstutz

POOL COMMITTEE

ChairTBD
Board LiaisonMaureen Cummings

NLF EVENTS / NEWSLETTER

ChairTBD
Board Liaison.....Rebecca Dessenberger

YARD OF THE MONTH

ChairTBD
Board Liaison..... Russell McPherson

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All of our committees are seeking volunteers to help continue making our community a fun place to be. Just a little bit of your time can go a long way. If you are willing to help, in any way, please fill out a "Contact Us" form on the website.

NLF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....Ken Amstutz
Vice President.....Rebecca Dessenberger
Treasurer.....Paul Rath
Secretary.....Maureen Cummings
Director.....Russell McPherson
PCMI.....Michael Quast

If you notice a problem or have a concern about something within NLF, please complete the form on our website and bring it to the attention of the management company or Board member so that the issue can be addressed.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Planned Community Management, Inc. (PCMI)

Michael Quast

281-870-0585 Michael.Quast@STServices.com · www.pcmi-us.com
Northlake Forest HOA Website: www.northlakeforesthoa.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Mark Herman Constable, Precinct 4..... (281) 376-3472
Harris Cnty Sheriff's Office @ HWY 249 .. (281) 290-2100
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept @ Telge Rd.... (281) 550-6663
Harris Cnty Courthouse @ Cypresswood... (281) 376-2997

GOVERNMENT NUMBERS

Harris County Animal Control..... (281) 999-3191
Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services
..... (713) 439-6000
R. Jack Cagle - Community Assistance Dept.
..... (281) 353-8424
Social Security Administration 1- (800) 772-1213
Department of Public Safety @ West Rd.... (281) 517-1333
Department of Pubic Safety @ Grant Rd ... (281) 890-5440

POST OFFICE

USPS @ Spring Cypress..... (281) 373-9125
The UPS Store @ Spring Cypress (281) 304-6800
FedEx Office @ Barker Cypress..... (281) 256-8323

LIBRARY

Lone Star College CyFair Library
Circulation Desk (281) 290-3210
Northwest Branch Library
@ Regency Green Drive..... (281) 890-2665
Barbara Bush Library @ Cypress Creek (281) 376-4610

SCHOOLS

Administrative Offices (281) 897-4000
Farney Elementary (281) 373-2850
Goodson Middle School (281) 373-2350
Cy-Woods High School (281) 213-1800

UTILITIES

NW Harris County MUD #10..... (832) 467-1599
Best Trash (281) 313-2378
CenterPoint Energy Gas (713) 659-2111
Relient Energy Electricity 1-(855) 347-3232
..... www.powertochoose.com

NEWSLETTER INFO

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*All articles are due by 10th of the month to be
considered for publication*

PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181
Advertising..... advertising@PEELinc.com

THE ANNUAL CRAPE MYRTLE MASSACRE



The Crape Myrtle Massacre is the over-pruning and wrong-season pruning of crapes all over Houston.

You've seen over-pruning ... people chop back crape myrtles to the knuckles each and every year, and new growth comes out like a "feather duster." And wrong-season pruning would mean November and December.

Don't let "peer pressure" by neighbors and commercial gardening crews get to you.

Looking through all the horticultural research I could find, nowhere could I locate anything about trimming crapes in November or December. The reason is simple ... we don't have much of a winter. If you trim the crapes in the last two months of the year, and we get a warming trend in January or February, the trees might actually start putting on new growth. And that new growth will be incredibly susceptible to freezing weather should it come on the heels of a warm spell.

New growth will also tend to draw the cold right into the plant, causing needless damage to a tree that should be resting in dormancy.

So, say it with me: the best time to trim crapes is January through February. For years, I've suggested Valentine's Day is a great time to trim them, because at that time we're also trimming back our roses.

Now, as for how much to trim, it truly is up to you. Since crapes are so resilient, no matter how much or how little you trim really doesn't matter. From an aesthetic point of view, however, I personally don't like trimming back to the "knuckles." But you should at least trim back the expired seedpods (the dried bloom clusters) to insure better blooms in the coming year.

Here are some Web sites with trimming suggestions:

- Crape Myrtle Farms <http://www.crapemyrtles.com/pruning.html>
- Texas A&M

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RECLUSE SPIDERS

Recluse spiders are shy and, as their name suggests, do not like being out in the open. They are about the size of a quarter, with a body that is 1/2 inch long. They can be light brown, dark brown or greyish in color. They have no spines on their legs and usually have a uniform body color. Recluse spiders are known for their characteristic violin or fiddle-shaped marking on the "back" (a.k.a. cephalothorax...the front part of the spider). The real distinguishing feature is an eye pattern of three pairs of eyes arranged in a semicircle on the front of the cephalothorax.



Outside homes, recluse spiders can be found in garages or sheds, firewood piles, or piles of stored materials such as lumber, bricks, or rocks. Inside the home, these spiders are found in bedrooms, closets, bathrooms, under

furniture, behind baseboards, in attics, or in cracks and crevices. They are most active at night when hunting for food.

People are typically bitten by accidentally rolling over onto a spider while sleeping or trapping a spider next to skin when putting on clothing where the spider is hiding. Recluse spiders have a cytotoxin that breaks down tissue in the bite area. Several hours after being bitten a blister forms at the bite site that may grow in size as tissue breaks down from injected venom. Infected tissue eventually sloughs off, leaving an open wound that takes a while to heal. More serious symptoms may also occur such as chills, fever, fatigue, joint pain, or nausea. If you experience problems after being bitten by a spider, then seek medical attention immediately.

To avoid spider bites, try some (or all) of the following:

- Use sticky taps to capture spiders
- Remove bed skirts from beds (these make it easy for spiders to crawl into the bed)
- Don't leave clothes or blankets on the floor; shake out blankets and clothing before using
- When storing items, either use sealed plastic containers/bags or tape boxes on all seams to keep spiders out
- Wear leather gloves when cleaning in undisturbed closets, attics, garages, or the yard
- Keep stacked, stored items away from the home. Do not store firewood against the house and only bring in firewood to immediately place on a fire.

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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