



Tips to Breeze Through Spring Cleaning

Spring heralds a season of fresh starts and growth — and what better way to start anew than with a little spring cleaning? Taking the time to get organized can make all the difference — and it can make the most cluttered closets and dirtiest corners a breeze to clean. With the right tools in hand, organizing any messy space becomes a manageable task. You can save time and money by getting cleaning supplies, like dusters, sponges and automated air fresheners, at places like Dollar General. Still don't know where to start? Try these spring-cleaning tips:

- * Cover the basics. Take inventory of your cleaning supplies. Some must-haves are mops, brooms, sponges, paper towels, trash bags, disinfectant wipes and bathroom-specific supplies. Make a list of what you need so you can get it all in one shopping trip. Many basic and speciality cleaning products are now available online. For the ultimate in convenience, shop online at www.dollargeneral.com.
- * Tackle the clutter in steps. Spring cleaning can be daunting, so take small steps and approach spaces one at a time. Strive to find everything a permanent home. Create "donate" and "trash" piles for items you no longer use or need.
- * Use organizing tools. Over-the-door mesh shoe racks are great for storing all kinds of winter accessories — hats, gloves, scarves and coats. Get some sturdy hooks for purses, backpacks and other accessories, and relish the feeling of a clean closet.
- * Revitalize your laundry room. Put a stop to the mountain of dirty clothes that grows every week by getting each family member a laundry basket. If clothing doesn't make it into their bin, it's not getting washed. Keep your laundry room stocked with detergent, bleach and stain remover.
- * Store items in plastic storage containers. Some winter items will be used until the early days of summer, others won't make an appearance until next year. A variety of belongings can be stored in plastic containers to keep them organized and out of the way.

KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE FROM PARASITES AND PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN FROM DISEASE

Sometimes pets can give a child more than just a wet, sloppy kiss and endless affection. When pets aren't protected, they could spread diseases called zoonoses, to which children, pregnant women, and immunocompromised people are especially vulnerable.

Purdue University research estimates that 5 percent to 20 percent of children are infected by dog roundworm larvae at some time, and that an estimated 10,000 human cases of *Toxocara* (roundworms) infections occur each year in the United States. Some zoonotic diseases can be transmitted by fleas and intestinal parasites such as roundworms, hookworms, and tapeworms, which is why the Companion Animal Parasite Council (www.petsandparasites.com) recommends year-round protection for pets.

It is unknown whether transmission can occur from casual contact with your pet. Even if a pet does not have intestinal parasites, a parasitic zoonotic disease could still be contracted. Backyards, sandboxes, public parks and beaches accessible to dogs, cats and wildlife often are contaminated with parasite eggs from an infected animal's feces. To help reduce the risk of your child contracting a parasitic zoonotic disease, the Companion Animal Parasite Council offers these tips:

- Minimize your child's exposure to potentially contaminated environments, such as uncovered sandboxes.
- Clean up your pets' feces.
- Decontaminate soiled concrete surfaces with bleach or ammonia.
- Practice good personal hygiene and have children wash their hands after playing with pets or after playing in potentially infected environments.

(Continued on Page 2)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

CGNOA Recreation Center	281-290-6723
Guard House.....	281-357-4183

SCHOOLS

Tomball Independent School Dist.	281-357-3100
Willow Creek Elementary	281-357-3080
Canyon Pointe Elementary.....	281-357-3122
Northpointe Intermediate	281-357-3020
Willow Wood Junior High	281-357-3030
Tomball High School	281-357-3220
Tomball Memorial High School.....	281-357-3170

PROPERTY TAX

Harris County Tax.....	713-224-1919
Mud #280 and Mud #15.....	281-376-8802
NW Harris WCID	281-376-8802

POLICE & FIRE

Emergency	911
Harris County Sheriff (Non Emergency)	713-221-6000
Klein Vol. Fire Dept.	281-376-4449

MEDICAL

Tomball Regional Medical Center	281-401-7500
Methodist Willowbrook Hospital.....	281-477-1000
Houston Northwest Medical Center	281-440-1000
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-586-4700
Texas Sports Medicine Center	281-351-6300
Poison Control.....	800-764-7661
Cypress Creek EMS (www.ccems.com)	281-378-0800

UTILITIES

Centerpointe Energy	713-207-7777
Power To Choose.....	888-797-4839
Centerpointe Energy Entex	713-659-2111
En-Touch (Customer Service)	281-225-1000
Telephone AT&T.....	800-464-7928
Water District Manager (15 & 280)	281-376-8802
Waste Management	713-686-6666
Waste Management Hazards Waste Pickup-280 Only	800-449-7587
Utility Marking - Texas One Call	800-245-4545
Before You Dig.....	811

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(Continued from Cover)

- Treat your pet year-round for intestinal and external parasites. Ask your veterinarian to recommend a monthly heartworm preventative, the broadest spectrum and most pet-friendly dewormer, and a monthly flea-control product.
- Ask your veterinarian to perform fecal examinations each year (two to four times for puppies or kittens) to assist with diagnosis of potential zoonotic infections.
- If your pet is diagnosed with a zoonotic parasite, inform your physician and pediatrician immediately.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, treatment for parasitic zoonosis is not necessary in most cases, but some serious health problems, such as blindness or swelling of the body's organs or central nervous system, can occur.

Prevention is key, to ensure that children do not become infected. Discuss zoonotic risks and symptoms with your veterinarian and pediatrician. To assess your family's zoonosis risk, visit www.noworms.com, and for more information about zoonoses, pets, and children, log on to www.petparents.com.

TIPS FOR A CLEAN, GREEN HOME

You faithfully separate your paper and plastic recyclables and purchase phosphate-free laundry detergent, but a look at your cleaning cabinet reveals bottles displaying skulls and crossbones. Sure, you know that harsh chemical cleaners aren't the best for the environment, but how else are you expected to clean your home?

Luckily, it's possible to make your home spotless with green cleaning products from companies that seek to innovate new solutions to issues facing today's world, including environmental concerns, offers the following tips:

- Purchase environmentally friendly cleaning products. Put away the bleach and look for green cleaning products that carry the Design for the Environment designation from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Also look for products with a convenient, eco-friendly refill system.
- Stop using paper towels. For windows, try using a soft cloth, like an old T-shirt. If you must use paper towels, look for brands that contain 100 percent recycled materials.
- Use baking soda instead of fragrance sprays. Fresh-smelling air doesn't come from an aerosol can. If you want to banish funky odors, try sprinkling a scant amount of baking soda into your carpet. The baking soda will absorb odors. A little vacuuming, and you'll find yourself with an odor-free carpet. House plants, too, can help freshen the air. Chrysanthemums, English ivy, spider plants and Boston ferns can all improve indoor air quality, though you shouldn't buy a plant without first checking to make sure that it will be safe around your pets.



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*SOURCE: www.RealSatisfied.com

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CANYON GATE

Squirrels

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

What do these three words have in common—grey, fox and flyer? If you guessed they are all in the squirrel family, you would be correct. Squirrels are the most widely known and recognized of mammals and inhabit all continents except Antarctica and Australia.

Squirrels have 4 front teeth, two on top and two on the bottom, that continue to grow throughout their lives. Constant gnawing helps to keep them short and sharp.

At TWRC Wildlife Center, we have two non-releasable grey squirrels that are used as Animal Ambassadors. These squirrels don't have access to the outdoors so TWRC must provide them with materials they would find in the wild to keep their teeth trimmed. One of the squirrels has a malocclusion, the result of a fall when he was a baby. Because of the injury, we must file his teeth every month. If not done, it would eventually cause his death because he would be unable to eat.

Grey Squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*)

- Predominantly grey in color with a whitish belly.
- They are about 14 to 20 inches long with a 7 to 10 inch tail.
- They have 22 teeth.
- Tend to give birth twice a year.

Fox Squirrels (*Sciurus niger*)

- This is the largest tree squirrel.
- They have a reddish-orange belly.
- They are 18-29 inches long not counting their tail which is about a foot long.
- They have 20 teeth.
- Can have two litters per year but typically only have one.

Flying Squirrels (*Glaucomys volans*)

- There is a membrane, called a patagium, between their front and back legs that allows them to glide from tree to tree. They can glide up to 150 feet.
- They are nocturnal. This is the reason so few people ever see one.
- They are about 9 inches long with a 4 inch tail and weigh about 3 ounces
- Their preferred den sites are holes in stumps and cavities in trees.

Spring babies are already being brought to TWRC Wildlife Center. If you find squirrel babies, we are here to help. During business hours, we're happy to answer your questions over the phone—713-468-TWRC. If it's after hours, go to our website for helpful information: www.twrcwildlifecenter.org.

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Cy-Fair Republican Women March Meeting

CFRW will meet on Tuesday, March 13th at 10:30 AM.

Hearthstone Country Club, 7615 Ameswood, Houston, TX 77095

Meeting is \$3 – Meeting with Lunch at Noon is \$23.

Darcy Mingoia will be our speaker for March. She is a member of the Cy-Fair School Board and has been an active volunteer for our community as well as having been Executive Director of the Lone Star College Foundation and President of the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce.

See the website for details and RSVP to www.cfrw.net by March 6th.

Several candidates attend our meetings regularly so come and get to know them.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEWS

Cypress Christian School to Participate in the College Board AP Capstone Diploma Program

CCS is one of approximately 1,500 high schools worldwide to implement the AP Capstone Program - an innovative program that allows students to develop skills that matter most for college success, such as research, collaboration and communication. Developed in direct response to feedback from higher education faculty and college admission officers, AP Capstone complements the in-depth, subject-specific study of other Advanced Placement courses and exams. The program consists of two courses taken in sequence: AP Seminar and AP Research.

State Representative Honors Warrior Football

State Representative and CCS parent, Dr. Tom Oliverson visited the campus recently to honor the Cypress Christian Warriors football team. He presented each player and coach with a certificate of honor for accomplishing something that had never been done in school history, bringing home the TAPPS Division III State Championship trophy for football. The school was also presented with a Texas flag that was flown at the Capitol of the Sovereign State of Texas.

Cypress Christian Upcoming Admission Event

Thursday, April 12 Cypress Christian School will host a K-12 Preview.

Visit CypressChristian.org/Admissions for more details.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT! 1st Annual Northwest Preschool Preview

Come learn more about NW area preschools. Representatives from multiple area preschools will be in attendance. This is a free interactive event, open to everyone!

Date: Sunday, April 8, 2018

Time: 1 – 3 p.m

Location: Cypress Christian School
11123 Cypress N Houston Rd
Houston, TX 77065





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CANYON GATE AT NORTHPOINTE MARKET REPORT FOR JANUARY 2018*

Homes SOLD in January 4
Avg Days on Market 163
Avg Sales Price \$213,250
Average List Price vs
Sales Price Ratio 97.49%
*Data is from HAR for 1-1-18 through 1-31-18

As of February 1, 2018:

Homes Currently for Sale 6
Price Range \$219,000 - \$290,000

Homes Under Contract 4

Option Pending 2
Price Range \$190,000 - \$244,900
Pending Sales 0
Price Range -
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Price Range \$244,000 - \$245,000

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