

POST

The Official Newsletter of the Plum Creek Homeowner Association April 2018 Volume 9, Issue 4

SAVE THE DATE:

Front Porch Days is May 19th and May 20th

www.frontporchdays.com

Front Porch Days is fast approaching. Front Porch Days is our huge neighborhood gathering during May and includes music, local organizations, vendors, pie baking contest, petting zoo, family fishing day, pony rides, jump castles, crafts, food, and more.

Excited? Here are the highlights of the upcoming activities and dates:

- Saturday, May 12th: Spring Community Wide Garage/Front Porch Sale
- Saturday, May 19th: Races, AND Plum Creek Garden Tour
- Sunday, May 20th, 12PM to 4PM: Front Porch Days Carnival, the Pie Baking Contest, and more at Fergus Park
- Sunday May 20th: People's Choice Awards is the band playing again this year! They will be performing from 2-4, so bring your blankets or lawn chairs and come enjoy the music!
- Sunday May 20th: Family Fishing Day and Youth Tournament from 3-6 PM

Front Porch Days is a great time to get out with your family and neighbors. The entertainment and many of the events are FREE. Money is needed to purchase food, drinks, and products from vendors and community groups or to participate in the washers tournament or races (on Saturday May 19th –https://tinyurl.com/2018fpdraces).

Have a baker in the family? Pull out that favorite recipe and start practicing your dough-rolling skills. The pie baking contest also has a new twist on the format, including age groups! Visit the event website to locate the pie registration form.

Interested in selling something? We are accepting vendor booth applications for booth spaces. Visit the website to locate the vendor booth form. If you're an artist, craftsperson, business, or community group, we want you! Contact Melody Stein at pcoffice@goodwintx. com to ask questions or get a booth application. Also, the application is posted online at www.frontporchdays.com.

Interested in another aspect of Front Porch Days? You can direct general questions about the event to the Recreation Committee at plumcreekrecreationcommittee@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed- as always Plum Creek social events need volunteers. It can be as simple as packing packets, standing at a street corner to cheer on walkers and runners, setting out garbage cans, placing sponsorship signs around the park or judging the pies. You can sign up online here - http://tinyurl.com/2018fpdvolunteers

MAKE A CLEAN SWEEP WITH THE COMMUNITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE MAY 12TH

Start cleaning out those closets and get ready for Plum Creek's Spring Community Garage Sale to be held

Saturday, May 12th, from dawn until dusk. So, while you are doing your spring cleaning and you run across things you no longer want—hold onto them for a bit longer and sell them at Plum Creek's Community Garage Sale! Remember-- one neighbor's trash is another's treasure! All homeowners may participate and should display their items on their front lawn for better crowd control. Our goal is to encourage visitors to park on the streets and not in alleys. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and will help us to have a safe and pleasant garage sale experience. Also, kids are welcome to earn money by selling baked goods or drinks! So, start saving bags for your customers to take home their treasures in and newspapers for wrapping breakable items.

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HOA OFFICE PHONE	
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Usight Computer Vision Syndrome

How many digital devices have you used today? Computers, tablets, digital screens and smartphones are playing a much bigger role in our lives now than 20 years ago. Extended hours on digital devices causes its own set of vision problems known as Computer Vision Syndrome. The most commons symptoms are eye strain, blurred vision, fatigue, dry eyes, and headaches.

Dry eye is usually the biggest problem with Computer Vision Syndrome. Blink frequency decreases by nearly 50% when you look at a digital screen compared to any other activity. Blinking less means fewer tears are produced and your eyes dry out. It's tough to remember to blink more often, so be sure to take at least a 20 second break every 20 minutes - walk around the office, look out a window, just be sure to look at something different than your screen. This helps stimulate normal blinking speeds periodically through the day. Angle your desk away or redirect overhead air vents or fans, which can quickly dry eyes. Lighting also plays a big role. Be sure to adjust lights that reflect off your screen causing glare. You can do this by angling the screen away from bright windows or overhead lights, and place any desk or floor lamps to the side of your screen (not directly in front of or behind you).

Finally, make sure you've had a thorough eye exam within the last year. A minor eye muscle imbalance can cause headaches, eye strain and blurred vision, especially if you have a small prescription, or your glasses/contacts need updating. Anti-glare coatings on your glasses specific for digital screens are also tremendously beneficial.

While digital screens aren't going away anytime soon, we can make our day-to-day experience with them much more comfortable by making some of the above adjustments.

Dr. Virginia Kekahuna, O.D.

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JIM SHERWOOD Kyle Banking Center Manager jsherwood@firstlockhart.com

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MEMBER FDIC



It is that time again – Spring! Time to start sprucing up lawns and gardens.

While you are working on that fabulous garden, please consider showing off all your hard work by volunteering to be one of the gardens featured on our annual "Garden Tour". This year's Garden Tour is scheduled for May 19th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Contact Sandy Gonzalez at plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com if you would like to have your garden featured, or if you want more details.

Yard of the Month judging begins April 1st. You can nominate any garden in our neighborhood, including your own. Nominations for the first round of judging are due by March 31st, but you can continue submitting nominations up until May 31st. The Garden Committee will be judging yards for April, May, and June using the following criteria: curb appeal; overall design; weed control; pruned & healthy trees and shrubs; and, clean & neat edgings and borders. Judging will be done the first week of the month, and signs will be placed in the winning yards. Gift cards will also be awarded.

If you have tried unsuccessfully to grow grass on your lawn – and you want something other than mulch as an option – how about "groundcovers?" Soil preparation is one of the keys to success. Clear the soil of any weeds or grass [being careful not to damage existing tree roots], and amend with compost and organic matter [at least 6 inches of wellamended soil to help establish a healthy root system]. Plan on buying about four plants per square foot if you are using 4-inch pots. Some groundcovers can be mowed, and some might need to be trimmed back occasionally. Some weeding will be necessary until the groundcover grows thick enough to crowd out the weeds.

Some of the groundcovers that do well in our area include: dwarf monkey grass, horseherb, leadwort plumbago, oregano, periwinkle, pigeonberry, sedges, frogfruit, silver ponyfoot, and mint. Keep in mind sun and water requirements for these before you plant. Oregano, for example, does best in full sun, while pigeonberry prefers shade.

If you have questions or comments, contact Sandy Gonzalez at plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com. Thank you for making our neighborhood wonderful.

FAMILY FISHING DAY AND YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Sponsored by Cabelas

Sunday, May 20th 3pm - 6pm

Plum Creek residents are invited to join the Lake and Parks Committee for an afternoon of fishing at the lake

We'll have prizes for kids in each age category:

4-12 year olds and 13-17 year olds

Learn how to be a better fisherman from our Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Angler Education Instructor

Catch and release only. Night crawlers provided or bring your favorite artificial lures. Loaner rods provided.

Residents are asked to wear their REC Tags.

Have You Registered for the Plum Creek Weekly eNews Yet?

The Plum Creek eNews is a weekly email for Plum Creekers containing neighborhood watch information, upcoming event information, and just about anything else one might need to know about the HOA. Typically, the email is sent once per week, on Thursday.

The eNews has been designed as an 'Opt-In' email, as to not bother anyone just wishing to visit the HOA website on occasion. If you're interested, please add your email to the list by following these instructions:

- 1. Visit www.plumcreektxhoa.com.
- 2. Click Resident Sign In
- 3. This is a new website so everyone signs up as a New User.
 - a. Owners are added to the directory from the HOA accounting software.
 - b. Tenants contact the HOA office to be added into the directory before you can register.
- 4. Once you sign in, the website will take to your resident dashboard in the Home tab.
- 5. In the My Account box click Subscriptions tab.
- 6. Select Edit Communication Preferences
- 7. In the Communication Preferences, click the box next to Weekly eNews
- 8. Start receiving the Weekly email as early as next week!

If you add your email and do not receive the e-News the following Thursday, please email pcoffice@goodwintx.com.



PLUM CREEK HOA DUES

Quarterly payments become due on: January 1st, April 1st, July 1st & October 1st

The quarterly dues payment for 2018 is \$147.70. Peninsula- \$486.67 quarterly. Prepayments accepted. You have 30 days to send in the payment before a \$36.00 late fee is applied.

The payment address is: (**This payment address has not changed**) Plum Creek HOA c/o Goodwin Processing Center PO Box 93447 Las Vegas, NV 89193-3447 **include your account number

You can contact the Plum Creek HOA office at 512-262-1140 to request your account number, or log in to the Plum Creek website www. plumcreektxhoa.com and go to the Home Tab and click on Account History on the resident dashboard and you can view your account number.

Set up ACH Draft:

Visit www.goodwintx.com/payonline to setup to an ACH draft. Select the Make A Payment button at the bottom of the page. Management ID: 6587 Association ID: APLM

ADT POOL KEYS AND RECREATIONAL IDS

Haupt Bucket Pool is scheduled to open April 2nd. All new residents will need their Pool Key and Recreational IDs!

New residents can obtain the ADT pool key card at the HOA Office at 4100 Everett Ste. 150. Residents, 11 years or older, must have a Rec Tag (recreational ID) to use the pools, fish at the lake, play at the basketball courts or go to the dog park. Rec tags are issued to any homeowner, tenant, or resident family member.

Tenants are charged \$25 for each new Rec Tag. At the end of the lease period, tenants are encouraged and expected to return Rec Tags to the HOA Office. When a Rec Tag is returned, \$15 of the original \$25 per Rec Tag is reimbursed. For example, a family of 4 (all 11 and older) renting a home in Plum Creek must purchase 4 Rec Tags at an original cost of \$100. At the end of the lease period with the return of all 4 Rec Tags to the HOA Office, the family is reimbursed \$60. This helps improve security at the pools and offset the cost of continual Rec Tag issuance to rental addresses due to turnover.

If lost, homeowners and tenants can purchase a replacement Rec Tag for \$10.

One pool key is issued per address. If lost or a second one is needed, they are available for \$25.00 at the HOA Office. The office only accepts checks or money orders. Also, you need to call the office, at 512-262-1140, if you receive a key that is not working properly.

Please remember to have your pool key and Rec Tag available when entering the pool. If you do not have both cards when attending the pools, you may be asked to leave.



HAUPT POOL OPENING

The Haupt bucket pool will open April 2nd.

When lifeguards are not on duty, adult supervision, 18 and up, is required. Swim at your own risk.

Open Swim: 8 AM to 10 PM

Open Swim: Open to members, their families and accompanied guests.

Use you pool key card to access the pool. Your HOA account needs to be current for you key card to work.

ANNUAL MEETING

All Residents Welcome

2018 Annual Meeting Date: April 5th, 2018

Sign-in starts at 5:45 PM, Meeting starts at 6:30 PM

Plum Creek Golf Course Banquet Room

SIP AND SEW

April, a month of warmth and inspiration! Come join our group, we are always full of fun ideas!

Bring your project...need help or show your talent! You will find punch needle, crocheting, needlepoint, rug hooking, quilting, mending and more! Join Sip and Sew, the second Tuesday of the month, April 10th, 6:30-8:45 pm....Haupt/ Fergus Community Center

Any questions, please contact: Iris Sandle: 512-405-0054 or Sandra Sigler : 512-405-0187

Come, Sip and Sew!

CITY WIDE CLEAN UP MAY 12

Bring all that stuff in the garage you've been meaning to get rid of! This free clean-up event is for City of Kyle residents only and identification will be required. Bring a current Kyle utility bill and valid photo ID. Takes place from 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. on Dacy Lane near Seton Hospital. More information to come soon.

DEED RESTRICTION VIOLATIONS

Plum Creek HOA management is scheduled to inspect the property twice a month for violations of the deed restrictions. Spot inspections occur on an as needed basis.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. How long do I have to cure (fix) the violation? The violation needs to be cured by the next violation drive to avoid further violation notices. Contact us if you have questions regarding the time frame to cure a violation.

2. Do I maintain the planting strip between the sidewalk and the street? Each owner maintains their lot to the street curb. The section of grass/lawn between the sidewalk and street is part of each homeowner's lot. Check the lot survey provided at closing.

3. How can I plant new grass or replace a tree when watering is restricted? There are several options to consider-You can request a watering variance from the City of Kyle to water additional days for new plants. Also, hand watering is allowed during many stages of water restrictions. Drip irrigation is another tool to help establish trees.

4. Is xeriscaping allowed? Yes, and it is encouraged. Plum Creek adopted an approved plant list which includes native low water

usage plants. You can get very creative on a minimal budget adding xeriscaped lawn features to your yard. See what works for your budget and how much time you want spend with yard maintenance. Take a drive around the neighborhood and see what other residents have installed. Remember: adding xeriscaping is a permanent architectural change to the exterior of your home and requires the submission of the ARC form and plans.

MOST COMMON VIOLATIONS:

1. Screening of trash cans: Trash cans cannot be stored in the driveways or alleyways. They need to be stored in one of the following places to avoid receiving future violation notices:

a. Inside the garage

b. Behind the property fence

- c. Behind an approved screen
- d. Behind a bush so as not to be visible from the alleyway
- 2. Yard Maintenance:

Weeds:

The yard should be free of high weeds, weeds that grow through (Continued on Page 10)

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Pardon our remodeling

(Continued from Page 8)

the fences, weeds that grow over the sidewalks, curbs and driveways.

Dead Yard:

Bald spots or dirt circles are not part of a maintained yard. Search the internet for options to help with dirt circles/ bald spots. Here are some options to explore, options may need prior approval before installation:

- 1. Add a mulch bed with edging
- 2. Add xeriscaped landscaping or other landscaping feature.
- 3. Trim tree limbs to allow more sun to get to the grass.
- 4. Add seed or sod in areas and hand water as needed.
- 5. Amend the soil.

Need other ideas: Drive the neighborhood and see what your neighbors have added in their yards, consult the Garden Committee and/or the Compliance Assistance Team with questions or consult with a local nursery.

Plant or install landscape features within your own budget and maintenance capabilities.

**An Architectural change request form needs to be submitted when changing from a sod yard to a xeriscaped yard.

Bushes:

Keep bushes neatly trimmed and out of walking paths, sidewalks and alleyways.

Trees:

Tree limbs should be trimmed 7 feet above sidewalks and 14 feet over streets. Tree limbs and bushes on corner lots should not block line of sight for upcoming street signs and intersection.

Not sure about trimming tree limbs? Refer to tree trimming documents, consult an arborist or local nursery or search internet.

3. Sheds:

Sheds are allowed, but need prior approval before installation. The Declaration indicates that the shed materials need to match the existing home. Turn in the architectural request form along with a survey of your lot and a picture of the shed you want to install to the HOA office. Approval usually occurs within 7-10 business days.





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