



POST

The Official Newsletter of the
Plum Creek Homeowner Association
May 2019
Volume 10, Issue 5

Save the Date: Front Porch Days is May 18 and May 19



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 11th:** Spring Community Wide Garage Tour
- **Saturday, May 18th:** Races, AND Plum Creek Garden
- **Sunday, May 19th, 12PM to 4PM:** Front Porch Days Carnival, the Pie Baking Contest, and more at Fergus Park
- **Sunday May 19th:** Family Fishing Day and Youth Tournament

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 18th –<https://tinyurl.com/2019fpdraces>).

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 event website for more information.

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/2019fpdvolunteers>

We Look Forward to Seeing You at the Event!

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**YOU SHOULD RECIEVE THE PLUM CREEK POST
EACH MONTH ON OR BEFORE THE 10TH.**

Garden Tour & Yard of the Month

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 Saturday May 18th 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. Last year’s Tour featured gardens that were wonderfully xeriscaped. Drought-hardy, low maintenance plants, along with non-grass designs were showcased. We would like to have this year’s Garden Tour feature colorful and/or whimsical designs. Please contact the Garden Committee if you have any questions. We would love to showcase your creativity in our neighborhood. Just note: we welcome all nominations for the Garden Tour.

Yard of the Month judging began April 1st. You can nominate any garden in our neighborhood, including your own. Nominations for the first round of judging were 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 well-amended 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 Sunday, May 19, 2019 3pm-6pm



Plum Creek residents are invited to join the Lake and Parks Committee for a fun and educational fishing event at the lake.

At 3 pm, join the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Angler Ed Instructors and volunteers at their booth between Fairway and the lake

to learn how to be a better angler. Come learn about fish ID, fishing safety and gear, casting, knot tying, what makes good habitat, fishing regulations and much more.

After the program, grab your rod and go fish. TPWD volunteers and committee members will be available to help and provide advice.

Fishing is Catch and Release only. Night crawlers provided or bring your favorite artificial lures. A limited number of loaner rods will be provided.

Participants are asked to wear their REC Tags.

Make a Clean Sweep with the Community-Wide Garage Sale on May 11th



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

Saturday, May 11th, 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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Lake Trails in Spring - Watch for Snakes

It is springtime in Texas, and that means wildflowers, birdsong and yes, snakes waking up from their winter slumber. Remember that our parks and lakes support a diversity of wildlife, including snakes. Not all are venomous, but some are, like rattlesnakes and water moccasins. We also have nonvenomous snakes like water snakes.

There are lots of sources both digital and print that can help you learn how to identify common Texas snakes. For example, a snake with heat-sensing pits is venomous. Triangular heads are another commonality in most venomous snakes. The rattlesnake, copperhead, and water moccasin all have arrowhead faces and pointed snouts. If you can get close enough to see, pit vipers also have pupils that are oblong, like a slit. In contrast, water snakes are not venomous and have more oval or oblong heads, rounded snouts and round eyes. Harmless water snakes swim with their bodies submerged under the water, whereas water moccasins swim with their entire bodies visible on top of the water.

If you encounter a snake, leave it alone and give it room. There is no need to take a chance when you can avoid the snake. Use caution during this time of year and remember to watch your dogs. HOA rules require that dogs be on a leash at all times and this is especially important during the spring.



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Pool Season Began April 1st Get your Rec Tags / Pool Keys

Austin Pool Pros lifeguards will be on duty every day starting Saturday, May 27th through Labor Day weekend. When Hays CISD is in session the lifeguards will be on duty from 4 PM to 9 PM. All other times the lifeguards will be scheduled from 12 PM to 9 PM.

New residents can obtain the pool key 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 and pool key. 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.

Have a fun filled and safe summer!



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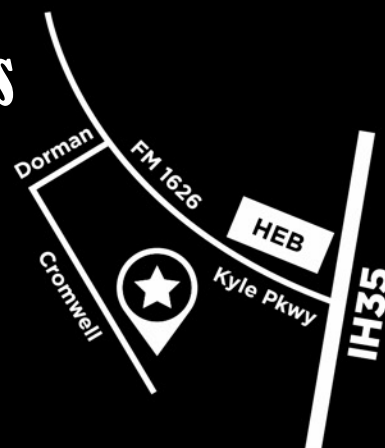
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Pool Committee News

We hope you're enjoying the pools even if the water is still a little Chilly!

The new seating and tables are terrific! We ask everyone to help take very good care of this furniture as it is expensive to repair and replace. We have arranged the furniture on deck to look clean and consistent. We ask if you move furniture please return it to its original location. With respect and care it will offer many years of service.

Have a question about the pools? Please look at the HOA Website @ www.plumcreektxhoa.com.

Select: Sign In (this is how you have access to all the posted information options)

Select: Resource Center

Select: Pool Information

Here you will find a lot of useful information to the most frequently asked questions.

The Pool Committee also has a Facebook page: Plum Creek Pool Committee Page

Please 'Like' it to follow messages, photos, comments & questions. We cannot monitor the page constantly but will answer as soon as possible. Often you will find what you're looking for on the HOA website. Please be mindful that this page is run by your neighbors and serious concerns should be directed to the PC HOA management office. The Page is not monitored by the HOA office.

Austin Pool Pros will continue to service the pools and provide the excellent life guards. Please join us in welcoming the guards from Russia and Turkey as well as some of your driven neighborhood teens. They are dedicated to doing the very best job possible for our neighborhood and we ask that everyone is helpful by making sure the pools are tidy.

Memorial Day BBQ: The Committee will be hosting a **Memorial Day BBQ** to welcome our life guards!!!

We are looking for volunteers that would like to help set up and possibly someone who would like to BBQ.

Want to get more involved? Our committee is always hoping for new members and we encourage you to Join Us!!! Give us a shout on the Facebook Pool Page or an email to plumcreekpoolcommittee@gmail.com. Or message us on the FB page. We welcome everyone who is interested in our pools. We keep track of maintenance needs, make suggestions to the Board concerning rules and regulations, interface with the pool service/lifeguard company & help out with answers to questions from residents and try to make sure everything is running "swimmingly".

Thank you ALL for keeping Plum Creek Pools Safe, Clean & Fun!!!!



School's Out for Summer!

Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

For all the other students, parents and especially our teachers.....Congratulations on another year!!!! Now it is time to relax and sit by the pool. We are very lucky to have 2 great pools to relax in.

The last week of school is always a busy time at the Plum Creek pools. The Pool Committee would like to ask for your patience and understanding during this time. Please be kind to our new Life Guards. Let's show them what a great neighborhood we are.

If you are planning on visiting the pools on the last week of school, especially the last day, please keep in mind that these days the pools reach capacity very quickly. We encourage you to have a backup plan!

Life Guards will be on duty so the following rules will be enforced.

Here are a few points to keep in mind:

Pool Capacity (Who knew that the pools had a maximum capacity?)

1. The McNaughton pool capacity is 154 guests (inside the fenced area)

2. The Haupt Pool Capacity is 84 Guest (inside the fenced area)

a. When Capacity is reached guards will allow one person in when one person leaves

b. Did you know that booking the community center does not give you access to the pools. The pool is first come first serve.

3. Guest policy

a. Each Plum Creek HOA family is allowed 4 guests (Adult residents must have Rec Tag and Key Card)

b. Minors 11-17 with a Rec Tag and Key card may bring 1 Guest (11 or Older)

4. Adults must stay in the pool area (inside the fence) at all times with minors or non-residents that they are hosting or supervising. They are also counted toward capacity.

5. All minors under 11 must be accompanied by an adult

6. The gate should never be propped open

*A complete list of the pool rules can be found on the HOA website and is posted inside the bulletin boards. The pool rules listed posted inside each pool is a summary.

We hope that everyone enjoys the last week of school and has a chance to visits the pools as often as possible!!! See you on Deck.





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At the Fence

PARKING ON PRIVATE STREETS AND ALLEYS

No automobiles or other vehicles may be parked overnight on any private alley or private roadway (these private roadways include the private streets of Michaelis, Utterback, Edwin, Echols, Grace and Lightfoot) within the Property except in areas designated for parking on a Plat or as approved by the Board of Directors. At no time shall any automobile or other vehicle be parked on the lawn within a Lot.

SIP AND SEW

May, longer days and more time to create. Come join our group, we are always full of creative ideas. Bring your project.... need help or show us your talent! You will find punch needle, crocheting, needlepoint, rug hooking, quilting, mending and individuals working on matts for the homeless.

Join Sip and Sew the second Tuesday of the month, May 14th, 6:30-8:45 pm, Haupt/Fergus Community Center. Any questions, please contact: Iris Sandle, 405-0054 or Sandra Sigler, 512-405-0187.

Come Sip and Sew

The Board of Directors is offering a \$500 reward for information that leads to prosecution for the vandalism around the lake and parks. Send information to: plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com

Resident of the Year

Thanks to everyone who attended the Annual Meeting on Thursday March 28th.

The Resident of the Year was announced by Tim McHutchion and presented to **Gary and Arcelia Gibbs!** This was a new program we announced this year and because of the positive feedback and so many deserving nominations we will continue this program next year.

**CONGRATULATIONS GARY &
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Newsletter for the Plum Creek Welcome Committee May 2019



The Welcome Committee is still hosting game nights at the Community Center for all adult residents once a month on Saturdays from 6-9 pm, (May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14). We will also host a potluck for residents June 2nd 1-3pm at the Center. Come out and meet your neighbors! The primary mission of the Welcome Committee's is to greet each new resident moving into Plum Creek and to encourage them to become active and engaged in our community.

May To-Do List

- Do a full irrigation audit (Should be done monthly)
- Still a great time to add mulch to all the beds
- Interested in planting a garden? Great time to plant Okra, Summer Squash and Tomatillo plants
- The month is a great time to add seed (Bermuda) to a common Bermuda lawn
- Great time to sod old worn out areas. Any of the varieties (Zoysia & Bermuda, can be done this time of year.
- As it warms up, be aware of the pest activity around your plants and turf. Be observant and treat at first signs.

The average rainfall in May is approximately 4.5". Since "average" is a loose term, great time to collect rainwater for home use. Predictions for hot & dry summer are just that...."predictions". Now where is my crystal ball?

GO GREEN

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