

#### ARC ARTICLE: Front Door Replacement section 32 - ARC Guidelines

32. Regarding front door replacement or maintenance, doors are accepted as long as they are in shades of tan, brown or black and are wood-grain in appearance. All doors must be maintained in like-new condition as viewed from the street. All requests to refinish front doors MUST have the sample attached to the ARC request form PRIOR to beginning the job. ARC approval is REQUIRED before refinishing can begin. Failure to obtain ARC approval beforehand may result in the homeowner having to refinish their door with an approved color at their expense! All doors must be wood or of a wood texture. No metal doors are permitted. When replacing a door with existing glass insets, the new door must also have clear glass insets.

32.2 Important note: If you have recently bought a home with an existing door that is an unapproved color (the previous owner was in violation and never cured it), you as the new owner are responsible for either refinishing or replacing the door altogether.

### New Cy-Fair Fire Department

Formerly: Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department



On May 28, Harris County Emergency Service District No. 9 approved a resolution to transfer all operations, property, and possessions of the Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department to Harris County ESD No. 9 and will now be called Cy-Fair Fire

Department. Officials stated that dropping "volunteer" from the name, is the first step toward getting pensions for employees, better recruitment efforts and critical illness insurance plans. This decision will encompass CFVFD into county operations, gives the fire department and the community benefits, including improved transparency between the district and the public, shift scheduling and governmental immunity for tort lawsuits.

Despite the name change, the fire department still welcomes VOLUNTEER firefighters. We already pay a small amount of taxes to ESD No. 9 and probably should plan on an increase in those taxes.

## NO SMOKING ALLOWED! This includes Vaping



Willowbridge HOA Board of Directors has banned: SMOKING of any kind of device on any and all community property. This includes the soccer field, playground/park area, tennis court, pavilion, clubhouse & its restrooms, clubhouse patio & its

restrooms, swimming pool, parking lot and any esplanades within Willowbridge/Stonebridge. When entertaining guests, please make them aware of the No Smoking Allowed Rule. \* Includes cigarettes, cigars, E-cigarettes and vaping devices.

### Oh Rats...Get A Cat!

Several homeowners have reported rats in their yards the size of baby possums. Some have even accused their neighbors of feeding them, and they may be...ACCIDENTALLY! Rats are nasty and carry many diseases including Hantavirus, leptospirosis, lymphocytic choriomeningitis (LCMV), Tularemia, Salmonella, plague and rat-bite fever. There are disease concerns with both wild (rats, mice) and pet (rats, mice, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs), rodents and rabbits. Experts agree that the best thing is a cat, but this isn't practical for everyone. Rats have a superior sense of smell and are very attracted to garbage. In the house, keep food scraps sealed and in closed containers. In and around the house, seal holes in walls, doors and screens. Seal off any outside pipe entrances or block them the best you can. Outside,



cans sealed tightly and ensure that no food crumbs or residue are available around your home to help prevent rat infestations. DO NOT leave cat food or dog food outside...rats eat it up. It also attracts possums and raccoons.

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## Willowbridge - Stonebridge

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

All Emergencies
AT&T - Billing
Repair 800-246-8464
CenterPoint Energy713-659-2111
HCA Houston ER 24/7 281-897-3100
Harris County Animal Control 281-999-3191
Harris County Flood Control713-684-4000
Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO)713-221-6000
Newsletter Publisher - Peel, Inc
Advertisingadvertising@PEELinc.com
Websitewww.PEELinc.com
Poison Control Center
Reliant/NRG713-207-7777
Trash - Best Trash
Vacation Watch (to place) - HCSO Pct. 4 281-290-2100
W. Harris County MUD #11
(Tops Water Management)
Willow Place Post Office

## **ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY**

Amenities Access CardRequest at
access@grahammanagementhouston.com
Beautification Committee Open Position
Clubhouse Reservations and Pool Parties
Mandi Branam
mbranam@grahammanagementhouston.com
Lost Pet Coordinator
Sonia Mooremsrco@aol.com
Marquee Coordinator
Barbara Lallingerblallinger@hotmail.com
Newsletter Coordinator
Barbara Lallinger & Krystina Cotton
willowbridgenews@gmail.com
Soccer Field Coordinator
Jay Guarinojvguarino@hotmail.com
Tennis Coordinator
Cory Feincoryfein@yahoo.com
Website Coordinatorwillowbridgehoa@live.com
Welcoming Committee
Gracie Galvangalvangracie@hotmail.com
Yard of the Month Committee
Nominate your favorite willowbridgehoa.com

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Thomas Wilson	President
Barbara Lallinger	.Secretary
Candyce Ward	Treasurer
David Smith	Director

### HOA INFORMATION

Willowbridge Homeowners Association Inc Graham Mgmt	
Mandi Branam713-334-8000	
E-Mail mbranam@grahammangementhouston.com	
Fax	
2825 Wilcrest Dr., #600 Houston, Tx. 77042	
If you have any questions or comments regarding the neighborhood	
please contact the numbers above.	

### **BOARD MEETINGS**

**QUARTERLY MEETINGS:** 4th Thursday of January, April & July @ 6:00 pm. **ANNUAL HOMEOWNER'S MEETING:** 4th Thursday of October @ 6:00 pm. Additional meetings may be held as determined and NOTICED by the Board of Directors via the marquee and website.

#### 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. willowbridgenews@gmail.com

## WillowTalk

### One Person's Trash...Is Another Person's Treasure



At the HOA Board of Directors Meeting held Thursday, June 27, the board voted to approve the Fall Community Garage Sale and set the date as Saturday, October 19, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Since the last (3) garage

sales have encountered rain, the board also approved a "rain date" of Saturday, October 26. Only one sale is approved. Please watch the new marquee and website for updates from the board. Please note that all personal garage sale signs and leftover "treasures" are required to be moved from sight by 5:00 pm. Whether you're a participant, buyer or "just looking", bargains abound for those willing to haggle and bargain!

1. You may place a sign in your yard no earlier than Friday night.

2. Your customers may not block neighbor's driveways/sidewalks or the bank of mailboxes. It is your responsibility to have someone monitoring this.

3. No loud music or other noise nuisance is allowed during the sale.

4. Personal signs MAY NOT be placed on the West Rd. esplanades or on easements (grass) between the Willowbridge/Stonebridge fence and West Rd. These signs are considered to be "bandit signs" and are ILLEGAL in Harris County. See examples and penalties for these signs in this article.

5. Community Garage Sale signs will be placed at all (3) entrances: Willowbridge Park Blvd., Stone Villa Dr., and Wheatland Dr.

6. Residents ARE NOT ALLOWED to leave any unsold items or trash on lawns, driveways, sidewalks, curbs or easements. Please pick up any litter left behind from the curbs and street gutters. Leftover "treasurers" may be taken to a donation site listed below or another of your choice:

1. Goodwill – 9215 West Rd. Saturday: 9 am – 8 pm Sunday: 10 am – 6 pm

2. Goodwill – 12352 Jones Rd. Saturday: 9 am – 9 pm Sunday: 10 am – 6 pm

3. The Mission of the Yahweh – 10247 Algiers Rd. (off Gessner between Tanner Rd. & Clay Rd.), serving homeless women and their children since 1961.

4. The Hope Chest – 12015 Barker Cypress Rd., Cypress 77433 (south side of Hwy. 290) Saturday: 10 am – 3 pm/Sunday: Closed/ Monday: 10 am – 5 pm, sales benefit Cy-Hope whose mission is to make life better for kids in Cy-Fair. Cy-Hope brings HOPE to all students so that they will grow up to be well educated and productive citizens, making a lasting and positive impact on the community.

As a reminder, Harris County has had a Bandit Sign Law in place since 2008. The law was passed to reduce the so-called bandit signs that you typically see fastened to street signs, telephone poles and/or planted in the right-of-ways (medians and street curbs) of busy streets. Violators may be fined \$500 - \$1,000 for EACH OFFENSE (sign)!

Examples of Bandit Signs, include, but are not limited to:

- \* Lawn Services
- \* Handyman Services
- \* Painters
- \* Maid Services
- \* Home Buyers \* Open House Signs
- \* Tax Preparation Services
- \* Carpet Cleaning Services
- \* Physical Fitness/Workout Clubs
- \* After School Child Care
- \* After School Activities
- \* Weight Loss Programs/Pills
- \* Campaign Signs
- \* GARAGE/ESTATE/YARD SALE SIGNS

Almost any sign placed in one of these locations can be considered a Bandit Sign, unless it is an official county, state, municipality or traffic direction sign. And...attaching a sign to these authorized signs is a violation of the Bandit Sign Law.

If you have any questions regarding the garage sale, please email: blallinger@hotmail.com



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## <u>Willowbridge - Stonebridge</u>

### The Pet Place

Harris County Homeland Security & Emergency Management – Smart PAWZ

#### Get Your Pet Ready for Emergencies

Texas has pet friendly emergency shelters so you can bring your pet with you if you have to evacuate your home.

#### Emergency Pet Kit and What Goes in It

Your pet kit should be a lightweight, smaller version of what your family has. Consider having both a home emergency kit as well as a smaller grab-and-go kit.

1. Leash & collar with ID tag that includes your phone number  $% \left( {{{\left( {{{L_{\rm{B}}}} \right)}_{\rm{s}}}_{\rm{s}}} \right)$ 

- 2. Copy of immunization and health records
- 3. Pet muzzle (to prevent bites to rescue personnel)
- 4. Picture of your pet in case you are separated
- 5. Pet food, water and dishes for 7 10 days
- 6. Pet medication(s) for (7 10 days)
- 7. Toys, beds, and comforting items for your pet

#### Your Pet's Carrier

Write the name of your pet, its description and your phone number on it with a permanent marker, in several places.

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### WE WANT YOU!!!

Flag Steward Needed: AN Excellent Chance to Volunteer in the Neighborhood

Our current flag steward, Eagle Scout, Lance Neidhardt will be attending Texas A & M University in the fall. The Board is looking for his replacement and anyone 16 or older may apply, including individuals, a family, etc. The perfect candidate will possess the following:

1. Treat the flag with respect.

2. Acquaint themselves with flag etiquette and the rules regarding required times to raise and lower the flag.\*

3. Know when it's time to retire a flag (tattered or torn) and notify the Board that a new flag is required.

4. Retire the flag in a dignified manner by destroying it, preferably by burning. VFW Halls and Boy Scouts can usually aid in this procedure.

5. Notify the Board if the light that illuminates the flag at night is not working.

\* How to Fly the U. S. Flag – the flag should be raised and lowered by hand. Never raise the flag while it is furled – unfold, then hoist quickly to the peak of the flagstaff. It should be lowered slowly and ceremoniously. The flag should never be allowed to touch anything beneath it, such as the ground or the floor.

No other flag may be flown above the United States flag except at the United Nations Headquarters. The UN flag may be placed above flags of all member nations. In the UN enclave, national flags of all members are flown with equal prominence.

\* According to the U. S. Flag Code: "By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory.

The flying of the flag at half-staff is a sign of mourning. When flown at half-staff, the flag should be first hoisted to the peak, then immediately lowered to the half-staff position. It should be raised to the peak again for a moment before it is lowered for the day. "Half-staff" is the point midway between the top and bottom of the flagstaff.

\*On Memorial Day the flag should be hung at half-staff until noon, when it should be raised to the top of the staff.



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## WillowTalk REVENGE OF THE GIANT CARPENTER BEES!

This summer the carpenter bees returned with a vengeance in certain areas of our neighborhood, most notably to the Pool Pump House sending several of the new lifeguards running!

Though often confused with bumble bees, carpenter bees can be readily identified by their black (slick and shiny) abdomen. The thorax of the carpenter bee (directly behind the head) is usually covered with yellow, orange or white hairs.

As pollinators, carpenter bees are generalists in our gardens and landscapes. They may be found foraging on a number of different species of plants, flowers and vegetables. Like their close cousins, the bumble bees, carpenter bees are early morning foragers. They are excellent pollinators of eggplant, tomato and other vegetables and many types of flowers. Very powerful thoracic muscles allows them to become living, tuning forks when they land on flower blossoms and they can sonicate the dry pollen grains out of the flowers anthers. This type of pollen collection is known as "buzz pollination". Carpenter bees are actually mass produced in the Philippines for farm-pollination services.

Did you know they are "robber" bees? On occasion carpenter bees can be quite ingenious in their foraging for nectar. Because of their large size, they are not capable of entering long, tubular flowers such as those produced by salvia and yellow bells... Instead, they become nectar robbers, using their mouthparts to cut a slit at the base of the corolla (all of the plant petals) and steal the nectar without having pollinated the flowers.

Unlike the bumble bee that typically builds colonies in the

ground, the carpenter bee is a solitary bee, preferring to live and rest alone in wood tunnels. Carpenter bees DO NOT CONSUME WOOD, but their tunneling can be destructive, especially if several generations have been tunneling in the same area. They prefer softwoods (cedar, pine, cypress, redwood); however they will also tunnel in hardwoods that have been softened by exposure or decay. Weathered woods are a common target of carpenter bees; thus, they are often found tunneling in fence posts, lawn furniture, decks, window shutters, roofs and eaves of buildings, and wood shingles/siding. To deter their behavior, keep exposed wood surfaces, including nail holes and saw cuts, coated with polyurethane or oil-based paint. Consider using non-wood building materials such as vinyl siding, to avoid possible damage. If tunnel entrances are found in buildings, seal them immediately with caulk.

Little Known Facts about Carpenter Bees:

1. Only the female carpenter bee stings (the male is incapable of stinging), but seldom does, unless provoked.

2. The males buzz and hover in an aggressive manner to scare you. They are the primary nest builders.

3. The adult bees hibernate in their nests during the winter. The older female and male bees that created the nest die during the summer after the larvae are laid.

4. Newly developed adult carpenter bees emerge in August and feed on nectar, returning to the tunnels to over-winter and start the cycle over again.



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## Willowbridge - Stonebridge

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Houston Methodist Cancer Center at Willowbrook 18220 State Hwy. 249 Houston, TX 77070



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