



TARRYTOWN

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF TARRYTOWN
AND DEEP EDDY

SEPTEMBER 2019

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Lettuce Recycle!

By Dena Houston



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EXCITING RECYCLING NEWS!!!!

CURBSIDE COMPOST COLLECTION EXPANDS TO 53,000 MORE HOUSEHOLDS!!

As of September 23, 2019, curbside composting will expand. To see if your address is in the expansion area, go to <https://austintexas.gov/page/my-collection-schedule>. Type in your address and go to the September calendar to see if compost collection begins. Here is a website with information about curbside composting <http://austintexas.gov/austincomposts>.

A week or so prior to September 23rd, a 32-gallon green collection bin will be delivered and collection will begin the week of the 23rd. Compost is collected weekly. The green bin can also be used for leaves and sticks as well as food product. Only compostable plastic bags can be used to collect food product that is placed in the bin. The plastic bag must be BPI-Certified Compostable.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILED COMPOST COLLECTION INFORMATION IN THE OCTOBER "LETTUCE RECYCLE".

TIRE RECYCLING IN AUSTIN

Tires can be taken to the Recycle & Reuse Drop-off center OR picked up curbside during bulk collection. They are then taken to a facility where they are shredded by a giant tire shredder. A strong magnet pulls the steel belts out of the tires and the shredded rubber is then recycled to build playgrounds, roads, and track and field surfaces.

RECYCLING FACT CHECK!

There are three areas in which many City of Austin recycling customers still recycle incorrectly. As a Recycling Block Leader, I feel it is very important to demystify this confusion. The three areas are as follows:

1. Coffee cups and cardboard milk cartons **CANNOT** be recycled in the blue curbside bin.

2. Plastic bags (full or empty) **CANNOT** be placed in the blue curbside bin.

3. **STYROFOAM IS RECYCLABLE** in Austin at the Recycle & Reuse Drop Off Center.

COFFEE CUPS AND CARDBOARD MILK CARTONS

Coffee cups are coated in plastic so that they won't leak. This plastic coating keeps the cup from being recyclable. Coffee cups go into the trash cart.

Cardboard milk and juice cartons are made up of layers of paper, plastic and aluminum. There is no way to separate those layers to make these containers recyclable. They must go into the trash cart.

BAGGING RECYCLABLES

Many people are in the habit of putting their recyclables in a plastic bag before they put it in the recycling cart, just like they do their trash and compost. However, plastic bags (empty or full) cannot be placed in our blue recycling bins!

When a full plastic bag arrives at the recycling sorting facility, it is immediately thrown into a pile that goes to the landfill. The sorters do not have the time to open the plastic bags and determine which materials are recyclable. In addition, it is a safety issue because there are often hazardous materials in the bags (broken glass, needles etc.). The City of Austin (and ultimately the rate payer) ends up paying to have these bags carted from the sorting facility to the landfill. So, all the hard work of collecting the recyclables and putting them into your blue bin is wasted because they end up in the landfill!

STYROFOAM

The Recycling & Reuse Drop-Off Center will take Styrofoam (meat trays, egg cartons, cups, plates, and block Styrofoam). All must be

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Police Department	512-975-5000
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	512-974-0845
Animal Services Office.....	311

SCHOOLS

Austin ISD.....	512-533-6000
Casis Elementary School	512-414-2062
O. Henry Middle School.....	512-414-3229
Austin High School.....	512-414-2505

UTILITIES

City of Austin.....	512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service.....	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies.....	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	512-472-2822
Grande Communications.....	512-220-4600
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing.....	1-800-858-7928
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service.....	512-485-5555
Repairs.....	512-485-5080
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Ausitn City Hall.....	512-974-7849
Ausitn City Manager.....	512-974-2200
Austin Police Dept (Non Emergency).....	512-974-5000
Austin Fire Dept (Non Emergency).....	512-974-0130
Austin Parks and Recreation Dept.....	512-974-6700
Austin Resources Recoovory	512-494-9400
Austin Transportation Dept.....	512-974-1150
Municipal Court	512-974-4800
Post Office.....	512-2478-7043
City of Austin.....	www.AustinTexas.gov

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(Continued from Cover)

clean and dry. At the facility, it gets shredded, then melted down and shipped out to be made into other plastic products. The only Styrofoam not accepted is packing peanuts. Please take those to Pak Mail, UPS, FedEx, or other mailing facilities. They will reuse them.

The reason we cannot put Styrofoam into our blue curbside bin is that it gets broken so easily into small pieces that cannot be contained or sorted.

QUESTION FROM A READER:

WHAT DO I DO WITH AN OLD BARBEQUE GRILL? CAN I PLACE PARTS OF IT INTO MY CURBSIDE RECYCLING BIN? Metal grill parts cannot go into the blue curbside bin. You can take the grill to the Recycle & Reuse Drop Off Center where the steel components will be recycled OR wait till the next bulk item collection date when the entrepreneurs will pick it up.

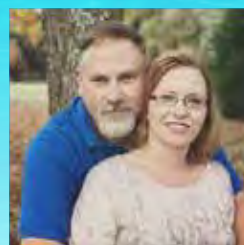
Here is a very informative City of Austin recycling website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>

Stay tuned for future tips that will include creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to: recycling@hpwbana.org

**PLEASE REMEMBER – WHEN IN DOUBT,
THROW IT OUT!!!**



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TARRYTOWN REAL ESTATE market report update

Summer 2019 In Review

by **Troy McWhorter**

At the end of the summer I like to provide a comparison of the summer buying season with past years. I use the dates corresponding to the AISD summer schedule, which this year lasted from May 25th – August 19th. Here are some highlights, as well as table and graph for a sense of the trends.

		SUMMER 2013	SUMMER 2014	SUMMER 2015	SUMMER 2016	SUMMER 2017	SUMMER 2018	SUMMER 2019
		June 6 - August 25	June 6 - August 24	June 5 - August 23	June 2 - August 21	June 2 - August 20	May 31 - August 19	May 25 - August 19
		80 days	79 days	79 days	80 days	79 days	80 days	87 days
SOLD	Single Family Homes Sold	33	40	32	28	35	42	34
List Price	Avg List Price	\$ 1,096,264	\$ 1,212,302	\$ 1,176,370	\$ 1,267,811	\$ 1,301,013	\$ 1,311,811	\$ 1,470,637
	Median List Price	\$ 849,000	\$ 981,800	\$ 1,085,000	\$ 1,044,500	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 1,125,000
Sold Price	Average Net Sold Price	\$ 1,059,720	\$ 1,169,378	\$ 1,147,384	\$ 1,244,626	\$ 1,243,895	\$ 1,266,019	\$ 1,417,267
	Median Net Sold Price	\$ 839,000	\$ 991,080	\$ 1,010,000	\$ 959,000	\$ 1,065,000	\$ 1,115,837	\$ 1,034,250
List Price \$ / Sq Ft	Average List Price / Sq Ft	\$ 343	\$ 397	\$ 418	\$ 422	\$ 425	\$ 430	\$ 497
	Median List Price / Sq Ft	\$ 352	\$ 397	\$ 415	\$ 410	\$ 433	\$ 420	\$ 472
Sold Price \$ / Sq Ft	Average Net Sold Price / Sq Ft	\$ 334	\$ 386	\$ 410	\$ 409	\$ 410	\$ 418	\$ 481
	Median Net Sold Price / Sq Ft	\$ 343	\$ 383	\$ 409	\$ 407	\$ 418	\$ 406	\$ 449
Net Sold Price	Net Sold Price Range	\$350,000 - \$3,150,000	\$491,000 - \$6,750,000	\$471,000 - \$3,250,000	\$581,000 - \$3,225,000	\$600,000 - \$3,500,000	\$600,000 - \$2,900,000	\$560,000 - \$4,080,000
Net Sold Price \$ / Sq Ft	Net Sold Price Range / Sq Ft	\$171.23 - \$469.20	\$194.68 - \$864.84	\$210.65 - \$886.04	\$212.14 - \$588.83	\$224.80 - \$622.46	\$282.01 - \$608.07	\$252.21 - \$733.28
Days on Market	Average Days on Market	23	41	34	46	38	65	38
	Median Days on Market	16	27	21	22	33	17	20

Highlights:

- Number of transactions was lower than the previous 2 years, despite the summer break being a week longer than prior years tracked here
- Median list and sold prices were lower than 2018, with median sold prices down over 7% vs. 2018
- Median days on market was consistent with 2018 and indicative of strong demand for the neighborhood
- Active listings continue to decline, with 25-30% fewer active listings this summer season vs. 2018
- July had fewer transactions than previous years (down 35 - 40% vs. previous Julys)

Table: Distribution of Sales in Summer Season			
Year	June	July	Aug
2013	14	14	6
2014	13	19	8
2015	8	15	9
2016	11	11	6
2017	18	10	7
2018	16	16	10
2019	14	9	11

Note: All data comes from the Austin Board of Realtors' MLS report, reflecting activity through August 19, 2019.



Tips for Packing a Healthy School Lunch

by Stephany Pando, *cooksmares.com*, edited for space



Packing lunches for your back-to-schoolers is no easy task. It takes time and planning. Plus, every parent knows that just because you pack it, doesn't guarantee your kids will actually eat it.

However, this doesn't mean you have to fill your kids' lunchboxes with pizza and cookies everyday. Below we offer 5 tips for how to pack a nutritious lunch that your kids will look forward to eating and you'll feel good about giving them.

Tip #1: Get Your Kids Involved

- Give your kids healthy food options from each food group and let them make the final decisions on what goes in their lunch.
- Take your child grocery shopping with you and let them have a say (to a certain extent) in what goes into the cart. This promotes feelings of responsibility and empowerment.
- Designate a part of your kitchen as the "lunch packing station" and spend some time there with your kids the night before to get lunch ready for the next day.

Tip #2: Turn Healthy Foods into Fun Foods

- Use cookie cutters to make shapes out of bread, deli meat, cheese, or a melon-baller for fruit.
- Use kid-friendly skewers to make colorful food kebabs.
- Create a theme for the day and have all of the foods in their lunch relate to the theme

Tip #3: Make Your Own Snacks – and limit processed ones

Kids rely on snacks to keep their energy up, but the type of snack is important to consider. Packaged snacks tend to lack important nutrients and can be high in sugar, sodium and saturated fats. Take control of what is in your kids' snacks by making them yourself!

Tip #4: Incorporate All Food Groups

A balanced diet includes all of the food groups. Luckily, there are so many different ways to enjoy each food group:

- Fruits: fresh, frozen, dried, canned, baked (think apple chips!) or pureed.
- Vegetables: fresh, frozen, or baked (think kale chips!)
- Lean protein: baked chicken, deli meats, hard boiled eggs, beans or nuts (be aware of nut allergy regulations at your child's school).
- Low-fat dairy: milk, cheese or yogurt
- Whole Grains: pita, sandwich bread, tortillas, wraps, and pastas

Tip #5: Encourage Hydration

It's recommended that school-aged kids drink between 6-8 cups of water a day (even more in hot weather or if their activity level is high).

- Let your child pick out their favorite water bottle and encourage them to drink the whole thing at least twice at school. They'll be more inclined to do it if they feel like they are completing a challenge!
- If the "flavor" of water is too boring for them, throw in a few pieces of frozen fruit to sweeten it up – and keep it cooler.

With these tips in mind, you and your child are ready to start out the school year on the right foot. Good luck – and happy packing!



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Start the School Year Off Right



As kids head back to school, it's important to provide them with the necessary resources to succeed. As a parent, you can take steps to put your kids on the path toward a successful school year.

To help your children put the best foot forward, consider these suggestions from The Salvation Army, which operates hundreds of low-cost after-school programs for kids of all ages in low-income neighborhoods across the country and understands the importance of setting children up for success all year.

Get back into a routine. During the summer months, family routines tend to slide, especially morning rituals and bedtime habits. A few weeks before school starts, begin transitioning your way back to a normal school schedule. A gentle progression toward earlier bed and wake-up times is easier on kids physically and mentally. Try adjusting by 15 minutes each day until you reach the optimal schedule for your family. Remember that routines aren't just about the clock, though. If there are certain steps that are part of the school year routine, such as packing lunches and laying out clothes for the next day before bed, make those part of your transition plan, too.

Set a good example. Kids learn important behavioral lessons by watching the adults in their lives. The back-to-school season provides many opportunities to demonstrate compassion and social responsibility. For example, giving back to an organization like The Salvation Army helps provide funding for programs that support the educational needs of children who otherwise may not have access to the same resources.

Research resources for homework help. Discovering your child is struggling in school can be overwhelming. You'll want to be able to pull in help as quickly as possible, so it's a good idea to research resources in your area that can help provide support outside the classroom. Your school likely has some options available, but it's a good idea to also look into tutoring programs and other community services that encourage literacy and study skills as well as provide one-on-one assistance with homework and school assignments.

Get organized. The first few weeks of school typically bring plenty of change and adjustment. You can help manage the stress by creating

some structure. Use a wall calendar to keep track of school start and dismissal times, bus pick-up and drop-off times, after school activities and other appointments. Review lunch menus and plan ahead so you're not finding out at bedtime that you need to pack a home lunch in the morning. Stock up on breakfast foods and make time to catch up on laundry before school begins so hunger and wayward socks don't derail your mornings.

Explore extra-curricular programs. With the new school year comes numerous ways to enrich your kids' social and cognitive development. Extra-curricular activities let kids continue practicing skills even after the school bell rings, but in a fun environment so they may not even realize they're still learning and cultivating healthy, safe relationships with friends. In addition to sports and clubs, a wide array of music and art education activities may be available that focus on everything from choir, band and dancing to drawing, writing and acting.

Set goals. Begin the school year by encouraging your children to take ownership and pride in their learning. Talk about goals like reading a certain number of books each month or earning grades that reflect their highest potential. Get kids motivated by designing goal boards or charts that can serve as daily reminders and track their progress. For larger goals, consider setting milestones so they can celebrate progress along the way and stay motivated for a big finish.

Learn more about educational and giving opportunities in your community at SalvationArmyUSA.org.





TEACHERS' TOP NEEDS FOR 2019

Great classrooms don't happen by accident. Teachers across the country work hard to build vibrant, energizing learning environments for their students, which often means everything from microscopes to pipe cleaners, graphic novels to oboes, class pets to field trips and much more. As a result, teachers spend more than \$1 billion from their own pockets each year on supplies.

However, parents and community members can lend a hand. Helping to offset teachers' expenses can take many forms, from working directly with your child's teacher to identify needs to participating in school-based fundraisers. Another option is sharing

your assistance with a program like [DonorsChoose.org](https://www.donorschoose.org), which makes it easy for any individual to address the inequity in schools, one classroom at a time.

Over the past 19 years, more than 3.8 million people have donated to classrooms through the program. Last year alone, nearly 145,000 teachers had projects funded on the site and over 255,000 classroom requests were brought to life. These requests reveal some of the key things teachers across America need for success:

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Books, Books and More Books

While books may seem “old school,” teachers know that a single book can change a student’s life. Year after year, teachers request books more than any other resource. Many elementary school teachers ask for leveled reading books to meet their students’ individual needs. Others want to diversify their libraries with books that reflect their students’ identities. “The Hate U Give” and “Wonder” are among the most popular books requested this year, and e-readers have become a popular way to expand libraries beyond what the classroom bookshelf can hold.

Flexible Seating and Classroom Furniture

Many teachers credit flexible seating with transforming the classroom learning experience. Rather than rigid desks, students choose from comfy chairs, bouncy balls, bean bags or wobble stools, all designed to let students get those wiggles out so they can better focus on their work.

Technology

Because of rapidly evolving technology, 65% of children now entering primary school will hold jobs that don’t currently exist. Resources like laptops and tablets help students learn at their own pace and practice 21st century skills like coding. For example, coding robots and 3D printers are becoming some of the most popular items requested in high schools.

Back to the Basics

Many teachers simply need basic supplies: paper, pencils and tissues top the list. Last year, teachers requested enough pens and pencils to write the complete works of William Shakespeare more than 2,000 times.

Life Essentials

Another popular request is “hygiene closets,” which allow teachers to provide students facing poverty with free toiletries to take home such as deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, as well as laundry supplies and clean undergarments.

An Appreciation for the Arts

There are plenty of extracurricular activities at nearly every school that require care and compassion from the community. Drama teams, for example, require supplies to create music, perform plays and more. Donations often allow students to explore their artistic abilities while learning how to create sets, write their own scenes, use instruments and more while simultaneously building their management and teamwork skills.

Community Service

Not all learning must take place in a classroom. In fact, teachers across the country often take aim at new ways to engage students, such as integrating practical life into the daily curriculum through an outdoor learning environment like a community vegetable garden. By requesting composters, rain barrels, seeds, gardening tools and more, educators can take their classrooms outside to help make the planet healthier while students learn how to be healthier themselves. It also gives students an opportunity to give back to their community by donating food to local families in need.

Learn more about how you can make a difference for classrooms in need at www.donorschoose.org.



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Wedding Planning 101

Photo courtesy of Getty Images

First comes the proposal then comes the wedding planning. There are dozens of decisions that need to be made before it's time to walk down the aisle, which can be overwhelming for brides and grooms.

To help make it less stressful, these tips from Macy's can help couples through the entire wedding-planning process, from on-trend apparel and accessories for the entire wedding party to all the essentials to create a perfect registry.

Dressing the Ladies

When it comes to bridesmaid dresses, the mix-and-match approach is trending in popularity. Start by deciding on a color palette, such as lilac, champagne and petal pink. Then have each bridesmaid choose her favorite style within that range of hues. Bring it all together by choosing a uniform look for makeup, shoes and accessories.

There is no better time to thank the ladies than the morning of the big day. A few thoughtful gifts can go a long way, such as matching robes, tumblers to stay hydrated throughout the day and cosmetic cases to stow makeup essentials.

Dressing the Gents

Similar to bridesmaid dresses, groomsmen attire can be dependent

on the venue and overall event aesthetic. While a suit can fit the bill for a country club wedding, a city affair may call for the sleek finishes of a tux. Tuxedo accessories, such as cuff links or bow ties, make great groomsmen gifts and are classic pieces they can use time and time again.

Creating the Perfect Registry

When building a registry, it's never too early to start. People want to give gifts as soon as they know a couple is engaged. Start by taking inventory of what you already have, what you need and what you want to upgrade. It's also recommended to update the registry regularly so there are enough gifts to choose from, especially if there is an engagement party and bridal shower coming up. To get started, some popular registry items include stand mixers, craft beer glasses, Dutch ovens, bath towels and vacuums. For extra guidance, couples can speak to advisors who can help with the full registry building process at Macy's stores.

For more wedding ideas and inspiration, and to find the right attire and gifts for your wedding planning, visit macys.com.



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Read my market update inside.



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