

SPRING TRAILS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SPRING TRAILS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

VOL 2

ISSUE 2

Déjà vu?



Last year, Spring Trails Community Association was named Community of the Year by the Community Association Institute (CAI), Houston Chapter. Well folks, we did it again.

CAI is an international membership organization that provides information, education and resources to volunteers who govern community associations and the professionals who support them, and advocates on behalf of common-interest communities and

industry professionals before federal and state level legislatures, regulatory bodies and the courts.

Each year, CAI honors a select group of individuals and communities who have made significant contributions to the community association way of life. This year, Spring Trails was honored with 4 nominations:

Volunteer of the Year – Roger Olsen
Community Spirit Award
Community of the Year (category III)
Manager of the Year – Khara Mathews

(drum roll please...) And the 2020 Community of the Year award goes to...Spring Trails Community Association for the 2nd year in a row!!!!

The Community of the Year is awarded to a community association “which has exhibited excellence over the course of the past year in the areas of management, governance, finance and

Mark Your Calendars!

February 4th - MUD 94 Board Meeting

February 5th - Recycle Pick Up

February 13th - HOA Meeting

February 14th - Heavy Trash Day

February 19th - Recycle Pick Up

March 3rd - MUD 94 Board Meeting

March 4th - Recycle Pick Up

March 9-13 - Spring Break

(watch out for kids playing outdoors)

March 12th - HOA Meeting

March 13th - Heavy Trash Day

March 18th - Recycle Pick Up

Visit the Spring Trails Website, Calendar for event times and venues.

lifestyle opportunities.” Spring Trails Property Manager Khara Mathews accepted the award, on behalf of the Association, at the CAI annual awards gala in January.

Spring Trails is truly a “forest of possibilities”. Receiving this award again is testament to the strong community support and dedication of Spring Trails homeowners and residents. Visit the Spring Trails website at www.springtrails.com to get involved in community events and activities. For more information on CAI, visit www.caionline.org.

Who ya gonna call?

INFRAMARK

(Spring Trails Property Management) 281-870-0585

SPRING TRAILS HOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Request Manager through www.springtrails.com

Anthony Domingo

Ian Grain

Leanne Kessler

Roger Olsen

Jerry Ruschhoff

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY MUD 94

MUD 94/*Board of Directors*..... www.mcmud94.com

MUD 94/*Gulf Utility Services (water and sewer)*... 281-355-1312

MUD 94/*Republic Services (trash & recycle pickup)*.... 713-726-7300

MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Montgomery County 936-756-0571

Precinct 3 Commissioner James Noack 936-539-7817

Sheriff Rand Henderson 936-760-5871

Constable Ryan Gable 281-364-4211

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OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS**

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Common Goal

Spring Trails is fortunate to have two entities supporting our community: Montgomery County Municipal Utility District No. 94 (MUD 94), and the Spring Trails Community Association (STCA). Both entities are governed by a Board of Directors, elected by the homeowners of Spring Trails.

MUD 94 is a local, governmental entity that provides (directly or by contract) for the community's fresh water, trash and recycling service, drainage, sewer systems, and police protection. MUD 94 is funded through our annual property tax assessments and utility rates. The MUD 94 Board of Directors consists of 5 directors, all homeowners within Spring Trails, elected to serve alternating 4-year terms.

STCA provides for the day-to-day operations of the community (amenities and common areas) and enforces the community's policies and regulations. STCA is funded through the Association's annual membership assessments. The STCA Board of Directors also consists of 5 directors, all homeowners within Spring Trails, elected to serve alternating 3-year terms.

Both entities execute their duties with a common goal...to sustain a high quality of life for Spring Trails residents and protect property values for homeowners. Success of the community relies heavily on a strong and respectful working relationship between MUD 94 and STCA. This relationship has resulted in several successful, collaborative projects in recent months including reforestation and capital improvements at Cardinal Park. Other community initiatives accomplished by MUD 94 include redirected sidewalk ramps and sidewalk repairs, stormwater drainage corrections, fire hydrant repairs and repainting, and document shredding events.

For more information regarding MUD 94, visit www.mcmud94.com Information regarding STCA initiatives and programs as well as contact information is available on the Spring Trails website www.springtrails.com.

MUD 94 Board of Directors

Jim Spitzmiller, President

Jason Schultz, Vice President

Merry Leonard, Assistant Secretary

Joe Frost, Secretary

Eric Lugger, Director

STCA Board of Directors

Leanne Kessler, President

Ian Grain, Vice President & Assistant Secretary

Roger Olsen, Treasurer

Anthony Domingo, Secretary

Jerry Rueschhoff, Director and MUD 94 Liaison

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Contributed by Roger Olsen

Pruning Knockout Roses

Howdy Spring Trails gardeners! Enjoy the most recent addition to the community newsletter, a series of monthly topics on plants, gardening and lawn care. This month's focus is pruning Knockout Roses.

The Knockout Rose is a unique rose. It is self-dead heading (you don't have to remove the dead rose buds). It's very disease and drought resistant and requires only basic care to ensure it remains healthy and beautiful. One of those basic care ??? is correct pruning. Plan on pruning your knockout rose in February (a resting phase). There are two kinds of pruning: Heading Back and Rejuvenation.

Heading back reduces the overall size of the plant and is generally used in June. In February, rejuvenation is desired. Using a good set of loppers (sharp and clean), prune the rose back to 18 inch long canes cutting the cane at $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or so above a side bud. New growth will come from here. This may seem severe but the rose will rejuvenate and provide beautiful growth. Clip away any side branches on the canes and you're done.

Add fresh mulch (3 inches max) and rose food around the rose. Rose food is available at most garden centers. Watering your knockout rose should be accomplished by soaker hose and not spray, especially in the evenings which invites disease. If you don't have soaker hoses, ensure sprinkler watering is done in the morning allowing the plant to dry during the day.

Texas A&M Horticulture publishes a variety of articles on how to prune and care for knockout roses at <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>. A number of videos are also available online that will help you prune your knockout roses correctly.



SAFETY ALERT

For the safety of residents and to protect the community's investments, residents are reminded that the monuments throughout Spring Trails were not constructed for recreational activity. Residents and their children are asked to refrain from climbing on or playing around the main monument and the village monuments.

Thank you for your cooperation.



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SPRING TRAILS

FERAL HOGS...NO JOKE!!!

Contributed by Jerry Rueschhoff

Feral hogs are a serious problem throughout most of Texas. At a minimum, they are a nuisance and at worst, a threat to personal safety. Spring Trails residents have experienced several \$1000s in damage to their yards and landscaping over the past several years. Thankfully, no one has been injured!!!

Spring Trails Community Association (STCA) contracted with Texas Feral Hog Control, a local feral hog control specialist, to reduce our exposure to these dangerous animals. Large traps designed specifically for feral hogs were set within the heavily-wooded areas surrounding Spring Trails and have been very effective at containing their activity and proliferation.

Over the past few weeks, the Association's traps have been contaminated by humans, primarily teens exploring the woods. Humans leave their scent and trash behind. These smells alert the feral hogs to a human presence, deterring the hogs from the area, and forcing them to expand their territory.

The quickest and most effective resolution to a contaminated trap is to relocate it, costing the Association approximately \$1500 per incident. You can help avoid these unnecessary corrections and the associated costs. Educate your family about the purpose

and potential dangers associated with the feral hog traps and the consequences of their actions.

Know the facts:

- "Sounders" are groups of females and young of various ages.
- Females are capable of having two litters per year, producing 10-12 piglets per litter.
- Boars typically move independent of sounders but join them for short periods.
- Boars move greater distances than sounders to pursue breeding opportunities.
- Adult feral hogs can grow to weigh 300+ pounds and stand over 3 feet at shoulder height.
- Feral hogs will charge at humans if they feel threatened.
- Feral hogs are omnivores, eating both plant and animal matter (small rodents, roots, fruit, grubs, and grains like corn).
- Feral hogs compete for food and habitat resources with native animals. Don't feed the wildlife. Leaving corn out for deer or squirrels will attract feral hogs to your home.
- Feral hogs foul water sources for native wildlife and humans.
- Feral hogs will prey on the young of livestock and wildlife such as kids, lambs, and deer fawns.

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Welcome to Spring Trails!

Spring Trails welcomed dozens of new families to the community last Fall. Are you one of them? Welcome! You've probably already figured out just how unique Spring Trails is. And there's more to come. Stay up-to-date on community news by registering with the Spring Trails website at www.springtrails.com. There you can review the Community's governing documents, preview and RSVP to upcoming community events, contact property management and the Board of Directors, request amenity access, sign up for text and email announcements, read about community initiatives, and much more.

Welcome to Spring Trails, the Forest of Possibilities.

A Fun, Fruity, Refrigerated Treat

Save time on family desserts with make-ahead recipes like these Kristoff Ice Box Cupcakes. By using kid-friendly treats that add

nutrition to appealing flavor, you can solve busy evenings just by reaching into the fridge. This and other family-friendly recipes are part of Dole's healthy-living alliance with Disney's Frozen 2. For details, visit dole.com/Disney. #Dole #DoleRecipes



Kristoff Ice Box Cupcakes

Prep time: 20 minutes, plus chill time

Serves: 12

- 3 ripe DOLE® Bananas
- 1 container (8 ounces) fat-free whipped topping, thawed
- 7 low-fat honey graham crackers, coarsely crushed
- 1 pound Dole Strawberries, hulled and quartered

Line 12-cup muffin tin with cupcake liners. In large bowl, mash bananas; fold in whipped topping.

Fill muffin cups halfway with graham cracker pieces, banana mixture and strawberries; repeat layers with remaining ingredients.

Refrigerate cupcakes 4 hours; serve in cupcake liners.

Approximate nutritional information per serving (1 cupcake): 78 calories; 3 calories from fat; 0 g fat; 0 g trans fat; 0 g polyunsaturated fat; 0 g monounsaturated fat; 0 mg cholesterol; 25 mg sodium; 164 mg potassium; 18 g carbohydrates; 2 g fiber; 8 g sugar; 1 g protein; vitamin A 0%; vitamin C 25%; calcium 2%; iron 2%; vitamin E 2%; thiamin 2%; vitamin B6 8%; phosphorus 2%; magnesium 4%; manganese 10%.

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