

# RIVER PARK WEST

*Keeping You Informed, Educated & Connected*

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MARCH 2020

## SPRING TRAVEL



Travel can be an exciting, eye-opening experience. It's easy to get caught up in the thrill of adventure. But don't forget about travel security and safety considerations while you're abroad. Follow these 7 travel safety tips to help you take a trip that's memorable for all the right reasons.

### **1. Do your research**

Get to know your destination in depth before you arrive. Read traveler reviews and consult with locals for information about the safest neighborhoods, places to stay and incidences of crime. Check

the State Department's website for country updates and enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). Another important travel security precaution is to know whom to call in an emergency. Get the contact information for the nearest embassy or consulate, police station, and other local emergency departments.

### **2. Don't draw attention**

People who look like they're from out of town are especially vulnerable to crime, so try to blend in as much as you can. Choose inconspicuous clothing that won't attract attention. Be discreet when looking at maps and approach people carefully if you need to ask for directions. Also consider investing in protective clothing and gear that will make it more difficult for pickpockets to steal money and other personal items.

### **3. Make copies of important documents**

You never know when you might need a copy of your passport, driver's license or another form of identification. Scan these documents to save online and print out several hard copies. That way, you won't be scrambling to find proper documentation if you need to get home.

### **4. Keep your friends and family updated**

No matter whether you're going, on an overnight jaunt or a month-long international journey, it's always a good idea to let friends or family back home know. Before you leave, send a copy of your itinerary to a few trusted people who can keep tabs on your whereabouts. Check in regularly with your contacts so they know you're where you're supposed to be.

### **5. Be wary of public Wi-Fi**

Don't let the convenience of Internet access cloud your judgment. When you use public Wi-Fi, hackers looking to steal valuable information can access your data including credit card or Social Security numbers. If you do need wireless Internet service, set up a virtual private network (VPN) that will allow you to access the Internet securely while traveling.

### **6. Safeguard your hotel room**

Even if your hotel has strong security measures in place, there are steps you can take to make your room safer. Lock and dead-bolt the door and keep your windows shut. You can buy a jammer, which is a portable device that slips under the door for another layer of protection. Try to give the impression that you're in your room even when you're away, such as placing the Do Not Disturb sign on the outside of your door and keeping the blinds or windows closed. Don't let any strangers into your room, even if they say they work for the hotel. You can always call the front desk to check whether someone was ordered by hotel staff to come to your room.

### **7. Be aware of your surroundings**

Don't let your guard down to snap the perfect picture for your social media platforms. Keep an eye on your personal belongings at all times and use good judgment when talking to strangers. A big part of the joy of traveling is the opportunities it affords to meet new people and learn about their cultures. But if someone near you is acting suspiciously, or if you feel uncomfortable, leave the area immediately.

## RESIDENT CORNER

### MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Graham Management..... 713-334-8000  
..... graham@grahammanagementhouston.com

### ONSITE & EVENTS COORDINATOR

Dee Norman

Email: rpwcoordinator@gmail.com

Tues – Thurs 10am to 5pm  
346.380.9743

### COMMUNITY WEBSITE

www.facebook.com/RiverParkWest  
www.riverparkwestonline.org

### NEWSLETTER

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**Informed Delivery** - This feature sends a daily picture of all the mail for the owner's address to a registered email address before the carrier touches it. Click Track and Manage, Informed Delivery, Check for Eligibility. Visit USPS.com.

**Trash Collection & Heavy Pick-Up** days are Tues & Fridays (Recycling on Fridays) - Residents can contact WCA directly for payment and trash container request by phone 281-368-8397 or by email contact@wcamerica.com

## BOARD INFORMATION

Tiffany Chen - President  
Larry Wilson - Vice President  
Jorge Diaz - Secretary/Treasurer



*Board Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of every other month with open to the public for all homeowners at 7pm. Confirmed meeting dates are notified 72 hours in advance on the official community website and sent via email to registered emails. Please be sure to register your email to stay informed.*

**Street parking complaints** can be reported directly to Fort-bend County Sheriff Dept. 281-341-4665 press #4 for Dispatch or from the web site. Click on 'Report a Traffic Complaint' and fill in the blanks then submit at [www.fortbendcountytexas.gov](http://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov)

**CenterPoint Energy** maintains street lights throughout the community. Please use the form online to report a street light outage. If you need to report a power outage please call 713-207-2222

**To report street repairs** in the community, please submit a maintenance request form online or contact the Fort bend County Road & Bridge division at 281-342-4513

**To report street & drainage concerns**, questions about your water bill & usage, contact City of Richmond 281-342-5456

# Make an impact.

Call today to reserve this space.



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## Yard of the Month

**Congratulations to the RiverPark West Yard of The Month winners for February!**

22018 Canyonwood Park Ln and 22322 Slate Oaks Ln!

The winners each received a \$25 gift card in appreciation of their hard work and dedication in keeping RPW beautiful.



## Need to Reserve the Clubhouse?

- To make a reservation, please contact your Community Coordinator, Dee Norman at 346-380-9743 or via email- [rpwcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:rpwcoordinator@gmail.com)

- To reserve a time slot please submit your name, property address, date/time of rental (please include set up time and clean up time) Maximum reserve time is 10 hours, last 5 digits of your access card and event type.

You are required to read the Clubhouse Rules & Rental Contract. The rental rules and contract must be completed and submitted to the clubhouse office to receive approval along with payment of \$50.00 for the rental fee and a payment of \$275.00 security deposit which is refundable.

Make sure you have your pool access card. This card will be your key for the clubhouse.

Your HOA account must be paid current for your reservation to be approved.

RiverPark West Community events that require the usage of the clubhouse will take precedence over any individual reservations. These events are on the Reservation Calendar and the Community Events Calendar.

## Become a RiverPark West Volunteer

Do you want to see & participate in more community activities?

Community Associations thrive on volunteers and there are many volunteer opportunities available. The dedication and skills of volunteers are an invaluable commodity. Find out how you can help and make yourself at home! If you would like to participate, please email [rpwcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:rpwcoordinator@gmail.com).

### YARD OF THE MONTH

Help keep our community beautiful and participate in Yard of the Month! This is your chance to hold the title of one of the best yards in RiverPark West. Each yard will be judged in the following categories: Shrubs, Trees, Flowerbeds, Lawn Accents and Overall Appearance. Monthly winners will receive a gift card to a home improvement store as well as the honor of displaying the YOTM sign.

### SOCCER CLUB

This club is an organization whose purpose is to develop individual and team soccer excellence in order to compete at the highest level each individual and team is capable of for those children under the age of 8. If interested email Coach Wendell, [geeman32@gmail.com](mailto:geeman32@gmail.com) or join the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2040440646278121/>.

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## Host Families Needed

### A Cultural Experience

Want to bring a little culture into your life and the lives of your children? Why not try hosting a high school foreign exchange student? It's a great way to learn about a new culture all from the comfort of your home.

STS Foundation is currently looking for host families for the 2020/2021 school year. Hosting is such a rewarding experience and it benefits all of those involved.

STS Foundation accepts all types of host families – from single parents, newly marrieds, empty nesters and same sex couples. In order to host, you would need to meet the following qualifications:

- Host must be 25 years or older
- Pass a background check
- Provide food for 3 meals daily
- Ensure reliable transportation to and from school (bus is ok)
- A bed for your student
- A safe and loving home

STS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that places foreign exchange students with American host families. For more information about hosting, please contact me at 832-455-7881 PM me or email at [vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com](mailto:vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com).

## Baby Squirrel Season WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

*By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center*



And so it begins. Baby season 2020 and it all begins with baby squirrels. There are a number of reasons why baby squirrels get separated from mom. Homeowners cut down trees that have nests, high winds can blow nests down or can knock babies out of the nest or sometimes they just fall out. Whatever the reason, you can help.

The first thing you want to do is make sure the baby is safe and warm. Put it in a box or other small container

with a soft towel or t-shirt. You can microwave a sock filled with rice for one minute and place it in the box with the baby or set 1/2 of the box on top of a heating pad set to low. **DO NOT TRY TO FEED IT.** If you do not see any blood on the baby and there are no ants crawling on it, you can try to reunite it with mom. A squirrel's real mom is the best mom.

1. Place the box with the baby squirrel in it near where you found the baby. You can also attach string or twine to the box and securely hang it from a low branch. Just remember to keep an eye on it from a distance so it's safe from dogs, cats and other predators.

2. Getting the baby to call for its mom can help. Sometimes gently picking up the baby will cause it to call her. You can also try holding one foot and applying gentle pressure. **DO NOT SQUEEZE HARD.** This is a tiny, fragile baby.

3. If it's raining lightly, cover half the box and put the baby on the dry half. If it's pouring, keep the baby inside until the rain lets up. Remember to **KEEP IT WARM.**

4. Be patient. It can take up to four hours for mom to come and get her little one. If she doesn't, you'll need the help of a rehabilitator. Bring the baby to us. If it's after hours, keep the baby in a quiet, dark room and keep it warm until we open. Do not attempt to feed it.

If you notice injuries, keep the baby safe and warm in a dark room until you can get it to us. Do not handle it.

If you'd like to help care for the baby squirrels that are brought to us, we have opportunities available to care for them at our Center or in your home. We will train you. For more information, email [berry.moffett@twrcwildlifecenter.org](mailto:berry.moffett@twrcwildlifecenter.org) or call 713.468.8972.

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# Tropical Fruit Salad With Coconut Crunch

1 large egg white  
2 tablespoons clover or orange-blossom honey  
1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla paste or extract  
1 teaspoon grated Meyer-lemon zest, plus 2 tablespoons fresh juice  
1 tablespoon poppy seeds Pinch of kosher salt  
2/3 cup unsweetened shredded coconut  
1 quart strawberries, halved lengthwise if large  
2 mangoes, peeled, pitted, and cut lengthwise into 1-inch thick pieces  
1 small papaya, peeled, halved, seeded, and cut lengthwise into 1-inch-thick pieces  
1 small pineapple, peeled, cored, and cut into 1-inch-thick  
Directions: Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Whisk egg white with honey, vanilla, lemon zest and juice, poppy seeds, and salt until foamy and thoroughly combined. Stir in coconut to evenly coat; spread on a rimmed baking sheet in a thin layer. Bake, stirring a few times, until golden in places, 22 to 25 minutes.  
Let cool completely (mixture will crisp as it cools). Rub between your fingers, breaking up any clumps, until crumbled. Arrange fruits on a platter; sprinkle with coconut crunch to serve. Fruits can be loosely covered with plastic, without coconut crunch, and refrigerated up to 8 hours. Coconut crunch can be stored in an airtight container at room temperature up to 1 week.



## SMART FINANCIAL CENTRE UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH 1 - LOS ANGELES AZULES**

**MARCH 2 - SARAH JAKES ROBERTS**

**MARCH 6 - MARC ANTHONY**

**MARCH 7 - DANCING WITH THE STARS**

**MARCH 8 - THE ILLUSIONISTS**

**MARCH 12- RODRIGO Y GABRIELA - THE METTAVOLUTION TOUR**

**MARCH 14 - BACHENATO 2020**

**MARCH 29- STURGILL SIMPSON: A GOOD LOOK'N TOUR**

**APRIL 3 - PRINCE ROYCE**

**APRIL 4 - THE MILLENNIUM TOUR 2020**

**APRIL 5 - ANA GABRIEL**

**APRIL 16 - BACK THE BLUE**

**APRIL 22 - SODA STEREO**

**APRIL 23- KESHA: THE HIGH ROAD TOUR**

**APRIL 24 - RICARDO MONTANER**

**APRIL 25 - RAIN**

**APRIL 26 - CELTIC WOMAN- CELEBRATION**

*FOR ADDITIONAL INFO VISIT [WWW.SMARTFINANCIALCENTRE.NET](http://WWW.SMARTFINANCIALCENTRE.NET)*

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## Indianmeal Moths



Probably the most encountered pantry pest by homeowners is the Indianmeal moth. These moths can be found in pet food, birdseed, cereals, dried fruit, nuts, powdered milk, candy, and more. Food can become infested while in fields, warehouses, or stores and

then brought into the home with infested products.

Indianmeal moth adults are small with grayish wings tipped in copper. Larvae are creamy-yellow to yellowish-green to pinkish in color with a dark brown head. Larvae tend to feed on the top of infested items and may produce silk that binds the food together. When larvae are preparing to pupate, they leave the item where they were feeding and crawl to corners or edges of walls, shelves, containers, or other items to spin a silken cocoon.

To eliminate a pantry pest problem, the first step is to locate and remove all infested items. Begin with oldest food items, usually in the back of the pantry, and inspect everything, including unopened food items since these may also be a source. When you find an infested item, do not stop your inspection, multiple items can be infested. Not all pantry pest infestations come from the pantry. Check rooms for items such as dried, decorative peppers, dried flowers, potpourri, natural supplements, make-up, or rice heating packs.

Infested items can be thrown away or treated with heat or cold. If you don't want to throw away food, either place infested food in a zip-top plastic bag and place it in the freezer for about 5-7 days or spread infested food in a thin layer on a baking sheet and bake at 250 degrees for 4-6 hours to kill any insects. Once all insects are dead, you can sift the food or pick out the insects. Another option would be to leave the insects in the food and get a little more protein with your meal!

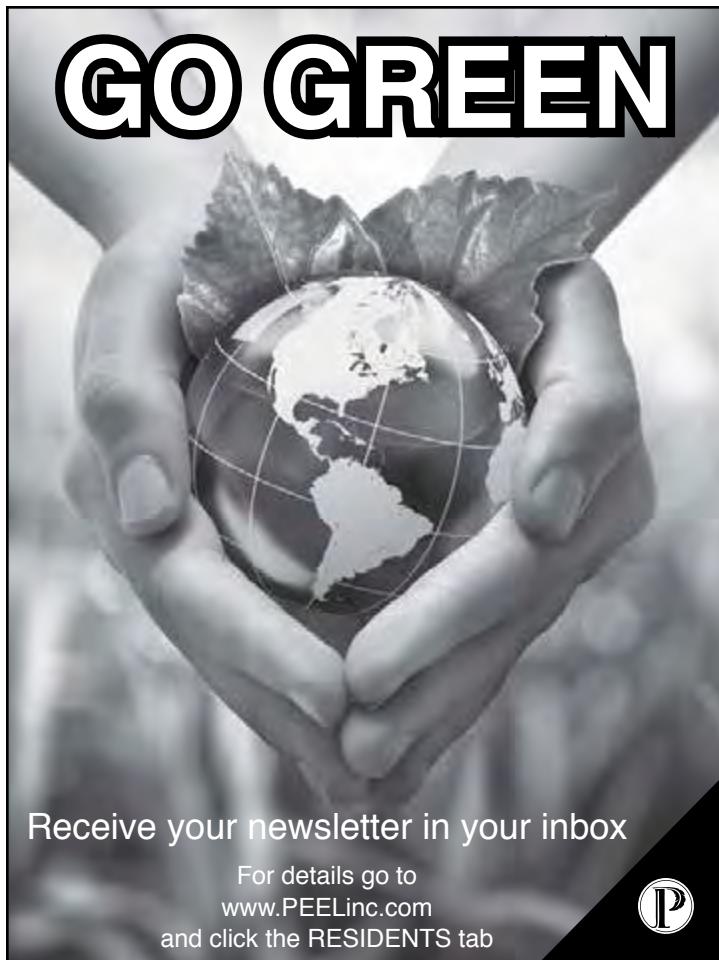
For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at [www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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# GO GREEN



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## Residents of Riverpark West

### Welcome!

Your association management company, Graham Management, has created **Graham Go**, a mobile app and website for your community.

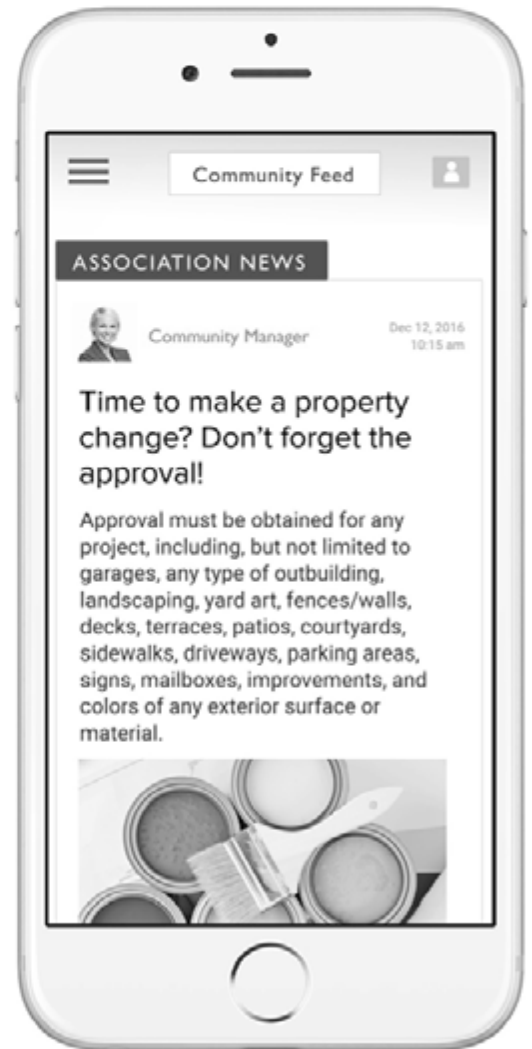
#### Get important HOA information and connect with your association:

- Receive notifications, messages and reminders from your HOA and HOA management company
- Find HOA documents, forms and events information
- Find contact information for the HOA management company
- Make a payment or check your account status

#### Multiple ways to join:

- Text "**grahamgo**" to 59248 and receive a text back with a mobile app download link
- Search for the mobile app "Graham Go" in Google Play store
- Go to [riverparkwest.nabrnetwork.com](http://riverparkwest.nabrnetwork.com)

If you haven't received a welcome email, use the new registration button and follow the instructions. If you are a new resident to the community, it may take a few days for the management company to confirm your residency. An email notification with login credentials will be sent to you once you are authorized. If you have any issues or need login support, please contact Nabr Network support ([support@nabrnetwork.com](mailto:support@nabrnetwork.com)).



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