



The HOME FRONT

MAY 2020

Official Publication of the Cardiff Ranch HOA

VOL 5, ISSUE 5

Letter From The Board

Dear neighbors,

As we are writing this message, we are on the worst week for Covid-19 cases in the New York area and other hot spots around the globe. We are all grateful for the minimum spread in Fort Bend so far, and we hope with early and continued social distancing we will escape the worst. We are all concerned for our neighbors who have been laid off, as well as our many favorite local businesses. Restaurants, stores, beauty parlors, and so many more are all suffering.

Let us all support each other, as well as our local business owners, to give us all the best chance of returning to normal as soon as possible.

So far, all of the HOA vendors continue to work, but we have seen delays. Playground equipment is currently not being manufactured. Therefore, we will postpone the start date on the playground project. The same goes for upgrading the clubhouse and pool access system.

As an HOA, we collected the 2020 dues in December of 2019. We will therefore financially be in good shape and able to pay our vendors till the end of 2020.

With so many of our neighbors working from home, we ask you to continue to help us keep the neighborhood clean and well maintained. Do you see something in the communal areas that needs help? Take a picture and send your comment to procardi@ciramail.com.

As we are all home, we see many of you walking the lake, keeping your distances and giving each other space. Thank you for sticking to the guidelines! Please keep looking out for each other.

Let's us make it our goal that when we look at back at this time, we are able to say, 'we lived at a distance, only to come closer'.

Be safe, be healthy.

Sincerely,

Your Resident Board Members



Round Tables & Board Meetings

Round Table (Saturday) and

Board Meetings (Thursday)

May 9th 9:30am - Round Table

May 21st 7pm - Board Meeting

June 13th 9:30am - Round Table

July 11th 9:30am - Round Table

July 16th 7pm - Board Meeting

August 8th 9:30am - Round Table

September 12th 9:30am - Round Table

September 17th 7pm - Board Meeting

October 10th 9:30am - Round Table

November 14th 9:30am - Round Table

November 19th 7pm - Board Meeting

December 12th 9:30am - Round Table

CARDIFF RANCH

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Emergency	911
Fort Bend County Sheriff	281-342-6116
Poison Control	800-222-1222
RealManage Service Center	866-473-2573

UTILITIES

Best Trash	281-313-2378
En-Touch (Customer Service)	281-225-1000
Fort Bend MUD # 58 (Water)	713-405-1750

SCHOOLS

Katy ISD	281-396-6000
Davidson Elementary	281-234-2500
James and Sharon Tays Junior High School	281-234-2400
Obra D. Tompkins High School	281-234-1000

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

RealManage

16000 Barkers Point Lane, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77079
(866)473-2573 • procardi@ciramail.com

CARDIFF RANCH HOA

Board Members

Kenny Welshons – President
Inge Elmendorp - Vice President & Treasurer
Prasad Patibanda – Secretary
Richard Lyles – Director
Bobbie Jo Ray – Director

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. 512-263-9181
Advertising..... advertising@peelinc.com

IMPORTANT INFO

To set up access for the pool and gym use please contact (866)473-2573

The Clubhouse is available for rentals by association members. Please call (866)473-2573 or email procardi@ciramail.com for more information.

You can report violations or concerns by calling (866)473-2573 or emailing procardi@ciramail.com. Please include photos of the violation if possible. All violation reports remain confidential.

Call for Submissions

We want your content! Do you have something fun to share? We want to hear it! This is YOUR newsletter.

Whether you want to submit just one article, a monthly column, or a quarterly editorial, we welcome your stories and community advice.

Here are some ideas, but don't feel limited to just these...

- 1) Gardening or lawn tips.
- 2) Community resources for your ethnic or cultural group.
- 3) Favorite recipes.
- 4) Volunteering opportunities.
- 5) A community crossword.
- 6) Advice on just about anything: from pets to pools.
- 7) Best places in Katy to bike or hike.
- 8) Rainy day activities for your kids.
- 9) Home maintenance dos and don'ts.
- 10) Best of Nextdoor roundups on your favorite topics.
- 11) News about a school event, tradition, or sports game.
- 12) Recap of a community event.

Here are a few items to please AVOID:

- 1) Anything with a business name or for a business purpose – sorry it's against our newsletter company's editorial guidelines.
- 2) Anything political or opinionated. Not the place for op-eds, guys. Let's keep it fun and friendly!
- 3) Anything promoting a specific religion, belief, or cause (even if it's a really great one).

Want advice on what to write or if a topic is appropriate? Please email cardiffbranchnews@gmail.com.

Submit articles to: cardiffbranchnews@gmail.com.

Articles are due by the 1st of every month for the FOLLOWING month's newsletter. (E.g. articles submitted May 1, will go into the June newsletter.)

Crape Myrtle Bark Scale

Crape myrtles are a popular landscape tree in parts of Texas, prized for their beauty. While this tree has been relatively maintenance free for years, that is no longer the case now that crape myrtle bark scale (CMBS) has been found in Texas.

Crape myrtle bark scales are small, wingless insects, pinkish in color and covered with a white, velvety covering. When you look at the bark of an infested tree, look for round to oval shaped white velvety insects. If you puncture one with a toothpick, it will exude a pink substance.



When inspecting crape myrtles for CMBS, look along trunks, limbs, as well as smaller twigs and branches found towards the top of the tree. You'll want to look for scale insects and sooty mold. Sooty mold is a black colored fungus that grows on honeydew; honeydew is an excretion from scale insects (and other small, soft-bodied insects such as aphids and mealybugs).

Heavily infested crape myrtles have CMBS that produce copious amounts of honeydew on the tree and surrounding area which leads to growth of sooty mold, turning landscape plants black. Infested crape myrtles produce fewer and smaller blooms which may be difficult to tell unless you have an uninfested tree to compare.

Only male crape myrtle bark scales fly. Others are dispersed by wind, birds, other insects, or landscape maintenance equipment to nearby areas. Long-distance transport occurs via infested material. Once CMBS are in an area, they can move onto to nearby trees.

Control options are varied for CMBS. There are lady bugs that eat CMBS, but this may take time for control as the ladybug population is tied to the population of insects they feed upon. Ensure that if you

buy and plant crape myrtles, that you inspect them and not plant any infested trees, or you select a different species of tree or shrub for the landscape.

Pesticide treatment for crape myrtle bark scale can be done with either a contact spray or a systemic. Studies from TAMU discovered that contact sprays should be used when pest numbers are peaking (crawler/ nymph numbers peak mid-April through May), and two treatments should be done with the second treatment taking place 2 weeks after the initial treatment. Insecticides with bifenthrin as the active ingredient tend to work best.

Systemic treatments should be applied earlier, when the leaves are budding out. Systemics such as imidacloprid and dinotefuran are best used as a soil treatment in March so that they are taken up by the tree and in place for the crawler population in April-May. These products should be used when trees are NOT in bloom to protect pollinators.

For a video on how to treat crape myrtles for CMBS, you should go to this link:

<https://citybugs.tamu.edu/2018/08/28/how-to-treat-your-crapemyrtle-for-bark-scale/>

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

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