

SPRING TRAILS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SPRING TRAILS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

VOL 2

ISSUE 10

SPRING TRAILS SCARECROW CONTEST

Spring Trails is excited to announce the 2020 Fall Scarecrow Contest. Families of Spring Trails are invited to create and display a homemade scarecrow at the Visitor's Center during the month of October. Entries will be eligible for a fun family prize to be awarded the last week of October.

So gather up those old work clothes, broom handles, pillow cases, buttons and patches. Any number of materials will do. Join us in kick-starting Fall with a bit of festive family fun.

Contest Rules

1. Anyone is welcome to enter the scarecrow contest!
2. To participate, entrants must complete a simple registration form and have their scarecrows on display by the required time.
3. When designing your scarecrow please keep in mind this is a family event. No political or overly violent scarecrows will be accepted.
4. Spring Trails reserves the right to refuse any scarecrow entry deemed offensive or inappropriate.

Construction

1. All scarecrows must be constructed from scratch by the participant (no commercial creations please).
2. Ormentation, accessories, finishings, bedazzling must be securely attached.
3. Entries may include up to 3 figures (see Size Limitations below).

Materials

1. Most household materials can be used.
2. Scarecrows must be able to withstand outdoor weather conditions.
3. Exceptions:
 - No glass, perishable goods or live plants shall be used.
 - No pre-moulded or commercially available face masks shall

be used.

Size Limitations

1. Minimum height of 3 feet
2. Maximum height of 8 feet.
3. Maximum width 6 feet. All elements of an entry must be displayed within the 6-foot area.

Display Requirements

1. Scarecrows must be displayed on the lawn in front of the Visitor's Center no sooner than October 1st and no later than October 25th.

2. Each scarecrow must display a contest number to be considered for a prize. Contest numbers may be pinned, tied or affixed in a manner to withstand moderate weather conditions.

3. A registration form (contact information) shall be submitted at the Visitor's Center or emailed to stjuniorreporter@gmail.com.

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SPRING TRAILS

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OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS**

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4. Contest numbers and registration forms are available at the Visitor's Center.

5. Participants are responsible for keeping their scarecrows in good viewing condition during the contest. Spring Trails reserves the right to contact participants to remove or repair a scarecrow that may deteriorate or become unsightly.

6. Scarecrows shall be picked up and removed from the Visitor's Center by 5:00 PM November 1st.

Finally... The most important rule: **HAVE FUN!!!**

Judging will begin October 26th. Winning entries will be selected by volunteer judges and announced by Wednesday, October 28th.

Spring Trails Elections



This November Spring Trails will participate in two elections:

- The first on **November 3rd** is the General Election during which registered voters will elect federal and state government officials, as well as local officials including **2 directors to the Montgomery County Municipal Utility District 94 (MUD 94) Board of Directors**.

- The second on **November 12th** when Spring Trails homeowners will elect **2 directors to the HOA Board of Directors**.

The MUD 94 Board of Directors consists of 5 directors authorized and responsible for the provision (directly or by contract) for the community's fresh water, trash and recycling service, drainage, and sewer systems. MUD 94 also contracts with the Montgomery County Constable's Office to provide additional security patrol services within the District.

MUD 94 Board directors serve 4-year terms. To be qualified to serve as a MUD 94 Board director, a person must be at least 18 years old, a resident citizen of the State of Texas, and either own land subject to taxation in municipal utility district 94 (Spring Trails Community Association) or be a qualified voter within the district. Two of the five MUD Board director's terms expired in May 2020, but due to the pandemic the election to fill the expired terms was postponed until the November general election.

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The Home Owners Association (HOA) Board of Directors also consists of 5 directors, responsible for the day-to-day operations of the community (amenities and common areas) and enforcing the HOA's policies and regulations. HOA Board directors serve 3-year terms. There are no age or residency qualifications to serve as a HOA Board director. Two of the five HOA Board director's terms expire in November 2020.

What to expect.

Spring Trails will host a meet and greet for MUD 94 candidates October 6 during the neighborhood National Night Out event.

A second meet and greet for HOA Board candidates is scheduled October 15 outside the community Visitor's Center.

Candidates for the MUD 94 Board of Directors will appear on the November 2 General Election ballot. Ballots will be available to all registered voters within the MUD 94 district in accordance with State of Texas election statute.

Candidates for the HOA Board of Directors will appear on the Association's November 12 election ballot. Ballots will be available to Spring Trails homeowners (1 each property) online, by mail, or in person at the Annual Meeting of the Members.

Mark your calendars with these important events. Details of the meet and greets as well as election updates will be included in upcoming community announcements.

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Mark Your Calendars!

October 1st – Fall Scarecrow Contest kick-off.

October 6th – MUD 94 Board meeting

October 6th – National Night Out and MUD 94 Election Meet & Greet

October 7th – Recycle Pickup

October 9th – Heavy Trash Day

October 15th – HOA Board meeting and HOA Election Meet & Greet

October 21st – Recycle Pickup

October 25th – Last day to enter your Scarecrow

October 31st – Community Trunk or Treat

November 3rd – General Election

November 3rd – MUD 94 Board meeting

November 4th – Recycle Pickup

November 12th – Annual Meeting and HOA Election

November 13th – Heavy Trash Day

November 18th – Recycle Pickup

November 26th – Thanksgiving

Watch for details of new Fall community activities in the October issue of the Spring Trails newsletter.

National Night Out! You are Invited!

Join the Spring Trails Annual National Night Out Picnic October 6 at Cardinal Park.

This year's event will be scaled down a bit to allow for social distancing and minimal contact.

Spring Trails is partnering with Chick-Fil-A Grand Parkway and Kona Ice to serve up hot chicken sandwiches meals and delicious shaved ice.

Bring the kids and spend a couple hours with local first responders and neighbors. Sign thank you posters for each department thanking them for their service to our community.

As an added bonus, Spring Trails will be hosting a meet and greet for the MUD 94 Board of Directors candidates. Registered voters will elect 2 directors to the MUD 94 Board of Directors in November. Candidates for this year's election will be available to answer questions, discuss issues and share ideas for the future of Montgomery County Municipal Utility District 94.

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend

October 4, 2020

A day to honor and remember
America's fallen fire heroes.

"The sound of a bell holds special significance for firefighters. Historically, the toll of a bell summoned members to the station, signaled the beginning of a shift, notified departments of a call for help, and indicated a call was completed and the unit had returned to the station.

Departments sounded a series of bells when a firefighter died in the line of duty to alert all members that a comrade had made the ultimate sacrifice. This time-honored tradition continues today during the funerals or memorial services for firefighters." - National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

On Sunday, October 4th, flags will be lowered to half-staff and bells will ring from coast to coast as a grateful nation pauses to honor those firefighters who died in the line of duty. Visit www.firehero.org for ideas on how you and your family can honor America's fallen firefighters.



How Does Your Garden Grow?

Contributed by Roger Olsen

Hopefully your lawn survived the brown patch attack. Now it's time to think about preparing our lawns for winter dormancy and Spring success. October is not too late for applying these practices but don't wait much longer!

Fertilizer: Fall fertilizing is done to give your lawn a head start in Spring, NOT to keep it green now through Spring. Texas A&M and other experts recommend getting your winter fertilizer down at least 6 weeks before the location's typical first frost so NOW would be a good time to put down a fertilizer listed as a winterizing type fertilizer. A couple of the major brands offer fall / winter feeding blends and sometimes have added weed killers so those winter weeds don't get a grip in your lawn.

Watering: Fall is when you should put an end to automated irrigation. Your lawn will need very little water as it nears dormancy. And with our consistent rain this time of year, you might want to turn off your automated system altogether. Plan on turning it on again in April. But if your system waters your garden also, consider stopping all lawn zones and watering your garden only once per week.

Weeds: Fall is when many winter weeds such as lawn burweed or annual bluegrass start to emerge. You can take preventive action by applying a Fall pre-emergent herbicide. Again, do that NOW while the soil is still "warm". Select an herbicide SPECIFICALLY listed for lawns as a pre-emergent. This will prevent weeds that try to come back next Spring. Most Fall fertilizers don't come with pre-emergence control. Preen and Scott's Halts are two of the more common brands of specific pre-emergent products. ALWAYS read the labels of your products...you will save yourself time and anguish over a ruined lawn/garden.

Disease: As temperatures begin to drop in the Fall, turfgrass diseases become more active. As mentioned above and last month, don't water if your lawn looks fine and consider turning off your automated irrigation, watering manually if the grass wilts from dry soil. Check the forecast for rain and defer irrigating if rain is certain. Shade, poor drainage, cutting grass too short (keep it at 2.5 to 3.5 inches) can stress your lawn and encourage diseases.

Next month I'll discuss when and how to plant trees.

JUNIOR REPORTER School is in Session!!

Contributed by: Samantha Rana, 5th grade

As we all know school is here, and students going into fifth grade are deciding what fine arts they're going to do. If you're a kid and still deciding, this might help.

For kids who love making crafts or expressing themselves in color, you should do fine arts.

For kids who love deep sounds and high sounds, you should choose orchestra. Orchestra has the Violin, Cello, and Viola. If you're not sure on what you want for orchestra, set up an appointment and you can try out all the instruments.

If you're the kid who likes to march together with other kids and make noise with loud instruments then you should choose band. Band has the clarinet, the flute, the trombone, trumpet, and so forth. You'll need to set up an appointment to try out the instruments for band.

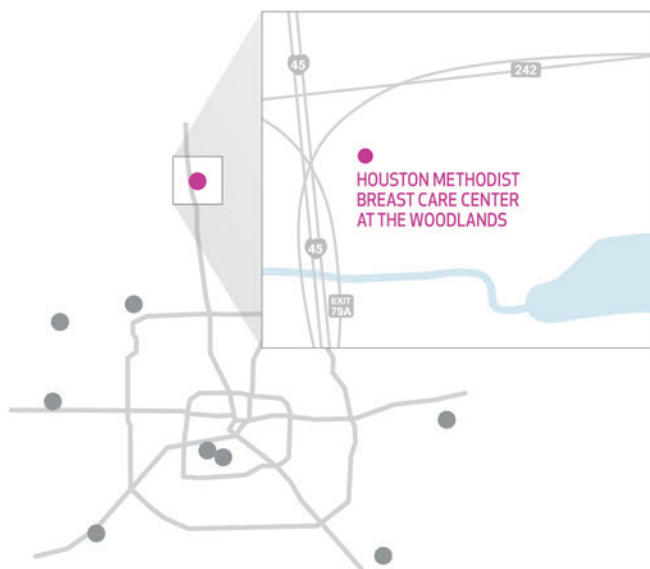
I hope this helped you decide.



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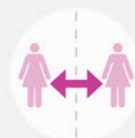
Screening all patients, ensuring only those without COVID-19 symptoms are seen in the office.



Wearing masks and other personal protective equipment while providing patient care.



Implementing additional sanitation processes to disinfect all equipment and surfaces.



Redesigning waiting rooms and check-in procedures to ensure social distancing.





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“Boo” Your Neighbor!

This year we are encouraging a new Spring Trails, socially distanced tradition, “Boo! Your Neighbor”!

The idea is simple:

1. Purchase some small trinkets/goodies to place in a decorated shoebox, gift bag, or other container.
2. Cut out and include the You’ve Been Boo-ed message on page ##. It explains how “boo-ing” works.
3. Find an unsuspecting neighbor who DOES NOT have a “We’ve Been Boo-ed” sign in their window
4. Place the goodies on their front patio.
5. Leave for them to find!

Dollar stores are a great resource for selecting trinkets, but here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Kids – Playdo, crayons, holiday pencils, candy, stickers, etc
- Families – Cookie mix, cake mix and icing, movies, etc
- Older Neighbors – Coffee, tea, slipper socks, magazine etc.
- Anyone – Fancy socks, craft items, coffee mug, etc.

Join in the fun and let’s see if we can “Boo” all of our Spring Trails friends and neighbors!

You've Been BOO-ed !



**We've been
BOO-ed!**

The Phantom Ghost has come to Spring Trails
To deliver some goodies, no tricks, no tales.
You can make this a happier fall
Just continue this greeting, this Phantom Ghost
call.

First, post this Phantom where it can be seen
Leave it there until Halloween.

Then gather some goodies and along with this
missive

Leave it at doors where the Phantom hasn't
visited.

Don't let them see you, stay out of sight
The Phantom Ghost leaves smiles
through Halloween night.



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