

West Bellfort Property Owners Association

www.westbellfortpoa.com

Monthly Newsletter

November 2014

WBPOA BOARD MEMBERS:

Barbara Hite, President
Jeannette Calhoun, Vice President
Phil Abrams, Secretary
Marc Warren, Treasurer
Jonah Nathan, Board Member
Tom Roberts, Board Member
Danny Fishman, Board Member
Dyaz Godfrey, Board Member
Mari Angelo, Board Member
Neal Harris, Board Member
Asher Belles, Board Member
Barbara Gretzer, Board Member
Zally Lazarus, Board Member

Ludington Clubhouse Rental

Joy Cunningham 713 / 729-1053
Joycunningham@sbcglobal.net

Braesridge Clubhouse Rental

Jeannette Calhoun 713 / 203-2407
jcalhoun@insurepointe.com

2015 WBPOA DUES

Notices for the 2015 WBPOA dues have been mailed, so keep a look out! For WBPOA to best serve the community and properly maintain our amenities, we need to receive your dues promptly.

Please be aware that non-payment of dues severely impacts our community, as we cannot maintain the common areas, clubhouses, parks, pool and tennis court without your dues.

As such, please ensure you pay your association dues as soon as you receive your invoice. Failure to pay dues could cause the Association to take legal action.

SO PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY!
If for any reason you have not received your notice already, please contact Ry Reid with Sterling ASI as soon as possible.

WBPOA MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Ry Reid, PCAM, AMS, CMCA
Sterling Association Services
11201 Lake Woodbridge Drive
Sugar Land, TX 77498
Phone 832-678-5384
or 832-678-5390
Fax: 281-598-4487
Emails: ry@sterlingasi.com

WBPOA is patrolled by :
Harris County Constable Precinct 7
Constable May Walker
Precinct 7 Dispatch 713 / 643-6602

Deputies assigned to WBPOA:

Sgt. P. Basralian
Deputy Antone
Deputy Nowlin
Deputy Simon

Please contact your alarm company and have the Constable's precinct listed as the first police authority contact.

The holidays are coming up, so if you are going out of town, be please be sure to register for a deputy vacation watch by visiting the Precinct 7 website and select "Vacation Watch" - <http://www.harriscountytexas.gov/conpct7/>

**HOLD THE DATE! WBPOA'S ANNUAL HOMEOWNERS MEETING IS MONDAY
DECEMBER 1, 2014 AT 7:00pm AT THE BRAESRIDGE CLUBHOUSE, 10810 BRAESRIDGE**

ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER!!

Beginning with our January, 2015 newsletter, business owners will be able to advertise in our newsletters! Please see pages 5 through 7 for further details!

WBPOA Rules Regarding Home Improvements

Reminder that before doing any landscaping or home improvement project involving the exterior of your home (including the front AND back yards), such as painting, the construction of patio covers, pools, etc., you MUST obtain approval first from the Architectural Control / Review Committee by completing the Architectural Control Application. The application can be found on the WBPOA website, and a copy is attached to this newsletter. Failure to receive approval for the improvement and / or change may result in you having to remove, alter or change the improvement in order to comply with the rules and regulations of the WBPOA.



Volunteers Needed to Serve as Block Captains



Block Captains are residents who volunteer their time and efforts to The community to serve as “point persons” between the residents, the WBPOA Board, its committees and The property management team. Some of the responsibilities of a Block Captain could include the following:

- Get to know your neighbors, at least by sight, so you will know when someone is around who doesn't belong
- Encourage your block neighbors to keep an eye out for each other (for security, emergencies, welfare checks, etc.)
- Encourage National Night Out meetings for your block
- Welcome new neighbors on your block and ensure they know about amenities, WBPOA regulations, etc.
- Help keep neighbors informed of emergency situations such as hurricanes, etc.
- Assist the WBPOA Board by notifying them of issues on the block (any suspicious activities, code violations, etc.). You will NOT be asked to handle these issues directly
- Make sure all neighbors receive the neighborhood newsletter or other informational flyers
- Assist the WBPOA Board by obtaining signatures on proxies, if ever required
- Attend WBPOA Board meetings (your option) to help keep your neighbors informed

You will not be asked to do anything that puts yourself in harm's way. The time involved is minimal. By serving as the “eyes and ears” of The community, you will play a big part in keeping it safe, friendly and beautiful. You can even “co-share” and team up with a neighbor. If you have an interest in serving as a Block Captain, please contact any of the Board members or Ry Reid, or attend the upcoming Homeowner's Annual Meeting on Monday, December 3, 2014.

Did You Know?

Austin was the 7th choice of state capital locations for Texas. In 1839, Mirabeau Lamar, the Republic's President at the time, moved the capital from Houston to a tiny little spot known as “Waterloo” along the Colorado River. Shortly thereafter, the area was renamed “Austin” in honor of Stephen F. Austin, fondly known as the “Father of Texas”. The choice to move the capital was not a popular one amongst most Texans, due to Austin's vulnerability to Indian raids and Mexican troops, who were determined to regain control of the Republic after their humiliating loss at San Jacinto. Lamar's persistence won, and in October 1839, the government was moved from Houston to Austin in an oxcart. Shortly thereafter, a 40 acre tract of land was set aside for a “university of the first class” (later to become University of Texas). Austin's position as the capital was rather precarious, as the city was in serious danger. Mexico's persistence in regaining Texas led to their troops capturing San Antonio in 1842, and they were headed straight for Austin (their actions eventually led to the Mexican American War from 1846 to 1848). Sam Houston had become President by 1842, and he ordered troops to Austin to retrieve the archives and return them to Houston for safety reasons. However, Austinites refused to move the archives, and a small yet powerful skirmish known as The Archive War broke out. It lasted barely a day, but Austin succeeded in keeping the archives. The dispute continued for about a year, during which the government was operated out of Washington on the Brazos. Finally, the Republic's Congress admonished President Sam Houston for trying to move the archives without Congressional approval, even if it were to protect the archives from Mexican troops. By a narrow margin, Congress voted to retain Austin as the capital, and the archives were returned to Austin in 1845. This is the same year Texas decided to join the Union, which set Austin as the capital permanently. Today, Austin carries on its quirky and defiant attitude, as can be seen with its motto “Keep Austin Weird”. The city has become a legendary music center and is becoming known for its artists as well. Although Austin is becoming the “Silicon Valley” of Texas, they still refuse to accept most large corporations, preferring small, family owned businesses. With her sense of charming eccentricity, Austin epitomizes the uniquely fierce “Texas Born, Texas Proud” style of independence and pride, which is innate to native Texans yet almost impossible to understand by “non-Texans”. As such, this fun little town with a big attitude has in fact proven to be the most appropriate city to hold the noble title of the State Capital of Texas.

Surprising Uses For:

TENSION RODS: (1) use a small tension rod under the kitchen sink to hang your spray bottles “by the triggers”. (2) Fit inside a cabinet shelf from top to bottom to create “standing” racks to hold baking sheets, cutting boards, platters, etc. (3) fit inside a cabinet and hang your paper towels. (4) fit a series in your closet or other cubby space and hang your shoes by the heels. (5) same as #4, but further apart and hang kids clothes. (6) use a tension rod in your laundry room to hang clothes to air dry. (7) Craft organization! Run the tension rod through the tubes of wrapping paper or centers of spools of ribbon, then fit the tension rod(s) inside a small closet or cubby space.

Want to be an active member of your community? Come to a Board meeting, contact one of your WBPOA Board Members or Ry Reid to find how you can serve on one of the Board committees or serve as a Block Captain!

The Community

Community News

As you may have noticed, we have a lot of children in the neighborhood who walk and ride bikes to the Sephardic Gan/Torat EMT school. Unfortunately, we also have a lot of residents who tend to speed along Braesridge, as well as run the stop signs at Teal Run with regularity. PLEASE KEEP THE CHILDREN IN MIND!! Slow down and STOP. We know you do not want to be responsible for hitting and possibly killing a child. So please be aware of the children and families at all times, keep your eyes open and your speed slow. AND STOP.

Community Parks

The Kittybrook and Ludington Parks are open year round, so be sure to come out and play!! The fall weather is great for picnics and a game of tag!

The tennis court is also available year round, so please take advantage of having this great amenity in your own backyard and work off some holiday calories!

Community Clubhouses

Holidays and clubhouses make perfect pairs!! Please consider renting one of the clubhouses for your next event. Jeanette Calhoun or Joy Cunningham will be happy to assist you in providing nice facilities that are close to home. Their contact details are on the front of the newsletter.

Ludington Pool

Please note, the pool is closed until May... but don't stress!! We hope to be making a few small upgrades while the pool is closed so it will be all spiffy for you to use when it reopens!!

WBPOA Rules Regarding Garbage / Recycling / Yard Waste / Junk & Tree Waste

PLEASE SEE THE CITY OF HOUSTON'S ARTICLE "TRASH FACTS" ATTACHED TO THE BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER!
The article will also be available on the website for the next couple of months.

Garbage Bins: Weekly pick up. To be placed at the curb the night before scheduled pick up date (ie, Wednesday before a Thursday pickup)

Recycle Bins: Bi-weekly pick up. To be placed at the curb the night before pick up date (See Schedule A attached)

Yard Waste (grass and flower bed clippings, etc.): Weekly pick up with regular household trash, but must be in City approved clear plastic compostable bags with a city seal on the bag (found at hardware stores and most grocery stores)

Junk Waste & Tree Waste (tree trimmings, large limbs, etc.): Alternate Monthly pick up. Can be placed at the curb up to 4 days prior to scheduled pick up date. Pick up dates for Junk Waste and Tree Waste alternate months (Junk Waste – even months / Tree Waste – odd months).

If for any reason a household has too much trash to fit inside the black garbage bin, residents can purchase city stickers to place on the outside of large plastic garbage bags. The stickers can be purchased from Fiesta or Seller's Brothers customer service windows. The stickers MUST be visible street side, or the bags will not be picked up.

Residents with physical limitations can contact 311 and complete a Solid Waste Pickup Request Form (for either regular trash or recycles, or both) to qualify for special pick up services. If qualified, city services will then pick up from the residents' specified locations and return them to the same location when emptied. The location MUST be out of sight from the street, but accessible to the city services (ie, behind unlocked fence gate).

All bins, yard waste, junk waste and / or tree waste MUST be removed from sight by the end of the scheduled pick up date. ALL BINS MUST BE KEPT OUT OF SIGHT AT ALL TIMES OUTSIDE OF TRASH PICK UP DAYS – NO EXCEPTIONS.

Music is the divine way to tell beautiful, poetic things to the heart. ~Pablo Casals



The man who views the world at age 50 the same as he did at age 20, has wasted 30 years of his life. ~ Muhammed Ali

Community Events and Things to Do

Tune in for different events and places highlighted each month!

For Adults

Bach at the Café
<http://www.sjcd.edu/>
Downtown Food Tours
www.houstonculinarytours.com

For Children

Sponge Bob Squarepants Ice Sculpture
www.moodygardens.com/holidayschedule
Houston Zoo Lights
www.houstonzoo.org/zoolights/

For Free!

Thanksgiving Parade
Downtown – See below
Galleria / Uptown Lighting
See Below

Other Events in Houston

For many more ideas, visit <http://www.visithoustontexas.com/travel-tools/events/>

Nov 2 – Dec 21: Glass Blowing Houston - Make an Ornament. Learn how to make glass ornaments.
<http://threedimensionalvisions.com/>

Nov 7: Bastille. Concert. NRG Park. <http://nrgpark.com/events/concerts/bastille>

Nov 8: 13th Annual Rockets Run. A 5K run, 2 mile walk and Kids' 1K fun run. Toyota Center. <http://rocketball.com/>

Nov 9: 14th Annual Houston Buddy Walk. A one mile walk or a 5K fun run, and a Buddy Bash! Minute Maid Park.
www.houstonbuddywalk.org/fr/DSAH/2014BuddyWalk

Nov 8-9: 19th Annual Children's Festival. Local community performances to awarding-winning children's performers.
Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion. www.woodlandscenter.org/tourarchive.html?n_id=2241

Nov 11: Kacafian-Shifrin-Schub Clarinet Trio. Chamber Music Houston West U. <http://chambermusichouston.org/2014-15/KSSTrio/Overview/>

Nov 13: Learn at Lunch: Introduction to Pakistan. The Honorable Afzaal Mahmood, Houston's Consul General of Pakistan will discuss Pakistan's distinctions: history, culture, geography, and economy. Houston Visitor's Center.
www.visithoustontexas.com/

Nov 20-23: 62nd Annual Theta Charity Antiques Show. George R. Brown Convention Center.
<http://thetacharityantiquesshow.com/>

Nov 22: 32nd Annual Lost Magnificos Car Show & Concert. The largest and longest running car show event in the southern U.S. with lots of entertainment. NRG Park. <http://nrgpark.com/events/auto-show/32nd-annual-los-magnificos-car-show-concert>

Nov 22 – Feb 23 (daily): Bruce Munro's Field of Light. Enjoy a dazzling art installation by internationally-acclaimed artist Bruce Munro. Discovery Green. www.discoverygreen.com/fieldoflight

Nov 25-Feb 8: Ice Skating at Discovery Green. <http://www.discoverygreen.com/ice>

Nov 26-Dec 24: A Christmas Carol-A Ghost Story of Christmas. Alley Theater. A family tradition for many years, Alley Theater presents their version of the Charles Dicken's classic. www.alleytheatre.org/Alley/Alley_Theatre_at_UH_2014-2015_Season2.asp

Nov 27: 65th Annual Thanksgiving Day Parade. Downtown Houston. <http://www.houstontx.gov/thanksgivingparade/>

Nov 27: 36th Annual Thanksgiving Big Feast at George R Brown Convention Center. Traditional Thanksgiving dinner for those in need of care and family. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. <http://www.houstonconventionctr.com/>

Nov 27: 2014 TXU Energy Turkey Trot. Dillard's Galleria. <http://turkeytrot.shelteringarms.org/>

Nov 27: Uptown Lighting. Galleria / Uptown. A long-time Houston tradition, the lighting of Post Oak. www.uptown-houston.com/news/page/holiday-lighting

Nov 29: Christmas Gloria. Ring in your holidays the glorious sounds of a soprano soloist on works by Handel, Vivaldi & Bach. This showing is at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church. Additional showings and dates available.
www.mercuryhouston.org/events/2014/11/

The journey between who you once were, and who you are becoming, is where the dance of life really takes place. -Barbara De Angelis



WBPOA's National Night Out Event

WBPOA held a National Night Out event on Tuesday, October 7th at the Braesridge Clubhouse. The event was attended by a small number of residents, a majority of the WBPOA Board members, Deputy Simon and several HPD officers. Refreshments were served and a good time was had by all. Deputy Simon brought some information for our homeowners, which has been attached to this newsletter. This year's NNO was a relatively small event, but for our first time back after several years, we were very pleased by the attendance! Please hold the date for our next National Night Out event, to be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015! And please be sure to come to the ANNUAL HOMEOWNER'S MEETING on Monday, December 1st at the Braesridge Clubhouse, 10810 Braesridge at 7:00pm. Looking forward to seeing you!!



Advertise in the WBPOA Newsletter!

We are very excited to extend the latest feature of the WBPOA newsletter – Advertising!! Effective with the January 2015 newsletter, those of you in our community who have your own businesses or know people in our area who have small businesses, here is an excellent opportunity to help the business grow! Please see the instructions on the next page on how to proceed with placing your ads. See also sample ads below and attached. Ads will appear in the newsletter as they are received and/or as they best fit the space allowed by each newsletter edition published. **PLEASE NOTE: Placing advertising in the WBPOA newsletter is not to be interpreted as approval to run a business from your home. This practice is strictly prohibited by WBPOA rules and will not be tolerated by the community or WBPOA. Violators will be subject to legal action.**



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Examples of 1/4 page and smaller ads



Tiffany Haley
Owner, LMT MT044756
5959 West Loop South Suite 365
Bellaire, Texas 77401
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 710997
Houston, Texas 77271
713-501-9277
info@magnificentmobilemassage.com
www.magnificentmobilemassage.com

Example of a 1/2 page ad is on the next page

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 7
DISPATCH: 713 / 643-6602

SAFETY TIPS



"TRIP" YOUR WAY TO BETTER SAFETY

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS!! Always go with your gut! Feeling embarrassed later is better than risking your life
REDUCE or eliminate opportunities that may make you a target
INCREASE your awareness of your surroundings, even in places you are most comfortable
PREPARE yourself, family, home, car and even your schedule daily with safety in mind

STAY BURGLAR PROOF

With the holidays coming up, burglars are sometimes tempted to break into homes to steal gifts and other items. Here are a few tips to keep your home "burglar proof" as possible:

- Invest in a home security system and ensure it is monitored. List Constable Precinct 7 as your first police authority contact
- Keep your security system on at all times (even if at home).
- Ensure all entry points into the home are securely locked at all times, even when you are home.
- As backup, make it a habit to check all entry points before going to bed at night to ensure all are secure, especially if you have family members who are on different schedules
- The dark of night is great camouflage for criminals. Keep exterior lights on at night, or invest in motion lights
- Prune tree limbs to prevent criminals from using them to access second story windows.
- Keep shrubs and other plants pruned to avoid good hiding places for criminals
- If you want shrubs up close to the house, ensure they are thorny or otherwise "uncomfortable" to hide in
- Keep the garage entry door into your home locked
- Keep fence gates locked
- Keep valuables and key documents (such as car titles, SSN cards, extra credit cards, etc.) in a safety deposit box. Not only will this keep critical items out of criminals' hands, it will keep items safe in event of floods or other natural disasters
- Record
- Keep bicycles, ladders, mowers, garden tools, children's scooters, etc. stored in the garage and not outside. Leaving items out is an open invitation for theft, and tools can be used to break into homes
- Ensure family members have their own keys to the house; do NOT leave keys outside in "secret" places – criminals know all the best hiding places for extra keys. Leave a key with a trusted neighbor as back up
- Protect your home from prying eyes by using blinds, curtains and drapes over windows




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Examples of 1/2 page ad (provided for size estimation). Please note, while all efforts for clarity will be made, some stretching may occur based on "copy" provided and due to publication limitations:

WBPOA NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

- Advertising to be paid in full in advance
- Deadline to submit ads is the 7th of each month (*example: ads submitted by April 7th would appear in May newsletter. Advertiser will be charged for May through December*)
- Ads will run for full (or remaining) year term after first submission (ie, if submit for January issue, will run until December issue; if ad submitted for May issue, will run through December).
- Advertising will stop in the December newsletter at the end of every year
- Ad renewals for the following year will need to be paid by December 7th
- Advertisers may change ad design mid-year, but cannot change the ad size until the term ends (if start with half page ad, need to stay with half page ad through end of term)
- Advertisers are to notify the editors when they wish to stop or change their ads before the deadline of the 7th of each month
- Ads must be “copy ready” when submitted and must be legible in black and white. While the WBPOA newsletters are published in color electronically, any hard publications may be printed in black and white
- To express interest in advertising, please visit the WBPOA website for the email link to the editor
- Payment instructions will be conveyed once the advertiser has contacted the editor
- **NO REFUNDS will be issued once ads are submitted, even if advertiser decides to stop their ads mid-term**

The WBPOA property management company, the WBPOA Homeowners Association Board and newsletter editors reserve the right to reject any advertisements that may be deemed inappropriate and / or offensive, or otherwise not provide a service to our residents

FULL PAGE ADVERTISING		
Month	Submission Deadline	Price
January 2015	Dec 7, 2014	\$ 300
February 2015	Jan 7, 2015	\$ 275
March 2015	Feb 7, 2015	\$ 250
April 2015	Mar 7, 2015	\$ 225
May 2015	Apr 7, 2015	\$ 200
June 2015	May 7, 2015	\$ 175
July 2015	Jun 7, 2015	\$ 150
August 2015	Jul 7, 2015	\$ 125
September 2015	Aug 7, 2015	\$ 100
October 2015	NO NEW ADS ACCEPTED FOR THIS PERIOD	
November 2015		
December 2015		
1/1/2016 (Full Year)	Dec 7, 2015	\$ 300

HALF PAGE ADVERTISING		
Month	Submission Deadline	Price
January 2015	Dec 7, 2014	\$ 180
February 2015	Jan 7, 2015	\$ 165
March 2015	Feb 7, 2015	\$ 150
April 2015	Mar 7, 2015	\$ 135
May 2015	Apr 7, 2015	\$ 120
June 2015	May 7, 2015	\$ 105
July 2015	Jun 7, 2015	\$ 90
August 2015	Jul 7, 2015	\$ 75
September 2015	Aug 7, 2015	\$ 60
October 2015	NO NEW ADS ACCEPTED FOR THIS PERIOD	
November 2015		
December 2015		
1/1/2016 (Full Year)	Dec 7, 2015	\$ 180

QUARTER PAGE ADVERTISING		
Month	Submission Deadline	Price
January 2015	Dec 7, 2014	\$ 120
February 2015	Jan 7, 2015	\$ 110
March 2015	Feb 7, 2015	\$ 100
April 2015	Mar 7, 2015	\$ 90
May 2015	Apr 7, 2015	\$ 80
June 2015	May 7, 2015	\$ 70
July 2015	Jun 7, 2015	\$ 60
August 2015	Jul 7, 2015	\$ 50
September 2015	Aug 7, 2015	\$ 40
October 2015	NO NEW ADS ACCEPTED FOR THIS PERIOD	
November 2015		
December 2015		
1/1/2016 (Full Year)	Dec 7, 2015	\$ 120



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Andy, The Awesome Possum

Hey, kids! I am SO glad cooler weather is here! The fall is my favorite time of the year!! All the holidays are coming up, and I know I will find some really yummy stuff in some garbage bins around town! HINT: I really, really like sweet potatoes.... Hey, I'm a scavenger, remember? May as well ask for my favorites! ☺

Texas has so many wild birds and you will see a lot of them hanging around the neighborhood and along Brays Bayou. This month, I want to teach you about one of my favorite of these wild birds – the yellow crowned night heron (*nyctanassa violacea*) belongs to the *Ardeidae* bird order, which consists of herons, egrets and bitterns. The YC crowned heron is about 22 to 27 inches and weighs about 1-1/2 pounds. Adults are gray with black heads, white cheeks, a black bill,

yellow or orange legs, yellowish plumes and of course, the yellow crown. The white cheeks look kind of like a “Nike swoosh” on the face. Young herons are not as sleek as adults; they are grayish in color with speckles all over, with no plum or crown as yet, and teenaged herons will have greenish legs. The calls of the YC night heron include a loud, harsh ‘squawk’ as well as a harsh ‘whoc’, which is usually used when the bird has been disturbed. They received the “Night” part of their name as they were originally thought to only move around at night. However, they are in fact active around the clock; they are just secretive and prefer to stick around shadows, that most people do not notice them until evening.

Night herons live near islands, mangroves and barrier beaches and farther inland in wooded swamps, forested uplands, and lakes and rivers often near residential areas. Their preferred diet is crabs and crawfish, but will also eat insects, fish, snails, earthworms, marine worms and leeches. Occasionally they've been found eating lizards, snakes, young birds, mice and small rabbits. They range from the southern parts of New England, down to Florida and all the way to west Texas. They mainly live along coasts, but are seen along the Mississippi River as far north as Minnesota. Night herons migrate in the winter to our area and into South America.

Night herons tend to mate for life and their nesting season is from March to July. Interestingly, during mating season, the male's legs will turn pinkish. Night herons prefer to nest privately, but can be found in colonies, particularly along wetlands where there is “safety in numbers”; here, colonies can grow as large as 200 birds. Both mom and dad help build the nest, which can be as high up as 60 feet, further out in the limbs away from the trunk, and usually hanging over water. The nests are made of sticks that they tear away from trees, not from the ground. The sticks can be as long as 2 feet! The nest is then often lined with leaves, vines or Spanish Moss and take about 11 days to build. The pair will use the same nest for many years, and often “redecorate” as they go along. Nests can end up being 4 feet across, with a small indentation in the middle for the eggs. Night Herons lay 3 to 5 eggs which take about a month to hatch. Babies stay in the nest only for about a month thereafter.

Yellow Crested Night Herons are frequently seen in this neighborhood and all along Brays Bayou. However, “city living” Night Herons are a very private bird and prefer to be by themselves, or possibly just one or two other herons. Because they do like to hide, it is a bit difficult to get a good count on their numbers. They are a protected species in many states, mainly because they were hunted for their plumage for a long time, and also as a delicacy to eat. It is now illegal to hunt herons, and although it is difficult to get a good count on this very shy bird, it appeared they were making a slow comeback. However, it appears the most dangerous predator to the night heron and its cousins are people: by our populations constantly pushing into their natural habitats, numbers are beginning to decline again. Conservationists are working to make some coastal and some internal areas protected in order to give the handsome Yellow Crested Night Heron and other wetland birds a safe location to live. With continued conservation of our wetland areas and development of new areas, hopefully, this bird and other species will be protected and safe for many generations to come.

Be sure to visit WBPOA's website at www.westbellfortpoa.com to keep updated on community matters and to update your email address



See Something, Say Something!

The holiday season is upon us, and as you noted in the Safety Tips section, we all need to be diligent during this time of year. Remember, the eyes and ears of the neighbors are the absolute best weapon we have against crime. Be sure to put the Constable Dispatch number in your speed dials, and if you see or hear anything suspicious, please practice the SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING motto – nothing is too insignificant to bring to the attention of our deputies. This also helps us determine where to request focused attention from our police authorities as well. SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU!!!!

Thanksgiving – A Uniquely American Tradition



If there is one day each year when food and family take center stage, it is Thanksgiving. Every year on the fourth Thursday in November, Americans gather for this day of feasting, football and family to give thanks for the meaningful people and events in their lives. It is a holiday synonymous with “family” and “going home” with all the emotional content those words imply. It is a holiday uniquely American that is best experienced than explained, as no clear explanation can be given.

From ancient times, giving thanks for the Creator’s gifts was a part of Wampanoag daily life. As with most Native Americans, the Wampanoag held ceremonies to give thanks for successful harvests, for the hope of a good growing season in the early spring, and for other good fortune. Celebrations and feasting for the same reasons were also ancient traditions in England and throughout Europe. So when the Wampanoag and Pilgrims met for the first Thanksgiving, it was a tradition already almost as old as time itself.

The arrival of the Pilgrims and Puritans brought new Thanksgiving traditions to the American scene. Today’s national Thanksgiving celebration is a blend of three traditions: the Wampanoag and the New England customs of rejoicing after a successful harvest, and the Puritan Thanksgiving, a solemn religious observance combining prayer and feasting. Thanksgiving became an official national holiday in 1863, when President Lincoln proclaimed the 4th Thursday in November to be “a day of Thanksgiving and Praise” for the nation’s blessings in the face of the Civil War that was raging.

While it is not known exactly what was served at the First Thanksgiving between the Pilgrims and Wampanoag, venison was most definitely on the menu as it is historical noted that the Wampanoag brought at least 5 deer to the feast. Other foods most likely included vegetables, fruits, berries and nuts, and probably wild rice and porridge. Here is a brief history of how the five most favorite foods of Thanksgiving came to be associated with the holiday:

Turkey

While according to historical records “fowl” was served at the first Thanksgiving, there is some debate if that fowl was chicken, duck, turkey or some combination thereof. Turkey did not become a tradition until the 1800’s, when children’s writer Sarah Josepha Hale urged families to serve turkey as a healthy meal. Turkey was already synonymous with Christmas by that time, primarily because it was a large fowl that naturally matured at this time of the year and was capable of feeding a large number of guests, so it was a natural election to serve the same at the newly proclaimed Thanksgiving holiday.

Gravy

While it is unknown if gravy was present at the first Thanksgiving table, people have been cooking meats in various sauces and stocks from very ancient times, as they help make tough meat more edible and add flavors. Gravies evolved over time according to available ingredients, local tastes and traditional cuisine. Some are composed of meat drippings, others from creamy components.

Cranberries

While wild berries were almost certainly a part of the first Thanksgiving meal, it is unknown if the tart cranberry was included. It is unclear exactly when the tart berries officially became a Thanksgiving meal fixture. However, the New Jersey Star-Ledger has reported that, “Cranberries officially became a part of the national Thanksgiving tradition in 1864, when General Ulysses S. Grant ordered cranberries be served to soldiers as part of their holiday meal.” Whether it was widely used before that remains a mystery.

Dressing (aka, Stuffing)

Given the abundance of both wild game and rice, it is likely that the first Thanksgiving dinner featured some kind of wild rice dish. But how did the base of dressing switch from rice to bread? It is believed that due to the thriftiness of the Puritans and scarcity of some foods items, bread would be mixed into the dish to help “stretch” it. Some Mennonites use potatoes instead of rice, again adding breadcrumbs. Rice is still used in some regions of the US, but dressing has converted to mainly a mix of breads. Any additional ingredients differ across the regions of the US, as each add their own ingredients based on their environments, ranging from chestnuts to sausage, clams and oysters.

In the South, all dressing **MUST** include cornbread. The term “dressing” first appeared when Victorian sensibilities took offense at the blunter term “stuffing” in the 1850s. The moniker stuck in the South. In some parts of the deep South, stale biscuits are added to the cornbread with other parts using bread. But whether you add stale bread or biscuits, never call it “stuffing” in the South!

Pumpkin Pie

The quintessential pie marries an indigenous American food already familiar to English colonists, thanks to the vegetable’s introduction to Europe in the 1500s, with an economical English culinary tradition of filling crust with meat, vegetable or fruit. Colonists cultivated pumpkin from their earliest years in the New World, and English cookbooks featured pumpkin pie recipes from the 1600s. The dessert did not often show up on Thanksgiving tables until the early 1800s, but by later in the century, pumpkin pies were so closely associated with the holiday that in 1869, the Hartford Connecticut Courant referred to the pie, along with turkey, as the “inevitable” Thanksgiving dishes.

However you celebrate it, whatever foods you serve at your feast or whether you enjoy a meal at a restaurant, your WBPOA Board wishes you a very safe, blessing filled Thanksgiving!

November 2014

Birthstone: Topaz / Flower: Chrysanthemum / Zodiac Signs: Scorpio & Sagittarius

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Daylight Savings Time Ends @ 2:30AM - Clocks fall back one hour	3	4 ELECTION DAY	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13 Recycle Pick Up	14 Tree Waste North Side*	15
16	17	18	19	20 Tree Waste - South Side*	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving NO RECYCLE OR GARBAGE PICKUP TODAY	28 Recycle Pick Up Thursday Garbage Schedule Picked up today	29 Friday Garbage Schedule Picked up today
30	November is named from the Latin <i>novem</i> meaning "nine", as it was originally the ninth month of the old Roman calendar. It kept the name after January and February were inserted into the calendar			JOKE CORNER ANSWERS: 1. Nacho cheese 2. Pennsylvania 3. Because 7 8 9 4. It waves 5. Because he wanted to be on time		

* WBPOA – Northfield III and IV (North Side of West Bellfort): Junk Waste 2nd Friday of even months / Tree Waste 2nd Friday of odd months
 * WBPOA – Northfield V (South Side of West Bellfort) – Junk Waste 3rd Thursday of even months / Tree Waste 3rd Thursday of odd months

In 1900, Houston Mayor Sam Brashear bought the Kellum-Noble land and house on the edge of town to create the city's first park: Sam Houston Park. The park has been home of The Heritage Society since 1954. The park is open from dawn to dusk. The Heritage Society Museum is open Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 4pm. For over 50 years, the Heritage Society has hosted an annual Candlelight Tour showcasing 8 of Houston's oldest historic structures trimmed in traditional 19th century décor. A variety of family-friendly entertainment is offered, from storytellers and re-enactors to local children's choirs. This year, the Heritage Society Museum Gallery will feature More than a Toy: Dolls from the Victorian Era exhibit. Please be sure to come to the park for its 52 Annual Candlelight Tour on December 13th and 14th from 5pm to 9pm. You can also volunteer to be part of the fun! Contact info@heritagesociety.org or call (713) 655-1912 for more information. Sam Houston Park is located in downtown Houston at 1100 Bagby and the museum is on the corner of Bagby and Lamar in downtown Houston.

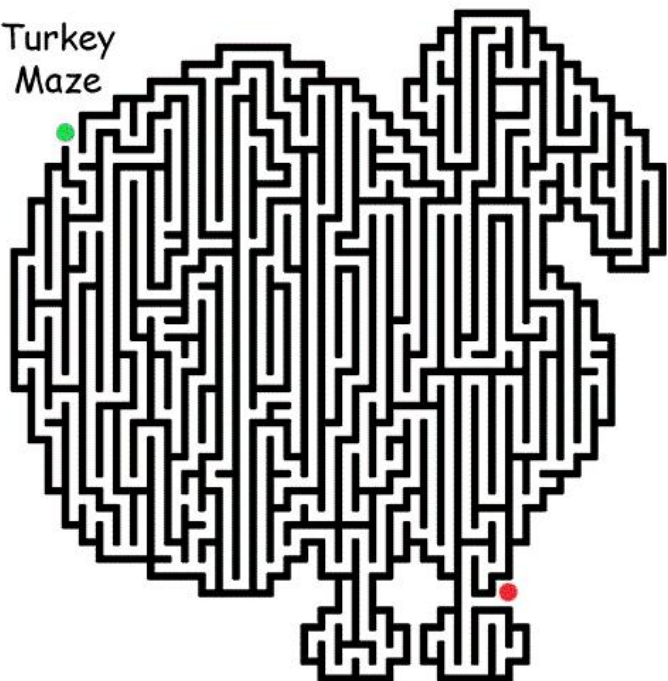
Texas State Gem – The Blue Topaz

It is no surprise that the November birthstone of Topaz is also the State Gem of Texas. The topaz, is after all, the symbol of friendship. It is not known for sure if the name comes from Sanskrit or Greek, but the Romans dedicated the stone to Jupiter. The topaz has been known for at least 2000 years and is thought to be one of the gems that form the foundations of the twelve gates to the Holy City of the New Jerusalem, although translations of ancient scripts can also point to the gem being a peridot. The gem is a fluorine aluminium silicate and is colorless and transparent in pure form. The gem is usually tinted by impurities and can be wine, yellow, pale gray, reddish-orange, or blue brown. It can also be made white, pale green, blue, gold, pink (rare), reddish-yellow or opaque to translucent. Colorless and light-blue varieties of topaz are found in Precambrian in Mason County, Texas in the Llano Uplift. No commercial mining is allowed. The gem is usually found in small sizes, but can reach boulder size. The largest known is the American Golden Topaz, on display at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC – it is an astounding 22,892.5 carats! The stone is said to have a cooling affect, and is able to dispel sadness, anger and nocturnal fears, to warn its wearer of poisons and protect him or her from sudden death. In ancient times, it was reputed to make men handsome and intelligent and sterile women fertile and happy. However, it is probably better not to rely too much on its magical powers, since it was also claimed that you could immerse your hand in boiling water after a topaz had been thrown into it and retract it again unharmed! No matter what mystical powers the stone may or may not have, there is not denying its simple, yet stunning beauty.

Puzzle Page

Answers for puzzles to appear next newsletter

Turkey Maze



Thanksgiving Word Search

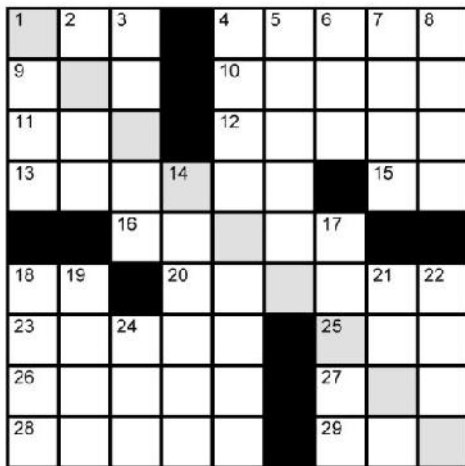
K Z G J R E H T A G B T I K R
 V N Y N S R A F S P W T E Z J
 C D T R G C H Z T I R H E D H
 G O Y N I K P M U P W A A O A
 I R R F D M G X F K F N Z X R
 Y N A N T J B U F L O K X B V
 V O X T U L S L I K R S S O E
 S V O N I C S G N R N G S K S
 G E Z T W T O A G O D I Z R T
 R M C I P Y U P E E M V A S D
 K B D I L S E D I R G I L E T
 A E E I Q J G U E A O N L B N
 V R M T T U R K E Y P G X V A
 W A H A L E M S Y A M S M K L
 F G N Q X C U C P S W S T J Q

THANKSGIVING
 TURKEY
 PUMPKIN
 PIE
 FAMILY
 GATHER
 GRATITUDE
 CORNUCOPIA
 NOVEMBER
 STUFFING
 HARVEST
 YAMS

Thanksgiving Guest Crossword

Across

- Wharton grad
- Amount of hair
- "Dig in!"
- Devastation
- "___ Doubtfire"
- Swelling
- Texas oil city
- Indefinite article
- Not together
- "___ You Like It"
- Boozers
- Type of scallop
- Neighbor of Wash.
- "Farewell, mon ami"
- Chill
- Stands for
- Acquire



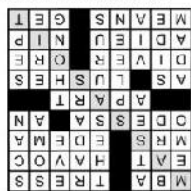
Down

- Exec's note
- Poet
- Bewildered
- Synonym finder
- Navigation aids
- "The Three Faces of ___"
- Body

8. Diagnostic test

- Ire
- Flip-flop
- Sandler of "Big Daddy"
- Pro or con
- Cleveland's lake
- Aug. follower
- By way of

the shaded diagonal.



The title is a clue to the word in

BAMBOOZLE

BUS INESS
 BUS INESS
 BUS INESS
 BUS INESS

tiLEVARTme

O O
F F
F F

the people

ATHALON
 ATHALON
 ATHALON

HAHANDND

PHRASE SCRAMBLE

A phrase scramble is a group of words, all cut up and mixed up and you need to put the phrase blocks in order to create a saying.

F Y A S F O R O W . L E U W O R R S I
 I E A R N E R E W E R T O E T L I R .
 I F Y O L I V O D O U V E T O M E V E
 E A



- JOKE CORNER (Answers on back page)**
- What do you call cheese that is not yours?
 - Where do pencils go for vacation?
 - Why is the number 6 afraid of number 7?
 - How does an ocean say "hello"?
 - Why did the boy sit on his watch?

WORD CHANGE

last

moon

WHAT'S IN COMMON?

- Help - Yesterday - Revolution
- Moth - Meat - Medicine
- Robert Kennedy - Julius Caesar - John Lennon
- Orchestras - Ears - Brakes
- Cliff - Springboard - Platform
- Radio - Brain - Tidal
- Shag - Red - Magic
- Snow - Corn - Dandruff
- Tennis - Small Claims - Supreme
- Surprise - Search - Slumber

Answers to October 2014 Puzzles

NUMBER BLOCK ANSWERS

1	7	8	8	1	8
12	4	3	2	10	2
5	6	4	8	6	4
1	3	4	3	5	2
1	7	2	3	2	11
3	0	11	12	1	0
23	27	32	36	25	27

40

33

33

33

18

26

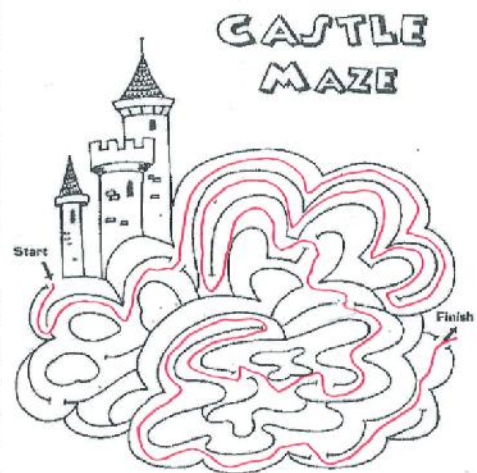
27

14

HERBS IN THE MIX

By Tim B. Jrr

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
C	U	T	I	R	I	S	H	R	E	F	E	R
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
O	R	E	S	E	N	N	A	O	V	I	N	E
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
M	B	A	T	A	C	I	T	T	I	N	E	D
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
B	A	S	I	L	R	A	T	H	B	O	N	E
53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
O	N	E	N	E	S	A	R	C	A	D	E	
66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
S	E	R	F	E	V	E	N	E	R	I	K	
79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
R	A	D	E	M	I	T	E	E				
92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104
S	A	G	E	B	R	U	S	H	E	S		
105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117
H	A	W	O	P	U	S	H	E	M			
118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
I	B	I	S	A	T	O	M	M	A	G	I	
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143
T	E	M	P	E	R	A	I	L	E	R	O	N
144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156
M	I	N	T	C	O	N	D	I	T	I	O	N
157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169
A	P	I	N	G	O	R	A	L	S	O	V	A
170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182
R	E	N	A	L	T	E	N	E	T	S	E	T
183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195
E	A	G	L	E	S	O	A	R	S	E	R	E



MUMBO JUMBO
Catholic
Christian
Muslim
Jewish
Hindu
Main answer: Religion

TINY WORDS SCRAMBLE
1. SMALL 2. PETITE
3. MINUTE 4. GLITHS
5. SMOETD 6. VATRILI
7. TURIMINEA 8. LITTLE
9. SMOOPCICR 10. MINESULE

WORD PROBLEMS
1. 8.3 grams pie filling X 9 minutes = 74.70 total grams
2. 75,843 points - 40,213 points = 35,630 points earned by Eva
3. \$36 X 30% = \$10.80. The \$12 coupon would result in \$1.20 more in savings, so he should use the \$12 coupon
4. 74

WISDOM FROM THE ORIENT CRYPTOGRAM:
He who asks a question is a fool for five minutes. He who does not ask a question remains a fool forever.
Chinese proverb

- 1 8oz pkg cream cheese, softened at room temp
- 2 cups powered sugar
- 1 can pumpkin pie filling
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp ground ginger
- Apple slices, graham crackers and / or ginger snaps

Recipe for Kids

PUMPKIN PIE DIP
Adults may need to help with mixer

Beat cream cheese and sugar at medium speed with an electric mixer until smooth. Add pie filling, cinnamon, and ginger, then beat again. Cover and chill for at least 4 hours. Serve with graham crackers, gingersnaps and / or apple slices.

- 4 cups sliced yellow squash (can substitute zucchini, or do a mix)
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 2 tablespoons butter, sliced (not melted)
- About 35 Ritz crackers, crushed
- Salt and pepper to taste

Recipe for Adults

YELLOW SQUASH CASSEROLE

Place squash, onion and water in large skillet on medium heat, cover and steam for approximately 5 minutes. Drain, put in large bowl. In separate bowl, mix crushed crackers and cheese. Take 1/2 of the mixture and add to squash. In a third bowl, beat eggs and milk together, add melted butter, stir and add all to the squash. Stir well, add salt and pepper (approx. 1 tsp each). Spread squash mixture into a 13 X 9 pan. Spring with the remaining cracker mixture, dot with butter slices. Bake at 400 degrees for about 25, or until golden.

REESE'S SQUARES

For both! 😊

- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1 lb confectioners' sugar (3 to 3 1/2 cups)
- 1 1/2 cups peanut butter
- 1 cup butter, melted
- 1 (12 ounce) bag milk chocolate chips

Combine graham crumbs, sugar and peanut butter and mix well. Blend in melted butter until well combined. Press mixture evenly into a 9 x 13 inch pan. Carefully melt chocolate chips in microwave or in double boiler. Spread over peanut butter mixture. Chill until just set and cut into bars (these are very hard to cut if the chocolate gets "rock hard"). If using microwave to melt chips, do in "spurts" of 30 seconds to avoid crystallizing the chips.



Annise D. Parker
Mayor

the TRASH FACTS

FALL 2014



Harry J. Hayes
Director

The Citizen's Guide to City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department Services

Residential Services: At Your Curbside



Garbage Collection

Household garbage must be put inside the city-provided container which should be placed at the curb between 6 p.m. the day before and 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day. The container must be accessible to the automated collection truck and not blocked by obstacles, including parked cars. Drivers will not move improperly placed containers. Containers must be removed

from the curblines and/or public view by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection and stored in a secure location. The garbage container is for disposing of regular household garbage only. Certain items should not be disposed of in your garbage container either because they are too heavy for SWMD equipment or because they may harm employees, property, neighbors, pets, and the environment. Therefore, do not put 1) household chemicals, 2) construction, demolition, and remodeling debris, 3) dead animals, 4) computer equipment, 5) recyclables or 6) yard trimmings in the container.



Yard Trimmings

Yard Trimmings, grass clippings, small branches and leaves must not be placed in the automated garbage cans. They must be in city-approved compostable bags not weighing more than 50 pounds, and placed at the curb 3 feet away from the automated container for separate yard trimmings

TO BAG... yard trimmings recycling
...OR NOT TO BAG!
You have CHOICES!
Find out how easy your choices are!
Compostable Bags! Grasscycling! Composting!
Visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org for details!

Working to make Houston a Cleaner, Greener Place to Live
Visit www.houstonsolidwaste.org for details!

collection. Small branches may be put in bundles as long as each bundle is less than 4 feet in length and 18 inches in diameter and weighing less than 50 pounds. Yard Trimmings mixed with paper, plastic, or any other type of waste will not be collected. Work performed by a contractor must be removed by the contractor.

Adopt - A - Container Program

Non-profit organizations may request large bulk containers for weekend neighborhood cleanup campaigns. Requests must be sent to the SWMD in writing at least 14 days prior to the anticipated cleanup date. Bulk containers are provided on a "first come, first serve" basis and are delivered on Friday and collected on Monday. Only non-profit organizations and civic organizations coordinating a neighborhood cleanup campaign are eligible to sponsor bulk containers. For more information, call 3-1-1.

Dead Animals

Dead animals can be picked up by calling 311, the City's Customer Service Hotline. A fee is required for large dead animal pickup. For large animal pickup during the weekend, please call 311 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Do not place dead animals with household garbage or tree waste / junk waste collection.

For dead animals on the freeway and feeder, call TXDOT at 713-802-5000.

Fines

Violation of any provision of the solid waste ordinance is punishable upon first conviction by a fine of no less than \$50 nor more than \$2,000. Each subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine of no less than \$250 nor more than \$2,000. Each day that any violation continues may be punishable as a separate offense. To report a violation or to file a complaint, call 311. SWMD Supervisors can write citations.

...for more information,
visit our website at www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 3-1-1

~Printed on Recycled Paper~

IN THIS ISSUE
TREE WASTE/ JUNK WASTE
GO GREEN WITH SWMD!
RECYCLING
DEAD ANIMAL
INFO

Tree Waste / Junk Waste Recycling Program

The City will collect tree waste exclusively on odd months on the resident's current tree waste /junk waste collection day. "Tree waste" is defined as "clean wood waste", which consists of tree limbs, branches or stumps. Lumber, furniture and treated wood will not be accepted. On even months residents may set out their junk waste at the curb for city collection. "Junk waste" is used to describe items such as furniture, appliances and other bulky materials. These items should be placed adjacent to the front curb in a location easily accessible to the collection vehicle between the hours of 6:00 p.m. the Friday before, and 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled collection day. No more than eight cubic yards per residence will be collected on the scheduled tree waste/junk waste collection day. *Of this amount, only a maximum of four cubic yards of building material (not to include roofing shingles, brick, plaster or concrete) generated by the resident in connection with the maintenance of the residential property may be collected by department personnel.* A maximum of four (4) tires per month, per household may be placed curbside for collection. Sheet rock must be bagged. Appliances containing refrigerant must have a tag attached to them certifying that a qualified technician has removed the refrigerant. Materials should not be stacked under low overhead cabling,



The Tree Waste Program diverts waste from landfills, saving tax dollars, saving landfill space.

Tree Waste Recycling reduces loads headed to the landfill

signs, or mailboxes; next to fences or posts; or on top of water meters, gas meters, fire hydrants, or other exposed utility components. Also, materials should not be placed in the street, on the sidewalk, or other right-of-way, or in any manner that would interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic. Tree waste and junk waste collection is limited to residential units and vacant residential lots only if the waste generated is in connection with the maintenance of the property. The SWMD is not allowed to collect any material that was generated by contractors who were retained by a resident to perform work on his or her residential



property. It is the responsibility of the contractor to remove, or cause to be removed, all debris that may arise from the course of his or her activities. These contractor related activities include, but are not limited to, trimming and removal of trees, remodeling, new construction and roofing. If authorized items placed for collection are mixed with unauthorized items, department personnel shall not be obligated to sort the materials and may refuse the entire load. Solid waste collection services are not available to multi-residential structures of more

than eight units.

Tree Waste/Junk Waste Collection Schedule

January	Tree Waste
February	Junk Waste
March	Tree Waste
April	Junk Waste
May	Tree Waste
June	Junk Waste
July	Tree Waste
August	Junk Waste
September	Tree Waste
October	Junk Waste
November	Tree Waste
December	Junk Waste

Neighborhood Depositories/Recycling Centers

Residents may dispose of tree waste / junk waste at one of the City's neighborhood depository facilities. Each user must provide proof of residency, including a Texas Driver's License or ID, a current utility bill or city property tax receipt. The depositories accept the same materials as the tree waste / junk waste collection (furniture, stoves, refrigerators, etc.) Depositories will accept up to 10 tires per month, per household. Residents must unload their tires and place them in a specified container. Materials brought in a commercial vehicle will not be accepted. SWMD

personnel will not unload your tires or tree waste / junk waste. Residents may use depositories four times per month. Locations are now open Wed. - Sun., except holidays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.* Citizens are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes before closing to allow adequate time to unload. All depositories also accept recyclables. Materials accepted include aluminum and tin cans, tree waste, plastic bottles and jugs (#1-#5 and #7), newspapers and magazines, glass bottles and jars, and used motor oil.

* Daylight Savings - Hours change from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Neighborhood Depository and Recycling Center Locations

North	9003 N Main	713.694.8435
Northwest	14400 Sommermeyer	713.895.1002
Northeast	5565 Kirkpatrick	713.675.3208
East	2240 Central Street	713.847.1188
South*	5100 Sunbeam	713.738.1936
Southwest	10785 SW Freeway	713.541.1953

City Recycling Centers (Junk Waste not accepted)

5900 Westpark - Westpark Recycling Center
 Ellington Airport (Hwy 3 @ Brantley)
 Kingwood Park & Ride

...for more information, visit our website at www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 3-1-1.

Going Green

with SWMD

The SWMD operates two types of residential recycling collection services for participating areas of the City of Houston.

Curbside Recycling - utilizes an 18-gallon green bin placed at the curb for collection.

Automated Recycling - utilizes a 96-gallon green cart rolled to the curb for collection.

Recycling must be put inside the city-provided container which should be placed at the curb between 6 p.m. the day before and 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day. The container must be accessible to the collection truck and not blocked by obstacles, including parked cars. Drivers will not move improperly placed containers. Containers must be removed from the curblines and/or public view by 10:00 p.m. on the day of collection and stored in a secure location.

What items can you recycle?

Newspaper
Magazines
Catalogs
Phone Books
Used Motor Oil



Plastic Containers #1 - 5 and 7 (rinsed & drained)
Aluminum and Tin Cans (rinsed & drained)
Cardboard (flattened)
Glass Bottles and Jars (Automated Recycling Program Only, rinsed & drained)

Environmental Service Centers

The Environmental Service Centers provide drive through drop-off locations for Houston residents to bring their household hazardous waste such as anti-freeze, batteries, fuel, oil, paint, paint thinner, pesticides, herbicides and household cleaners. Residential electronic scrap items will also be accepted (monitors, televisions, printers, keyboards, mice, scanners, fax machines, telephone handsets, VCRs, CPUs, cellular phones and other small consumer electronics). These items should not be placed on the curb with or in your container for collection with garbage or tree waste / junk waste pickup. Clean, white styrofoam blocks (plastic #6) are now accepted at the ESC- South location. Packing "peanuts" are not accepted.

North - 5614 Neches, Building C (open 2nd Thursday of the month from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.)

South - 11500 South Post Oak (open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. and the 2nd Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

Free Reuse Chemical and Paint Take-Away

Every Friday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., household chemicals and paint that were brought to the ESC for disposal, but appear to be in good condition are made available for citizen reuse. Citizens may take away these items at no charge. A signed liability waiver will be required before removing materials from the site. There is a limit of six (6) chemical items and a cart load of paint per week. This service is only available at the ESC South location.

WESTPARK RECYCLING CENTER

The Westpark Consumer Recycling Center, 5900 Westpark, allows Houstonians the opportunity to recycle their used goods. The center accepts aluminum and tin cans, batteries, oil filters, used tires, computers and other residential electronic scraps, #1-7 plastic containers, glass bottles and jars, telephone books, office paper, cardboard, magazines, and used motor oil. Newspapers placed in a brown bag will also be accepted.

Clean, white styrofoam blocks (plastic #6) are accepted at the Westpark Recycling Center and ESC South. Packing "peanuts" are not accepted. Styrofoam is not accepted in the curbside recycling program.

The center is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

B.O.P.A.

(Batteries, Used Oil, Latex Paint, & Antifreeze)

The SWMD has a B.O.P.A. recycling operation at the Westpark Recycling Center. Residents may drop off batteries, used oil, latex paint, anti-freeze and tires from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, except holidays. The facility is a drive through operation so you do not have to unload your own vehicle.

...for more information, visit our website at www.houstonsolidwaste.org or call 3-1-1.

ReUse Warehouse

Construction material accounts for 38% of the waste stream in the Houston area. The Reuse Warehouse, a component of the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department, benefits the community by providing space for excess building materials that would otherwise be dumped in local landfills. The facility accepts material from individuals, supply companies, and builders, and makes it freely available for reuse by any non-profit organization. The

Reuse Warehouse is funded in part by a grant from the Houston-Galveston Area Council.

Location:
9003 N. Main St.
Houston, TX 77022

Contact Information:
3-1-1 or
reuse.warehouse@houston.tx.gov

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Tuesday - Friday:
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Closed: Sunday - Monday

Extra Capacity Collection Fee

On June 19, 2002, Houston's City Council approved an ordinance amending Article IV of Chapter 39 of the Houston Code of Ordinances, approving and authorizing the creation of an Extra Capacity Collection Fee (ECC) for the SWMD. Under the umbrella of the ECC ordinance, the Add-A-Can and the Tags for Bags Program were created. Implementation of both programs began October 1, 2002.

Add-A-Can

This program provides residents with the opportunity of having a second or third garbage can serviced for a fee. Residents will have their first 96-gallon can serviced free. The fee for servicing the second/ third can may be added to the citizen's monthly water bill upon request of the service. Citizens who already have an extra can and wish to continue to have it collected will need to request a sticker for it. Call 3-1-1 to enroll in Add-A-Can.

Tags For Bags

Extra bags of garbage are collected only if they have a special tag attached. The "Tags for Bags" program allows residents the convenience of purchasing "tags" instead of additional cans if they require extra service occasionally. These tags may be purchased at Fiesta, HEB, Sellers Bros. and participating Kroger stores. Residents may also download an order form at houston-solidwaste.org and send the completed form and payment through the mail. Yard waste bags do not require tags.



REQUEST THE SOLID WASTE MASCOT, ReUselt OR A SPEAKER

To request the Solid Waste Management Department mascot, ReUselt or a Speaker from the SWMD please call 3-1-1, the City's Customer Service Hotline.

City of Houston
Solid Waste Management Department
PO Box 1562
Houston, TX 77251

www.houstonsolidwaste.org

Houston residents can dial 3-1-1 for non-emergency calls. The 3-1-1 Service Center provides Houstonians with one easy to remember telephone number for quick reliable access.

The Trash Facts is a newsletter published by the Solid Waste Management Department. Information may be reproduced for public dissemination by civic groups and neighborhood organizations.

Harry J. Hayes, SWMD Director

Sandra Jackson, Public Information Officer

HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES:		TEXAS DPS OFFICE		
<i>If you would like to serve on one of these committees, please come to the next Board meeting</i>		Driving Tests / In-Person Driver's License New & Renewal		
Architectural Review (ARC): Barbara Hite, Jeanette Calhoun, Marc Warren, Tom Roberts		Closest (South Gessner close to West Airport - Approx 2 Miles)		
Clubhouse:	Jeannette Calhoun, Tom Roberts, Joy Cunningham	12220 South Gessner	Mon - Thur:	7:30am - 6:00pm
Landscape:	Jeannette Calhoun, Tom Roberts	Houston, TX 77071	Fri:	7:30am - 5:00pm
Newsletter:	Dyaz Godfrey, Mari Angelo	Phone: 713 / 219-4100	Sat:	Closed
Parks & Recreation:	Danny Fishman, Jeannette Calhoun, Tom Roberts	Second Option (Rosenberg - US 59 @ Hwy 36 - Approx 20 Miles)		
Pool:	Phil Abrams	28000 Southwest Freeway, Suite A	Mon - Thur:	7:30am - 6:00pm
Security:	Barbara Hite, Barbara Getzer, Yonah Nathan	Rosenberg, TX 77471	Fri:	7:30am - 5:00pm
Tennis Court:	Zally Lazares, Asher Belles, Neal Harris	Phone: 281 / 517-1630	Sat:	Closed
BLOCK CAPTAINS:	Volunteers Needed!	More Info: http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/driver_licensing_control/rolodex/searchresults.asp		
WEBSITE INFORMATION:		LOCAL LIBRARIES		
City of Houston (General Info):	www.houstontex.gov	City of Houston Libraries		
City of Houston Services (311 Online):	http://hfdapp.houstontx.gov/311/index.php	Morris Frank Library		
Constable Precinct 7 Vacation Watch:	http://www.harriscountytexas.gov/compct7/	Brays Oaks Towers Building	Mon & Thur	11am - 6pm
Texas DPS Driver's License Renewal:	http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/driverlicense/	10103 Fondren	Tue	12pm - 8pm
West Bellfort Property Owner's Association:	www.westbellfortpoa.com	Houston, TX 77096	Wed	10am - 6pm
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		Houston, TX 77096	Fri	1pm - 5pm
Concert Arenas		Phone: 832 / 393-2410	Sat	10am - 5pm
Arena Towers	http://www.arenahouston.com/events/category/events/	<i>(on Fondren just passed Willowbend)</i>		
Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion	http://www.woodlandscenter.org/	Meyer Branch Library	Sun & Mon	Closed
Miller Outdoor Theater	http://milleroutdoortheatre.com/	5005 West Bellfort Street	Tue & Wed	10am - 6pm
Sports Complexes		Houston, TX 77035	Thur	12pm - 8pm
BBVA Compass - Dynamo Soccer/TSU Football	http://www.bbvacompassstadium.com/	Phone: 832 / 393-1840	Fri	1pm - 5pm
Minute Maid Park - Astros	http://houston.astros.mlb.com/hou/ballpark/index.jsp	<i>(on West Bellfort just before Kroger's)</i>		
NRG Stadium & Park - Texans & Rodeo	http://nrgpark.com/nrg-stadium	Houston Main / Central Library	Mon - Thur	10am - 8pm
Toyota Center - Rockets	http://www.houstontoyotacenter.com/	500 McKinney	Fri & Sat	10am - 5pm
Things to do in Houston:	http://www.visithoustontexas.com/things-to-do/	Houston, TX 77002	Sun	1pm - 5pm
Volunteering Opportunities:		Phone: 832 / 393-1313	<i>(Located Downtown at McKinney & Smith. Garage Parking - \$2 per hour, max \$16 - NO STREET PARKING EXCEPT ON SUNDAYS - TOWING ENFORCED; Street parking is free on Sundays)</i>	
City of Houston	http://volunteerhouston.org/	Harris County Library		
Harris County	http://www.harriscountycitizenrcps.com/	West University Branch	Mon	10am - 8pm
USEFUL NUMBERS		6108 Auden	Tue & Wed	10m - 6pm
Name	Phone Number	Houston, TX 77005	Thur & Fri	1pm - 6pm
Animal Control (BARC)	713-229-7300	Phone: 713 / 668-8273	Sat	10am - 5pm
Anti-Gang Office	832-393-0931	<i>(@ Corner of Auden & Milton in West U)</i>		
Brays Oaks Management District	713-595-1221	STATE, COUNTY & CITY OFFICIALS		
Citizens' Assistance	832-393-0955	Position	WBPOA's District	Currently Held By
City Council District J	832-393-3015	Mayor	Houston	Anrise D. Parker
City Council District K	832-393-3016	County Judge:	Harris County	Ed Emmett
City of Houston Services:	311	Tax Assessor-Collector:	Harris County	Mike Sullivan
Constable Precinct 7 - General Info	713-643-6118	Treasurer:	Harris County	Orlando Sanchez
Constable Precinct 7 - Dispatch	713-643-6602	County Attorney:	Harris County	Vince Ryan
Emergency	911	District Attorney:	Harris County	Devon Anderson
Harris County Flood Control:	713-684-4197	County Clerk:	Harris County	Stan Stanart
Health and Human Services	832-393-5169	District Clerk:	Harris County	Chris Daniel
Houston Fire Department Non-Emergency	832-394-6700	County Sheriff:	Harris County	Adrian Parker
Houston ISD	713-556-6000	County Constable:	Precinct 7	Constable May Walker
Houston Police Department District #17	713-773-7901	County Commissioner:	Precinct 1	El Franco Lee
Houston Police Department Non-Emergency	713-884-3131	Metro Transit Authority Chairman:	Houston Metro Area	Gilbert Andrew Garcia
Mayor's Office	832-393-1000	City of Houston Council Member:	District K	Larry Green
Milne Elementary School	713-778-3420	HISD School Superintendent:	Houston	Terry B. Grier
Parks Department	832-395-7000	HISD School District:	Position 9	Wanda Adams
Public Works and Engineering	832-395-2511	Houston Community College District:	District 9	Christopher W. Oliver
Solid Waste Management	713-956-6589	Justice of the Peace:	Position 1	Judge Hillary H. Green
Sterling Association Services (WBPOA's Property Management)	832-678-4500 x253	Justice of the Peace:	Position 2	Judge Zinetta Burney
Welch Middle School	713-778-3300	State Board of Education:	District 4	Lawrence A. Allen, Jr
Westbury High School	713-723-6015	State Senator:	District 13	Rodney G. Ellis
		State Representative:	District 131	Dr. Alama A. Allen
		Governor:	Texas	Rick Perry
		US Representative:	District 9	Al Green
		US Senators:	Texas	John Cornyn
				Ted Cruz