

July/August 2022

**Have a Safe and Happy
Independence Day!**

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AND MUCH MORE INSIDE

**An electronic newsletter for
residents of
The Commonwealth:
Bridgewater,
Commonwealth Estates,
Commonwealth Park,
Oxford, Sutton Forest,
Sutton Park and
Sweetwater XII**

*Underwritten
by The
Commonwealth
Civic Association*

COMMONWEALTH COMMENTS

The Commonwealth Board of Directors

President
Jim Levermann

Vice President
David Bristow

Treasurer
John Frenzel

Secretary
Jennifer Vance

Member At Large
Sarah McCoy



Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Board Meetings are held at the Clubhouse at 6 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month. For more information, contact Heather at heatherE@crest-management.com or 281-945-4630.

Modifications and Deed Restrictions Committee meets at the Clubhouse at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. For more information, contact Katie@crest-management.com | 281-945-4663

The Commonwealth Landscape Committee meets on an as needed basis. Contact Crest Management for the next meeting time and date.

First Colony LID #2 meets the FIRST Tuesday of each month at the Commonwealth Clubhouse starting at noon. www.fclid2.com
For more information, call Ron at 281-265-0137.

The Commonwealth Website:
www.commonwealthcivic.com

Crest Management Website:
www.crest-management.com

Please go to the Crest Management website for:
Exterior Modification Requests, Contacts, to Access Account information, pool tags, meeting dates, etc.

Board Liaisons:

Clubhouse, Marquee, Pool and Swim Team – Dave Bristow

Communication (newsletter, website, eblasts and marquee) – Sarah McCoy

Enhancement Committee – John Frenzel

Landscape (including electrical, fountains and sprinklers) – Jim Levermann

Modifications Committee – Jim Levermann and Dave Bristow

Playgrounds – Jim Levermann

Tennis Courts (tennis leagues & tennis court reservation system)-



CREST MANAGEMENT Company,
P. O. Box 219320, Houston, TX. 77218

Heather Esteban,
Property Manager
281-945-4630
(After Hours Emergency
713-935-7331)
HeatherE@crest-management.com

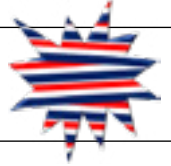
Katie
Assistant Manager
281-945-4663
Katie@crest-management.com
Deed restriction and architectural matters; Clubhouse Scheduler/Tennis Reservations

Tammy
Account Representative
281-945-4658
TammyA@Crest-Management.com
For accounting matters such as account information, account balances and payment information

Activity Directory

If you don't see an activity group that appeals to you, start one!
The Association promotes approved groups.

Commonwealth Chinese Club - CCC Darcy at: 847-800-2889 or email her at: danli2013@gmail.com.	Uniting Chinese-speaking families, promoting community news, events and spirit, engaging non-English speakers in community activities and mingling at social/informative events.
Commonwealth Women's Club Monica Clancy, President monicaclancy@strategicascend.com	This group of Commonwealth Women meets monthly for Fun and Friendship! Get on our email list for meeting details.
Mommy and Me Play Group Blanca Barron blancabarron00@yahoo.com	For our youngest residents. Join other neighborhood moms and their small children for play dates at one of the area parks, or in each other's homes. Get on the notification email list.
Men's Golf Group cwslcares@gmail.com	This group is in need of a leader! The guys are always looking for players for last minute pairings on various golf courses in the area. Let us know if interested.
Special Events/Activities To volunteer: cwslcares@gmail.com	Our residents LOVE participating in fun activities. If you are interested in helping organize and oversee future community events, please let us know.
Tennis: Men's Dave Bristow dgbristow@windstream.net	If you are interested in playing tennis with other Commonwealth residents, this group is for you. BUT.....the group needs a leader! Let us know if you're interested.
Tennis: Women's Jeanne 713-385-4097	Ladies time on the court! Play tennis with other Commonwealth women.
Yoga & Guided Meditation Varsha zestanden1@gmail.com	Will not be held at the Clubhouse until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Contact Varsha directly if you wish to join her elsewhere.



To learn about working with the Association to start a group; anything from a book club to a bridge group, to a cooking class, contact Sumita Ghosh and let her know of your interest. The Association will help publicize your group and attempt to help you grow. cwslcares@gmail.com

Classy Ad Listings

Resident Advertising



**For Commonwealth Resident-Owned
Business ONLY**



Remodeling		
<u>Greystone Builders</u> P. O. Box 1868 Sugar Land 77487	281-728-7360	Custom Building & Remodeling
Your Business Here		

Please patronize our advertisers - They support our community!

Annual July 4th Parade and Picnic

Monday, July 4th at the Commonwealth Clubhouse

Both Commonwealth pools will be open!

FOOD
Family
Fun

Bike decoration starts at 9:30 a.m., if you'd like to decorate your bikes at the park. Parade line-up at 10am with our local police and fire escorts.

After the parade, enjoy the water slide, obstacle course, DJ, burgers and hot dogs at Knightsbridge park and pool from 11am – 2 pm.

To volunteer to help with this event, contact Crest Management: heathere@crest-management.com

*This event is underwritten by
The Commonwealth Civic Association*

**Red, White
and
BOOM!**

Monday, July 4, from 6-10 P.M.

The Crown Festival Park, 18355 Southwest Freeway

Family Fun with activities for all ages | A variety of local entertainment

Food and Drink Concessions Available

DJ Babyface Williams will close out the night after one of the largest fireworks displays in Fort Bend County!

Fireworks are scheduled for approximately 9 P.M.

(Note: On-site parking is limited)

Free Event

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For more information about the event contact the Sugar Land Parks and Recreation Department at (281) 275-2825 or visit www.sugarlandtx.gov/RedWhiteandBoom.

Thank you Commonwealth!

Our numbers were down in early May for the City and School Board Elections, and, of course, it didn't help that we were not chosen to be an Early Voting Polling location. That was remedied during the May 7th Election Day voting, however, we were a little short of previous election years.

**Election
Round-up**

Run-offs do not generally generate the number of voters that a Primary does, but our Clubhouse was a polling location for both Early Voting and Election Day in the May Primary Run-off Elections.

For those not following election results, this is what transpired:

In FBISD School Board Elections

Rick Garcia and David Hamilton were each elected to three-year terms

In Sugar Land City Elections

Joe Zimmerman (unchallenged) is, again, at the helm in Sugar Land.
William Ferguson and Jennifer Lane were both re-elected to Council positions.

Run-off Elections Winners

Representing Republicans in the November Elections will be:

Congress District 7:	Johnny Teague	(Commonwealth is District 22)
Attorney General:	Ken Paxton	
Commissioner GLO:	Dawn Buckingham	
Railroad Commissioner:	Wayne Christian	
State Rep, District 85:	Stan Kitzman	(The Commonwealth is now represented by District 85)

Representing Democrats in November are:

Lieutenant Governor:	Mike Collier	
Attorney General:	Rochelle Garza	
Comptroller of Public Accounts:	Janet Dudding	
Commissioner General Land Office:	Jay Kleburg	
State Representative Distirct 76:	Suleman Lalani	(not Commonwealth)
Fort Bend County Treasurer:	Albert Tibbs	
Commissioner, Precinct 4:	Dexter McCoy	(not Commonwealth)
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3:	Sonia Rash - The Commonwealth now sits in Precinct 3 (formerly in Precinct 4)	
County Chair, Democrat Party:	Cynthia Ginyard	



The next election will take place on Tuesday, November 8th.
We will definitely be reminding residents to vote and are expecting The Clubhouse to be a polling location!!!!





SIMPSON'S TREE SERVICES
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Present this coupon and receive \$50 OFF All tree services over \$500 **	Mention this ad and receive FREE Lighting Design Services
\$25 OFF All tree services under \$500	

HAPPY 4th OF JULY

Annual Meeting Report

The Commonwealth Civic Association held its' Annual Meeting at the Clubhouse on Tuesday, May 31.

In addition to our four elected HOA Board Members, joining residents were: Carol McCutcheon, Sugar Land City Councilmember, District 4; Judy Dae, Fort Bend ISD Board of Trustees member; Bill Rickert, Fort Bend County Treasurer; and Sugar Land Crime Prevention Officer for District 4, Arif Vadsaria.

Carol McCutcheon thanked residents for their support of the City and gave special thanks to Jim Levermann, Commonwealth Board Member for his involvement in helping to find solutions to the feral hog problem. Residents are asked to report feral hog damage (with photos if at all possible) to Animal Services. You may call 281-275-2364 or Email: animalservices@sugarlandtx.gov. (Editor's note: please copy Heather at Crest - heathere@Crest-Management.com and/or Jim Levermann at CWSLCares@gmail.com.)

Judy Dae commented on the fact that we have a very new FBISD board with the board majority having served only 1 month to one year on the board; working with a relatively new Superintendent. She expressed faith in the new Super and was pleased that Steve Bassett is back in FBISD as a Deputy Superintendent.

She announced that the class of 2022 had 6,104 graduates and that there are two new schools coming up. Sonal Bhuchar Elementary in Riverstone will greatly relieve the student load at Commonwealth Elementary and stated that the temporary buildings would then be removed from the campus.

Judy also announced that she was currently working with the HOA to host a Special Meeting on school district taxes in the future.

Bill Rickert, FB County Treasurer, gave a presentation on Property Taxes.

Arif Vadsaria, our Crime Prevention Officer, gave a rundown on crime statistics for our area. Amongst the very promising numbers were:

0 residential robberies (unlawfully taking property by force or threat) thus far in 2022. (Also none in 2020/2021).

0 residential burglary (entrance into the residence illegally with the intent to commit a crime, especially a theft) this year. (1 in 2020).

Burglary of a Motor Vehicle: 1 in 2022 and 1 in 2021. The incident took place overnight in Sutton Park.

There have been no residential thefts in 2022 and we had only one in 2020 and one in 2021.

There have been no auto thefts since 2020 when we experienced only one.

Overall we are faring better than other areas of Precinct 4 and Sugar Land overall.



Article continues on page 7

The officer reminded residents that Sugar Land PD offers a **House Watch program** for residents who are leaving town.

The House Watch Program is designed to provide Sugar Land homeowners a means of having their residences checked periodically by an officer when they are away from home on vacation or an extended weekend.

In order for a residence to be placed on a house watch , the following criteria should be met:

- Your house must be located within Sugar Land city limits
- The residence must be vacated for more than 72 hours
- No other people may be going into or around the residence while it is unoccupied
- The occupant must have established residency at the location
- The residence may not remain on the watch for more than three weeks

The program is intended to be a deterrent to illegal entry of the residence. It is a good crime prevention tool. The department cannot, however, place homes which are vacant or are subject to be shown by a real estate agent on house watch.

In order to participate in the program, the homeowner either stops by the Police Department or completes an on-line form [HERE](#).

He also stressed that the Police Department offers (free) **Home Security Assessments**. Contact him, Officer Vadsaria, at: desk 281-275-2579 or City cell 346-350-9107 to learn more or set up an appointment.

If you SEE something, SAY something.

**SLPD:
(281) 275-2500**

**In an Emergency, Call:
9-1-1**

After the series of speakers, HOA Board members were introduced.

Jim Levermann is the **Landscape Committee, Modifications Committee and Playgrounds** liaison. He reiterated the efforts being made to halt feral hog damage to resident property.

Dr. John Frenzel is the **Enhancement Committee** liaison.

Dave Bristow is the contact for concerns about the **Club-**

house, Marquee, Pool and Swim Team and also currently works with the **Modifications Committee**.

Tennis Courts and Communications (newsletter, website, eblasts and marquee) were overseen by Board Member Sumita Ghosh who retired from the board before the Election.

Heather Esteban, with Crest, gave an oversight of the budget. Summary to follow below.

There were two candidates for the two open Board positions. Sarah McCoy and Jennifer Vance opted to dedicate service to the HOA. There were no nominations from the floor so the two ladies were elected by acclamation.

Sumita Ghosh was thanked for her years of service to The Commonwealth Civic Association and the floor was then open to questions from the residents.

Interested residents can receive a more in-depth capture of the minutes by contacting Heather Esteban, Community Manager at: heathere@Crest-Management.com.

Call Katie at Crest Management - 281.945.4663 if you have any questions or need help downloading a Modifications Application from the website.



HOA Budget Summary for 2021

Administrative Expenses	Budgeted at \$65,380	Came in slightly under budget
Insurance/Banking	Budgeted at \$33,153	Came in slightly over.
Legal/Accounting	Budgeted at \$45,500	Came in well under budget
Grounds Maintenance	Budgeted at \$564,289	Slightly under budget
Maintenance and Repairs	Budgeted at \$87,020	Came in at over double budgeted amt.
Pool	Budgeted at \$119,242	Came in under budget
Utilities	Budgeted \$228,205	Came in under budget
Taxes	Budgeted at \$1050	Came in over budget
Bad Debt	Budgeted at \$5000	Shows no expenses
Committees	Budgeted at \$40,000	Came in at around half.
Reserve Fund Contributions	\$17,109	Came in at \$103,046 🤯

Notes:

- ◆ Grounds maintenance Budget raised for 2022.
- ◆ Maintenance & Grounds was significantly over budget due to freeze damage repairs.
- ◆ Taxes Budget was raised for 2022
- ◆ Budgeted Reserve Contribution raised

If you have questions regarding the HOA Budget, please contact Crest (or a Board Member).

New Board officers will be elected after publication of this issue.

If you are interested in starting an HOA supported community group, please speak with a Board Member and see how you can work together to make it happen!

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The City of Sugar Land invites residents to download the [MySugarLand App](#).

This app will help you stay abreast of important Sugar Land information.



[The Sugar Land Animal Shelter is always open to volunteer help!](#)



Our Pool Company is Still Hiring!

Lifeguard at Community Area Pools, Earn Money, Make Friends and Everlasting Memories and Help Staff Area Pools!

Lifeguard Pay has INCREASED Houston-wide and we are excited for the upcoming Summer!

Pay rate is \$10-14/hr. APPLY NOW before spots fill FAST! www.a-beautifulpools.com.



RESIDENTS:

Do you have an idea for stories or information you'd like to see included in our newsletters?

Please let us know at:

news@commonwealthcivic.com

The Glory Crafts Team SOLD over \$34 MILLION in 2021



GLORY CRAFTS

832-265-7355 (SELL)

glorycrafts@hotmail.com

We have Buyers! We need Listings!
Call for a FREE Market Analysis



Over 133 5-Star Zillow Recommendations

38 Years
In Real Estate

Integrity & Experience
Sugar Land Resident

The Glory Crafts Team is Proud to sponsor the Commonwealth Piranhas



RE/MAX Fine Properties

The Glory Crafts Team - #1 TOP PRODUCING SMALL TEAM for
Re/Max Fine Properties for 2021



The Commonwealth Women's Club

The Commonwealth Women's Club is the oldest club/group in our community. This group has been active for decades.

If you are looking for a way to meet some neighbors, connect with old friends, or just have a wonderful evening of fun, be sure to get on their email list so you will be notified of all future get-togethers.

They are working on their plans for 2022. Be sure to get on the email list to remain current on the socializing status!



To get on their email list, shoot an email to Monica
Clancy at
monicaclancy@strategicascend.com



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The BRIARWOOD SPLASH PAD

The splash pad located next to the Briarwood pool has been gated to separate it from the pool so that Commonwealth residents can use the splash pad outside of the pool season. A door was also added on the side of the pool building to allow access to the restroom for families at the park or splash pad.

Both the splash pad and exterior pool restroom can be accessed by requesting a splash pad access card.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Access to the restroom during pool hours will be through the main pool entry gate.
- Access to the exterior restroom when the pool is closed can be obtained with this access card. The restroom will be accessible from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m.
- The splash pad will be open each year from March 1st- October 31st from 8 a.m. until dusk.
- The posted rules at the splash pad must be followed. (Summary below)
- If the restrooms need cleaning or attention, please contact Katie with Crest Management at Katie@crest-management.com or 281-945-4663.



One free access card will be issued to any homeowner that is in good standing with the Association. Lost or broken cards can be purchased for \$20.00 each. Only one card per household will be issued. To obtain an access card, go to www.crest-management.com and click request a pool tag/access device on the home page. Access cards will be mailed to residents upon receipt and verification of the request form. There will be a \$20 expedite fee to pick up an access card in person at Crest Management's office.

If you have any questions regarding obtaining an access card you can contact Katie with Crest Management at Katie@crest-management.com or 281-945-4663.

**Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an individual over the age of 18.
Limit of three children per adult in the Splash Pad area!
Parents are responsible for their children at ALL times.**

If lightning is spotted, the splash pad area must be cleared for a period of 30 minutes.

No glass containers allowed in the splash pad area.

No food, no alcohol, no smoking, no drugs are permitted on the premises.

No skateboards or wheeled vehicles are permitted in the splash pad area.

Profanity, improper behavior and intoxication are prohibited.

Do not climb on top of spray features.

No running, pushing, wrestling, ball playing or causing undue disturbance on or around the splash pad area will be tolerated.

Appropriate swimwear is required at all times.

All non-toilet trained babies must wear swim diapers.

Please refrain from entering the area for at least two weeks after suffering with a communicable disease.

Members will be held responsible for the actions of their guests and their children.

Management is not responsible for loss or damage of personal property of any kind.

Non-service animals are prohibited.

Do not drink water from the water feature.

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John Benevides, Broker
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281-744-9237
john@teambenny.com



***Does not include Buyer's Agent Commission**



Contact Information:
Email or text Jean Konrady
Email: gocommonwealthpiranhas@gmail.com.
Text: 832.535.9887

"Thank you Commonwealth Swim Team Members for a productive and successful swim team season!"

We look forward to seeing you again next season."

SUGAR SCOOP

Are you up on the Scoop? Last year, the City of Sugar Land initiated a new newsletter for residents. This electronic publication is issued every other week.

It will contain community based content: features/events/public safety tips/utilities and community pride. You must subscribe to receive it.

Visit: www.sugar-scoop.com to sign up.



Did you know that if you are buying or selling something on-line, you may ask the other party to meet you in the Designated Area of the Sugar Land Police Department parking lot?

Sugar Land Announces Citizen Self Service Portal

The city of Sugar Land last month launched a Citizen Self Service (CSS) portal - an initiative to provide open, easy access to city government and use smart solutions to improve services for our customers.

The portal moves the plans, permits and licenses submittal processes to a convenient online-only process.

The many features and benefits of the CSS portal allow easy online progress tracking for plan, permit and licensing requests. Other features include:

- * easy step-by-step processes and the ability to create an online profile for future submission needs;
- * integration with mapping tools for easy pinpointing of job locations;
- * the ability to start and save permits or plan applications for submittal at a later date;

- * online inspection requests that allow for multiple inspections of one or more job sites, all on a single screen; and

- * the ability to add and conveniently pay for multiple itemized invoices at various times and across multiple devices.

Sugar Land is always looking at technology that will improve both internal and external efficiencies and ensure the delivery of services that meet the needs of the community and businesses.

To learn more about this transition, visit www.sugarlandtx.gov/CSSLaunch.



Commonwealth pick up days are
Tuesdays and Fridays

Recycling: Friday Green Waste: Tuesday
Bulky Waste: Fourth Monday of the month



Sugar Land Police Chief Eric Robins Retires

His 33 years of public service includes 30 at SLPD with four years as its police chief.

“I’d like to thank Eric for his unwavering service to our community,” said City Manager Michael W. Goodrum. “His selfless commitment to public service has ensured we remain among the safest cities in nation.”

His many accomplishments have included strategies and programs that directly contributed to Sugar Land achieving a crime rate that was the lowest on record. Under his leadership, industry experts credited SLPD as one of the best run agencies they’ve evaluated in the nation. Sugar Land residents gave high marks to Robins and his command staff during the city’s most recent Citizen Satisfaction Survey.

“Eric has done an outstanding job in serving our community, and we wish him well in his future endeavors,” said Goodrum. “Our city is safer than ever before. We have some big shoes to fill.”

Plans will be announced in the near future for a comprehensive, nationwide search for Sugar Land’s next police chief. Assistant City Manager Doug Brinkley will assume interim oversight of the police department until a new police chief is selected.



We're Assuming You May Have Questions

With two new Board Members on board, perhaps you have become a little more aware of the importance of your HOA Board.

This is a short article on the job of a Board member.

The Board has **two primary duties**: 1) collect dues; and 2) enforce the deed restrictions.

After that it's all about maintaining the value of the neighborhood which entails dealing with the details of setting the budget which leads to decisions regarding the level at which to set the dues, selecting vendors and service providers such as Yellowstone Landscaping and A Beautiful Pools; developing and executing projects to maintain and improve the amenities such as the landscaping, playgrounds, tennis courts, and pools; appointing the 5 member Modifications Committee; planning and executing events such as the July 4 picnic and the Holiday Party, and so on into the minutia of running the \$1M+ business.

Each of these tasks is meant to enhance the value of your property.

Our manager, Heather Esteban, handles a lot of the detail work with her assistant Katie, under the Board's direction. The big decisions come when the Association is having trouble with a resident who has deed restriction violations which they refuse to cure, they refuse to pay their dues,

or they fall behind on paying court judgements against them. Those situations lead to consulting the Association's attorneys, and may eventually lead to suing the resident in court, and perhaps foreclosing on the property. Generally, the homeowner suddenly finds the funds to pay the judgement they owe and the foreclosure is called off. Fortunately, those are relatively rare situations, though there are generally half a dozen or so residents on payment plans, as well as those who are rather casual about paying their dues.

In the years I have been on the Board (since May 2013) the changing cast of people has typically operated by consensus with very few serious disagreements. We occasionally revive a project committee to develop ideas for improvements so that the Board doesn't have to do all of the work and a broader range of ideas is incorporated into the projects. The committees burn out on the projects and have to be re-recruited. There are relatively few active volunteers, and many repeat over the years. Over my 9 years the Board has always taken its job seriously with a view towards avoiding being arbitrary and capricious in its decisions covering the neighborhood in general, as well as disputes with individual residents.

I hope this gives you a little bit of insight into what your (unpaid) Board is discussing at monthly board meetings.

David Bristow, Acting Board President

City Council Approves Targeted Tax Cuts for Homeowners

Sugar Land City Council took the first step to approve targeted tax cuts for homeowners on June 7 by voting to increase the homestead exemption from 12 to 13 percent, effective for the 2022 tax year.

The decision, based on a staff recommendation, reduces the taxable value of homesteads by 1 percent, lowering tax bills and addressing increases in property values. The city has no control over appraisals.

Since the city cannot control residential values, it must rely on tools available to manage growth in tax bills. The city's Financial Management Policy Statements target a goal of no more than a 3 percent average annual increase in residential tax bills unless a general obligation bond election is approved by the voters.

The increased exemption represents an estimated citywide savings to residents of \$400,000 or \$15 per year on the average home value of \$420,000. The savings are based

on the city's current tax rate of 34.65 cents. The homestead exemption increase provides tax relief to homeowners while still preserving the city's ability to implement the remaining general obligation bond projects approved by voters in 2019 to address drainage, mobility and public safety. The financial strategy preserves the ability to respond to external challenges such as economic uncertainty, sales tax revenue volatility and the impact of state legislation that affects the city's ability to fund services.

The homestead exemption targets tax cuts directly to homeowners. Since 2007, homestead exemptions targeting tax cuts for homeowners have been raised from 1 percent to 13 percent -- the equivalent of 3 cents on the city's tax rate, which is already the second lowest in the state for similar sized cities.

City Council is scheduled to approve the exemption increase on second reading on June 21; the exemption will be reflected on tax bills distributed later this year.

Keeping Your Home Safe

Tips from the Sugar Land Police Department

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

Security Checklist

Exterior Doors -

- All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house - even if it's just for a few minutes
- Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad
- Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use
- If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered
- All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door
- Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in a mailbox

Garage and Sliding Door Security -

- The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt
- The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security
- All garage doors are locked when leaving the house

The sliding glass door has strong working key locks

- A dowel or a pin to secure the glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track
- The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house

Protecting windows

- Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned
- Windows are always locked even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation

Outdoor Security -

- Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide
- There are no dark areas around our house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers
- Flood lights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination

- Outdoor lights are on in the evening -whether someone is home or not, or a Photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system has been installed
- Our house numbers are clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly

Security When Away From Home

- At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence when we are away for an extended time period
- The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home
- Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor / friend to pick them up have been made when we go away from home for a period of time.
- A neighbor has been asked to tend to the yard and watch our home when we are away.

Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property

- Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked with height-security, laminated padlocks
- Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked after every use
- Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point
- Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or a quality padlock and chain
- Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute
- Valuable items, such as televisions, stereos, and computers have been engraved with my driver's license number
- Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete inventory is kept somewhere out of the house

Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.

Many of us will be leaving home this summer to take family vacation time. Be sure that a trusted neighbor has a key to your home and an itinerary that includes contact information just in case there is an emergency at home!

NOTES and REMINDERS

Have something to celebrate?

Our beautifully redecorated Clubhouse is available for rent by residents in good standing with The Commonwealth Homeowners Association.

If you are interested in scheduling a small gathering, please contact Crest Management.

281-579-0761

Be sure to check out **The Commonwealth website** where you will find documents, forms, a link to pay your dues, newsletters, local information and more!

Visit:

commonwealthcivic.com

To get on our Email Alert list please shoot an email to: news@commonwealthcivic.com stating your name, email address and physical address.

We do NOT share your email addresses with ANYONE except Crest Management!

An Email Alert is sent out each time a new edition of the newsletter is posted.

REMINDER -- Please put trash cans (and recycling bins) at the curb on the morning of trash pick up days no earlier than 5 p.m. on the day prior to pick up. This also applies to lawn debris. If your landscape company habitually leaves grass and tree cuttings in front of your home each week, ask them to start taking it with them. They should be happy to accommodate you.

The HOA will pursue this offense - it does frustrate your neighbors.

The Kids are out again, please exercise an overabundance of caution when driving near our pools, parks and playgrounds!

We are still receiving complaints about residents' dogs being unleashed in the community.

Please note that City of Sugar Land regulations require that your dog be leashed at all times. Your dog may not actually BE a threat to others, however, perception is reality!

AND – we continue to ask that you pick up after your dog. We have the new dogwaste disposal stations throughout the community.

Useful Phone Numbers

Police (Non-Emergency)	281-275-2020
Animal Control	281-275-2596
Fire Department	281-491-0852
Water & Streets	281-275-2750
Trash Collection	281-275-2772
Public Works	281-275-2450
Street Lights (Centerpoint)	713-207-2222
<i>when calling about street lights, relay pole #.</i>	
CITY OF SUGAR LAND	3-1-1
POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY	9-1-1

Clubhouse Rentals: Crest Management 281-579-0761

Pool Rentals: A-Beautiful Pools 281-376-6510



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