

**November/
December
2021**

COMMONWEALTH COMMENTS

Inside this issue

**General Commonwealth HOA Information
News from the City of Sugar Land
City Christmas Tree Lighting Info
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AND, MORE!**

**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

The Commonwealth Board of Directors

President
Sumita Ghosh

Vice President
Jim Levermann

Treasurer
John Frenzel

Secretary
Dave Bristow

Member
Rajeev Somani

To reach your Board Members by email, write:
CWSLCares@gmail.com

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 Heather at: heatherE@crest-management.com or 281-945-4630.

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) – Sumita Ghosh
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)- Sumita Ghosh



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 zestandzen1@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



Happy Thanksgiving



| | | |
|---|---------------------|---|
| Real Estate | | |
| The Fontenot Group @ Re/Max Fine Properties 4500 Highway 6, Sugar Land 77478 | 281-468-2233 | Realtor - Sherrie Fontenot |
| Remodeling | | |
| Greystone Builders P. O. Box 1868 Sugar Land 77487 | 281-728-7360 | Custom Building & Remodeling |
| Your Business Here | | |
| Let us know if you are interested! | | |

Please patronize our advertisers - They support our community!

Be sure to submit a Modifications Application and wait for an approval letter PRIOR to starting any modification projects in your yard or to the outside of your home.

Call Katie at Crest Management - 281.945.4663 if you have any questions or need an application.

NOTE:

It can be very expensive to put an unacceptable roof or paint color on your home and then have to replace it!

Law Enforcement stresses the importance of:

- ♦ Leaving nothing visible in your parked vehicles
- ♦ Locking your car doors every time you leave the car AND
- ♦ If you see something, say something!

New Street Drains

A huge thank you to the resident (Jeff) who noticed that there were new drains in his area of The Commonwealth.

Apparently, the City replaced the drains without any input from the Association or the LID. Presumably, the objective was to reduce street ponding during heavy rains.

The Association does not know what the plan is going forward regarding replacing more drains in the Commonwealth.

If you have concerns, Sugar Land 311 is a good place to start with inquiries....

For more information regarding The Commonwealth Civic Association's Modifications and Deed Restriction guidelines, join and search out the website: www.crest-management.com



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30 Hessenbofd St.
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4318 Saint Michaels
Savings of \$12,990



16 Hollinfare
Savings of \$9,400



4715 Abingdon Ct
Savings of \$12,996



4310 Keating
Savings of \$10,358



4615 Moorland
Savings of \$9,900



4802 Cambridge
Savings of \$9,500



19 Stretford Ct
Savings of \$9,900



26 Epping Forest
Savings of \$8,475



4826 Hillswick Ct
Savings of \$6,480



4919 Keneshaw
Savings of \$8,175

Call 281-744-9237 to find out how YOU can save THOUSANDS in Listing Fees!



We hope you have a safe and happy
Thanksgiving Holiday
with family and friends

Your Commonwealth Civic Association
Board of Directors

*Sumita Ghosh | Jim Levermann | Dr. John Frenzel
David Bristow | Rajeev Somani*

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.

Under normal circumstances, the Women's Club meets monthly from September through May. COVID has curtailed the gatherings for over a year. Get on the email list to remain current on our socializing status.

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



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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 |
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The City of Sugar Land would like for residents to consider downloading the **MySugarLand** App.

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

City of Sugar Land News

Questions regarding the City of Sugar Land?

**Please read through the information at
www.SugarLandTx.gov.**

**This site will tell you exactly what
3-1-1 can help you with.**

**(i.e. broken sidewalks, trash service and recycling,
even Animal Services info).**

SUGAR SCOOP

The City of Sugar Land has initiated a brand new newsletter for residents. This electronic publication will be 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.

Quick Crime Report

Sugar Land PD reports that crime in Sugar Land (as in other places) is trending up again now that people are out and about.

Theft is up. This would be Burglary of a Motor Vehicle/Resident/Commercial/Shoplifting and Auto parts. They remind us to be sure car doors are LOCKED each time you leave your vehicle. Take a close look to ensure you do not leave ANYTHING visible to someone looking for a quick score. (For instance, your pile of laundry in the back seat may not be terribly valuable, but a thief won't know it's dirty laundry until AFTER they break in.

There has been a big uptick in the theft of catalytic converters. Did you know it only takes 30 seconds for a professional thief to remove that converter? And just FYI, they tend to target mostly Toyotas. If at all possible, park your vehicles IN THE GARAGE.

Residential burglaries decreased from 2020-2021 because, due to the pandemic, many more people were home during the day.

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Law Enforcement Tip: Always check to be sure you are not being followed, especially if you have recently stopped at the bank!

Integrated Stormwater Management Model (ISWMM)

Real-Time Ponding Monitoring and Notifications.

During rainfall events, it is possible for some areas of the city to experience different levels of ponding. Ponding is the unwanted accumulation of water typically in flat areas and/or roadways.

In keeping with the city's commitment to innovative technology, the Integrated Stormwater Management Model (ISWMM) map aims to serve as an informational tool that provides real-time city ponding levels during rainfall events.

What are the benefits of ISWMM?

The ISWMM system is connected to 28 rain/stream gauges across the city that report real time information. The information is then used to create real time ponding maps that include street ponding depths. Among its many benefits are:

- Public web-based access to real-time ponding information across the city
- Ability to send notifications about intensifying street ponding, flooding, and potential street closures
- Assist in the planning of evacuation routes if needed
- Helps coordinate Hazard Mitigation Plans with area agencies and Levee Improvement Districts
- Helps evaluate drainage infrastructure to better target potential improvements

Innovation that keeps us safe

Find out about [how to use ISWMM Monitoring Guide Here.](#)

Be sure that you keep your firearms secured. Lock them up. There are many excellent options available on the market these days. Take advantage of that!

If your home has a deaf or hard of hearing individual living there, consider install a bed shaker and stroble light alarms to alert them in the event of a fire.

Mosquitos Tests Positive for West Nile Virus

Last month the city of Sugar Land confirmed the presence of West Nile virus at a mosquito trap located on University Boulevard in the Telfair subdivision. Sugar Land was notified today that at least one mosquito in the trap tested positive for West Nile.

The city began citywide spraying twice per week and is working closely with the Texas Department of State Health Services to trap and test mosquitos for the presence of the West Nile virus. The traps supplement the city's larvicide and mosquito spraying operations.

Humans can contract West Nile virus from a mosquito bite. Infected mosquitoes get the virus from feeding on infected birds. The virus can cause serious illness or death.

Dr. Joe Anzaldua, the city's medical director and health authority, urges residents to take precautions to reduce West Nile exposure.

There are no medications to treat or vaccines to prevent

“Residents should use insect repellent whenever they are outdoors and avoid going outside at dusk and dawn when mosquitos are most active,” said Anzaldua, who added that the city of Sugar Land has a comprehensive monitoring and testing program intended to keep the public safe. “People over 50 years old and those with compromised immune systems are at a higher risk of becoming seriously ill if infected with the virus. If people have symptoms that cause them concern, they should contact their healthcare provider immediately.”

West Nile virus infection. Symptoms may include a stiff neck, vision problems, body tremors, mental confusion, memory loss and seizures. The milder form of the illness is West Nile Fever. Symptoms may include fever, headache, muscle and bone aches, nausea and drowsiness. People with the milder form of the illness typically recover on their own, although symptoms may last for several weeks. Up to 80 percent of people infected with West Nile virus will have no symptoms and will recover on their own. Anyone with questions or concerns should contact their doctor.

The Texas Department of State Health Services recommends practicing the "Four Ds" as precautionary measures:

- Use insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus.
- Dress in long sleeves and long pants when you are outside.
- Stay indoors at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Drain standing water where mosquitoes breed. Common breeding sites include old tires, flowerpots and clogged rain gutters.

It's also important for residents to eliminate standing water around their homes, an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes. Learn more using the city's interactive tool at <http://webtools.sugarlandtx.gov/sl/epub/fightthebite/index.html>

For more information, visit:

www.sugarlandtx.gov/fightthebite.

Annual City Christmas Tree Lighting

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting, in front of City Hall, will take place on Friday, Dec. 3, from 5-8 p.m. Traditional activities, themed craft stations, live entertainment and support from various sponsors and community partners will help to make this annual tradition a night to remember! The lighting of the tree will take place after a short welcome from the mayor and the city's traditional countdown, and the event will conclude with a short, spectacular firework display.

Lastly, after a year hiatus due to the pandemic, the annual Senior Holiday Gala will take place once again with this year's event to be hosted at the T.E. Harman Center on Thursday, Dec. 9, from 2-5 p.m. This formal event is a favorite among Sugar Land's senior members, and lively music, dancing and hors d'oeuvres will be flowing from beginning to end. The event is open to senior adults 50 years and older and free for members of the T.E. Harman Center. Guests are welcome to dress in their holiday best and will be able to enjoy a photo booth and holiday cheer.

For more information about Sugar Land's events contact the Sugar Land Parks and Recreation Department at (281) 275-2825 or visit www.sugarlandtx.gov/specialevents. For other updates, be sure to follow Sugar Land Parks and Recreation on Facebook.



**Crest Management encourages all residents to opt-in and register their property at
www.Crest-Management.com**

AND

to register for our Email Alerts at news@CommonwealthCivic.com.

If you do not register, it is very difficult to stay on top of all the news affecting life in The Commonwealth.

**Receiving information from Crest Management and our Civic Association are the ONLY
dependable ways to stay in the loop!**

We NEVER share your email addresses!

SL Fire Department News

Be sure to check out the Sugar Land Fire/EMS Department Website to learn more about our outstanding department! The website covers a lot of useful information.

Did you know that, as a resident, you could

- ◆ Schedule an Inspection by the Fire Marshal?
- ◆ You can also request that Sugar Land Fire - EMS do a drive-by or parade for a special event.
- ◆ Schedule a smoke alarm check/installation or fire extinguisher training.

Please provide at least 2 weeks advance notice to them and they will do their best to accommodate your request.

Learn more [HERE](#).

Remember to check your smoke alarms regularly and replace the batteries once a year.

Citizen's Fire Academy

The Sugar Land Fire - EMS Department (SLFE) would like you to accept a very special invitation to apply for the Citizens Fire Academy (CFA). The CFA Class has limited enrollment and applications will be available soon.

The CFA is a great way to learn about SLFE and what it takes to be a firefighter.

By enrolling in this eight-week virtual course, you will:

- ◆ get to know your firefighters and other staff;
- ◆ learn when we use the Jaws of Life and other tools we carry on our fire truck,
- ◆ learn about the Public Safety Dispatch Center, and
- ◆ take part in a staged fire scenario in full firefighter gear (as soon it is safe to do so).

Classes normally run Thursdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

In the CFA class, you will learn about fire strategy and tactics, see your firefighters in action and learn basic life saving skills.

Firefighting has become a highly advanced science, but it is still a profession for the bravest among us. Actually, there is more to the SLFE than fighting fires, such as providing emergency medical care, providing smoke alarms to citizens in need and even training for pandemics.

Things You Will Learn

Have you ever wondered what being a firefighter is all about? Or why firefighters do the things they do and take the risks they take? How you would react in an emergency situation? Do you know if your smoke alarms are in the right location? Can you choose and use the right fire extinguisher? If a family member had a heart attack in your home, could you help them?

This is an opportunity for residents to find out the answers to those questions. To be accepted into the class, you must commit to attending all the classes in the ten-week program, be at least 18 years old and either live or work in Sugar Land or within the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Application Information

We will be sending out an email alert to let you know when the application process begins.



Get on our list by signing up at:
news@commonwealthcivic.com

Did you know....

**Sugar Land has
850 miles of
sidewalks?**

Your Dues At Work!

Your HOA dues at work. Our HOA regularly maintains, updates, and enhances our pools. Your dues also go to paying for lifeguards, insurance, required chemicals and safety devices.

Mod Comm (Modifications & Deed Restrictions Committee) is asking that residents visit the Crest Management website (www.Crest-Management.com) for the on-line Exterior Modification Approval Request Forms. Click on the Exterior Modification Request icon on the Homeowner Portal and fill out the online Exterior Modification Request. There are no downloadable forms.

This will make everything much easier for them and for YOU!

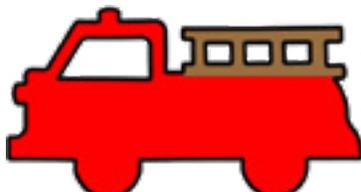
Please allow two weeks for a response. They receive approximately 35 applications every month and each requires a detailed review. Every effort is made to expedite emergency requests!

Commonwealth's National Night Out

This year, The Commonwealth tried something a little different and invited residents to come together at the Clubhouse early in the evening, in addition to hosting smaller gatherings by block.

The officers involved indicated that they had a great time at our NNO event and really enjoyed the one-on-one at the smaller gatherings also.

Kudos to the block party organizers. Same time next year!



Deed Restrictions help keep our home values up!

They are one of the most important tools our Board has to help maintain and enhance our property values. The HOA strongly recommends that you get approval **BEFORE** beginning a project, there are, of course, some exceptions.

You may certainly put a tarp on the roof after you suffer storm damage, but please do not replace the roof without MDR Committee approval.

And, you may stand the fence back up if it falls, but a new fence requires approval from the HOA. Incorrect repairs can be extremely costly.

Modifications & Deed Restrictions Committee

Please note that there is an **URGENT** need for **VOLUNTEERS** for Commonwealth's Modifications & Deed Restrictions Committee.

This extremely important committee holds regularly scheduled monthly meetings where important decisions are made with respect to maintaining the value of our homes. (For most of us, the largest investment we will ever make!)

Contact Heather Esteban, Community Manager,
HeatherE@crest-management.com
281-945-4630 to learn more or sign up!



Commonwealth pick up days are
Tuesdays and Fridays

Recycling: Friday

Green Waste: Tuesday

Bulky Waste: Fourth Monday of the month

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glorycrafts@hotmail.com

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Virginia Mack

Attention Tennis Players

Now that the relentless heat has release its' grip on us (maybe only for a few weeks!), we expect that Tennis Court use will pick up.

Our new online system for reserving our tennis courts is up and running. If you are a tennis player, we encourage you and your family to sign up.

This step is being taken to ensure that **only Commonwealth residents and their guests** have access to our courts and encroachers are displaced.

The website URL:

www.sites.onlinecourtreservations.com/reservations.



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Volunteers Make It Happen

The more volunteers we have step up, the more we can offer at future events.

Please email CWSLcares@gmail.com to volunteer and make suggestions for future events.

Our residents have supported the types of events and more, for years.....



Movie Nights
Teen Parties | Pool Parties | Ice Cream Socials
Community Garage Sales
Election Information Events
Educational Events
Holiday Parties

We won't be able to continue unless residents volunteer to assist with organization and oversight. Thanks Sumita for organizing the recent CPR Safety Certification Class.

Please Join

The Commonwealth



Annual Holiday Party

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

**Join our Commonwealth neighbors for an evening
of Food and Family Fun**



6 - 9 P.M.

Santa and a Photo Booth

Check out our newly decorated Clubhouse!

*Joy
Peace
Love*

This event is underwritten by The Commonwealth Civic Association



A Very Merry Christmas

&

Happy Chanukah

to our residents who celebrate.



Be sure to add this word to your vocabulary. It's a new Sugar Land "thing".

Parklet

The first Sugar Land parklet opened at the end of October, on highway 6 at Williams Trace.

A parklet is considered an extension of the shopping experience. A place to relax as you shop our strip centers. Check it out and let the City know what you think.

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

STAYING CONNECTED WITH THE ASSOCIATION JUST GOT EASIER

Introducing Email Opt-In allowing you to receive official communication via email.

Electronic HOA statements straight to your inbox

Receive EMR and violation letters quicker

Save the association printing and postage costs

It's quick and easy to get started!

1. Login at www.crest-management.com and click the User Icon by your name.
2. Select User Settings
3. Check the box by Email Opt-In
4. Click Update Email Choices



If at any time you decide it's not for you, simply uncheck the box and update email choices.

State law requires certain notices be sent via certified mail. You will receive a copy of any certified notices by email and the original will be delivered by USPS.



17171 Park Row, Suite 310
Houston, TX 77084
281-579-0761
www.crest-management.com

NOTES and REMINDERS

Our beautifully redecorated Clubhouse will be available for rent by residents in good standing once pandemic restrictions are lifted.

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.

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 |

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