

September/October 2021

Commonwealth Comments

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**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.

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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.



We do **NOT** believe that our residents are intentionally rude or just plain self-centered, however, we do have another parking issue that has arisen and will become problematic during the school year.

Our neighbors who live around Commonwealth Elementary are very aware of the fact that the school often has events that draw large crowds. They do understand that on occasion there will be heavy vehicular traffic and a little noise. That being said, even running late to your meeting or your child's program, is no excuse to park **blocking homeowner's driveways or restricting traffic flow.**

One would like to think that no one could possibly be that inconsiderate, but it happens often.

These visiting vehicles also become life-threatening problem should emergency vehicles be needed.



Please be considerate when parking at our elementary school.

We also realize that many of those vehicle owners do NOT live in The Commonwealth. Please help us spread the word to our neighboring communities. Thank you!



Commonwealth pick up days are
Tuesdays and Fridays

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



There will be an election in November. We will keep you advised of ballot items that will impact The Commonwealth

THE COMMONWEALTH PIRANHAS

The Commonwealth Piranhas Competitive Summer Swim Team had a fantastic swim season this year! Our swimmers gained stamina, skills and friends through this fun summer competitive swim team.

All meets and practices were held at the Briarwood pool, with 170 swimmers participating from the Commonwealth and surrounding neighborhoods.



The Piranhas practiced through the rain every day for the months of May, June and part of July, with meets in June and July culminating with the Meet of Champions and All Stars Competitions.

This year, we had **23 individual swimmers with top times** in the Southwest Houston Swim League that won a spot at the All Stars Competition. In addition, 11 relays had top times and competed at All Stars – the fastest of the fast!


This was a high energy event where all 23 teams from the league showcased their top swimmers and is a huge honor to be able to attend.

Special congratulations to all our swimmers and their families for an amazing season! Registration will start in **mid-March for the 2022 swim season**, and please let us know if you are interested in serving on our board!

Questions? gocommonwealthpiranhas@gmail.com

2021 COMMONWEALTH PIRANHAS BOARD

Jean Konrady, President
Cristina Materon, Vice President
Roberto Rodriguez, Treasurer
Katy Weimer, Merchandise
Madhura Kelkar, Data & Tech
Melissa Schroer, Party
Dawn Ramkissoon & Cynthia Yu, Volunteer Coordinators
Linda Miller, Head Coach

We  our Commonwealth Piranhas Sponsors;

Bradfield Dental	Glory Crafts Team Realty
Lemke Orthodontics	White Flower, LLC

And a huge thank you to The Commonwealth Civic Association for sponsoring our team each year!

Proud Sponsors of the Piranhas Swim Team

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Virginia Mack

Real-Time Ponding Monitoring and Notifications

The city of Sugar Land recently launched a web-based tool to provide residents and city engineers with real-time information on street flooding that will enable informed decisions to protect life and property.

The Integrated Stormwater Management Model (ISWMM) is a system of integrated drainage models that encompass the entire city that include infrastructure assets. It is connected to the 28 rain gauges across the city that report real-time information during weather events which is used to create ponding maps. The system gives:

- * public access to real-time ponding information;
- * the ability to send notifications about ponding, street flooding and potential street closures;
- * assistance in the planning of evacuation routes; and
- * assistance in evaluating current drainage infrastructure to more efficiently target drainage improvements.

To access ISWMM go to:

www.sugarlandtx.gov/PondingMonitor.

This information was previously shared via our Email Alert System. If you are not on it, please sign up.

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!

For more information regarding The Commonwealth Civic Association's Modifications and Deed Restriction guidelines, join and search out the website:

www.crest-management.com

Your Dues At Work!

An update on landscaping:

1. We have finally finished replanting our flower beds with dead plants from the winter storm. A decision was made to add holly plants to our replanting mix. Holly is not as susceptible to freezing temperatures.
2. Sprinkler system repairs are complete also.
3. We are trimming our existing trees as part of our ongoing arbor maintenance program. We did need to remove two large trees that were struck by lightning and were unable to recover from the strike. We will be replacing them at the appropriate time with a similar tree.

4. Additionally, we are working with our levee district and plan to plant 20 new live oak trees and working with Fort Bend County to obtain the trees at no cost from the county tree farm located in Kendleton.

5. We also have been fortunate to not have any more hog damage. The levee district did trap over a dozen hogs earlier this year, but, in an effort to keep the hogs from digging, we also treated our landscape for grub worms and ants. Grub worms are a favorite hog food. The ant treatment we added has been very effective even with all the rain that had during the early to mid summer.



City of Sugar Land News

Water Bill Changes - Highlights

- The size of your bill will now be a full sheet of paper, arrive in an envelope, and will include a return envelope.
- You will now be able to see your consumption history on your bill.
- Delinquent notices will also go from a carbon copy to a full-sized paper, inside an envelope.
- Late fees will not be charged during this transition.

What hasn't changed?

- The time your bill is issued.
- Your account number (though your customer number and account number will be separated into two different fields).
- You will not have to make any changes to electronic bills, credit card auto-pay, and automatic bank draft.
- You will still contact Treasury for questions about your bill or delinquent notices.
- Payment options.

Sugar Land Opposes FEMA Risk Rating 2.0

Sugar Land City Council approved a resolution opposing FEMA Risk Rating 2.0 and any effort requiring the mandatory purchase of flood insurance for properties protected by levees.

The new requirements will go into effect October 1.

The resolution also opposes the use of levee safety funds by FEMA for levee risk assessment efforts rather than levee enhanced protection measures.

“Resolution No. 21-16 outlines position statements regarding the FEMA plans to overhaul its risk rating methodology through the implementation of a new pricing methodology called Risk Rating 2.0: Equity in Action,” said City Engineer Jessie Li. “The new methodology will fundamentally change the way insurance premiums are calculated and may include making flood insurance mandatory for properties protected by levees even if they are accredited.”

FEMA announced that Risk Rating 2.0 would be implemented on Oct. 1. There are more than 5 million National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policyholders nationwide; FEMA estimates that 77 percent will pay higher flood insurance rates under Risk Rating 2.0. In Texas, 86 percent of the 768,600 NFIP policyholders will see increased flood insurance rates. In Fort Bend County, more than 95 percent of the 64,584 NFIP policyholders will see an increase.

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With hurricane season well underway, now is the time to consider getting flood insurance - especially when an inch of water in your home is enough to cause over \$25,000 worth of damage. However, it's even more crucial as FEMA prepares to launch Risk Rating 2.0, which will have a direct impact on flood insurance premiums.

Risk Rating 2.0 will go into effect on Oct. 1 for new flood insurance policyholders and April 1, 2022, for renewal of existing policies. Depending on a property's flood risk, homeowners may see an increase in flood insurance premiums as a result of Risk Rating 2.0. Existing policyholders will be grandfathered into how fast flood insurance premium can increase. It is federally mandated that a flood insurance premium cannot increase by more than 18 percent per year.

“If you don't have it already, it's important to contact your insurance provider to get flood insurance as soon as possible to take advantage of being grandfathered into how fast your premium can increase,” said Li. “Remember, flood insurance policies take 30 days to go into effect, so you must purchase your policy **by Sept. 1** for your policy to become effective prior to the effective date of Risk Rating 2.0 on Oct. 1. If you do have flood insurance, you should maintain your policy to remain grandfathered into the changes in rates.”

For more information, visit <http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/RR20>.

This information was shared multiple times via our email alert system.

Mosquitos Test Positive for West Nile Virus - Morrison Place and Austin Parkway

Last month the city of Sugar Land confirmed the presence of West Nile virus at mosquito traps located on in the 800 block of Morrison Place in the New Territory subdivision and the 3800 block of Austin Parkway near the Settlers Way and Austin Park subdivisions.

Sugar Land was notified today that at least one in each trap tested positive for West Nile.

The city will continue 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.

"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."

There are no medications to treat or vaccines to prevent 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>.



The City will begin working on the ABC Drainage Improvements Project to improve drainage for Elkins Road between Commonwealth and University Blvd. The actual work is expected to begin by October, 2023.

They will be keeping us in the loop regarding the scheduled work and their progress.

Anticipate 2-way traffic closures!!!!

**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!**



Hurricane season is underway. Experts are predicting another above-normal hurricane season. The time to prepare is now. Make sure your emergency plan is in place, sign up for notifications, and check out www.sugarlandtx.gov/Hurricane for more planning resources.

Crest Management is encouraging 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!

Mod Comm (Modifications & Deed Restrictions Committee) is asking that resident visit the Crest Management website (www.Crest-Management.com) to download the on-line Exterior Modification Approval Request Forms.

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

The forms are on the home page.

An Email Alert was distributed immediately after a recent hail storm to remind residents that this is a necessary step.

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 expediate emergency requests!

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!



Volunteers Make It Happen

The Commonwealth has historically been fortunate enough to have a host of wonderful resident volunteers to help pull off multiple well-attended community events each year. Please help us hold on to The Commonwealth's place as

The Jewel in the Crown of Sugar Land!

We need you.

None of our activities would be possible without our volunteers.

A Heartfelt THANK YOU to July 4th/Second Fridays/Ice Cream Social volunteers! You are much appreciated!

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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.

Learn How To Save A Life!

Join The Commonwealth Civic Association and your neighbors for

CPR TRAINING



Saturday, September 18

10:00 A.M. - 2 P.M.

at The Commonwealth Clubhouse

Space is limited

RSVP to CWSLCares@gmail.com

Must be paid in advance.

Checks, cash and Venmo accepted.

\$25.00 per person

Lunch will be provided

This class will be taught by Susie Long Upbeat CPR, LLC

This event is for residents only!

And partially underwritten by The Commonwealth Civic Association

Community Garage Sale

Whether you just moved in or are considering a down-size, we're guessing that you have plenty of items in your home that you'd like to get rid of!

Seeking Commonwealth Resident to organize and oversee a Community-wide Garage Sale this fall.

It really is not an overwhelming task.
Are you the one?

Do you think you could manage one more thing before the holiday rush?

If you would consider doing this, please shoot an email to CWSLCares@gmail.com and we will walk the way with you.

Just let us know.

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Savings of \$12,990



16 Hollinfare
Savings of \$9,400



4107 Saint Michaels
Savings of \$7,125



4310 Keating
Savings of \$10,358



4615 Moorland
Savings of \$9,900



4802 Cambridge
Savings of \$9,500



4403 Heatherwilde
Savings of \$6,945



26 Epping Forest
Savings of \$8,475



4107 Kirkwall Cy
Savings of \$6,135



4919 Keneshaw
Savings of \$8,175

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



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.

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.

Both pools are scheduled to be open on Labor Day,
Monday, September 7
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

We are very grateful to
A-Beautiful
for ensuring that we are covered!



For Our Nature Lovers

We know you're here, we hear from you! Thought you'd enjoy a page of your own this month.....

What IS that bird?

Not the prettiest of birds, but vultures serve a very important purpose. They eat the carcasses of dead animals. Driving along our roads, you may see a vulture feasting on roadkill. You may see a black vulture, turkey vulture or both. The easiest way to tell them apart is by their heads. The black vulture has a black head with a thin bill. The turkey vulture has a red head with a white bill. The wingspan of the black vulture is about 4.7 feet while the turkey vulture has a wingspan of about 5.7 feet. Black vultures are more likely to be seen around humans. The turkey vulture is shy and tends to shy away from heavily populated areas. The turkey vulture has an acute sense of smell and uses this to locate the whereabouts of carrion. They can smell the gases coming off of a dead animal up to 5 miles away. Black vultures have to rely more on their eyesight to locate carrion but will sometimes follow turkey vultures to get their next meal.



Vultures use their hooked bills to tear their food from the carcass. Sometimes they will stick their entire head inside of a carcass so the fact that they lack feathers on their heads helps to keep them clean. They may also step inside of a contaminated carcass which can cover their feet and legs with bacteria. To kill the bacteria, they will defecate on their legs which acts as an antiseptic wash.

Vultures will often sit with their wings completely stretched out, especially in the morning. This is called the "horaltic pose". They do this for several reasons. In the morning, it's to help warm them since their body temperature drops at night. They also strike this pose to dry their wings or to bake off bacteria.

Here are some other interesting facts about vultures:

- There is a structure just above the bill that looks like a large nostril. It's actually a bony structure that protects the nostrils from getting food in them.
- Vultures don't have a voice box so they don't make much noise other than a hiss or a grunt.
- During hot weather, vultures will urinate down their legs. This cools the blood vessels in the feet and lowers the overall temperature of the bird. It also helps kill bacteria.
- If a vulture feels threatened, it will projectile vomit.
- Both males and females incubate the eggs and help raise the young.
- Vultures have their own holiday. International Vulture Awareness Day is celebrated the first Saturday of each September.

The next time you see a vulture, remember that beauty is only skin deep. They should be appreciated for controlling bacteria in our environment. If dead animals were left to rot, bacteria that causes swine flu, botulism, leprosy and anthrax, can flourish. The bacteria can then be spread into human populations by animals and through the air.

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@strategicascent.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

Please patronize our advertisers - They support our community!



*Thank you to our wonderful Social Committee
and residents
Namita and Manish Asthana of
Off the Vine Bistro Wine Bar & Restaurant
for a fabulous
Moms Unwined event.*

We look forward to additional fun times with neighbors!

We cannot stress enough that Homeowners are best served by submitting the required forms and waiting for approval **BEFORE** beginning projects on the outside of their homes.

This includes re-painting, re-roofing, putting in new windows, widening a driveway, replacing fencing, putting in a pool. Any major outside project requires approval of your HOA.

If you do not get approval, it is entirely possible that the entire project may have to be restarted. This can be a very costly and expensive undertaking.

Getting approval is NOT a difficult process.

Visit www.crest-management.com to find the correct form. If submitted two weeks before the monthly Modification Committee meeting, you will get a response shortly after the meeting. If you have questions, please contact Katie at Katie@crest-management.com or 281-945-4663 or Katie@crest-management.com. She is happy to guide you through the process.

FCLID #2
September 7th
Noon
at the Clubhouse

Homeowners may attend if they have an interest.

This committee is in need of Committee Members. This is a great way to get involved in our community and to know and understand our Deed Restrictions. These are the people that help our HOA to maintain the value of our homes!

The movie will be announced in an Email Alert and on Facebook as soon as it is finalized!

The Commonwealth Civic Association's

Second Fridays

Family Fun Night

Movie Night

Friday, September 10

At The Commonwealth Clubhouse

8:00 p.m.

PG13 - Vaccination and Masks Required - Free Snacks and Soda for attendees

Questions: CWSLcares@gmail.com

Underwritten by The Commonwealth Civic Association

First Colony L.I.D. #2

For those new to the area our levee is **EXTREMELY** important in keeping the community safe and dry.

While The Commonwealth has never flooded, our surrounding neighborhoods are unable to say the same thing.

We appreciate our LID Board members for their efforts on our behalf.

We try to include an update in each edition of the newsletter.
Please read!

The last of the replacement pumps at the FCLID#2 pump station have been put into operation. We now have a total of three new pumps, each capable of pumping up to 45,000 gallons of water per minute (GPM). The first one was installed well over a year ago along with other improvements such as increasing the size of the bypass pipe under Avondale Street from 18" to 48" and lowering that pipe at the same time. That new pump was also lowered so that in combination with the new bypass pipe, rainwater could be pumped out sooner and faster. The old set-up required the lakes to be nearly full before enough water could reach the pumps. The 35-year-old pumps that we used during Hurricane Harvey, could each only pump 11,000 GPM and instead of running just one at a time and resting one, we were forced to operate both at the same time to keep up with the rainfall rate. We can now run one or two pumps as needed and rest the third one and then rotate through them so they each get a break.

New requirements from the city and the county require all new subdivisions to meet a higher level of rainfall, which is based on the average rainfall rates that have been steadily going up in the Southeast Texas area. The new rainfall rates were published by NOAA in a report called Atlas 14. As a built-out and existing subdivision, we are grandfathered in and don't have to meet those requirements, but we felt it was in the best interest of the Commonwealth Community to try and meet them. These new pumps go a long way towards helping us meet the new Atlas 14 requirements. A significant amount of study and research went into determining the sizes of the pumps and drainpipes needed.

Our neighbors in FBCLID#2 are also installing new pumps on a massive scale. The flooding that occurred during Harvey in their portion of First Colony would not have occurred if their new pumps had been installed back then. The two side-by-side Districts, ours, and FBCLID#2, are immensely better prepared for any future rain event, like Hurricane Harvey. We are blessed to have a large quantity of temporary storage for rainfall and that helped save us during Harvey. FBCLID#2 is trying to increase their storage capacity like ours. They are using the fill from deepening and widening their ponds and ditches to raise the levees under their control. They are about to start phase two on their southern ditches but have run out of levee to raise, so FCLID#2 has agreed to contract with them to use some of their fill dirt to raise our levee to the 500-year flood event height. We have surveyed the elevation of our levee with GPS and will be starting soon to scrape the sod off and then raising the levee around The Commonwealth. FBCLID#2 will provide the fill that they would have otherwise had to pay to haul off long distances and FCLID#2 will pay for the tractors and manpower to install it. This will result in a tremendous savings to The Commonwealth over having to purchase fill dirt. Additionally, while we currently meet the minimum requirements to be a 100-year flood certified levee system, protection from the 500-year flood will allow all of us in The Commonwealth to rest easier at night. The height increase will vary from 0" to around 18". Much of the levee in The Commonwealth only needs about 6" to 12" of fill to meet the 500-year flood level. That extra level protection would have meant a lot, if we had reached the flood stage originally predicted early in the Hurricane Harvey rainfall event.

The FCLID#2 Board is keeping up with the needs of our residents and the changing codes and requirements. Weather changes and better recording of those changes cause us to make needed changes to our infrastructure. New buildout along the Brazos River Drainage system also causes us to be fluid in our analysis of our flood protection system. The river is not static, so we will always need to be watching out to stay on top of needed changes and upgrades.

The Commonwealth HOA sends regular updates on weather conditions during emergency situations. Be sure to sign up for these updates: news@commonwealthcivic.com - You need to include your home address!



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

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. Look for more information soon.

Please join the email list to receive details on all future meetings and to get an evite!

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

Classy Ad Listings

Please support our neighborhood businesses!

Clubhouse Rentals: Crest Management 281-579-0761

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

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!		

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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