

Woodlands' Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 77382, Baton Rouge, LA 70817 woodlandsbrhoa@gmail.com

Spring Newsletter

To save the cost of printing and postage, **this newsletter is only being disseminated electronically.** There are many homeowners who are not included on our listserv. Please talk to your neighbors to see if they received the newsletter and if not, encourage them to send their email address to woodlandsbrhoa@gmail.com.

Message from Your HOA President

We are going through an extremely difficult and unprecedented time and some of our neighbors are facing more challenging situations than others. Please remember to call your neighbors to check on them and offer an encouraging word. It is vitally important that we all follow the government's directives on social distancing to help stop the spread of the coronavirus, but we can do that and still find creative ways to maintain connections with our neighbors. It was encouraging to see two neighbors visiting in their tailgate chairs separated by at least six feet. Two other friends are still walking the neighborhood together by one walking on the sidewalk and the other in the street to maintain social distancing. Another neighbor is leaving messages and art in colorful chalk on her neighbors' driveways! As you are out walking the neighborhood you will see many others who are also spending time outdoors. While maintaining a safe distance, introduce yourself to neighbors you have never met or reconnect with ones with whom you've lost touch. The opportunities to get or stay connected and brighten someone's day are endless, just be creative. We're all in this together. Stay safe and stay strong! Craig Winchell

Woodlands' Crime Report

Since the HOA had to cancel the Safety Meeting planned for March due to the virus, the HOA requested crime statistics for the Woodlands subdivision.* The East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office reported the following data between January 7th and March 16th of 2020:

- 8 Vehicle Burglaries
- 5 Disturbances
- 4 Domestic Disturbances
- 4 Suspicious Incidents/Persons/Vehicles
- 3 Thefts
- 2 Emotionally Disturbed Persons
- 1 Rape/Sexual Battery
- 1 Shots Fired
- 1 Missing Adult
- 1 Forgery/Monetary Abuse
- 1 Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle
- 1 Private Property Crash
- 1 Hit and Run

*This data includes the homes/condominiums on the south side of Riverdale Ave. East which are not part of the Woodlands subdivision.

Tips for Keeping your Home and Property Safe

- Always lock your vehicle
- Don't keep valuables in your vehicles
- Keep doors and windows in your home locked
- Keep outside lights on throughout the night
- Keep garage and shed doors closed
- When you're out of town, have someone pick up your mail and newspaper
- Call the sheriff if your home or vehicle has been burglarized

Yard of the Month

Congratulations to Jesse and Montana Chandler who are the winners of April's Yard of the Month! Check out their beautiful landscaping at 15145 Woodmoss. They received a \$50 gift card to Lowe's as the award for their efforts! Spruce up your yard to be in the running next month.

(Only homeowners who are current on their dues are eligible to win.)



Join the fun! If you'd like to participate, simply place a stuffed bear in a window of your home so when families go for car rides or walks during this quarantine, they can hunt for bears! Communities around the nation are participating in bear hunts for the little ones to enjoy! Have some fun with your family while you practice social distancing!

How many bears can you find?

Helping Hand Committee

The HOA has a committee of volunteers willing to assist our neighbors in need of a helping hand with a physical task they are unable to complete in their yard due to age, disability, or extenuating circumstances. If you are in need of assistance with a lawn/garden task, please submit your request to woodlandsbrhoa@gmail.com. If you would like to volunteer to lend a helping hand, we could always use more volunteers! Express your desire to join the committee via email to woodlandsbrhoa@gmail.com

#StayAtHomeChallenge: Clean Sidewalks throughout the Woodlands

With the increased number of walkers and bike riders in the last couple of weeks, it's more important than ever for our sidewalks to be clean and clear. Please make sure the sidewalk adjacent to your home is inviting to your neighbors. All that is needed:

- trim bushes and tree limbs blocking the sidewalk;
- edge back the grass off of the sidewalk;
- clear off any dirt, sand and sticks; and
- move any cars, trash cans and other items blocking the sidewalk.

If you need help with any of these tasks, the Helping Hands Committee is willing to help – just contact woodlandsbrhoa@gmail.com

Neighbors Making Masks Need Assistance

Volunteers in our neighborhood are sewing masks to donate to medical personnel and others in need. There are many ways you can help:

- Donate your time to this effort (cutting, sewing, making deliveries)
- Donate fabric (100% cotton), supplies (elastic, bias tape, sew-in Velcro, etc.), and/or money

Sign up to volunteer at:

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLScUJxNgqCxRqLbES.../viewform...>

Donate \$\$ through: Venmo: @Susan-Fruge or PayPal: tumifru@yahoo.com
Or text or call Susan Fruge' at (225)268-0593.

We're all spending more time at home!

With extra time on our hands, many of us are working on yard or home projects and the neighborhood is looking better every day! The following are suggestions from Readers Digest to increase the value of your home. First impressions count!

- Wash your house – dirt, mildew and general grunge can be power washed off
- Freshen up any paint and siding
- Neaten up the yard, edge the driveway and sidewalk
- Clean the mailbox
- Keep up with maintenance
- Add new numbers
- Trim the shrubs and tree limbs
- Hide your trash and recycling cans
- Clean off roof and gutters
- Spruce up your flower beds
- Keep cars off the street and yard
- Paint the front door
- Upgrade your front porch light
- Add a seasonal wreath
- Repair the driveway and sidewalk
- Clean the windows
- Fix and paint the fence
- Get a new doormat

2020 HOA Annual Dues and Treasurer's Message

Thanks to all those who have already paid their 2020 dues. For those who haven't paid yet, there are three ways to pay your \$50 annual dues:

- Mail a check or money order in the amount of \$50 to Woodlands HOA, P.O. Box 77382, BR, LA 70817
- Drop off your cash, check or money order at my house 15413 Woodmoss Dr.
- Send money via PayPal. There is a \$2 fee added if choosing this route. Send \$52 to woodlandsbrtreasurer@gmail.com. Please email me if you would like a PayPal invoice.

Regardless of the method you use, please include your name, address, and email address with your payment. Tammy Freeman 225-907-3426

Want to Volunteer to Improve Our Neighborhood? Here's how!

The HOA has several committees (Helping Hands, Welcoming, Yard of the Month, Finance, Architectural Review), but we are still in need of committee members and street reps. Help shape the future of YOUR neighborhood. You choose how much time you can contribute – if you're only able to volunteer a few hours, we will gladly accept your participation. **Why Volunteer?** You have a vested interest! By becoming involved in your neighborhood association, you can take an active role in maintaining property values and ensuring your community's quality of living. Serving also allows you to get out and network with your neighbors. Talk to your street rep or email woodlandsbrhoa@gmail.com to sign up or get more information.

Comments, Suggestions???

Your HOA officers welcome your comments and suggestions to improve our association and/or neighborhood at any time. Send your comments to the email address below. Let's work together to improve our community!

New mailing address and email account

Please send all HOA mail to:

P.O. Box 77382, Baton Rouge, LA 70817

New email address: woodlandsbrhoa@gmail.com

REMEMBER STOP SIGNS ARE NOT A SUGGESTION!