

KIRKWOOD  
COUNTRY



# THE KIRKWOOD COUNTRY

YOUR  
COMMUNITY  
NEWSLETTER  
SPRING 2019

# BRIEF

## Board Update:

### BE IN THE KNOW REGARDING GARAGE SALES IN THE COMMUNITY

Dear Kirkwood Homeowner,

One of the questions we're often asked is how many garage sales can a resident have? The answer is two garage sales per year under Texas Law. The Limited Sales, Excise, and Use Tax Law says that people who are not operating a business are permitted to have no more than two sales of their goods each year. If you exceed this amount, you will be treated as operating a business, and you'll need to obtain a sales tax permit from the state. And generally, businesses that are "selling tangible personal property or providing taxable services in Texas to customers in Texas must obtain a sales tax permit. Please note, this information is not intended as legal advice but to provide a general understanding of the law regarding these types of sales. If you have questions or would like more information about this topic, please contact the Texas Comptroller's office at [www.comptroller.texas.gov](http://www.comptroller.texas.gov).

**Yard of the Month:** Yard of the Month winners will be selected in June and July. In selecting winners, we look for overall cleanliness, flowers, and grass upkeep. Spruce up the yard and your yard may win!

**Pet Feces and Strays:** We'd like to remind everyone to please pick up after your pets. It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you're liable to step in one such reminder! Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter. When walking your dog in our community, remember that it should be leashed. Also, it is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. Take along a baggie with you to pick up waste with and then dispose of it properly. By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in a neighborhood. Thank you for your cooperation! Also, here are the numbers you can call to report a stray dog or cat: Harris County Public Health: (281) 999-3191, City of Houston Animal Control: (713) 837-0311, or Houston S.P.C.A.: (713) 869-7722. Thank you.

# HOW TO TRIM CRAPE MYRTLES

Though many people plant crape myrtles, few people prune them correctly. Correct pruning yields gracefully shaped trees with more blooms that are held upright on strong stems. And flowers arrive earlier than do those on unpruned or mispruned plants. So, here's some tips for trimming crape myrtles:

Crape myrtles bloom on new growth, so prune them in early spring before they break dormancy. Although some gardeners prune their crape myrtles in the fall, many don't recommend doing this. Fall pruning not only creates an unattractive look for winter but also removes the current year's growth as a buffer against any potential winter damage. Good pruning while crape myrtles are young will mean less maintenance when the trees are older.

Start at the bottom of crape myrtles and prune back suckers and additional trunks. For most crape myrtles, choose three, five, or—at most—seven main trunks. An odd number of trunks is more pleasing to the eye than an even number, which often looks like soldiers in formation.

Remove low branches. Branching should begin 6-8 feet off the ground. It looks better and is more practical.

Remember, to thin the crown. The upper branches look best if they spread in different directions, so remove any that are growing into an area already occupied by another branch. Make your cuts slightly above a bud that faces the direction in which you want your new branch to grow. Prune unwanted low branches all the way back to the main trunk. Your final cuts will be to prune out any branches or stems smaller in diameter than a pencil. Leaving wood that small on the tree results in weak new growth, which will have a difficult time supporting any flowers.

Here's to your crape myrtles looking their very best!

## 2019 Pool Schedule & Tag Registration

### MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Friday, May 24th	4pm - 8pm
Saturday, May 25th	12pm – 8pm
Sunday, May 26th	12pm – 8pm
Monday, May 27th Memorial Day	12pm – 8pm

### June 1st- August 11th

Monday- Thursday	CLOSED
Friday – Sunday	4pm – 8pm
Exception- Thursday, July 4th	12pm – 8pm

### August 12th- August 25th

Monday- Friday	CLOSED
Saturday	4pm – 8pm
Sunday	4pm – 8pm

### LABOR DAY HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Saturday, August 31st	4pm - 8pm
Sunday, September 1st	4pm - 8pm
Monday, September 2nd Labor Day	12pm – 8pm

**All Kirkwood Country residents and guests entering the pool must sign in  
One (1) guest per validated ADULT pool ID card allowed  
Children 12 years and younger must be accompanied by an adult  
\*\*Guests cannot be a resident of Kirkwood Country HOA\*\***

MASC Austin Properties, Inc. will be holding pool tag registration at their office located at: 945 Eldridge Road Sugar Land, TX 77478. The office dates for pool registration are as follows:

<b>Wednesday May 22nd</b>	<b>after hours 5PM-7PM</b>
<b>Friday May 24th</b>	<b>all day 9AM-7PM</b>
<b>Wednesday June 5th</b>	<b>after hours 5PM-7PM</b>
<b>Friday June 7th</b>	<b>all day 9AM-7PM</b>

## HOME SAFETY TIP:

### EXTERIOR LIGHTING WORKS TO REPEL CRIMINALS

Exterior home lighting has been found to aid in reducing the likelihood of your vehicle or home falling victim to intrusion. Criminals don't like to be seen especially at night.

Does your home have proper and adequate exterior lighting? There are different types of lighting used on the exterior of a home; landscaping lighting, architectural accent lighting, and security lighting. Don't let your home be a good target for criminals.

Also, remember to take all personal belongings out of your vehicles for the night. Lock all doors and roll up all windows and turn on outside lights at home at night.



# How To Reduce The Number Of Mosquitos

- Remove standing water - This is one of the most important things you can do to minimize the number of mosquitos. Standing water is a major contributor to mosquito problems, because it is where adult mosquitoes typically lay their eggs. Make sure you remove standing water from bird baths, ponds, outdoor storage areas and small swimming pools.



- Check EVERYTHING! - Mosquitoes like to get tricky. So, spots that you wouldn't even expect mosquitoes to reside are still major potential breeding grounds. This includes children's sandboxes, dog bowls, grill covers, tarps, old firewood, and even plant/flower pots. What do all these secret hiding spots have in common? They can hold leftover excess water. This also means that your gutters are one of the most troublesome hot spots for mosquitoes. Make sure to have them cleaned regularly and often by a professional; especially after it rains.

- Take care of your yard - Mosquitoes love to inhabit cool areas with shade. This means you can usually find them hiding under plant leaves and in tall grass. A properly maintained yard, free of weeds and overgrown plants can be a huge help in reducing the number of mosquitoes you have.

## Spring Lawn Tips

**Stop summer weeds:** Don't let weeds ruin the look of your lawn. Spread a pre-emergence herbicide to stop them before they sprout. Apply the pre-emergence product in Spring for best results.

**Begin mowing:** Start mowing your lawn as it begins to grow in mid-to-late spring. Don't let thatch build up. Thatch prevents air, water, and nutrients from getting to your lawn's root system.

**Fertilizing:** Fertilizer can help your lawn grow thick and lush, but if it's not used properly, it can actually damage the grass. A slow-release nitrogen fertilizer is best, and it should be applied early in the season when the turf begins actively growing. Check the packaging to see when and how you should apply it.



## WEBSITE

Stay up-to-date with what's happening in our neighborhood at [www.kirkwoodcountry.com](http://www.kirkwoodcountry.com).

# HERE'S THE TOP REASONS TO VOLUNTEER!

Consider Volunteering In The Community. Everyone Can Make A Difference.

**It can be good for you.** Volunteering provides physical and mental rewards and it can reduce stress. Experts report that when you focus on someone other than yourself, it interrupts usual tension producing patterns. It can make you healthier - moods and emotions, like optimism and joy strengthen the immune system.

**It saves resources.** Volunteering provides valuable community services so more money can be spent on local improvements. The estimated value of a volunteer's time is approximately \$26.87 per hour based on the Corporation for National & Community Service.

**Volunteers gain professional experience.** You can test out a new career!

**It brings people together.** As a volunteer, you assist in uniting people from diverse backgrounds to work toward a common goal of building camaraderie and teamwork.

**It promotes personal growth and self esteem.** Understanding community needs helps foster empathy and self-efficacy.

**Volunteering strengthens your community.** As a volunteer, you help support families (daycare and eldercare), improve schools (tutoring, literacy), support youth (mentoring and after-school programs) and beautify the community (park cleanups).

**You learn a lot.** Through working with local non-profit agencies, volunteers learn about the functions and operation of our government. Volunteers also gain knowledge of local resources available to solve community needs.

**You get a chance to give back.** People like to support community resources that they use themselves or that benefit people they care about.

# KIRKWOOD COUNTRY

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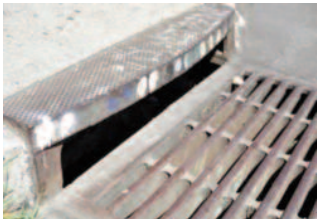
# POWER WASHING

- Is Your Home **GREEN** with Algae?
- Is Your Driveway, Patio or Pool Deck **BLACK** with Mildew?
- Have You Gotten One of **THOSE** Letters from Your HOA?
- Have the Spider Pods and Mud Dobbers Taken Over **YOUR** Home?

## 281-277-4013

## KEEP STORM DRAINS CLEAN

To lessen the possibility of street flooding, we ask residents to please keep storm drains clean and free from yard debris and trash. Please do not put any items down the drains. They are meant to drain water out of the streets only.



**THIS**



**NOT THIS**



## LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS!

**Saturday, May 4 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm** at Sugar Land Town Center. The Corvette Owners Club of Houston presents the 15th Annual Spring Charity Corvette Car Show! Enjoy more than 100 Corvettes, plus you can vote for the winner of the People's Choice Award. All proceeds will benefit local charities. The event will be held along Plaza Drive and City Hall and Surface Lots adjacent to the Plaza.

**Saturday, May 4 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm** at Sugar Land Town Center. Join us for a tribute series that will make you feel like you're watching the real deal! This band pays homage to the Queen of Tex-Mex by featuring Selena's hits, as well as the fiery sounds of Salsa, Merengue, and other hot tropical dance rhythms. With a world-class band of musicians led by keyboardist/musical director Rainel Pino from Havana, Cuba, Cecille and company have wowed audiences at major festivals and concert venues.

**Friday, June 14 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm** at Sugar Land Town Center. Opry on the Square. Come out to enjoy Country Now and Then, featuring country favorites that will appeal to all generations of country music fans!