

KIRKWOOD COUNTRY



THE KIRKWOOD COUNTRY

YOUR
COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2019

BRIEF

Board Update:

ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 9, 2019

Kirkwood Country HOA Annual Meeting will be held at Cummings Elementary School Cafeteria located at 10455 S. Kirkwood, Houston, TX 77099 on October 9, 2019 @ 7PM. There will be refreshments and snacks there for attendees. Additionally, there will be a raffle for two \$100 Visa gift cards to homeowners that are present at the meeting.



Yard of the Month Winners: This summer's Yard of the Month winners for June 2019 were 11634 Evesborough Dr. and 11618 Shannon Hills Dr.. July 2019 winners were 8807 Belle Glen Dr. and 11815 Glenwolde Dr. Winners were awarded a \$50 Home Depot gift card. For homeowners who are interested in participating for next year's YOTM, two winners are awarded each month for June and July for a total of 4 homes. For the homeowners that tried this year, we appreciate your hard work and look forward to next year!

Holiday Lights Contest: 2018 was an extraordinary year for Holiday Decorations. So many homeowners took pride in their homes as well as the Holiday Spirit and your Board Members had a tough selection to make! That year, the Board decided that there were FOUR homes that should receive a gift for their outstanding Christmas Lights. Each winner received a \$50 Home Depot gift card for all their hard work! The homes that were chosen by the Board were, 11818 Evesborough Dr., 9206 Ketchwood Dr., 9002 Kindlewood Dr., and 8911 Kalewood Dr.

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. 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.

AUTO THEFT PREVENTION

It doesn't matter what kind of car you drive, all vehicles are a potential target of theft. Nearly 65,000 cars and trucks are stolen in the state of Texas each year, and thousands more are burglarized. Almost half of all vehicles stolen had the keys left inside.

Things to do to protect your vehicle:

- Always lock your vehicle and take your keys.
- Never leave your car running and unattended.
- Park in a well-lit area.
- Take valuables with you when you are not in your vehicle.
- Keep valuables out of sight.
- Give parking attendants the ignition key only. Keep your trunk and glove box locked at all times. If possible, get separate keys for the ignition and the trunk and glove box.
- Install an anti-theft device. Many insurance companies may give you a discount for certain anti-theft devices. Check with your agent for details.

What to do if your car is stolen:

Although the rate of auto theft is declining, thousands of Texas vehicles are stolen every year. If your car is stolen, the first thing to do is to remain calm and then follow these steps:

- Immediately contact the police and file a report. Make sure you provide your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) number to help law enforcement agencies locate your vehicle if it has been stolen. If you do not have your VIN number readily available, contact your insurance company or financial lender.
- Report the theft or burglary to your insurance provider. Even if the loss is not covered, reporting the crime will protect you if the automobile causes harm to others after being stolen. If possible, have the vehicle's title, the location of all keys before the theft, a thorough description of the vehicle and any personal property that was stolen with the vehicle.
- Contact your financial institution if the vehicle is leased or still being financed.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR: HOME UP-KEEP

A good neighbor is one who maintains the exterior of their house and lawn to the same level as the rest of the neighborhood. You don't want your house to be the one on the street that drags down the value of homes. If you can't mow your own lawn, hire a lawn service to keep it tidy. Basic exterior maintenance tips include:



- Mow the lawn on a regular basis, trim hedges and keep tree wells tidy.
- Remove mold from the exterior walls and paint when necessary.
- Make sure that trees, shrubs, and other elements don't creep into your neighbor's yard. This includes tree limbs, spreading shrubs, and weeds.
- Remove all bicycles, skateboards, and toys from the front yard at the end of the day.
- Remove rotted, worn fence pickets and replace with new wood pickets.
- Remove any rotting wood siding or trim board and replace with new siding and trim that has a fresh coat of paint.
- Keep gutters clean from leaves and tree limbs.
- Clean exterior windows. Clean exterior windows make your home look nice, and they also protect the lifespan of your windows. Over time, harsh elements outdoors can damage your windows. Whether damage, pollution, minerals, rust, and other elements can adhere to the glass, causing buildup and damage.
- Remove fallen branches and clear the yard. Pick up fallen branches from the yard and clear other debris. This will discourage pests like snakes and insects from setting up homes in fall.
- Fix cracks in concrete. You should fix cracks in your concrete as soon as you notice them, as they are easier to repair while they are still small.
- Remember to only set out trash cans the night before trash pick up day and retrieve them promptly after pick up service. Also, store trash cans out of sight from the street.

HOLIDAY SEASON IS COMING!

CIDER WASSAIL RECIPE

- * 2 quarts apple cider
- * 1-1/2 cups orange juice
- * 3/4 cup pineapple juice
- * 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- * 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- * 2 cinnamon sticks (3 inches)
- * Dash ground cinnamon
- * Dash ground cloves



ENJOY!

REMEMBER, SCHOOL'S BACK IN SESSION!

Be on the lookout for school zone signals and ALWAYS obey the speed limits.

When entering a school zone, be sure to slow down and obey all traffic laws.

Always stop for school busses that are loading or unloading children.

Watch out for school crossing guards and obey their signals.

Be aware of and watch out for children near schools, bus stops, sidewalks, in the streets, in parking lots, etc.

Never pass other vehicles while driving in a school zone.

Never change lanes while driving in a school zone.

Never make U-Turns while driving in a school zone.

Never text while driving in a school zone.

Avoid using a cell phone while driving in a school zone.



LITTER: YOU CAN HELP

Every minute a sack of fast-food trash gets thrown from a vehicle's window. Did you know that 33 percent of all littered garbage is fast food waste? Styrofoam containers take many years to decompose. It also takes many years for aluminum cans to biodegrade, of which these make up 28 percent of incorrectly disposed trash. Littering certainly doesn't help the environment but most importantly it hurts humans as well as resulting in the deterioration of our community. Littering is letting trash or garbage lie in an open place or area. If you see litter in the community, please pick it up and dispose of it properly. Thank you for helping to keep our neighborhood beautiful.



WEBSITE

Stay up-to-date with what's happening in our neighborhood at www.kirkwoodcountry.com.

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FOR EVERYONE

With the euphoria created around the holidays, it is always important to remember that not everyone shares the holiday spirit.

Cars loaded with gifts and left in parking lots can become easy targets for thieves, so remember to lock your vehicle, even when you expect to be in and out of a store quickly. Keep packages in your trunk and out of sight. Park your car in a well-lit, heavily traveled area, and never leave the keys in your vehicle. If you choose to valet park be sure the contents of your vehicle are secure and not assessable.

Be aware of your surroundings. Look for suspicious persons, etc. when you are in any area. Stay off the phone while shopping or walking to/from your car. This distraction makes you a target to thieves. Remember where you parked your car. Being unable to locate a car can cause you undue confusion and stress that may present you as a better target to a criminal.

There are specific things you can do at around Christmas and other holidays to keep you and your family safe from fire. Keep Christmas trees away from curtains, decorations, and other flammable furnishings. Will you have guests in your home over the coming holiday season? Make sure they know about your family fire escape plan and designated meeting place outside the home. Take extra care when preparing those holiday meals. With so many distractions and extra people in the home it is easy to become distracted. Artificial or live, lighted candles don't belong on your Christmas tree. Turn off Christmas tree lights when you leave the house or when going to bed.

Use only Christmas tree lights that have the "UL" tag attached to it. This means that the lights have been tested by the Underwriters Laboratories and are safe. However, before you put the lights on the tree, (new or old), check them for broken or cracked sockets, broken or exposed wire and/or any loose connections. If any one of the problems is present, throw the light set away. Damaged lights can shock a person or start a fire.

How safe is your home from fire? Use the Home Hazard Checklist and grade yourself and your family, which can be found at: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/home_safety_checklist.pdf.

KIRKWOOD COUNTRY

C/O MASC Austin Properties, Inc.
945 Eldridge Road
Sugar Land, TX 77478
Phone: (713) 776-1771

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON, TX
PERMIT #8327

Want to advertise in this newsletter? Contact Prepared Publications at 281-652-5802 or via email at: info@preparedpublications.com for ad rates.



KDS SERVICES
HIGH PRESSURE WASHING

Free Estimates

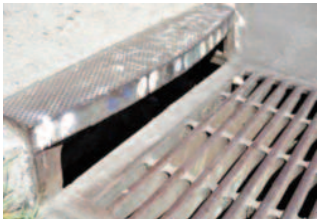
POWER WASHING

- 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



SUGAR LAND TOWN CENTER EVENTS!

Lyrics & Lawn Games

Friday, October 18 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

We're turning the Plaza into one big backyard party, so come hang out and have some fun with family and friends. Jupiter Pizza & Waffles Co. will be serving beer and wine for \$5, and we'll have lawn games setup! Enjoy live music from The Zip Dagger Band, a fun variety band led by an award-winning artist that covers familiar and eclectic Funk, Motown, Soul, Rock and Pop, featuring classic and current hits.

Cirque La Vie's Circus Spectacular

Friday, October 25 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Come join us for a fun night of Circus Spectacular, a scripted Cirque La Vie show that will have everyone laughing, clapping and cheering as Circus Sky, Super Dupper Shane and everyone's favorite Super K try to put on an entertaining show while learning to get along and not driving each other mad in the process. Follow the characters through a looney and high energy story featuring aerial silks, acrobatics, contortion & multiple other cirque skills.