



HOPPENINGS

FPP0A NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2023

Happy SUMMER

March 2023 Membership Meeting



**THANK
YOU**

FOR COMING!

We had a great
turn-out this year!

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EVENTS

2nd Quarter Executive Board Meeting in May 27th 2023

3rd Quarter Executive Board Meeting September 2nd 2023

Visit frogpondlake.com for important information:



5-27
2023

Workday on the Dam A HUGE SUCCESS!

Why?

TCEQ recommends that we never let a tree get bigger than 4 inches around in diameter. So every year we pull out the trees and fill up the rodent holes. The large root ball and extensive roots of trees and brush easily penetrate earthen dams; while the roots stabilize the plant, they destabilize the dam. The root systems of trees can be a potential hazard by allowing seepage pathways to develop through a dam. Trees eventually die and their roots decay and rot. The root cavity leaves a void within the dam through which water can enter and flow. This can ultimately lead to failure of the dam by piping (internal erosion).



Thank you
Loy Owens, Kirby Hood
and Sarah Parsons
for all the great
photos!

Our Singing Pond

One of the most welcoming sounds of warm weather is the calling of the frogs!

It begins with a few, and builds as the weather warms and the ground and water thaws. Calling all night is a sure sign of a warm evening. One of the fringe benefits of living in a wet place is that you can follow the seasons by listening to the frog chorus.

These frog choruses sometimes get so loud that you walk away with your ears ringing!

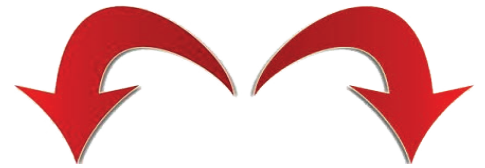
Frogs play an important role in food webs as both predator and prey. Adult frogs will consume insects and pretty much anything that fits in their mouths. And likewise, frogs and their tadpoles are food for fish, birds, turtles, snakes, crawfish, dragonfly larvae and giant water bugs.

But frogs have not evolved equivalently. Just as different adult frogs have different niches, their tadpoles exploit different ecological niches from one another. Some have big tadpoles, while others have smaller ones. Some grow fast while others develop slowly. Some are found in ephemeral pools — puddles and such — while others use seasonal or permanent water bodies.

East Texas boasts a rich variety of frog species — from tiny cricket frogs, spring peepers and chorus frogs to the larger tree frogs, leopard frogs and super-big bullfrogs.

More frogs & toads here <https://www.frogpets.com/frogs-in-texas/>

Click photos to play



American Bullfrog



Giant Toad

Why Do Peepers Peep?

That nightly chorus that you hear on warm spring nights is actually a spring peeper mating ritual. The males of this species are calling out to the females, who are drawn to their chirping suitors. After the frogs mate, the females will lay eggs underwater.

The Spring Peeper is a small frog, about 1 inch long, with a green body and brown markings. They are found throughout most of Texas, but are more common in the eastern part of the state. Spring Peepers live near ponds and streams, and they hibernate under logs or in the mud at the bottom of ponds during the winter. They eat insects, and their mating call is a high-pitched trill.



Green Tree Frog



Green Toad



Spring Peeper

Planting a Summer Hummingbird Garden

Get the timing right with these expert tips on planning a hummingbird garden in Zone 8

Enjoying wildlife is one of the joys of home ownership. Even if you just have a tiny patio or lanai, you can attract and enjoy numerous animals that will entice you to spend time outdoors. The antics of the hummingbird are some of the more charming activities to watch. By adding zone 8 hummingbird plants, you can lure these adorable little birds into your garden space. A zone 8 hummingbird garden is easy to plan and can be done in a big plot of land or scaled down to a small space.

[Hummingbirds](#), or hummers as they are familiarly known, are about the cutest things for a bird watcher. These fast moving, tiny birds love brightly colored, nectar-rich plants. Choosing plants for hummingbirds in zone 8 simply requires paying attention to hardiness and then opting for plants that produce food enjoyed by the birds.

You can part with the sugary red feeder that requires cleaning and refilling if you just put out a couple of plants that attract them and also make your outdoor space colorful.

Large plants that bloom annually are a long-term solution to attract the birds and don't require annual planning and planting. Try some azaleas, flowering quince, or mimosa.

Read more at [Gardening Know How](#)

Hummingbird flowers have three things in common.

Their blooms are tube-shaped, brightly colored, and they grow where it's easy for hummingbirds to hover and sip. If you want to attract more of these beautiful birds, plant these flowers that hummingbirds like in your yard or garden.

Learn more at [CountryLiving.com](#) and [BirdsAndBlooms.com/Top 10 Salvias for Hummingbirds](#)



Cardinal Flower



Fushia



Sunflower

Natural Bird Safe Pest Remedies

Along with the summer heat comes the insects. Those of us with birds, pets and children know it's especially important to reach a solution to these problems that is not toxic to those who might come in contact with it. Here are a few safe suggestions.

Home Remedies for common pests:

Ants: Most ants can be controlled with homemade bait made from peanut butter (two tablespoons), jelly (two tablespoons) and boric acid (one teaspoon). Put the bait in a small disposable container. To eliminate ant mounds outside, try this trick: Dampen the mounds with water, then pour on baking soda and a bit of white vinegar — the mixture will bubble and kill off the ants.

Spiders: Spiders can easily be killed with a mixture of water (40 percent), alcohol (40 percent) and dish soap (20 percent). Put the mixture in an inexpensive sprayer and spray on the spider.

Fruit Flies: Place saucers of fragrant wine with a few drops of detergent in areas frequented by fruit flies. They will die happy!

Place fragrant fruit such as mango peels in the bottom of wine bottles. Fruit flies go in and cannot get out.

Roaches: Baking soda and powdered sugar mixed in equal parts and spread around infested area is a non-toxic roach killer.

Flies: To prevent flies, keep garbage containers tightly closed. Sprinkle dry soap powder or flakes into garbage cans after they have been washed and allowed to dry.

In a small glass or jar, pour about one inch of real cider or red wine. Make a cover with saran wrap and a rubber band. Punch about six holes with a bamboo skewer or other shaper object. Flies will crawl in but cannot crawl out.

General Pest Remedies

NIBAN® Granular Bait is a weatherized granular borate bait used outdoors or indoors to kill and control cockroaches, ants, silverfish, crickets, carpenter ants, earwigs, slugs and snails. Niban is attractive to target species but will not harm non-target species like bees and butterflies. Niban has no known insect resistance and its weatherized granules will last through heat, sun and up to 6" of rain. [Read more](#)



Diatomaceous earth (DE) can be sprinkled on areas where pests are found. It contains the spent shells of tiny sea creatures that are sharp enough to damage the exoskeleton and cause insects to dehydrate. DE is harmless to humans and animals.



Neem Oil – the seed kernels of the Neem tree are rich in limonoids, bitter tasting chemicals that effectively block development, feeding and egg laying in many species of insects. The most powerful limonoid (azadirachtin) has been certified by health authorities in the USA and Europe as being non-toxic to birds, animals and humans, but highly effective against insects.



Ivory liquid dish-washing detergent, diluted with water to a 1 to 2% solution, provides insect control on many plants and is easy to mix. Spray plants until they are drenched.

Frogs, spiders, ladybugs, praying mantis, and dragon flies will help to reduce pest populations around the home and garden.

Bats – One bat will eat up to 600 mosquitoes, harmful moths and other insect pest per hour at night. Bats do not attack people or harm pets and can be encouraged to inhabit "bat houses" on your property.

Pesticides to Avoid

Pesticides are widely used in our homes and gardens, from sprays for ornamental plants that are toxic to birds and bees, to rat poisons that sicken raptors and kids. It's a mistake to assume these products are safe simply because they are for sale.

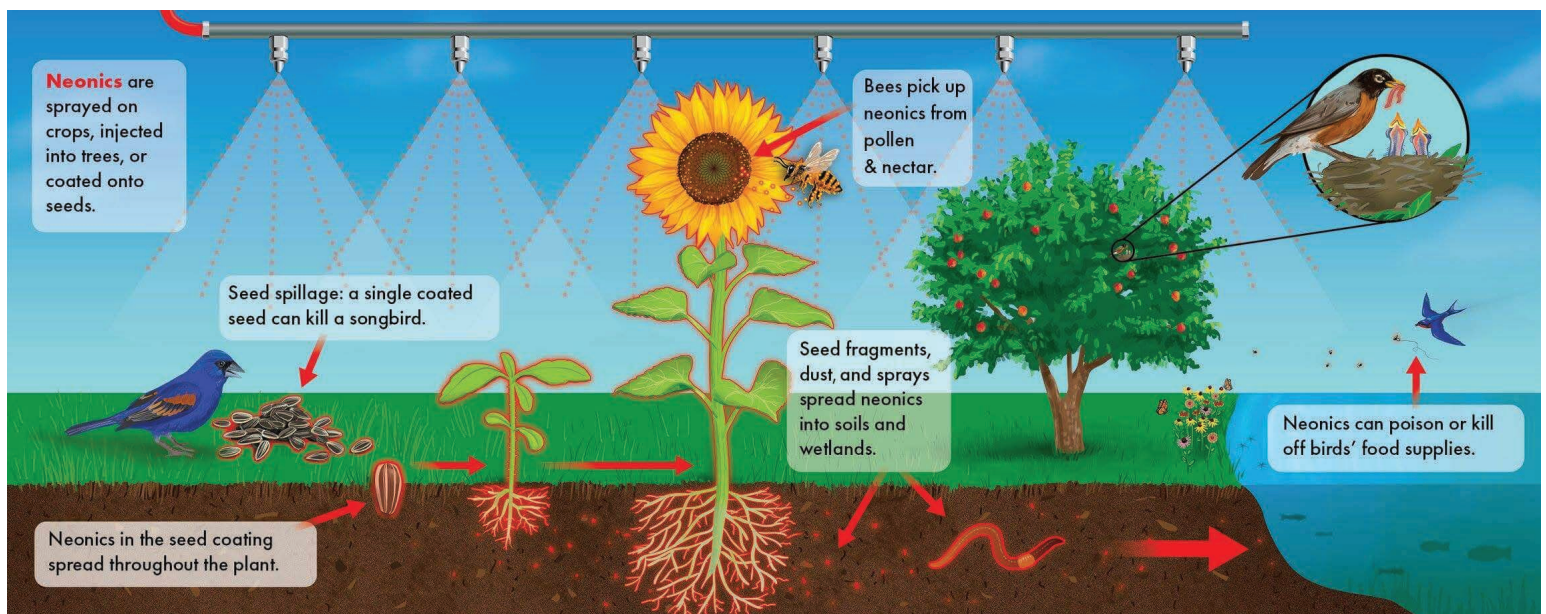
Neonicotinoid Insecticides

Neonicotinoids—now the most widely used insecticides—are found in hundreds of products including insect sprays, seed treatments, soil drenches, tree injections, and veterinary ointments to control fleas in dogs and cats. Shockingly, concentrations of insecticides sold for residential use on ornamental plants contain as much as 30 times the chemical load allowed in the agricultural sector.

Thanks to heavy pressure from consumers and a consortium of organizations, including ABC, retailers including Lowe's, Home Depot, and BJ's Wholesale Club are now taking steps to label plants treated with neonics and ultimately to remove these chemicals from their plant production altogether.

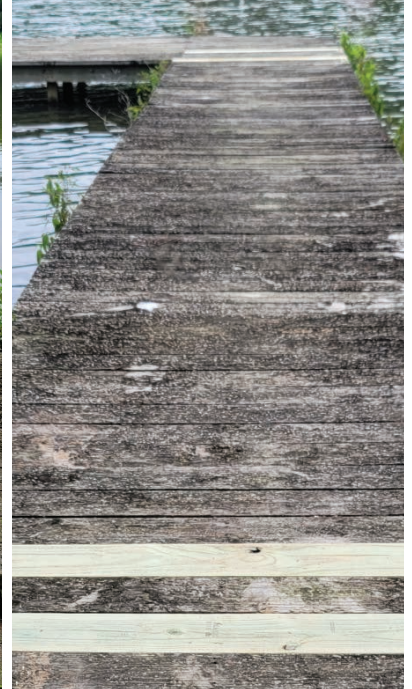
Read more at the [American Bird Conservancy](#) website

Visit [The Center for Food Safety's](#) website for an easy list of products containing Neonics



Community Lot Dock Area Gets Much Needed Repairs

Thanks to our Maintenance Committee, the Community Lot dock and sign area received much needed repairs over the holiday weekend!



New Boats Entering the Lake

We need to be aware of introducing invasive species to the lake.

Any boat launched onto Frog Pond Lake, including its trailer, must first be cleaned, dry, and inspected to prevent contaminating the lake with invasive species, in accordance with State and Federal Regulations.

As the warmer weather approaches and new neighbors arrive, there have been more and more new boats being launched on the lake.

Boats may ONLY be launched from private Member lots or the Member Access Lot.



Night Light Pollution - Did you know?

What You Can Do

The uplifting part of light pollution is that it is completely reversible. All it takes is for the lights to go out. Knowing that, it really is possible for everyone to make a difference by following these simple tips to dim your lights:

- Light only if needed. Think about if you really need or use your current lighting.
- Light only when needed. Install timers or motion sensors.
- Light only where needed. Shield lights and direct them down. Shades, blinds, and curtains can reduce the amount of light that escapes your home. Learn more about what you can do to reduce unwanted lighting impacts.
- Color matters. White and blue lights affect wildlife more than warmer colors. Use warm-white or amber light.
- Use the minimum amount of light needed. Can you get by with fewer lights or lower wattage light bulbs? Try it out!
- Use energy-efficient lights. Energy efficient lights also help reduce your carbon footprint.

NPS

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT! Light Pollution

Light pollution affects our ability to see the night sky

One third of humanity cannot see the Milky Way due to light pollution.

Migratory birds and nocturnal animals depend on the dark.

Artificial light can disrupt reproduction and feeding habits. It can draw animals and insects towards the light causing collisions, disrupting migration, and making them easy prey.

Light pollution is completely reversible!

Follow these tips to help dim your lights:

- 1** Only light: if needed, when needed, & where needed.
- 2** Color matters. Use warm-white or amber lights.
- 3** Keep it low & shielded.

idkt!

go.nps.gov/idkt

New Payment Program with Venmo

Starting this year, you will be receiving all correspondence, including invoices and voting ballots via email and website.

You also now have the option to pay dues and donations with Venmo.

Download and fill out the [FPPOA Invoice PDF](#) (indicating your payment requests) and email it back to frogpondfppoa@gmail.com. We will reply back with a confirmation shortly after you have submitted your form and payment. You will also receive a payment confirmation from Venmo.

Learn more about Venmo at [Venmo.com](https://venmo.com)



venmo

Scan this QR code with your smart phone camera to pay with Venmo.



iPhone

Scan the appropriate QR code to download the



app on your smart phone



android 

HELP IMPROVE OUR FISH POPULATION

BASS

Release all Bass over 15 inches long

CRAPPIE

Release all Crappie under 10 inches long

BREAM

No size limits

MUD CATFISH

Remove all sizes from lake

BLUE & CHANNEL CATFISH

Release all Blue and Channel Catfish under 12 inches long

Thank You
Frog Pond Property Owners Association

We become neighbors when we are willing to cross the road for one another.
-Henri J.M. Nouwen-

Neighboursations
www.neighboursations.com

Member Access Lot

The FPPOA is pleased to provide a Member Access area for those members that do not have water front property to access the lake. All Frog Pond property owners may use the lot to launch or remove their boats, but they must be docked at their private shoreline.

This lot is accessible to paying members ONLY. Use of Frog Pond Lake and the Member

Access lot is at your own risk. This includes immediate family and all guests of Members. Any and all guests must be accompanied by a FPPOA member when accessing the lot.

All board members now have a key to the Member Access Lot. If you need access, please give us 24 hour notice and send a request to frogpondfppoa@gmail.com.



Join Our Facebook Group

The FPPOA would like to say thank you to all the newbies for joining and to everyone who has been posting photos and neighborhood information to the group. This group was initiated to bring us closer to our neighbors and has proven to be a huge success! We LOVE IT! The more members in the group, the more interesting and fun the threads. Thank you for being an active member of our Facebook Community!



If you would like to join our Facebook group visit [facebook.com/groups/frogpondlake](https://www.facebook.com/groups/frogpondlake) and send invite.

Please NOTE: This Facebook group page has been developed as a social page for members of Frog Pond Lake and their friends and family. The group is intended as a place to share fun times and experiences on the lake. Any and all inappropriate comments or photos will be deleted in accordance with Facebook Community Standards.

This group is NOT a forum for official Property Owners Association issues. These matters should be directed to the [Frog Pond website contact page](#) or by contacting a Board Member or officer directly. Any post regarding FPPOA business will be deleted and the posting member will be directed to the website contact page <https://frogpondlake.com/contact-us>.



Distribution of this newsletter is intended to be sent digitally, however we have included a mail panel for those who would like to print and/or mail their own copies.