
GREEN TRAILS II SUMMER NEWSLETTER



PHASE II HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the summer edition of the Green Trails II community newsletter!

As our tree-lined cul-de-sacs and local parks fill with sunshine and activity, your Green Trails 2 HOA Board wants to wish everyone a safe, vibrant, and fun-filled season. We are so lucky to live in a close-knit, well-established west Houston enclave. Please check out some important neighborhood schedules, amenities, and community fun facts below to make the most of your summer!

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Green Trails Fun Facts - Did You Know...?

- **Green Trails Phase II** - Our HOA governs neighborhood consists of 641 single-family homes sitting in the larger Green Trails development, which itself contains approximately 1,675 homes and 400 townhomes. Development of Phase II neighborhood began in the early 1980s and was finished in 2008, with the completion of the Enclave section.
- **Swim Team** - The **Green Trails Gators** swim team is a summer recreational league, whose main purpose is to give children an opportunity to participate in organized swimming, and is open for kids ages 5-18. We have a large team of **more than 200 kids** who compete against other community teams like the **Kelliwood Killer Whales**, the **Firethorn Filefish**, the **Willow Fork Gators**, and the **Nottingham Country Tidal Waves**. Go **Green Trails Gators!** <https://greentrailsgators.swimtopia.com/>
- **Water Aerobics:** In the summer, we offer Saturday morning **Water Aerobics**, from 9-10am at the Gerri Ayers pool. **No reservation needed!**
- **Mosquitoes:** Summers in Houston are notorious for mosquitoes! Thankfully, our HOA contracts with a local firm to **spray for mosquitoes every week**, from March 15th - November 15th. We've asked the company to spray after midnight so that late-night walkers and tennis/pickleball players don't get caught in the "fog".
- **Pools:** Green Trails 2 has two pools, at the Gerri Ayers and Park Cypress parks, with different operating days and hours for each pool. Both pools also have a dedicated "kiddie" pool. Come enjoy the water and let the kids play on the alligators in the kiddie pool at Gerri Ayers! Here's the link to the web site with details and the schedule: <https://greentrailstwo.com/pools-and-swim-team>
- **Diverse Places of Worship:** We are an incredibly diverse, welcoming community. Within a tight **2-mile radius** of Green Trails, residents have convenient access to over **15 churches, temples, synagogues, and mosques**, reflecting our rich cultural tapestry.

Green Trails History Corner: The Legendary Ranch in Our Backyard!

Did you know that Green Trails sits directly on what was once part of the legendary **LH7 Ranch**? Here are a few fast facts about our neighborhood's fascinating history:

- **A Cattle Empire:** Established in 1907 by Emil Henry "E.H." Marks, the LH7 Ranch grew to a staggering 36,000 acres at its peak, stretching across the coastal prairies.
- **Saving the Texas Longhorn:** In the 1920s, purebred Longhorns were rapidly facing extinction due to cross-breeding. E.H. Marks maintained a herd of over 500 purebreds, earning the Marks line recognition from the Texas Longhorn Breeders' Association as one of the "Seven Families" that saved the iconic breed.
- **End of an Era:** In the 1940s, a large portion of the ranch was acquired by the U.S. government to build the Barker and Addicks reservoirs to protect Houston from flooding. Amazingly, descendants of those famous Longhorns were still roaming the remaining pastures right off Barker Clodine Road until just a few years ago!
- **The Story Behind the Library:** The [Maud Smith Marks Library](#) on Westgreen Boulevard (opened in 1993) is named after E.H. Marks' wife. Deeply concerned that her children and neighboring rural families lacked adequate access to literature, Maud personally contracted with Harris County in the 1920s to have books and materials delivered right out to the prairie.

Helpful Resources

- **Vacation Watch** - A wonderful benefit from our Constable Precinct 5's office is the ability to set a Vacation Watch for your home. A Vacation Watch lets the deputies who patrol your area know to keep an extra eye on things while you are away. Register for the Vacation Watch at this site: <https://constablepct5.com/vacation-watch/>
- **Street Lights Out?** You can report street light outages online to CenterPoint Energy, who will replace the lights usually within 2-3 days. Report Street Light Outages here: <https://gis.centerpointenergy.com/sloreporting/>
- **Notifications when your power goes out?** Please sign up for CenterPoint Energy's free **Power Alert Service** here: <http://centerpointenergy.com/pas>
- **Household Hazardous Waste Recycling** - residents of unincorporated Harris County (**that's us!**) have access to a free household hazardous waste recycling drop-off facility where we can dispose of old paint, chemicals, cleaners, motor oils, and other hazardous waste. Don't pour them down the drain! The facility is located on Hahl Road, near 290 and Gessner Road. It's available by appointment only, and here's the link to schedule an appointment: oce.harriscountytexas.gov/About/Divisions/Household-Hazardous-Waste/Appointment-for-HHW-Facility
- **Feral Hogs?** Yes, hogs have become a problem again recently in Green Trails. While their population has soared in George Bush Park, this year we've experienced a significant impact to our community, where they've torn up the grass and flower beds alongside many of our streets and in the medians, and the yards of some of our residents. We've been working with the office of the **Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner, Lesley Briones**, on some mitigation initiatives. A representative from her office attended our HOA Annual meeting in February and shared that the Precinct understood the concerns and is taking action. The precinct has since engaged multiple trappers to capture and remove hogs from George Bush Park, and we will continue to press them on the issues our neighborhood is facing. Her office urges us to **submit concerns and notify their office of damage, including pictures, via email using this address:** service@hcp4.net

Green Trails 2 Parks & Amenities

Green Trails 2 features some fabulous amenities - and in case you aren't familiar with all of them, we'd like to highlight a few:

- **Desert Ivy Park Highlights:** Ready to cool off? Desert Ivy Park features a refreshing **resident splash pad**, a serene **butterfly garden**, and a fast-paced **GaGa Pit** for the kids!
- **Adult Co-Ed Volleyball:** The grass volleyball court at Desert Ivy Park is also reserved every Sunday from 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM for our resident [Adult](#) co-ed league. Come join or cheer them on!
- **Tetherball:** We have **4 tetherball courts** to enjoy, at the **Desert Ivy, Wisdom Woods, Crescent Green, and Park Cypress** parks. Please go enjoy them!
- **Crescent Green Park:** Looking to kick a soccer ball around? Crescent Green Park offers **two soccer fields** alongside a **shaded picnic area** perfect for cooling down between games.
- **Park Cypress Retention Pond Trail:** Take a scenic stroll around the beautiful Park Cypress County Retention pond (South of the Park Cypress Park). The paved walking trail looping entirely around the water is **just over 1/2 mile long. It's beautiful with a colorful sunset!**
- **Greenery Galore:** In total, our neighborhood features **6 parks** and an extensive County walking/biking trail network that integrates seamlessly with the neighboring 7,800-acre **George Bush Park and Terry Hershey Park.**
- **Biking** - We are seamlessly connected to some of Houston's best bike trails! Did you know that you can bike on a dedicated and protected hike-and-bike trail from **Green Trails through George Bush Park and Terry Hershey Park all the way to Beltway 8** and back? In fact, if you start at the new footbridge that crosses Mason Creek (at the very western end of Baker Road), a beautiful ride through the two two parks to BW8 and back is **approximately 34 miles along Buffalo Bayou.**

Racquet Sports: Tennis & Pickleball Court Updates

Our community courts are busier than ever! Whether you are a seasoned tennis player or picking up a pickleball paddle for the first time, we have a spot for you.

- **Pickleball** - Green Trails is lucky to have the Park Cypress tennis court also double as 4 pickleball courts, with mobile nets. Reserve a court using the **Reserve My Court** system on our website: <https://greentrailstwo.com/pickleball>
 - **Open Play Times:** No partner? No problem! **Adult** residents are invited to join their neighbors for recreational Pickleball Open Play every Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 PM, and Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 8:00 – 10:00 AM. Open Play is designed for experienced players who are familiar with the rules, scoring, and flow of the game. Players rotate in and out using the courts' paddle rack system.
 - **Beginners:** Residents who are new to Pickleball or looking for beginner-friendly play opportunities are encouraged to contact the Pickleball Committee Chair, Norma Joe, for information about beginner groups and introductory play options. Norma can be reached at nlindajoe@gmail.com
- **Tennis** - The 4th annual **Jump Start to Tennis** was held on May 9th, at the GA courts. There were 40 participants spread over 2 sessions (ages 5-9; ages 10-12). We had 2 local teaching pros attend along with volunteers and parents helping out. It was a great event! Check out the Tennis page on our website: <https://greentrailstwo.com/tennis>

Tennis Leagues: Ladies interested in joining a Green Trails women's league tennis team can contact Brigitte Hobbesland @ 713-591-0880.

The summer/fall women's leagues schedules are as follows:

- **HLTA (Houston Ladies Tennis Association)**
 - **7/6 - 7/24 -player registration**
 - **8/24 - season begins**
- **WHLTA (West Houston Ladies Tennis Association)**
 - **7/23 - 8/5 - player registration**
 - **9/2 - season begins**
- **Court Etiquette & Care:** The HOA works hard to keep our dues low and our facilities beautiful. Please help us maintain the courts by closing gates gently, avoiding slamming them, and treating all equipment with care. If you are the last player to leave, please move the mobile nets to the side of the court. If you use the court squeegees, return them to their designated hooks on the wall when finished. Additionally, if you use the trash can and it becomes full, please help by emptying it. Small acts of courtesy from everyone help keep our courts clean, welcoming, and enjoyable for all residents.

Please continue to check our [web sites](#) for updates and events. **See you on the courts!**