

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2020

BRIEF

## Splinters from the Board, By Stan Schoen, @ sschoen@worthamweb.org

Hi Friends! We all know the issues and challenges that we are currently faced with and while we all have our individualities. our issues, our unique challenges it is important to remember, and as corny or cliché' as it may sound – we are the same!

Consider this our STATE OF WORTHAM:

At Wortham we have always treated everyone the same in all of our practices, whether it be a deed restriction or anything financial, we have all the same rules and instructions to our management company and we are consistent. We are very proud of that, always have and always will be. We on your board are all homeowners and we are proud to be a part of Wortham. Another thing you should know is that we are very compliant with everything as it relates to our COVID environment. All of our suppliers have a COVID protocol and all are followed whether it be the clubhouse, pool, cleaning, etc. Financially we are sound as I've said often and consistently as well. Our money is safe and secure as they can be and we have annual audits which are transparent and we're proud of that fact as well.

Cynthia does not work at Wortham, just a little FYI. She exists in the commercials (Geico) but not here! As further proof, we don't have individual mail boxes so yours' is not too high.

Speaking of mail: We have had reports of mailboxes being left open and have since learned that there are several 'master' mailbox keys stolen. This has been reported to the postal service and this I am told is all we can do, reporting to them. Just be aware this has happened and it has been reported. Any concerns or questions needs to be directed to the US Postal Service.

## **Coming into Wortham:**

Update:

This work is about complete and will be totally finished by the time you read this. As a recap-

For those wondering what is happening with the bridge on Wortham, it is being repaired and reinforced by Harris County. Over the years the ground has moved and it was starting to separate. Once the current work is done, they will move to the other (continued on next page)

## Splinters from the Board, continued

side to do the same. For the walkers, runners and bikers trying to get around the construction and don't want to get your feet wet, they have opened up the orange fencing in the median so you can walk down the middle and rejoin the path on the other side.

#### Address painting (in front of houses) -

This work has been completed!

## Goings on in the neighborhood and surrounding areas:

Goode Company Barbeque – reportedly staying around, just closed during this pandemic. Other location(s) remain open.

The new construction between Kelsey Sebold Clinic and the Your Pie Center will be a Staybridge Suites Hotel (InterContinental Hotels)

Frost Bank – coming soon.

More restaurants coming but none announced as of this writing. There are 2 new pad sites being developed in that same area. A restaurant on the corner of FM1960 and Hwy 290 is on the plans.

The CenterPoint substation is on hold and no continue date is planned at this time. This was going to be on Wortham Center Rd across from the apartments. I will keep you posted as I learn more.

#### **National Night Out:**

Officially in August but Texas has held this in October (heat) so we won't melt. This being 'the' year and at this point I can't begin to guess what the rules will be but whatever it is we will be safe and comply with the rules at that time depending on what's going on with the virus and your guess is as good as mine.

#### **Annual Homeowner's meeting:**

There will be one albeit a little more interesting and you all can help. This year we will have a virtual meeting and we need your e-mails. More information will follow as we get closer to the time. We will send you a letter. At this point trust that we have a safe and secure meeting and in that regard each homeowner will be given a special code only for your residence.

#### **Wortham amenities update:**

We have been gathering bids for re-plastering our swimming pool as it has never been taken down to the original structure, only patched when needed. We will be re-plastering the pool and adding a new deck coating of some type to make the area more attractive and updated as nothing really has been done since 1991 when it was created. This is about a \$100,000 project and no money will be borrowed! Never have since I've been around, which by the way was since 1995!

## **Enhanced Community Page:**

This is a new development designed with you in mind. Our management company, Crest Management, developed this for us and this will include:

Access to community information Governing documents Board meeting notices Crest team contacts

Calendar for community events and clubhouse availability

News feed Email distribution of community notices and information Expanded document archives: financial and minutes You can access financial records

In order to do this, you need to go to Crest's home page and register your name, residence and e-mail!

The beauty of this ONCE WE CAPTURE YOUR E-MAIL is that we can send email blasts when you opt-in and select from events, emergency alerts, community updates and lost/found.

In addition to this our Municipality Utility District #222 (MUD) will have their own emergency communication but I do not know when and how this will start.

Wortham, we are in great shape. We hear all the stories from other places but just know our money is secure, we have a management company to take care of our day to day business, we have annual audits to prove to you and to ourselves that we are what we say we are and have what we say we have. Our amenities are in good shape and we make continuous improvements.

These are difficult times and we will come out of this one day and we all hope the sooner the better. Stay well, stay strong, stay safe!

We are Wortham!

Make it a great day!

## PROTECTION FROM THE SUN



A little knowledge will go a long way to protect you from sunburn, skin cancer and wrinkles. Simply take precautions to protect your skin from the sun's damaging rays and get ready to play.

Part of the sun's energy that reaches us on earth is composed of rays of ultraviolet light. When ultraviolet light rays enter the skin, they can cause visible and invisible skin cell damage. There are two types of ultraviolet light, UVA, often called the "aging ray" which weakens the immune system of the skin cell, and UVB, called the "burn ray" which causes changes to DNA that can cause abnormal growths in skin cells.

Sunscreens actually absorb the ultraviolet radiation and reduce the amount of radiation that penetrates the skin. Sunscreen is classified as chemical, while sunblock physically blocks both the UVA and UVB radiation from the skin.

SPF refers to the "Sun Protection Factor" for UVB rays only. A sunscreen with a SPF of 15 will delay sunburn from occurring for 15 times longer than normal if using no protection at all. It is a measure of the amount of time it takes for sun-exposed skin to redden when exposed to the sun. For example, when using a sunscreen lotion with an SPF of 15, a person who normally sunburns in 20 minutes of midday sun exposure may tolerate 15 x 20 minutes (300 minutes) without burning. SPF's are rated typically from 1 to 60, although there are some products with an even higher rating.

Lastly, did you know that suncreen expires? Be sure to check the expiration date on the container each season and replace your sunscreen if it has expired.

## 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!

# AUGUST LAWN AND GARDEN TO-DOS



- Watch for chinch bugs to start working. They might be a little later than normal this year with all the rain. Chinch bugs thrive in dry areas and work their way through your lawn. If you know your sprinklers are getting good coverage and there are growing brown areas, start looking for chinch bugs. You must treat ASAP to prevent them from killing your lawn. If you're not sure if you have chinch bugs, bring in pictures of the lawn to your local nursery, and cut out a 10"x10" section of grass and soil in an area that is going from good to bad so they can see the transition.
- Make sure to check sprinklers to ensure your coverage is good and adjust the timer based on rainfall. If we continue to get a lot of rain turn off the sprinklers until the grass looks like it needs it. When you do water, water deep, and infrequently. This will create deeper root systems.

#### In the Flowerbeds

- It's not too late to add flowers to your landscape. Just remember not to rely on your sprinklers to do the watering the first 2 weeks or so. Do some hose watering if they start to show any signs of wilt. Once their little root systems have branched out into the bed soil, you can back off the hose water and leave it to the sprinkler system.
- Keep everything well fed with plant food every 4-6 weeks to keep everything blooming and happy!
- Make sure to add leafmold compost when planting to help retain moisture, and then add an inch of native hardwood mulch to keep your soil from drying out and keep weeds to a minimum.

## **Community Website:**

WWW.WORTHAMVILLAGES.COM

Facebook Page:

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WORTHAMVILLAGESCOMMUNITY



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## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

HIII OILII II I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	
Life Threatening Emergency	911
Fire	911
Sheriff's Department	911
Poison Control	
NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS	
Ambulance	713.466.4073
Sheriff's Department	713.221.6000
Harris County Health Dept	713.439.6000
Animal Control	281.999.3191
Gas - Centerpoint	713.659.2111
WATER & SEWER - MUD 222 (Municipal Operations)	
Service & Billing	281.367.5511
Street Lights	713.207.2222
Garbage & Recycling (Texas Pride)	
email: service@texaspridedisposal.com	
U.S. Post Office Fairbanks Station	713.937.9108
7050 Brook Hollow West	

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## **CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!**

Building a deck? Planting a tree? 811 is the new number you should call before you begin any digging project.

A federally-mandated national "Call Before You Dig" number, 811 was created to help protect you from unintentionally hitting underground utility lines while working on digging projects. People digging often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked due to concerns about project delays, costs and previous calls about other projects. These assumptions can be life-threatening.



Make a call for every digging job – even small projects like planting trees or shrubs. If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs.

A recent study revealed that nearly half of homeowners who plan to dig this year won't call 811 to learn the approximate locations of buried gas, electric, communications, water and sewer lines before digging, putting their safety and the safety of others at risk. According to data collected by CGA, when an individual makes a call to 811 before digging, damage occurs less than 1 percent of the time.

So, before you dig, call 811. More details online at: www.call811.com.