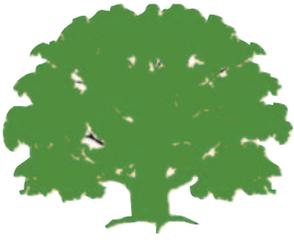


2015
SUMMER



NEWSLETTER

SUMMER

The official newsletter of the Covington Woods community, located in Sugar Land, Texas.

Home. Sweet. Home.

THE Covington Woods CHRONICLE

BOARD UPDATE: NEW WEBSITE, ANNUAL MEETING AND RISING PROPERTY VALUES

I want to personally welcome all the new residents to Covington Woods this summer...

Happy summer and welcome to the new color newsletter! We are excited to be working with a new company for the newsletter and website: www.covingtonwoods.net. Both are a work in progress, but we are moving along and I look forward to the future.

I want to personally welcome all the new residents to Covington Woods this summer; I look forward to meeting all of you as you join into our community of residents. This is my 2nd time living in Covington Woods and I love this neighborhood.

By the time you read this newsletter, the annual meeting will have been held and possibly the regularly scheduled August meeting (Monday August 10th). If you were unable to attend, we have monthly meetings **every 2nd Monday at 7:00 PM** at the building outside the fence next to the pool.

All of the board members live in Covington and just like you, we want our property values to rise. I walk the neighborhood every morning and enjoy seeing beautiful landscaping, summer

flowers and yards that many of you are putting time, effort and energy into every day.

There are a few yards/homes that need work and some TLC. I encourage you to mow, edge, sweep up the leaves, pine needles in your driveway and street in front of you. If you see some trash, pick it up. If we all do our part, our community will be even better. Most of you are homeowners, some are renters. I hope the pride of the house you live in is reflected in the exterior and interior of your home.

We, at the board, are tasked with striving for excellence for our community. It's a volunteer job and we serve with pride. So, if you get a letter from the property management company, please act upon the information quickly and with the attention necessary. If you need assistance or have an issue, reply back to us via phone, email or in person to discuss the circumstances. We all want a neighborhood we can be proud of.

Sincerely,

Kelly Knake



2 MOLD REMOVAL HOW-TO

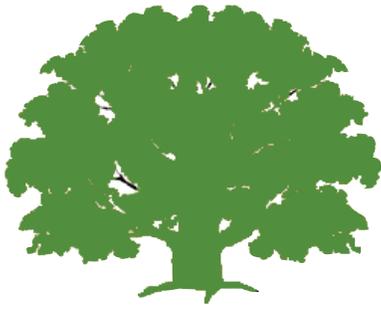
Say goodbye to exterior mold with this home remedy solution to a common nuisance.

3 YARDS OF THE MONTH!

Congratulations to the Yards of the Month and Brite Spots winners!

4 POLICE ACADEMY

Applications are now being accepted for Sugar Lands Citizen's Police Academy.



MOLD REMOVAL

Removing mold from your home's exterior

While there's always the option of paying for someone to pressure-wash your home to remove mold, there is a fairly effective home remedy you can use to get rid of this problem. Mix the following household ingredients in a garden sprayer, which you can get for under \$20, or find in your garage.

- 1/3 cup powdered laundry detergent
- 2/3 powdered household cleaner
- 1 quart liquid laundry bleach
- 1 gallon of water

Double-check to ensure children and pets aren't in the area, and wear some sort of safety mask. You may also want to cover your plants or other vegetation around the base of your home with drop cloths. These ingredients generally aren't harsh to clean with, but can be dangerous if you are breathing, or ingesting the ingredients. Once you have the solution mixed, you will begin applying it to your siding. One gallon should cover a 10' X 20' area or a little further, depending on how liberal you are with it. Once you apply a good coat to your vinyl siding, let it stand for five to ten minutes. After this lapse in time, use your garden hose to rinse the siding off. If you don't have a garden hose, thoroughly cleanse your garden sprayer and fill it with water to rinse the siding. Depending on the severity of mold, you may need to apply a second or third coat and repeat the steps already covered. Make mold old news and spruce up the exterior of your home!

SUMMER LAWN MAINTENANCE TIPS

HELP YOUR LAWN BEAT THE HEAT

As you well know, hot, dry days are just an inescapable part of summer. Many lawns seem to bake in the heat. But, look around and you'll see one or two in the neighborhood that look as green as can be. You can help your lawn look just as great in the heat if you do 4 things:

- Feed regularly
- Mow high
- Water deeply but infrequently
- Reseed with a more heat-tolerant grass seed

FEED REGULARLY

Within 6-8 weeks of feeding, microbes in the soil process most of the nutrients in the ground for your lawn to absorb. So you need to replenish these nutrients by fertilizing. A well-fed lawn grows in thick, crowding out weeds and cooling the soil, which helps it handle the heat. However, if your lawn has gone dormant, hold off on feeding until rain revives it.

MOW HIGH

If you cut your grass short, you're short-changing your lawn. Longer grass allows the growth of longer roots, which can reach down for moisture even on hot, dry days. Just set your mower

on one of the highest settings. You'll be surprised what a difference this simple step can make.

WATERING

If your grass has been cut short all season, you're going to have to water frequently. But even longer grass needs moisture. So if you choose to water during a dry spell, be sure to water deeply but infrequently. Frequent, shallow watering encourages grass to grow short roots, causing the grass to stress out during droughts. But an inch of water a week serves as a good rule of thumb for keeping your lawn green during the hot summer. Just be sure to water as early as possible in the morning to help reduce wasteful evaporation.

RESEEDING AND RENOVATION

Older lawns may have grass varieties that just can't handle the heat. The grass may grow in bunches or have thick, ugly blades. Also, a hot summer can leave bare spots and thin areas around the lawn. New grass varieties have been developed to be able to handle scorching heat and still look good. With warm-season grasses, it's best to reseed in fall or early spring. Those times are when conditions are optimal for grass growth.



DID YOU KNOW? WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE AND A NEW NEWSLETTER!

The board decided to spruce things up a little and we now have a bright, clean newsletter to report all the happenings in the community. We also updated the website to reflect a more contemporary look. Check it out at www.covingtonwoods.net!

LOST AND FOUND PETS:

You may have noticed that we have had several lost pets roaming the neighborhood. These pets are probably very scared as well as hungry and cold. Here are some things you can do to help reunite them with their owners. Animal Services takes reports of lost and found animals. You can contact Animal Services by calling 281-275-2364. There's also a link to make a report on our website: www.covingtonwoods.net



60

60 percent of house fire deaths occur in homes with no working smoke alarms.
-Red Cross

The most effective way to protect yourself and your home from fire is to identify and remove fire hazards.

YARDS OF THE MONTH & BRITE SPOTS!

May Yard of the Month

1411 Maygrove

June Yard of the Month

13706 Drakewood

July Yard of the Month

1187 Bournewood

May Brite Spots

13523 Brook Hollow

13558 Brook Hollow

13603 Hampton Court

1431 Ashwood

June Brite Spots

13602 Woodchester

1311 Bournewood

13511 Sherwood

13715 Greywood

July Brite Spots

13628 Woodchester

13819 Vinehill

1119 Bramblebury

13723 Drakewood

CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!

LOWER TAXES FOR RESIDENTS!



Sugar Land City Council recently approved an 8 percent residential homestead exemption, effective Jan. 1, 2015. The measure was intended to help offset rising residential property appraisals set by the Fort Bend Central Appraisal District. The City has no control over appraisals. The increased exemption represents an estimated citywide savings to residents of \$229,000 or \$11 per year on the average home value of \$350,000. The savings are based on the City's current tax rate of 31.595 cents. For more details, visit: www.sugarlandtx.gov.

Home Safety Surveys are available to homes within the Sugar Land Fire Department's jurisdiction. This free service is by appointment only and can be requested online.

What is a Home Fire-Safety Survey?

Home Fire-Safety surveys are designed to identify potential fire and life-safety hazards. The survey generally takes about one hour and covers the following areas:

- Exterior
- Interior
- Garage
- Attic

Firefighters can provide written recommendations the homeowner can follow to reduce fire and life-safety hazards.

A Home Fire-Safety survey is not a substitute for professional inspection and cleaning of fireplaces and furnaces.

For details, visit: www.sugarlandtx.gov.

Fire Safety Tips:

If a fire occurs in your home, GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL for help. Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Test smoke alarms once a month, if they're not working, change the batteries. Talk with all household members about a fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.



SPEED LIMIT REMINDER

Please be mindful of the speed limits in the community, especially on Woodchester Drive. School will be starting soon and we all need to slow down and take extra precaution driving thru the community. Thanks!





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POLICE ACADEMY NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS:

Applications are now being accepted for the 56th Citizen's Police Academy Class which starts on Thursday September 10th through November 18th. Applications are now open until August 15th. Please let any friends, family, neighbors and coworkers know who might be interested in applying. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and either live or work in the City of Sugar Land. Rejection criteria does exist and can be found at <http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/index.aspx?NID=514> along with more information on the program. If your family, friends or neighbors are interested, they may go to the website: <https://volunteer.sugarlandtx.gov> and start the process by clicking on the "GET STARTED" option and selecting the appropriate academy application to complete.

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