

Woodwind Lakes

NEWSLETTER



MAY 2025



WOODWIND LAKES

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Featuring The Cul-de-Sacs
and The Duderinos playing music
from the 70s, 80s and 90s

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Family Pool Area  6-10pm

9015 Woodwind Lakes Dr. at Ensemble Dr.

Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of live music, food and drink.
Refreshments available for purchase.



Goode Company will be
serving barbecue, beer,
wine and margaritas.

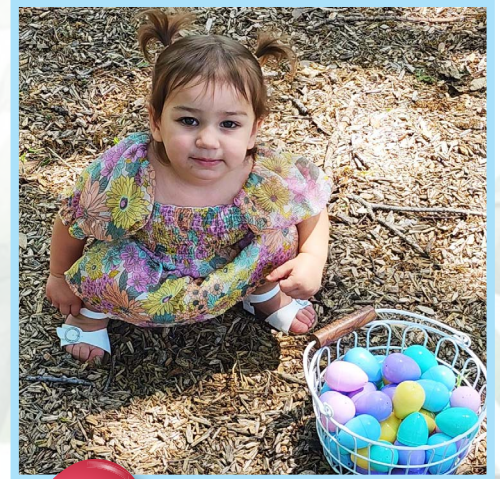


Dough Cone will be
serving their famous
handmade donut cones.

Dancing in the street  Activities for the kids

Special thanks for the generosity of our sponsors and volunteers!

Family fun at the 2025 Woodwind Lakes Easter egg hunt



A visit from the Texas Urban Forestry Service

Twenty-six residents attended the presentation by Matt Weaver from the Texas Forestry Service. Thank you to Mercy for the brownies and B&D Texas Goodies for the light refreshments.

Summary

Matthew Weaver described the function of the Texas Urban Forestry Service and provided an overview of his agency's role within the state's forestry landscape.

Matt also discussed his experiences with tree damage and recovery following major hurricanes, the value of trees and proper tree care and planting techniques. Matt answered questions about tree health and maintenance.

MATT'S PRESENTATION AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

His presentation can be accessed at:

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/mvu6iny5mqmv8n13h75zm/Sustainable-Treesapces_WoodwindLakes_handout_2025.pdf?rlkey=6wsqt06266xj24p13o5qqt94e&st=uubztota&dl=0.

The Texas Forestry Service website has several pages that can be helpful for our neighbors:


<https://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/>.


You can find a tree planting guide as well as information on tree health:


<https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/content/landing.aspx?id=19780>.


Please contact Sue Preston at sue@mspreston.com for more information.


Some suggestions for us from Matt Weaver


 **HOA:** Review and potentially develop a sustainable tree management plan for common areas and guidelines for homeowners.


 **HOA:** Consider consulting with Texas A&M Forest Service for guidance on community-level tree planning and management.

 **HOA:** Consider updating community guidelines to broaden tree species options beyond just oaks and pines to promote diversity.

 **HOA:** Consider using Texas Tree Planting Guide and Tree Selector tool for future tree planning decisions.

 **Homeowners:** Check insurance and credentials when hiring tree service companies.

 **Homeowners:** Plant new trees during winter months for best results.

 **Homeowners:** Maintain mulch depth at 2-3 inches and keep mulch away from tree trunks.



A note about removing trees from your property

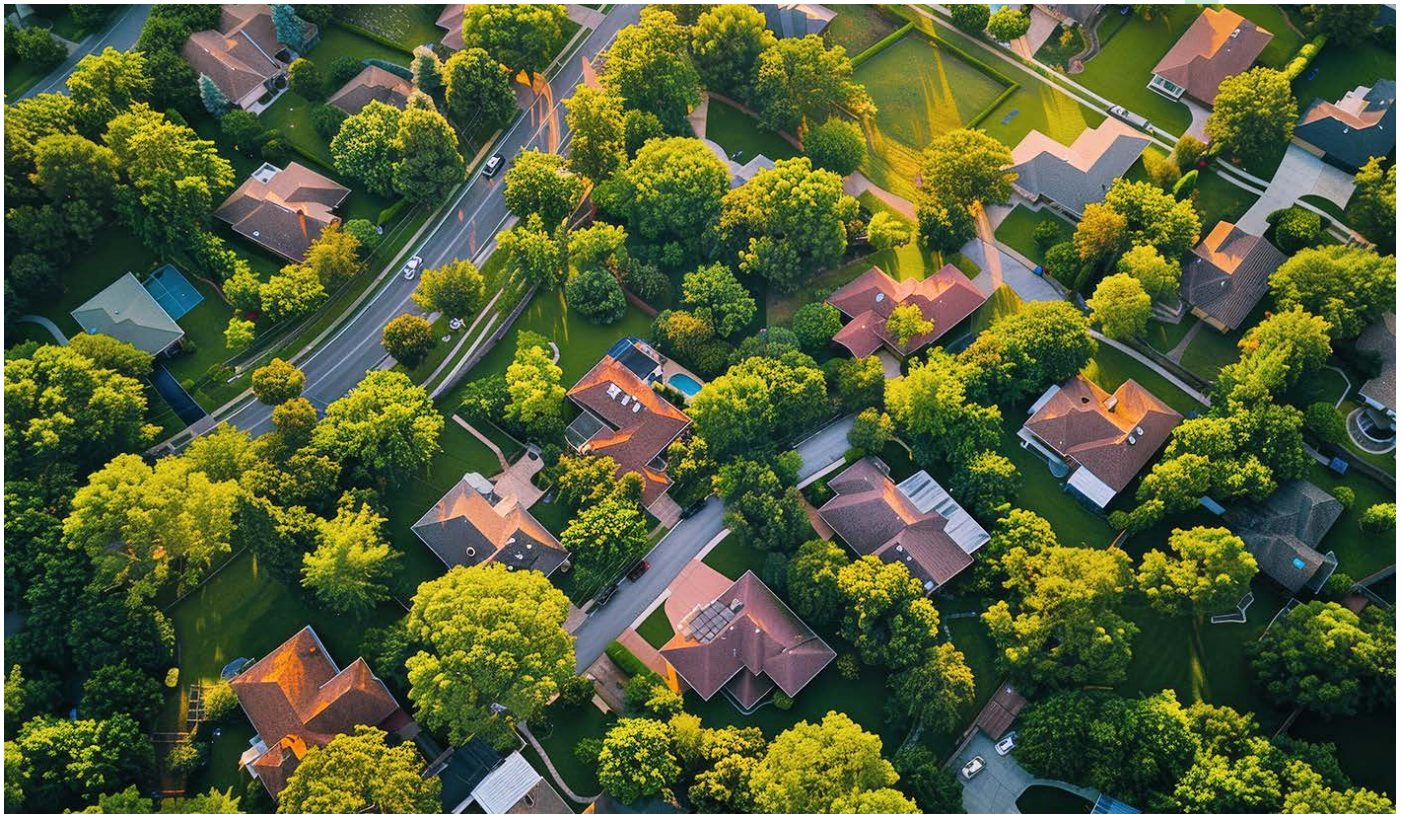
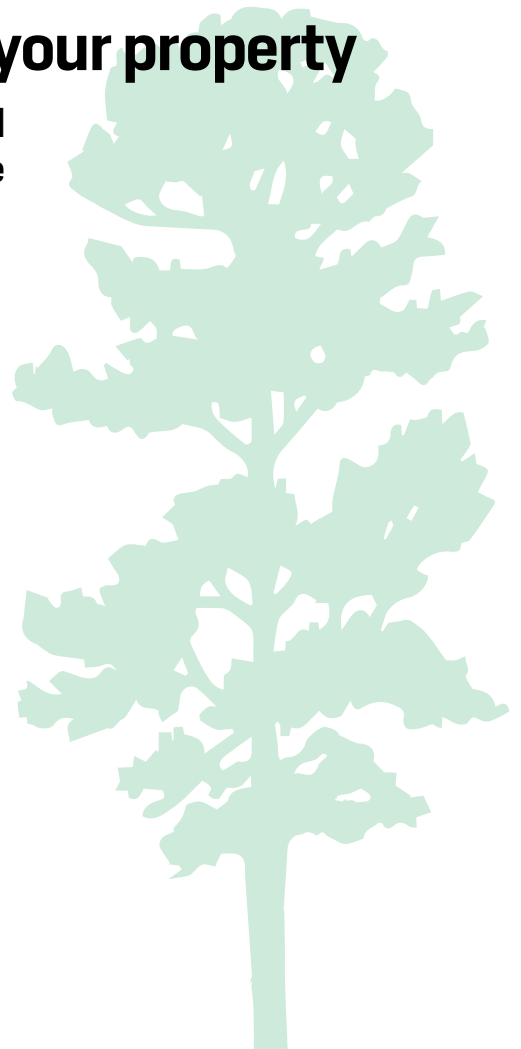
ALL tree removal is considered an exterior modification and MUST be approved by the ACC first. This application is done through the online form on Crest Management's website.

There is a current misunderstanding about what trees may be chosen to replace trees that have been approved for removal. The wording in the online application states:

I understand removed tree(s) MUST be replaced with another tree of similar quality or one native to our area (i.e.: oak or pine) somewhere on the same property. If tree(s) cannot be replaced, please provide an explanation.

Note that it lists oaks and pines as an example and that native trees will be allowed. Also, it does not state that the tree must be in the same location on the property.

The purpose of this requirement is to do as much as possible to prevent a net loss of the remaining trees in our community. Currently, pines are experiencing considerable loss through attacks from pine bark beetles. Drought, disease, loss due to high winds and improper care all contribute to the need to have a tree removed. Woodwind Lakes had many pines and oaks as well as other species before it was developed, but as our guest speaker from the Texas Urban Forestry Service stated, diversity is a key element in maintaining and sustaining our urban forests. So if you don't wish to replace a tree that has been approved for removal with another pine or oak, submit your requested replacement tree species.



The Women's Club April meeting

On April 15th The Women's Club met at the home of Elizabeth Blanchard for an inspiring presentation by Scruples Boutique owners Betty Ann Drury and Debbie Williams with an emphasis on how to accessorize.



Hostesses Ruthie Edwards, Diana Cadieux, Elizabeth Blanchard, Gail Ford, Terry Buckner



Our Scruples guests, Betty Ann Drury and Debbie Williams who displayed Spring Collection clothing and accessories.



*Good times always
call for good food*



*More photos
on next page*

The Women's Club April meeting



Raffle winner Linda Merigold



*Keeping in current fashion.
Helen Laughlin learning how to tie a shirt.*



Raffle winner Lynne James



*April Birthday Girls: Kay Hein, Judith Simmons,
Ann Tatum, Linda Jefferson, Cindy Sheen*

Texas' natural treasure

Cheryl Conley, Lake Creek Preserve Board of Directors

Spring is here and there's nothing more beautiful than the Texas landscape where a breathtaking transformation unfolds this time of the year. The hills and fields are painted with a vibrant tapestry of wildflowers where the bluebonnets, our state flower, reign supreme. Miles of roadways are lined with these iconic flowers inviting everyone to pause and admire the beauty of a Texas spring.



In 1901 there was a bit of a "flower war" in the Texas Legislature which best describes the process of selecting the state flower. The contenders for the title were the bluebonnet, the cotton boll and the prickly pear cactus blossom. There were arguments made that highlighted the merits of each flower but the National Society of Colonial Dames of America successfully convinced the Texas legislature to choose the bluebonnet, a name that paid homage to the many brave Texas pioneer women. The name comes from the shape of the flower which resembles the bonnets worn by pioneer women.



There are actually six different species of bluebonnets, all native to Texas, but the *Lupinus texensis* is the most well-known. All six of them are considered the state flower. Most bluebonnets are blue but due to genetic mutations, you might also find them in white, pink and maroon. Texas A&M calls the maroon flowers "Aggie bonnets."

Did you know they are poisonous?

If ingested, all parts of bluebonnets are poisonous, especially the seeds and pods. In humans, ingesting the seeds can cause nervous system issues up to and including death. In animals, bluebonnets are moderately toxic and can cause gastrointestinal upset, lethargy, tremors, agitation and seizures.



Lady Bird Johnson, wife of President Lyndon Johnson, played a big role in the appreciation and visibility of bluebonnets and other native plants in Texas. She grew up in East Texas and fell in love with the beauty of the state, especially the wild flowers. In 1965, as First Lady, she campaigned for national beautification. The Beautification Act of 1965 was a result of her efforts. The legislation called for control of outdoor signage along the Nation's Interstate System and the existing Federal-aid primary system. It also called for certain junkyards to be removed or screened from view and focused on improving the appearance of highways by planting native wildflowers and trees.

In 1982, along with actress Helen Hayes, they established the National Wildflower Research Center in Austin to protect and preserve North America's native plants and natural landscapes. In 1997 the center was renamed becoming the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. They have a very interesting and informative website at <https://www.wildflower.org>.

The most significant factor in the proliferation of the bluebonnets and other wildflowers is the work of the Texas Department of Transportation. In the 1930's, as part of a beautification program, the department started sowing bluebonnet seeds along state

highways. In 1932, the Wildflower Program was officially established and Jac Gubbels, a landscape architect, was hired to maintain, preserve and encourage the planting of wildflowers and other native plants along the highways. In the mid-1930's a policy was implemented to delay mowing until the wildflowers had gone to seed. Today, TxDOT's Wildflower Program continues to maintain the wildflowers and sows about 30,000 pounds of seeds every year.

Please don't pick them

Texans are proud of their bluebonnets and all the other wild flowers in our state. Although there is no law against picking the flowers, it is discouraged. Many flowers including bluebonnets are annuals which means they only flower for one season and then they die. After flowering they go to seed which is how they multiply. If the flowers are trampled or picked and the flower dies, they won't go to seed to come back the next year.

In Texas, bluebonnets are more than just a flower. They are a true symbol of Texas pride and represent the natural beauty, resilience, and independent spirit of our state.

When do the bluebonnets bloom? Are they blooming now?

During mild winters, they may start blooming in late February or March but, more often than not, early April is the best time to head out to look for them. They bloom only a few weeks and then are replaced with other less famous but no less stellar blooms.

THE WOMEN'S CLUB

END OF SEASON FINALE

Tuesday, May 20, 2025, 11:00 am

Soto's Cantina, 11755 West Little York Rd., Suite 206B, 77041

For more information or to RSVP contact Ann Tatum:

anntatum9203@gmail.com

Hope we see you there!



The human spirit
thrives on helping others.

ETHEL PERCY ANDRUS, AARP FOUNDER

May Yard of the Month winners

SECTION 1



9130 BRAHMS LANE

SECTION 2



7914 ALLEGRO DRIVE

SECTION 3



7607 ALLEGRO COURT

SECTION 4



9410 SINFONIA DRIVE

Congratulations!

