

Woodwind Lakes

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024



FALL 2024 GARAGE SALE



Saturday, October 5 7:00 am to 3:00 pm

Make your plans to participate in the **COMMUNITY FALL GARAGE SALE**.
Woodwind Lakes, Rolling Fork and Terrace Brook will be having a garage sale on that date.



FUNDRAISING EVENT

Women's Club Fundraiser for Christmas Event

- The Women's Club will be hosting a fundraiser at the Family Pool, during the October 5th Community Garage Sale.
 - We're asking for donations. Items and/or cash will be welcome.
 - All proceeds will be donated to our annual Christmas Event.
 - For more information, please contact:
Lynn Collins, lynn.collins@garygreene.com or
Ann Tatum, anntatum9203@gmail.com
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This mess hasn't exactly been a whole lot fun...

But thanks to the hard work of some dedicated neighbors, progress is being made to clean up our community after the destructive aftermath of Hurricane Beryl.



The Home Team volunteers have been out there in all kinds of heat and humidity working hard to keep the neighborhood safe and saving all of us money that would have otherwise been spent on outside contractors.



What a difference the Home Team volunteers have made!



*Thank you
Home Team volunteers!*



Are they Fireflies or Lightning Bugs?

Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

What do you call those flashing beetles that light up in the summertime? Is it a firefly or a lightning bug? Different areas of the U.S. call these beetles one or the other or sometimes use the terms interchangeably. Fireflies and lightning bugs refer to beetles in the family Lampyridae.

I recently visited my family in Ohio and got to return somewhat to my childhood, being giddy over the number of fireflies I discovered emerging with their gentle flashing patterns at dusk. Yes, I ran around like an idiot catching them.

Larvae are nocturnal and feed on small animals including snails. Larvae prefer moist environments with some being subterranean or semi-aquatic. Some larvae can emit short glows which are used to warn predators they are distasteful.

How do they light up?

Adult beetles are around ½ an inch long, slender and soft-bodied. They have a shield-like structure, the pronotum, which covers their head from above. The last few abdominal segments may be modified to emit light but not all Lampyridae are bioluminescent.

Some fireflies are bioluminescent which means they have a chemical reaction that occurs within their body causing them to light up. When fireflies combine oxygen with calcium, adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and the

FROM SOUTHERN LIVING

Where the names originated

Some researchers attribute the difference in nomenclature to weather — of all things. The South and Midwest receive the majority of lightning across the nation, while the West sees the most wildfires. However, we feel more simple about it. If that's what Granny called it when showing you the magical light-up beetles for the first time ever, that's what you probably call it.

chemical luciferin in the presence of luciferase, a bioluminescent enzyme, light is produced. Light from a firefly does not give off heat which is important to ensure survival of the beetle. Fireflies control light flashing by controlling the oxygen that reacts with other chemicals needed to produce light.

Adults use flash patterns to identify those of the same species as well as determine location of the opposite sex. Female fireflies choose their mates based upon flash pattern characters; males with higher flash rates and increased flash intensity are preferred.

Adults feed on nectar, pollen, other fireflies or many do not feed. One group of females in the genus *Photuris* lures

in males from the genus *Photinus* by mimicking the flash pattern of female *Photinus*. When the male comes in to mate instead of mating he is eaten.

Sadly, their numbers are declining

It is thought disappearing habitat along with light pollution are playing a part in the decline of fireflies. How can you help fireflies? Turn off lights at night to help reduce light pollution (you'll get the added benefit of less insects being drawn to areas where they can possibly get into your house). Create water features in your landscape to provide areas of moisture required for larvae. Target pesticide usage and make wise pesticide choices to reduce the possibility of effecting non-target organisms.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Serv. Program Specialist at ebrown@ag.tamu.edu.

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Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.



Click this button for a beautiful video of fireflies on YouTube.



THE WOMEN'S CLUB

Season Kick-Off Meet & Greet

Tuesday, September 17, 2018 at 10:00 am

9134 Brahms Lane — Home of Merrell Greene

Non-members are welcome to join in the festivities!
Food, fun and gifts for all!!!

For more information, please contact Ann Tatum:

anntatum9203@gmail.com | (713) 724-0998

Hope we see you there!



GREAT LEADERS

are usually great simplifiers who can cut through an ARGUMENT, DEBATE and DOUBT to offer a solution everyone can understand.

An invasion in New Waverly!

Cheryl Conley, Lake Creek Preserve Board of Directors

Have you seen the Alfred Hitchcock movie “The Birds”? My daughter in New Waverly says she feels like she’s living in that movie. Cliff swallows have converged upon her home and are nesting under her eaves. In our area, it’s not uncommon to see these jug-shaped mud nests around overpasses, under bridges and in highway culverts. It is much less common to see them nest on someone’s house. Dealing with the noise is one thing but the “poo” factor all over her patio and sidewalks is the worst!

Their nests take a lot of work

Cliff swallows are the most colonial of all swallows. In the eastern USA, colonies tend to be small but further west, they increase and pairs can number in the thousands. In Nebraska, one colony had 3,700 nests! The swallows can get quite physical when fighting for a nest site. They’ll peck at each other, strike with their wings and even pull out feathers. Nests are made of mud and are sparsely lined with grass, feathers and hair. They are shaped like a gourd with a large chamber in the center and narrowing to a small opening which is only about two inches wide. Both sexes gather pellets of wet mud and deposit them in a shaking motion onto the structure leaving behind a little mud nugget. The nuggets bond and harden and form the nest. They do this over **1,000 times** until the nest is complete. Once complete, the nest measures about 8 inches long

by 6 inches wide and 4.5 inches high. One really has to admire this avian architecture!

Females lay from 3 to 5 eggs that hatch in about two weeks. They all hatch on the same day. Both parents care for the nestlings. The young fledge in 23 to 26 days but they depend on Mom and Dad for several days after that.

The diet of the cliff swallow consists mostly of flying insects. It’s fun to watch their graceful flight patterns while chasing and catching insects. They are a very effective insect repellent eating hundreds of mosquitoes.

Time to rescue the little ones

So how did my daughter handle the invasion, you ask? For some strange and unknown reason, she was finding nestlings on the ground. Were they pushed out by the other nestlings? Did they just fall out? No one knows for sure. She carefully scooped up the little ones that were still alive and delivered 21 of them to the best Texas permitted avian rehabilitator I know, Amanda Remsberg. Amanda knows

exactly what to do. She will care for them and eventually release them back to the wild. She told my daughter she had never seen cliff swallows nest on



someone’s house before. Always a first for everything.

Some may ask why my daughter didn’t just knock down the nests. She tried while the birds were in the building process but she couldn’t get ahead of the little rascals. She left town for a few days and by the time she got back, it was too late. Once the nests are

The Migratory Bird Act of 1918 states that all swallows are state and federally protected and active nests with eggs or chicks inside may not be touched or destroyed without a permit.

occupied, it’s then illegal to destroy them under the Migratory Bird Act of 1918. It states all swallows are state and federally protected and active nests with eggs or

chicks inside may not be touched or destroyed without a permit. Before they arrive next spring, she plans to place physical barriers under the eaves. Netting, coroplast, Bird Slide (a trademarked product), plexiglass or similar products under the eaves should deter them.

As an animal lover, I’m glad the swallows found a safe place to have their babies. As a mother, I felt bad for her. Trying to add a little levity to the ordeal, I told her there’s good news and bad news. The bad news is that they’ll be back next spring. The good news is she should appreciate all the mosquitoes they eat. She didn’t see the humor.

For help with wildlife, a great source is the Fort Bend Wildlife Rescue group. <https://www.fortbendwildliferescue.com>



August Yard of the Month winners

SECTION 1



9231 BRAHMS LANE

SECTION 2



7738 ALLEGRO DRIVE

SECTION 3



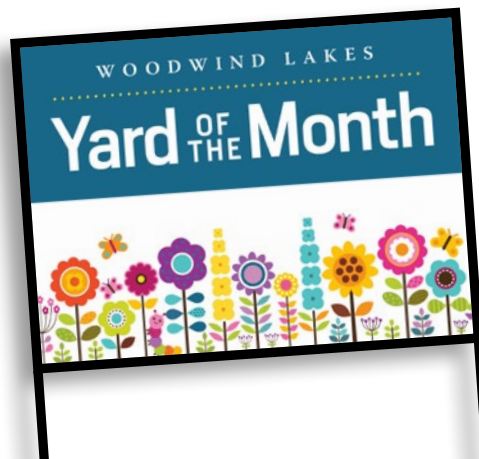
7806 PERCUSSION PLACE

SECTION 4



8103 RONDO COURT

Congratulations!



MONARCH LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

Woodwind Lakes Monthly Services Update

**July completed events**

- Irrigation inspection (comp 7/29)
- Site audit
- Turf fertilization w/InD (comp 7/2)
- Seasonal color change (comp 8/1)
- Debris cleanup with maint. service hours (comp 7/11), two dump fees
- Debris cleanup with maint. service hours (comp 7/30 & 7/31), three dump fees

August upcoming events

- Irrigation inspection (scheduled 8/21)
- Site audit
- Shrub and groundcover fertilization w/InD (TBS)

Details we are focusing on this month

- Natural areas stick pickup and clean, phased in over time
- Heavy bed detailing to catch up from storms
- Extra mowing to catch up from storms





HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 4

CONSTABLE MARK HERMAN

"Proudly Serving the Citizens of Precinct 4"

6831 Cypresswood Drive ★ Spring, Texas 77379 ★ (281) 376-3472 ★ www.ConstablePct4.com

Monthly Contract Stats

WOODWIND LAKES

For July 2024

Categories

Burglary Habitation: 0	Burglary Vehicle: 0	Theft Habitation: 0
Theft Vehicle: 0	Theft Other: 0	Robbery: 0
Assault: 0	Sexual Assault: 0	Criminal Mischief: 0
Disturbance Family: 0	Disturbance Juvenile: 0	Disturbance Other: 0
Alarms: 2	Suspicious Vehicles: 1	Suspicious Persons: 0
Runaways: 0	Phone Harrassment: 0	Other Calls: 41

Detailed Statistics By Deputy

Unit Number	Contract Calls	District Calls	Reports Taken	Felony Arrests	Misd Arrests	Tickets Issued	Recovered Property	Charges Filed	Mileage Driven	Days Worked
S16	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	73	1
S26	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	1
W14	27	27	0	0	0	15	0	0	1021	17
W15	49	23	3	0	0	6	0	0	636	15
TOTAL	78	53	3	0	0	22	0	0	1792	34

Summary of Events

Alarms:

Deputies responded to 2 residential alarms that were all cleared as false or cancelled.

Suspicious Vehicles:

Deputies responded to a 1 suspicious vehicle calls that were all cleared as GOA or information.

Suspicious Persons:

Deputies responded to 0 suspicious person calls that were all cleared as GOA or information.

Deputies conducted multiple traffic stops and issued multiple citations within the contract reducing the possibility of accidents.

Deputies conducted multiple contract, neighborhood and business checks within the contract increasing visibility while performing regular patrol duties.

Deputies responded to 41 other calls within the contract including:

Motor Vehicle Accidents	Follow Up Investigations	Stranded Motorist
Animal Humane	Information Calls	Traffic Hazard
Child Custody Disputes	Meet The Officer	Unknown Medical Emergency
Domestic Preventions	Lost Found Property	Abandoned/Speeding Vehicles
D.W.I.	Sex Offender Verification	Welfare Checks