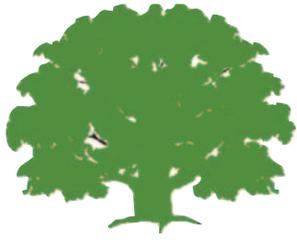


2015
FALL



NEWSLETTER

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

Home. Sweet. Home.



FALL

THE Covington Woods CHRONICLE

SAVE THE DATE

Covington Woods' Annual Meeting – Monday, August 1, 2016. If you are interested in running for the board, please contact Mr. Floyd Thigpen, Chairman of the Nominating Committee at: fthigpen@onsite4research.com.

MISSING LIDS OR WHEELS ON TRASH RECEPTACLES

If your trash receptacle has a missing lid or wheels, please call Republic Waste Management at 713-726-7307 and give them your address and the numbers on the side of the receptacle and they will replace it at no charge on the next collection day.

TRASH COLLECTION

Trash collection reminder: Monday and Thursday are trash days, recycling day is Monday, green waste day is Monday and bulk waste day is the 1st Tuesday of the month.

BOARD UPDATE: NEW WEBSITE, HOME VALUES ARE ON THE RISE & A NEW BOARD MEMBER!

The calendar might say that it's fall, but as I write this, it is 82 degrees in Sugar Land.

I hope you have been enjoying the new color newsletter and making a point to visit the updated website: www.covingtonwoods.net. There is a lot of great content and it's a convenient way to keep up to date on our neighborhood, city and county. The website now has a way to gather your information for emails; we would like to be able to send you pertinent information in between the newsletters and monthly meetings. We are also posting surveys, which will allow you to voice your opinions. It's still a work in progress, but we are moving forward and I look forward to the future. If you have suggestions or comments, please pass them along.

I enjoy walking our neighborhood and love seeing yards that are well cared for. During this fall/winter season, give your yard some attention now to better prepare it for spring. Visit your local home improvement store and purchase some weed control / fertilizer for your lawn and plants.

The beauty of the neighborhood is each of our responsibility. Keep your front porch picked up, your yard moved and edged, and if you see

trash in the street, clean it up. All of these things will reflect the pride we have in our home and community. Home values in Covington Woods are on the rise and if we all continue to do our part, hopefully that trend will continue.

I want to personally welcome Sherry Ziegner to the Covington Woods board as our newest board member! She joined at the October meeting. I look forward to working with her and welcome the new ideas she has to positively impact our board and our community. Remember that we have monthly meetings every 2nd Monday at 7pm at the building outside the fence next to the pool. Come to the next meeting to greet Sherry!!

As always, 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 HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

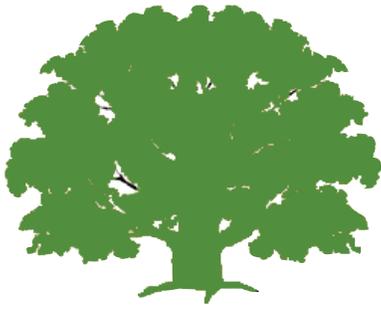
It's that time again! Bring out your best lights and decorations and join our annual contest!

3 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS

Keep an eye out for the 2016 annual assessments invoice in the mail.

4 NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Whatever you want to call it, neighborhood watch is about looking out for each other!



*Happy Holidays
and Seasons Greetings!*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

BE SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

HOLIDAY LIGHTING AND DECORATING CONTEST

Once again, we invite all of our residents to participate in the Covington Woods Annual Holiday Lighting and Decorations Contest. We have had many beautiful results in the past and we hope this year will be no exception.



CATEGORIES

BEST LIGHTING THEME

BEST CHILDRENS THEME

BEST RELIGIOUS THEME

MOST BEAUTIFUL

OVERALL BEST

We ask that everyone have all your lights turned on between the hours of 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. on the evening of Saturday, December 19th, for the judges. A sign will be placed in the winning yards and winners will be announced in the quarterly newsletter as well as the Covington Woods website.

Get some friendly competition going with your neighbors and let's see how difficult you can make it on the judges. We look forward to your creations with great anticipation!

We wish you safe and happy holidays!

Holiday shopping season is in full swing. Whether you are headed to the mall or boutique shops, here are a few tips to keep you safe this holiday season:

- Be aware of your surroundings. Look for suspicious persons, etc. when you are in any area.
- Stay off the phone while shopping or walking to/from your car. This distraction makes you a target to thieves.
- Remember where you parked your car. Being unable to locate a car can cause you undue confusion and stress that may present you as a better target to a criminal. *Note* take a picture of your parking location (section number and mall entrance) on your cell phone. This will make it easier to find your vehicle later.
- Park in an area that is well lit. Keep in mind if you are shopping at a mall, the time that the store closes from which you entered the mall. This may keep you from having to walk unnecessary distances to your car if you find the store has closed earlier than you expected.
- Shop in pairs at the very least. Take a friend or family member shopping with you. There is something to be said for safety in numbers.
- As you return to your car, make sure to keep your car key in your hand.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for

purchases with checks, credit, charge or debit cards. Gentlemen, carry cash and wallets in a front pocket to reduce your chances of having your pocket picked.

- Don't leave phones, purses, CD cases, GPS or any other item of value in your parked car where they can be seen. Always take these items with you or conceal them in the trunk BEFORE you reach your shopping destination.
- Don't leave purchased merchandise in your parked car.
- Only make one trip to your car. By making multiple trips to place merchandise in the trunk, it makes your vehicle a target for burglary. Thieves are watching!

Mall shopping is not the only place to remember safety! Shopping online also has its dangers:

- Make sure you have current anti-virus installed on your computer.
- Never save your information on your computer and don't save your passwords.
- Know the company's refund and return policies before ordering. Are there restocking fees? Do you have to pay shipping costs on returns?
- Do not rely on pictures of a product on a website. Read the description and check model numbers, if applicable.



SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS FROM THE BOARD!

If you would like to receive email notifications from the Board, please sign-up on the website at www.covingtonwoods.net by clicking on Email Notifications on the top menu and completing the sign-up form found on the subsequent page.

REQUEST A FREE EVALUATION!



Water Irrigation System Evaluations (W.I.S.E. Guys) is a program designed to promote efficient water use to save water. The City of Sugar Land contracts with W.I.S.E. Guys to provide Sugar Land residents with a free comprehensive evaluation of their irrigation system. A licensed irrigator will evaluate residential irrigation systems that are already installed, make recommendations to improve the performance of the system and advise the resident on the most efficient watering schedule. www.SugarLandTX.gov/WiseGuys.



2016 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS

Please keep an eye out for the 2016 annual assessment invoice. In compliance with the governing documents, an increase of 3% has been implemented. The annual assessment is due on or before the first day of January 2016, and is determined delinquent if not received by January 31, 2016.

All past due accounts will be assessed interest at a rate of 10% per annum, along with a \$10.00 per month collection fee after January 31, 2016 until paid in full. Please note it is possible to pay the annual assessment in monthly installments as long as the final payment is received on or before January 31, 2016. We accept payments online from your checking or savings account. Please visit our website at www.mascapei.com for more details.

Your assessments are what allow your Board of Directors to maintain your community. This includes, but is not limited to, maintenance of the common areas, as well as other operational costs of the Association (utilities, insurance, management and recreational activities). They also allow for improvements to the common areas and funding of reserves, all of which assist in maintaining the equity in one of your most important investments; your home.

We continue to solicit your support and active involvement in your Association. We, your Covington Woods Community Association, Inc., Board of Directors, along with your help, can continue to make our neighborhood an even more pleasant place to live.

DID YOU KNOW? HOUSE WATCH PROGRAM

The House Watch Program is designed to provide Sugar Land homeowners a means of having their residence checked periodically by an officer when they are away from home on vacation or an extended weekend. In order to participate in the program, the homeowner either stops by the Police Department or completes an on-line form. In order for a residence to be placed on a house watch, the following criteria should be met: Your house must be located within Sugar Land city limits. The residence must be vacated for more than 72 hours. No other people may

be going into or around the residence while it is unoccupied. The occupant must have established residency at the location. The residence may not remain on the watch for more than three weeks.

The program is intended to be a deterrent to illegal entry of the residence. It is a good crime prevention tool. The department cannot, however, place homes which are vacant or are subject to be shown by a real estate agent on house watch. For more information, visit: www.sugarlandtx.gov

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!



We recently added survey functionality to our website where we can conduct short surveys of the community to receive resident feedback. We would like your feedback on use of our pools, tennis courts and parks. The surveys are short and will only take a few minutes of your time to complete. We would appreciate your feedback. To complete the survey, just go to the community's website (www.covingtonwoods.net) and select Surveys from the top menu. Once you are on the Survey's page, just make your selections and click on Submit. Thanks!

SPECIAL THANKS TO JOE SINCLAIR

The Board would like to extend a special word of thanks to Joe Sinclair for his time served on the Board. Thank you for your contributions to the community Joe!

THANK YOU!





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FAST FACTS ABOUT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

- Over 40 million crimes are committed every year and the number is still growing.
- There can't be a law enforcement officer on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat this social crisis.
- By cooperating with each other and the police, people can help fight crime in their community the most effective way - before it begins!
- Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime in their communities.

You may hear it called NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, Home Alert, Citizen Crime Watch or Block Watch. The idea is the same: Neighbors looking out for each other!

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