

Trail Writer

The Official Publication of the
Winchester Trails
Maintenance Assoc. Social Committee

Volume 6, Issue 1
www.winchestertrails.com

January 2010

Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow!

Winchester Trails residents enjoyed a rare December snow storm. What a joy it was!



Happy New Year!

I trust you had wonderful Christmas Holiday. We all look forward to the New Year with all the promise it brings.

The Board of Directors renewed our contract with the Harris County Sheriff to continue with the contract deputy program. We are fortunate to have an experienced officer like Andy and I hope you continue to make him feel welcome in our neighborhood. He is certainly helping with security, but we need to maintain our diligence, as we have had some nuisance crimes in the Trails. As I have asked before, please report any suspicious activities to the Sheriff's Department.

We continue to see progress on the Park Plan as more trees and landscaping have been planted along West Road. It certainly adds to our community. In the coming months, the Board will be considering the pool season as well as renovations to the tennis courts. We have had to make several repairs recently to the pool in the pump room as well as repairs to the sprinkler system at the entrance.

As a reminder, the next Board meeting will be Wednesday, February 3 in the clubhouse. We hope to see you there.

Until next month...

Happy
New Year!

Winchester Trails

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Jim Malone is the security representative for WT.
His email can be found on the Security page of the Trails website.

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Jeff Ottmann, Vice President..... 281-469-1465
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To ask questions or report problems concerning the
Winchester Trails Subdivision, call
PLANNED COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT
281-870-0585

Sheriff, Non-911 Calls 713-221-6000

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WASTE MANAGEMENT of TEXAS, INC

Recycling Collection Information West Harris County MUD No. 9

WM will collect the following items:

Paper Products: Newsprint, this includes the inserts that come within the paper. Collection includes magazines, envelopes, telephone books, junk mail, cereal boxes (not the internal liners), computer paper, small cardboard boxes that have been flattened or other paper products that may be torn by hand. No paper products that are contaminated with food residue are permitted.

Plastic containers:All post consumer plastic containers that have the international recycling logo imprinted on the bottom of the container with #1 and #2 inside the recycling logo may be recycled. Food containers must be thoroughly rinsed. Please flatten your milk jugs to save space in the recycling bin.

Aluminum and Metal cans:These post consumer cans must be thoroughly rinsed. Please flatten the larger can(s) to save space in the bin.

Why rinse the containers?The recycling/sorting process is not set up to handle food residue. Additionally, ants, wasp and bees are attracted to the leftover food residue. Materials infested with these insects will not be collected as they pose a health and safety risk to our crews.

What about glass or other materials? Items may be added or deleted in the collection based upon whether or not there is a viable market for those items. At this time, there is no viable market for glass collected in the curbside program.

Collection Schedule: Each week on TUESDAY. Should a scheduled holiday fall on Tuesday, no recycling will be collected until the next regularly scheduled recycling collection day.

All recyclables will be collected from the 18-gallon recycling bin provided by WM at the curb. Excess recyclable materials may be contained within an additional container of less than 40-gallon capacity provided by you, but clearly marked as RECYCLE ONLY.

Please contact the Waste Management Customer Service Department; Monday – Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. and Saturdays 8:00 am until noon at 713-686-6666 or email at houston@wmservice@wm.com to order the delivery of the recycling bin if you do not currently have one. The bin remains the property of WM. Replacement bins due to theft or abuse, would require a direct replacement fee to WM of \$8.00

Additional, direct response services available to you are: Sharps Disposal by Mail at www.wastemd.com, Pack Rat Storage System at 1-800-PACK-RAT Promotion Code 072524 and Lampracker Commercial and Residential CFL Recycling Mail Back at www.lampracker.com Code 072524.

Yard of The Month

Congratulations to Both Our Winners!



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Fernando and Teresa Saldana
10407 Great Plains Lane



BACK SECTION
Bill and Cathy Stolte
8903 Bent Spur Lane

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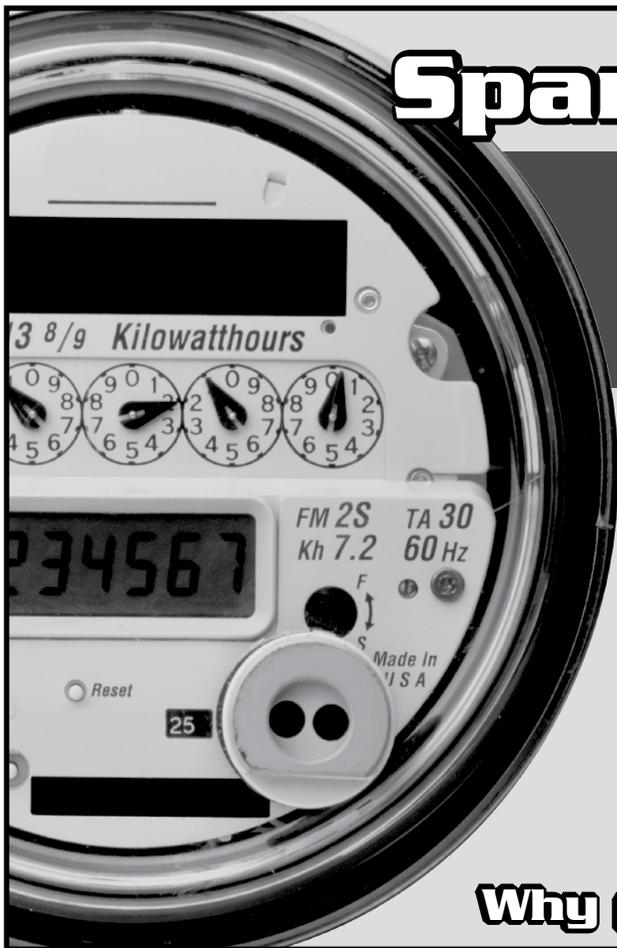
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GREEN THUMB CORNER

The weather outside may be cold and uninviting but there's plenty of work to be done out there, and we could probably benefit from a little exercise if we relaxed too much over the holiday season. This is the best month for working with trees (planting, moving, pruning and spraying), and it's also a good time for soil cultivation and general clean-up and maintenance.

Arbor Day is intended to encourage the planting of trees and in the Houston region it's observed on the third Friday in January. But any time this month (or next) is ideal for planting new trees or transplanting existing ones. Be sure to choose a reasonable location, taking into account the growth habit and eventual size of the tree, and don't plant too close to the house slab. Also remember the importance of good drainage and don't feed a new tree in its first season of growth, except for a little root stimulator.

Fruit trees should be planted this month, and established trees should be pruned to eliminate any dead growth and to open up the center for light and air circulation. Other trees and woody shrubs may also be pruned, except for the spring bloomers where you might be cutting off this season's potential blooms. Crape myrtles can tolerate heavy pruning – cut them back to a few “broomstick” stems if you wish, or groom to any shape you desire. Nandinas and similar shrubs can be pruned by cutting out unwanted canes at the base.

The fruit trees (and others) can be sprayed with dormant oil this month to eliminate scale and other insect pests that may have over-wintered in the bark. The “dormant” label refers to the fact that the oil is applied when the tree is dormant, and the oil is not an insecticide but kills the bugs by suffocation.

Take the opportunity to fill in any low spots in the lawn while they are easy to spot during this period when the grass is dormant. Use weed-free top soil or sand and don't bury the grass too deeply at each application – try to leave the tips of the grass blades sticking out to encourage it to grow through.

Azaleas and camellias may be moved, and bare-root roses may be planted. Hard pruning of established roses is usually left until the middle of February. Keep these and other shrubs moist and well-mulched to guard against winter drought or freeze damage.

Prepare new beds and redesign existing ones, correcting any drainage problems, and cultivate with gypsum (to break up the clay) and lots of organic material. Prepare vegetable beds as soon as you can and allow time for them to settle so that you can be ready to plant cool-weather varieties next month.

And while you're out in the garden don't forget our feathered friends – they will appreciate some food and especially fresh water at this time of year.

Phil Richards

Prich8935@aol.com

“What Happens in Vegas ...”

The 2010 S.N.A.P. (Senior Night After Prom) Committee of Cypress Creek High School

will host a Las Vegas-style Parent Night Out on Sunday, February 21st, 2010 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. This fun evening, featuring dinner, casino games, silent and live auctions will be held at Parkway Chevrolet, 25500 Hwy. 249. Tickets are \$25 per person, and include dinner, \$3,000 casino money and 2 drink tickets. The event is open to everyone – being a Cy Creek parent is not required. For casino night tickets and/or contributions, please contact Jeannette Harris at 713-560-6666 or jharrissix@comcast.net.

A 2010 Cougar Blue Camaro will also be raffled off during the casino night in support of S.N.A.P. Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. You do not have to be present to win. Contact Mike Wilson at 832-496-2748 or michael.wilson@exxonmobil.com for raffle tickets.

Details about the 2010 S.N.A.P. are at www.cycckreeksnap.org.




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Association Seeks Treasurer

The Houston Dog Park Association is seeking candidates for the Treasurer position on our 5 seat Board of Directors. We are a small 501c3 NFP consisting of volunteers who are passionate about dog parks and responsible dog ownership. HDPA has been incorporated for over 10 years and was the main catalyst that got dog parks started in Houston, beginning with Millie Bush Park in 2002. We have been inactive the last few years and are currently reviving the organization to advocate for dog parks more actively. We each spend a few hours a week working to educate about dog parks, responsible dog ownership, advocating for dog parks that need improvement, and promoting the need for more dog parks.

We have a book keeper volunteer that is a CPA. The ideal candidate would be able to attend one monthly meeting of the Board at 7 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. You will also attend the quarterly Membership meetings held at 3 pm on the third Sunday of the month that begins each quarter. The next one is in January. We also hold about one event per month on average to raise funds and awareness and we ask our Board to try to attend these events as their time permits.

Please submit your resume and experience for consideration. Please include a paragraph telling us why you would be a good candidate.

We are seeking an experienced NFP Treasurer to plan and manage the small yearly budget for HDPA and oversee the book keeper as well as maintaining and advising on HDPA's tax and nonprofit status and filings. Someone with training or knowledge of NFP budget and issues or direct NFP experience is preferred.

Upcoming Events *January & February*

January 1

Happy New Year!

January 4 - 5

CFISD Student Holiday

January 18

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
and CFISD Student Holiday

January 20

Inauguration Day

February 2

Groundhog Day

February 3

Maintenance Board Meeting, 7 PM

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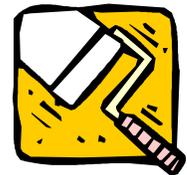
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US Olympian to Speak at Northwest Flyers Registration Breakfast on February 6th

The Northwest Flyers Track Club will host its annual free information / registration breakfast on Saturday, February 6, 2010, for all boys and girls, and their parents, interested in joining for the 2010 track season. The breakfast starts at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum located at 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

The breakfast is the annual opportunity for youth athletes to register for the 2010 summer track season, and to meet the Northwest Flyers coaches and staff, and other new and returning athletes. The event will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic team.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (ages 6 -18) track organization, affiliated with USA Track & Field (USATF), that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and sanctioned "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, discus, shot put and javelin. The Northwest Flyers has approximately 285 members, boys and girls. The club was founded 23 years ago by Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development

of youth track & field in the Northwest Houston area.

The Northwest Flyers is a member of the "Win with Integrity" program, a partnership between USATF and the American College of Sports Medicine. "Win with Integrity" brings elite track & field athletes and school-aged kids together to promote healthy lifestyles, keeping active, and living with integrity through the sport of track & field.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org> or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or linette.roach@sbcglobal.net.

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to Celebrate?*

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Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

					1			3
	1				2			6
	7	6						
	9							8
				4		5		
			3		5		1	
				9			3	1
			1			7		
		1	8	2	3			6

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