

Kleinwood Krier

*Official Publication
of the Kleinwood
Homeowners Association*

June 2014

Volume 4, Issue 6

STAY SAFE IN THE WATER

Swimming is one of the many joys of summer, and we hope you're able to make good use of the association's pool. While we want to make sure all our residents and guests have fun in and around the water, our top priority is safety. Please take note of the association pool rules, and follow them to help keep everyone safe.

Pool rules promote safety, but safety is largely up to you: it's important to take precautions and be prepared for emergencies.

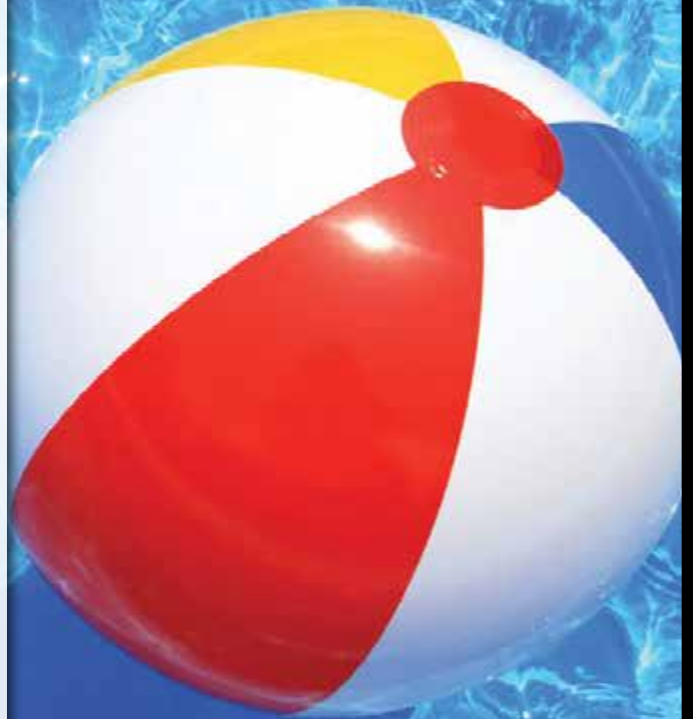
Make sure you, your family and your guests know how to swim properly. If you don't, there are plenty of swimming classes for people of all ages.

Always supervise children while they're around the pool, no matter how well they can swim. It only takes one misstep for someone to get hurt.

Take note where the reach pole, emergency phone and life preservers are located in the pool area.

Most importantly, consider learning CPR if you haven't already. This simple life-saving technique could save a life should an accident occur.

There's plenty of fun to be had at the pool, and knowing how to stay safe in the water will help make this a great summer. For more safety tips, go to www.poolsafely.gov.



KLEINWOOD

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NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATORS

Jeff Gobbel, Message Board Coord. jeffgob1@sbcglobal.net
 Jeff Gobbell, Pool Liaison 281-593-5405
 Mona Currey, Newsletter Editor..... mona@aegis-web.com
 Ronnie Brod, Tennis Liaison 281-370-9200
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*The "Take Care of Texas"
Guide to Yard Care*

PLANT SELECTION AND CARE

Using native and well-adapted plants is one of the easiest ways to create a low-maintenance and environmentally sound yard.

The many advantages of using native plants include using less water, reducing the need for soil modification, and using little or no fertilizer. They are less susceptible to pest problems, and are tolerant of stressful environments such as drought.

Incorporate a variety of plants to provide food and cover for a variety of living things. Diversity also minimizes damage from pests because many of them attack only one plant species. Dense plantings can provide shade that keeps out invading weeds.

Avoid frequent or deep cultivation, which can damage plant roots, dry out the soil, disturb healthy soil organisms, and bring weed seeds to the surface where they can germinate. Cover all bare soil between plants with a solid mulch layer.

Visit www.KeepCyFairBeautiful.org to access free "Take Care of Texas" publications and a Guide to Native Plants



Class Reunion!

Spring Branch Senior High Class of 1984 is happy to announce that our 30 year Class Reunion will take place on June 21, 2014. We are looking for classmates! For more information, please email the Reunion Committee at springbranchclassof1984@gmail.com! Please don't delay, email us today!

SHALOM

Hi Jewish Community. Let's get connected! To share Shabbat dinners... Chanukah parties... Passover Seders... or simply get together! Interested? E-mail us at info@shalomcypress.org or visit our website at www.shalomcypress.org.

Cypress-Tomball Democrats

All are welcome to attend the meeting and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month at Rudy's Grill & Cantina - 11760 Grant Road, Cypress, TX 77429. For more information, visit the website at www.cytomdems.com; contact Glenn Etienne at cytomdems@yahoo.com; or "Like" the club on Facebook.

One of Our Neighbors Chairs Our Precinct

Sharon Jennings was recently elected to serve as precinct chair of our Precinct 623. Ms Jennings says, "It is also my privilege to assist residents with registering to vote. I have been certified to register voters in Harris county." Ms. Jennings is available via email for questions at sjenni01@gmail.com. Congratulations Ms. Jennings!

NORTHWEST HOUSTON BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN



Business women seeking to network with other professional women are invited join the Northwest Houston Business & Professional Women (BPW). We are HIP – Healthy. Inspiring. Powerful. Join us for lunch on May 22 at Northgate Country Club, 17110 Northgate Forest Dr, Houston, TX 77068. Deb Evans, President at Franchise Foundry will speak on “Using Social Media to Position Yourself and Your Business”. Register by May 19 at <http://nwhoustonbpw.com/>.



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This Neglected Home Repair Can Cost You \$100 or More a Year

This article was originally published on HouseLogic.com. | Source: EPA

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says one in 10 homes has a leak that wastes at least 90 gallons of water per day. Given the average cost of water, that adds up to more than \$100 a year.

“Easy-to-fix household leaks waste more than 1 trillion gallons of water annually nationwide, which is equal to the amount of water used by more than 11 million homes,” said EPA Acting Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water Nancy Stoner.

In just 10 minutes, you can give your home a water checkup. Start by looking at winter water bills and fixtures for water waste, then twist and tighten pipe and hose connections. Consider replacing broken or inefficient fixtures with WaterSense-labeled models, adjusting water pressure, and softening well water. If winter water usage for a family of four exceeds 12,000 gallons per month, it’s likely your home has a leak problem. Here are some easy tips for finding and fixing it:

Check toilets for silent leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank at the back and, if after 10 minutes color shows up in the bowl before flushing, it may be time to make an easy repair and replace the flapper.

Check outdoor plumbing and hoses for damage from winter frost and tighten connections at the water source.

For in-ground sprinkler systems, have a professional certified through a WaterSense-labeled program inspect sprinkler heads and pipes for signs of leakage.

Check additional plumbing and outdoor fixtures for leaks. They may just need a quick twist or pipe tape.



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Avoid These Landscaping Mistakes to Improve the Look of Your Home

This article was written by Lisa Kaplan Gordon and originally published on HouseLogic.com.

Clumsy, neglected, and hodgepodge landscaping hurts your home's curb appeal. Even more important, bad landscaping is a downer that hurts the way you see and enjoy your home. Don't let bad landscaping happen to you. Here are the seven landscaping mistakes that bust, rather than boost, your home's curb appeal.

1. PLANTING WITHOUT A PLAN

Some landscaping choices, such as a line of begonias, will last a season; others, like trees, can last a lifetime. So, take time to plan and plot a yard that gives you maximum enjoyment and curb appeal. For the design challenged, landscape architects are worth the investment (\$300-\$2,500 depending on yard size). They will render elevations of your future yard, and provide plant lists so you can install landscaping yourself.

2. TOO MUCH TOGETHERNESS

Yes, planting in clusters looks way better than installing single plants, soldier-like, throughout your yard. But make sure your groups of perennials, shrubs and trees have plenty of room to spread or they will look choked and overgrown. Also, overcrowded landscaping competes with itself for food and water, putting the clusters at risk, especially during drought. Google how high and wide the mature plant will be and then combine that info with the spacing suggestions on planting labels. At first, garden beds of young plants will look too airy and prairie-like. But within three years, your beds will fill in with room to grow. Remember: First year it sleeps, second it creeps, third it leaps.

3. ZONING OUT

Don't be seduced by catalog plants that look gorgeous on paper but aren't suited to your hardiness zone (see <http://www.houselogic.com/blog/gardens/hardiness-zone-map/>). You will wind up with plants that die prematurely or demand winter covers, daily watering and other intensive efforts to keep them alive and well. Check plant labels to see which hardiness zones are best for your plants.

4. MORE OF THE SAME

Resist the design temptation to carpet-bomb your yard with your favorite plant or shrub, which will create a boring, monochromatic landscape. Worse, your yard will look great when

your favorite flowers bloom, then will look drab the rest of the year. Mix things up and strive for four-season color. For example, combine spring-blooming azaleas with summer-blooming roses and autumn-blazing shrubs such as burning bushes (*Euonymus alatus*). For winter color, try the red osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*), a hardy shrub that sports bright-red branches in winter.

5. REFUSING TO BURY YOUR DEAD

Nothing wrecks curb appeal faster than rows of dead or dying shrubs and perennials. Quickly remove your dearly departed landscaping from your front and side yards. Spent plants that lived their natural lives are good candidates for a compost pile (if you grind them first, they'll decompose faster). But if your landscaping succumbed to disease or infestation, it's best to inter them in black plastic bags, then add them to the trash.

6. WEEDS GONE WILD

Weeds not only wreck the look of your landscaping, they compete with pricey vegetation for water and food. Weeds also can shorten the life of brick, stone and pavers by growing in mortar cracks. The best way to stop weeds is to spread a pre-emergent about three weeks before weed seeds typically germinate. If you can't stop them from growing, at least get rid of weeds before they flower and send a zillion weed seeds throughout your yard.

7. CONTAIN THOSE CRITTERS

Deer, rabbits and other backyard pests think your landscaping is an all-you-can-eat buffet, leaving you with denuded branches and topless perennials. If you've got a critter problem:

- Plant deer- or rabbit-resistant varieties. Your local extension agent can provide a list of green things critters won't eat in your area.
- Install an electric fence around landscaping you want to protect.
- Spray plants with critter repellent. After a hard rain, spray again.





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