



Steeplechase

NEWSLETTER



The Official Newsletter of The Steeplechase Community Improvement Association, Inc. and Steeplechase



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

STEEPLECHASE SADDLEBOUGH PARK

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016

Plan on joining your neighbors as Steeplechase promotes crime prevention and "neighbors looking out for neighbors." Residents are encouraged to turn on their porch lights, lock their doors, and spend the evening with your neighbors at the Saddlebough Park. You'll have the opportunity to receive great information on crime prevention and shake the hand of the brave men and women of the Harris County Sheriff's Office that

protect our neighborhood. There's no more effective crime prevention tool than one neighbor looking out for another; and communicating with the law enforcement officers that protect your neighborhood. Plan to attend and keep an eye out for additional information as the plans for National Night Out are finalized. Volunteers to help with this event are always welcomed!

STEEPLECHASE

IMPORTANT

Telephone Numbers



Emergency.....	911
Sheriff's Dept.....	713-221-6000
Cy-Fair Fire Dept.....	911
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Animal Control.....	281-999-3191
Center Point (Street lights).....	713-207-2222
http://cnp.centerpointenergy.com/outage	
Neighborhood Crime Watch.....	SteeplechaseSecurity@gmail.com
Library.....	281-890-2665
Post Office.....	713-937-6827
Steeplechase Community Center.....	281-586-1700
Deed Restriction Issues (CMC).....	281-586-1700
Water/Sewer.....	713-405-1750
Architectural Control (CMC).....	281-586-1700
Trash Pick-up (Best Trash, LLC) (Wed. & Sat.).....	281-313-BEST
Harris Co. Pct. 4 Road Maintenance.....	281-353-8424
Harris Co. MUD #168.....	hcmud168board@gmail.com
Community Events.....	281-586-1700
Clubhouse Rentals: Private Parties and Community Events (Jinnie Kelley).....	832-922-8030
Traffic Initiative.....	281-290-2100
Private Pool Parties.....	281-446-5003
NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER	
Peel, Inc. (Advertising).....	kelly@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444
Articles.....	sjohnston@chaparralmanagement.com

Community Center Contacts

Community Maintenance Concerns	
Chaparral Management Company.....	281-586-1700
Clubhouse Rentals	
Private Parties and Community Events (Jinnie Kelley).....	832-922-8030
Pool Company Contact	
Aquatic Management of Houston.....	281-446-5003
www.houston-pmg.com	
Board Member Contact	
Chaparral Management Company.....	281-586-1700

Schools

Emmott Elementary	281-897-4500
Campbell Middle School	281-897-4300
Cy-Ridge High School	281-807-8000

Contact the Management Company

www.steeplechasecia.com
or by phone 281-586-1700



Steeplechase Board Announcements

Mike Cirillo resigned and Wade Wnuk was appointed to fill his term 2017.

The Board is keeping the same offices this year:

- Bill Kuschmeider-President
- Wade Wnuk-Vice President
- Robert Kaechler-Treasurer
- Jim Clarke-Secretary
- Mike Young-Director
- Otto Maresh-Director 2019
- New: Neva Hall-Director. 2019'

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AHFC Junior Hurricanes (JHSL) Registration Now For Fall 2016 Open

The Junior Hurricanes Soccer League (JHSL) is led by professional United States Soccer Federation (USSF) licensed staff and is designed for boys & girls who want to play and have fun in a safe and developmentally appropriate environment. The JHSL program is being offered at multiple locations and in conjunction with CFSA at the Schiel Road Complex. To learn more about each location and to register please visit www.albionhurricanes.org.

For those wishing only to train, join us in Katy for AHFC Friday Night Academy. Visit Katy Youth Soccer to register for this Friday Fun Program.

AHFC is proud to partner with New Territory and offer New Territory Thursday Night Academy, a 5-week Skills Program.

Email us at jhsl@albionhurricanes.org for more information or questions.

Office Phone: 713-939-7473



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What to Do in the First 24 Hours After a Flood

After flood waters subside, document, work with your insurer, and clean up safely.

Whether a flood is caused by ground water, falling water, or home water system malfunction, there are some best practices you'll need to employ within the first 24 hours after the flood to ensure the safety of your home and family and give you the best outcome possible with your insurance company

Avoid additional risks

If the flood was serious enough for you to leave your home, be sure you stay safe upon your return. The Federal Emergency Management Agency warns that you should check for any visible structural damage, such as warping, loosened or cracked foundation elements, cracks, and holes before entering the home and contact utility companies if you suspect damage to water, gas, electric, and sewer lines.

In addition, it's important to have a working flashlight and turn off all water and electrical sources within the home, says Dr. Maurice A. Ramirez, author of *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Disaster Preparedness*. Even if the power isn't operational, it's a good idea to go to your fuse box and turn off the main, plus all of the individual fuse connections. That way, if the power is reactivated, you're not at risk for mixing standing water and electricity.

Take pictures

Before you remove any water or make any repairs, fully document the damage for your insurer by taking photos or video. Digital versions are best, says Ramirez, because they can be stored electronically and easily copied. If you start removing water or making repairs before you photograph the damage, you could potentially decrease the extent of your coverage, he says.

Protect your health

Even if the water in your home is clear, it could be contaminated by sewage or household chemicals. Ramirez recommends wearing waders, hip- or waist-high waterproof boots. In addition, wear rubber gloves to remove water-damaged possessions and to avoid contaminants, Ramirez notes. Be sure to throw out any food that may have come into contact with flood waters. FEMA recommends boiling water until authorities declare the water supply is safe.

Call your insurance company

Since you should notify your insurer soon as possible after the flood, it's a good idea to keep your insurance company and local agent's phone number in your always-ready emergency bag. (Note that the NFIP works through private insurance companies, so you contact your insurer just as you would for any other type of claim). In cases where a flood has affected a region or community, your agent may be busy handling his or her own flood issues. In that case, contact the insurance company's headquarters.

Since groundwater flood damage typically isn't covered by conventional homeowners insurance policies, you'll need to work

with your insurer to determine the cause of the flood and the extent of your coverage.

Advise your insurance representative of the state of your home and any repairs you intend to do immediately. Be sure to follow the insurance company's direction about whether or not to wait for an adjuster to inspect the property before making repairs, says Ramirez. Document the damage and conversations at every stage of the process.

What can you expect in terms of time to get back to normal? It could be as little as one week if the claim and clean up is minimal to five to six months if you're working with an insurance adjuster and contractor to complete extensive repairs.

Find out if you're in a disaster area

Once a region has been officially declared a "disaster area" by government authorities, property owners have access to increased resources, including public services to protect and remediate the area. In addition, you may have access to financial assistance. Your insurance company will have additional information on this or you can contact FEMA directly.

Remove water

Once you get the OK from your insurer to remove the water, use a sump pump, available from most hardware or home supply stores for \$150 to \$500, and a wet vac (\$40 to \$130). Ramirez cautions that water is heavy—a cubic foot weight 10 lbs.—so be careful not to injure yourself, especially if you're carrying buckets of water up and down stairs. Open doors and windows to allow fresh air to circulate so long as that won't allow in more water.

Mitigate mold damage

Mold can develop within 24 to 48 hours of a flood, says Ashley Small of FEMA, so remove wet contents, including carpeting and bedding, as soon as possible. If an item has been wet for less than 48 hours, it may be salvageable. However, you'll need to decide whether it holds enough monetary or sentimental value to try to do so. And notify your insurance company before removing items to ensure that you're not affecting coverage. Always photograph the flood-soaked items.

Rugs, for example, may be dried and then cleaned professionally, which could cost \$100 to \$500 or more, depending on the size and number. Large pieces of furniture that are saturated will likely be difficult to dry effectively, and should often be discarded.

Mold growth can be controlled on surfaces by cleaning with a non-ammonia detergent or pine oil cleaner and disinfecting with a 10% bleach solution. (Caution: Never mix ammonia and bleach products, as the resulting fumes can be highly toxic.) Always test this solution on a small area of the item or area you're cleaning to be sure it doesn't cause staining or fading.

Take photographs before removing wet wallboards and baseboards

(Continued on Page 5)

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because insurers will want to see the height of any water damage to walls. Carefully poke holes at floor level in the drywall to allow water trapped behind it to escape.

You may also wish to hire a flood restoration service—you can find pros under “Flood” or “Disaster recovery” in your local phone book, or check with the Better Business Bureau, local Chamber of Commerce, or contractor recommendation sites, such as Angieslist.com or MerchantCircle.com. Look for those with Institute of Inspection, Cleaning, and Restoration Certification.

Secure the property

As the homeowner, it’s your responsibility to secure the property so that no additional damage occurs. Put boards over broken windows and secure a tarp as protection if the roof has been damaged. Again, take photographs to prove to the insurance company that you have done everything possible to protect your home against further damage.

If the home is habitable, take precautions to keep yourself and your family safe from injury. Use flashlights to move around dark rooms, for example. If the home isn’t habitable, don’t try to stay

there. Move to a shelter or alternate location. Consult your insurer to find out what provisions the company will make for temporary housing while your home is being repaired..

By GWEN MORAN has written about finance and real estate for over a decade. Her work has been in Entrepreneur, Newsweek, and The Residential Specialist. A Jersey Shore resident, she’s weathered hurricanes, Nor’easters, and one earthquake.

<https://www.houselogic.com/finances-taxes/home-insurance/what-do-first-24-hours-after-flood/>

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Kids' Running Team's Cross Country Season Starts September 6th

The Northwest Flyers Track Club Youth Cross-Country Team kicks off the fall season with registration and a mandatory orientation for parents and athletes on Tuesday, September 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at Cypress Creek High School, 9815 Grant Rd., Houston. Registration starts online September 1 at www.northwestflyers.org. Practices are held at the Cypress Creek YMCA and Spring Creek Park in Tomball.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a member program of USA Track and Field (USATF), the national governing body for track and cross country. The club is celebrating its' 30th year in the northwest Houston area. Ages 6 - 18 may participate in the team, and both beginners and experienced runners are welcome. Middle school and high school cross country athletes can also register, but should compete after their cross country season is over.

For more information contact Coach Eric Wentworth at emw185@gmail.com or 281-961-6603. Visit www.northwestflyers.org to get updates and learn more about the team.



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Responsible Pet Ownership

Conscientious pet ownership is the responsibility of all residents. If you are a pet owner, please be aware of the following:

Pets should not be allowed to be outside the confines of your property, unless they are on a leash.

Your pets should not be allowed to walk across your neighbor's yards, or into their flower gardens.

Clean up after your pet when walking with it on a leash. Carry bags with you at all times so you can remove any waste your pet may leave in your neighbor's yard, or in the common areas of your neighborhood. Carry a bottle of water to rinse down the area where your pet urinates, as to not burn the grass from the urination.

Bring your dog inside if it begins to bark excessively.

To report loose pets, contact Harris County Public Health at 281-999-3191.

To report dangerous pets or pet bites, contact the Harris County Sheriff's office at 713-221-6000.

Reminder – All cats and dogs over 3 months of age and living in unincorporated Harris County must have a current rabies vaccination and display a Harris County license tag. Failure to comply may result in fines up to \$500 per offense.



Cypress Texas Tea Party

The next meetings of the Cypress Texas Tea Party will be on:
Saturday, September 17, 2016 NOON - 2:00 PM

- Charles Blain, Empower Texans

Saturday, October 8, 2016 NOON - 2:00 PM

- Renee McGee, Judge, 337th District Court

- Debra Ibarra Mayfield, Judge, 165th District Court

The Cypress Texas Tea Party meets every three weeks on Saturday Noon until 2:00 PM at:

Spring Creek BBQ

25831 Northwest Freeway

Cypress, Texas 77429

Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/OoNjY>

A schedule of our meetings and confirmed speakers can be found at our website, www.cypressstexasteparty.org

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