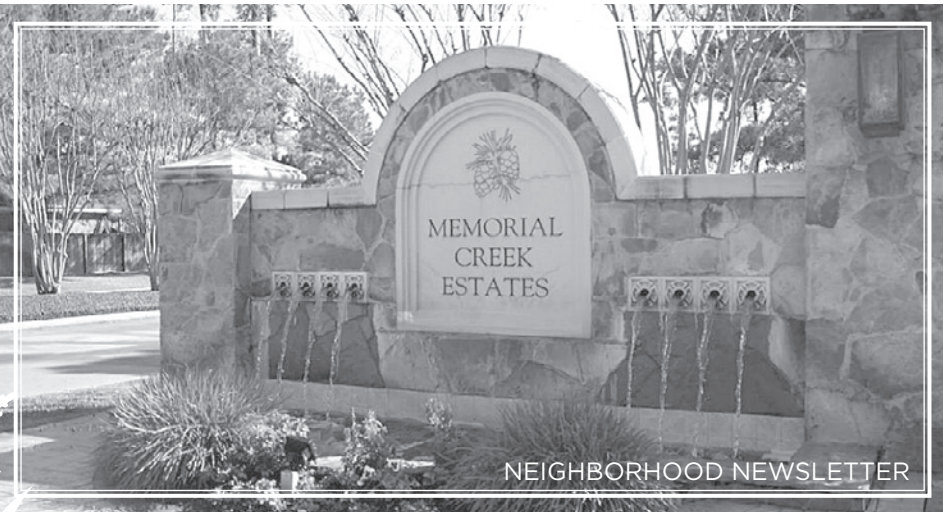


THE MEMORIAL CREEK ESTATES

Bulletin



From the Memorial Creek Estates (MCE) Board

On behalf of the Board at MCE I want to thank all those that participated in our first Community event in May. It was nice watching people interact with their neighbors and friends. That is what a community should do. I have found while living here in MCE, we have a diverse group of home owners who are all some of the nicest and friendliest people I have known. We are making improvements as we go along throughout the year, as you have seen with the fence replacement being completed in the front of the subdivision along Spring-Cypress, the entrance into the subdivision, as well as the fencing at the common area and the pool.

I have also noticed several home owners are replacing their personal fences in the neighborhood which continues to improve the looks of their property. Because of the age of the homes in the neighborhood there are many yards that require fences to be replaced as it is one of those expenses that is difficult, but is also something that needs to be done as a part of home maintenance. Some of the fences are getting older and starting to deteriorate.

On behalf of the HOA I want to thank all the property owners that spend the time and resources cleaning, weeding, trimming, replacing old items, and mowing as needed on an ongoing basis. We have recognized three property owners each month for the last two months for the example they set for the landscape and the looks of their property and homes. We will continue with acknowledging home owner efforts in maintaining the good appearance of their homes. Thank you.

As an update to all of you as home owners, our Managing Company, First Service Residential (FSR), has the responsibility to make sure all of us as home owners live up to the covenants

and Bylaws set forth by the HOA on a monthly basis. With that sometimes it becomes necessary to send letters to property owners that are in violation of the agreements we have by living in MCE as property owners. In some cases FRS finds it is necessary to turn certain legal matters over to their legal department for handling. When that happens, it becomes a huge expense for the HOA up front, but, in the end, MCE property owners will pay the legal expenses depending on how the violations are resolved. As information to each of you as property owners, the Management Company sent the following number of letters in the month of June:

- 45 Violation Letters
- 11 Reminder Notices of past violations that have not been completed
- Several Letters that were sent for nonpayment of HOA yearly assessments.

Many of these will be turned over to a legal team as needed. In closing I want to remind all of us that we are responsible for the up keep of our property and the cost that comes with it by living in this nice area, let us all do our part to keep those obligations and be the best home owners that we can be. Thank you



Memorial Creek Estates Bulletin

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

ANIMAL CONTROL

281-999-3191

NON-EMERGENCY PCT 4 CONSTABLE

281-376-3472

REPORTING A STREETLIGHT OUTAGE

713-207-2222

Have pole number available

**IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED POOL CARDS,
PLEASE EMAIL contactus.tx@fsresidential.com**



Like us on
Facebook

**Memorial Creek
Estates
Facebook**

Did you know we have a Facebook Page! We are the "Unofficial Memorial Creek Estates" Stay in the know between newsletters.

Trash and Recycling

Our trash days are Tuesday and Friday with Friday being Recycle day as well. We are able to recycle glass now but please do not recycle paper towels, toilet paper, or paper milk cartons.

**Monthly
HOA
meetings**
**3rd
Thursday
6:30 pm**

6900 Crescent Clover
Spring, TX 77379
(This fire station is located
in Gleannloch Farms)

HEATSTROKE SAFETY

From Klein Volunteer Fire Department

<http://kleinfiredept.com/public-education/safety-tips/heatstroke-safety-2>

It is HOT out in Houston for the next few months. Please remember to never leave a child (or pet) in a non-running vehicle for any length of time. Unfortunately, heatstroke incidents are usually accidents that happen due to a change in routine. Communicate, communicate, communicate if there is going to be a change in routine!

Never leave a child alone in a car.



A Avoid Heatstroke

Avoid heatstroke-related injury and death by never leaving a child alone in a car, not even for a minute. And make sure to keep your car locked when you're not inside so kids don't get in on their own.



C Create Reminders

Keep a stuffed animal or other memento in your child's car seat when it's empty, and move it to the front seat as a visual reminder when your child is in the back seat. Or place and secure your phone, briefcase or purse in the backseat when traveling with your child.



T Take Action

If you see a child alone in a car, call 911. Emergency personnel want you to call. They are trained to respond to these situations.

**SAFE
KIDS
WORLDWIDE**

Proud Program Supporter
GENERAL MOTORS

SPLISH SPLASH IT'S THE END OF SUMMER POOL BASH

AUGUST 18
7PM-9PM

*Bring an appetizer
to share*

Most popular dish will be featured in our
next newsletter!!!



Ice cream and Utensils
provided by HOA

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Yes, next month school will begin for many of our students and now is a good time to begin thinking about steps that can be taken to ensure the safety of our children.

We would like to share some suggestions to all the drivers out there to not only better prepare you as drivers, but hopefully make our roadways safer for our children this school year.

1. All drivers need to recognize the special safety needs of pedestrians, especially our children. Generally, pedestrians have the right-of-way at all intersections. However, regardless of the rules of the road or right-of-way, you as a driver, are obligated to exercise great care and extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians with your vehicle.
2. Drivers should not block crosswalks when stopped at a red light. Blocking the crosswalk forces our children to walk around the vehicle and puts them in a dangerous situation.
3. In a school zone, when the warning flashers are blinking you must stop and yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a marked crosswalk or at an intersection with no marked crosswalk.
4. Pay attention to the speed limits around schools. The speed limits are lowered around schools where children normally walk and cross roads to get to the schools.
5. Always stop when directed to do so by a school crossing patrol guard or designated patrol officer.
6. Children are the least predictable pedestrians and the most difficult to see. Take extra care to look out for children not only in school zones, but also in residential areas, playgrounds and parks.
7. Don't honk your horn, rev your engine, or do anything to rush or scare a pedestrian in front of your car, even if you have the legal right-of-way.
8. It is against State Law to pass a school bus with the red flashing lights on, loading or unloading children. (If a roadway is divided with a physical barrier, the opposite direction roadway may proceed with caution) Traffic behind the school bus traveling in the same direction MUST stop.
9. School buses use yellow flashing lights to alert motorists that they are preparing to stop to load or unload children.
10. The area 10 feet around a school bus is where children are in danger of being hit. Stop your vehicle far enough from the bus to allow children necessary space to safely enter or exit the bus.
11. Be alert. Children are unpredictable. Children walking to or from their bus are usually very comfortable with their surroundings. This makes them more likely to take risks, ignore hazards, or fail to look both ways when crossing the street.
12. Never pass a stopped school bus on the right that is loading or unloading. It is illegal and could have tragic consequences.

13. Lastly, please remember not to talk or text on cell phones in a school zone, it is illegal and can distract the driver from seeing pedestrians.

From the office of

Mark Herman, Constable - <http://www.constablepct4.com/>

SPECIFIC TO TEXAS

An operator on a highway having separate roadways is not required to stop:

1. For a school bus that is on a different roadway; or
2. If on a controlled-access highway, for a school bus that is stopped:
 - A) in a loading zone that is a part of or adjacent to the highway; and
 - B) where pedestrians are not permitted to cross the roadway.
3. A highway is considered to have separate roadways only if the highway has roadways separated by an intervening space on which operation of vehicles is not permitted, a physical barrier, or a clearly indicated dividing section constructed to impede vehicular traffic; and
4. A highway is not considered to have separate roadways if the highway has roadways separated only by a left turn lane.

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/TN/htm/TN.545.htm#545.066>

Additional information from the National Highway and Transportation and Safety Administration IT'S THE LAW

Every one of the 50 States has a law making it illegal to pass a school bus with its red lights flashing and stop-arm extended that is stopped to load or unload students. However, some motorists simply choose to ignore the law.

- They might be coming toward the bus, decide that no students are crossing the road, and just keep going.
- They might be behind the bus, pull into the left lane, and go around the bus.
- They might be behind the bus, pull onto the shoulder, and pass the bus on the right.

All States require the traffic in both directions to stop on undivided highways when students are getting on or off a school bus. While wording varies from State to State, generally the law requires the following: The school bus driver activates flashing yellow lights to indicate the school bus is preparing to stop to load or unload students. At this point, motorists should slow down and prepare to stop. The school bus driver activates flashing red lights and extends the stop arm to indicate the school bus has stopped and students are getting on or off. At this point, motorists should stop.

State law varies in what is required on a divided highway and what constitutes a divided highway. However, in all cases on divided highways, traffic behind the bus must stop.

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/school-bus-safety>

Memorial Creek Estates Bulletin

Memorial Creek Estates

Yard of the Month

Congratulations to the July 2018 Yard of the Month (YOM) award, Eve and Martin!!

The Memorial Creek Estates (MCE) Yard of the Month (YOM) selections for July 2018 are as follows: The YOM award is given to Eve and Martin, with YOM Honorable Mentions to Cindy and Allen, and YOM Honorable Mention to Siva Gandu. Please know that it is only coincidental that the YOM award moved only one house down the Memorial Grove Street between the June and July award.

Each of the outstanding YOM selections illustrates how beautiful a yard can be when using primarily greenery in the form of shrubs and hedges and maintaining a well-kept yard with trimmed trees and hedges, and by removing unsightly weeds. A little color through the use of flowering plants can make the landscaping more attractive; however, flowering plants are not necessary to create a pleasing and attractive yard. Homes are evaluated based on overall attractiveness of the yard and home and only those in compliance with the HOA by-laws are considered.

For example, healthy grass with no bare spots or excessive weeds that is mowed and edged with grass around foundations and fences trimmed. A unified, simple and balanced landscape design. Neat and natural. Plantings that are in scale with the surroundings and are limited to a few different types of plants rather than too many plants which may confuse the eye and create a crowded yard. And where the walkways and driveways are clean and free of debris.

All of the above steps helps maintain and/or increase our property values.

The YOM committee reviews potential YOM selections during the last three or four days of each month, with the signs being placed in the yards on the first of each month.

Be sure to drive or walk by each of the awarded YOM homes and if you see the homeowners, offer congratulations.

Photos top to bottom: Yard of the Month Eve and Martin, YOM Honorable Mention Cindy and Allen, YOM Honorable Mention Siva Gandu



BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

HOKULIA SHAVE ICE - 3540 Rayford Rd. Spring, TX 77386 - Open daily 12-8p - Starting June (located@HEB Spring Market Pharmacy entrance). Authentically Hawaiian! Buy 1 Get 1 Shave Ice-equal/lesser value FREE! Now Serving...Hawaiian Ice Cream! Text aloha32 to 85775 for specials! Exp 7/31/18

Memorial Creek Estates Bulletin

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LAWN CARE TIPS

Mowing – Raise lawn mower blades to cut 3 inches high to retain moisture and prevent diseases and pests.

Weeding – Keep up with weeding in early morning hours. Make sure areas are mulched properly to reduce amount of sprouting weeds.

Pruning – Pinch tips of coleus to avoid flowering and encourage bushier and compact growth. Remove spent blooms on summer annuals to promote new blooms. Remove any diseased or insect damaged foliage on plants.

Fertilizing – Fertilize containers and vegetable beds with slow release organic fertilizers such as MicroLife or with a liquid fertilizer such as John's Recipe. (<https://www.naturalgardeneraustin.com/john-s-recipe.html>)

Water – Deep root watering on trees, lawns and shrubs is best. It encourages roots to move down into the soil where they will be less susceptible to moisture changes. Avoid frequent short periods of watering, and for more efficient watering, set the sprinkler system timer to water between the hours of 12:30 AM to 4:30 AM.

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DOES YOUR LAWN HAVE CHINCH BUGS?



When do chinch bugs do their damage? Late June through September in our area.

What varieties of lawn do they prefer? St. Augustine and zoysiagrass.

What does chinch bug damage look like? If you have yellowing patches of grass or even your entire lawn that turns yellow or brown and dies, even when it has had water, chinch bugs are very likely the culprit at this time of year.

What are chinch bugs and what do they do? These tiny (1/5" – 1/3" long) bugs with black bodies and white wings suck the moisture out of your grass blades, and in the process inject a toxin into the blade which kills the root. An infestation of chinch bugs can wipe out large portions of your lawn in short order – and it will take an entire season for your lawn to fully recover.

Can I prevent or treat an infestation of chinch bugs myself? They are surprisingly resistant to most common insecticides available in nurseries and home improvement centers, including the "organic" treatments. However, Bug B Gon (an Ortho product) is the insecticide most Houstonites use, and is effective. When chinch bug season is in full swing, however, homeowners all over the city rush to stop the bugs before their lawn is destroyed. For that reason, if you don't have a supply of it now you may have trouble finding it. Last year, Ace, Home Depot, and Lowes couldn't keep it in stock as it flew off the shelves. Even Amazon had a backlog for online orders. Moral of the story: treat your lawn and keep some Bug B Gon on hand!

If I get rid of them, how long does it last? The bugs multiply quickly and move to nearby habitats once they have done their destruction. If your neighbors have untreated infestations, the bugs will continue to migrate to your lawn, so you will need to do multiple treatments.

Are there other options? Lawn maintenance companies don't usually treat for bugs, but there are lawn treatment companies – and bug companies (TruGreen, Orkin, etc.) though they generally require a longer-term relationship and usually guarantee nothing. Some people think they are great, but I had a relationship once with one of these companies, and had a chinch infestation which they blamed on my not watering the grass, so I ended the relationship.

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Each year NOAA and the American Red Cross publishes a preparedness guide of tropical cyclones to help us prepare for such an emergency.

GUIDELINES EACH YEAR PRIOR TO HURRICANE SEASON:

- Determine safe evacuation routes inland
- Learn locations of official shelters
- Check emergency equipment such as flashlights, generators and battery powered equipment such as cell phones and your NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver.
- Buy food that will not spoil and store drinking water.
- Buy plywood or other material to protect your home if you don't have it.
- Trim trees and shrubbery so branches don't fly into your home.
- Clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Decide where to move your boat if applicable.
- Review your insurance policy.
- Find pet friendly hotels on your evacuation route.

DURING THE STORM AND WHEN IN THE WARNING AREA, YOU SHOULD:

- Closely monitor radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards for official bulletins.
- Close storm shutters.
- Follow instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if ordered.
- Stay with friends or relatives at a low-rise inland hotel or at designated public shelter outside of the flood zone.
- DO NOT stay in a mobile home or manufactured home.
- Notify neighbors and a family member outside of the warned area of your evacuation plans.
- Take pets with you, but remember that most public shelters do not allow pets other than service pets for people with disabilities.
- Identify pet friendly hotels along your evacuation route.

IF YOU ARE STAYING HOME TO "HUNKER" OUT THE STORM:

- Turn refrigerator to maximum cold and keep it closed.
- Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
- Turn off propane gas tanks.
- Unplug small appliances.
- Fill bathtub and large containers with water in case clean tap water is unavailable. Use water in bathtubs for cleaning and flushing only. Do NOT drink it.
- Stay away from windows and doors, even if they are covered. Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway.
- Close all interior doors. Secure and brace exterior doors.
- If you are in a two-story house, go to an interior first floor room.
- If you are in a multi-story building and away from water, go to the first or second floor and stay in the hallways or other interior rooms away from windows.
- Lie on the floor under a table or other sturdy object.



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