





ATTENTION: Pool is now closed for the season and will reopen in March.

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The Review - November 2018



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Thanksgiving Trivia!

Did you know.....

- Americans eat approximately 46 million turkeys each Thanksgiving.
- The heaviest turkey on record, according to the Guinness Book of Records, weighs 86 pounds.
- The average turkey served for Thanksgiving weighs 16 pounds.
- Campbell's Soup created green bean casserole for an annual cookbook over 50 years ago. Now, Campbell's sells about \$20 million worth of cream of mushroom soup, most likely purchased by folks making what has become a thanksgiving tradition- green bean casserole.
- Historians say turkey was not served at the first Thanksgiving dinner, a three-day meal shared between the pilgrims and Wampanoag tribe in 1621. Instead, venison and seafood are most likely what was eaten.
- The first Thanksgiving dinner was eaten with spoons and knives — but no forks! Forks weren't a popular utensil until the 18th century.
- President Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863, to be celebrated each year on the last Thursday of November.
- Benjamin Franklin said in a letter to his daughter in 1784 that he believed a turkey would be "a much more respectable Bird" for the young United States than the bald eagle. He said the turkey is "a true original native of America" and "a bird of courage." Franklin's take on the national bird was not popular enough to displace the bald eagle.
- In 1953, Swanson had so much extra turkey (260 tons) that a salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with other sides like sweet potatoes and thus the first TV dinner was born.
- Each year, the president of the United States pardons a turkey and spares it from being eaten for Thanksgiving dinner. The first turkey pardon ceremony started with President Truman in 1947.
- The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade began in 1924 with 400 employees marching from Convent Ave to 145th street in New York City. During this time the parade was accompanied not with oversized balloons of our favorite cartoon characters, but with live animals borrowed from the Central Park Zoo.

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Fall Landscape Tips

The weather is changing and the lawn has switched to its autumn growth mode. It is not too late to apply a winterizer fertilizer, which will be utilized by the lawn for winter hardiness and a fast green-up in the spring. Here are some other great fall lawn care tips.

Fall Care Checklist

Trees

- Where you have bedding areas under your trees, apply three inches of mulch under the entire tree canopy about mid-September.
- Fertilize trees in October with a 3-1-2 ratio slow-release or organic fertilizer at a rate of three pounds of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. of root zone.
- As an alternative, you can use your winterizer lawn fertilizer product under the tree canopy. A tree requires about one cup of fertilizer spread out per inch of trunk size. This can be done the same day you fertilize your lawn.
- Tree planting season begins in mid-November. Fall is the best time to plant new trees and shrubs.
- CPS Green Shade Program www.cpsenergy.com customers can receive a \$50 rebate per tree when you purchase a qualified tree and plant it in the right place to save on your energy bill.

Grasses

- Fall fertilization with a winterizer fertilizer is important for achieving quick spring green-up and cold tolerance. Apply 1 lb. of nitrogen (7 lbs of 15-5-10) per 1,000 square feet in October.
- Too much water this time of year may cause fungal disease. Watering should be cut back significantly.
- Dead circular areas in your lawn may mean fungal disease.
 If you suspect a fungal problem such as Brown Patch or Take All Patch, call the Bexar County Extension Office at 210-467-6575 to get a specific diagnosis and treatment recommendation.

Weed Control

- Summer weeds will begin to decline as the weather gets cooler. Continue cutting grass often to prevent weeds from forming seeds.
- A thick and healthy grass will keep out most weeds. Frequent cutting helps.
- Eliminate newly-sprouting winter weeds by pulling them out early before they get strong root systems.

Perennials

 Perennials will look great in the fall without much care or extra water Early fall is a good time to plant new perennials. It is also a good time to divide spring-blooming perennials like irises and daylilies.

Roses

- Roses should look great in the fall without much care or extra water.
- If your schedule allows, prune out dead branches and remove excessive growth. Deadhead plants by removing spent blooms to encourage new flowers to form.

Annuals

- Your heat-loving annuals should keep going strong until really cold weather provides a freeze. However, as the weather begins to turn, you may decide to pull them and prepare your planting bed for some cool weather annuals.
- Be sure to wait until it is really cool outside or you will have unhealthy cool-weather loving plants that become magnets for pests

Water

 Review your irrigation zoning design. Can you water plants according to their water need? Consider moving heads or splitting a zone if you can't.

Seasonal Water Benchmarks

- Water needs drops dramatically in the fall. Cooler weather and seasonal rains often make it possible to stop all supplemental irrigation.
- Avoid watering plants in the evening if possible. Fungal problems are more likely if plants are wet all night during fall months.

Less Water is Healthier for Fall Grass

Because it is cooler and there is rain, there is no need to water established plants or grass. Once fall sets in, it is rare for lawns to need water again until spring.

Cutting back on irrigation in the fall is not just a smart way to lower water bills. It is also a way to avoid lawn fungal diseases such as brown patch. This disease can become active in lawns that are wet at night.



5 Ways to Honor Your Local Veterans on Veterans Day

By Crystal Glade

While most of us are quick to post on social media, fly an American flag, or offer a quick handshake to a local servicemember on Veterans Day, many are unsure how to show our full appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

Below are five ways to truly honor veterans this Veterans Day:

1. Volunteer Your Time

There are hundreds of volunteer organizations that work both directly and indirectly with veterans. Turn your appreciation into action by offering your time and energy to any one of these noble causes. Contact your local VFW or American Legion to see what upcoming events may be in need of volunteers. Offer assistance to a local elderly or disabled vet, or volunteer a few hours to a local veteran-owned business. Whatever your skill, put it to use in your community by helping out the veterans closest to you. Visit texvet. com/volunteer to search for opportunities available in your area.

2. Donate Your Dollars

If you're short on time, making a monetary donation is another great way to show support. There are many organizations that offer various forms of aid and assistance to our country's servicemen and women. For instance, Homes for Our Troops builds specially-

equipped homes for injured servicemembers. Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society offers financial assistance and scholarships. The Gary Sinise Foundation creates and supports unique programs specifically for veterans. There are countless organizations dedicated to improving the lives of American veterans, and they can only continue to do so with the financial support of grateful citizens like you.

3. Take Time to Listen

Taking time to have a real conversation with your neighbor seems to be a lost art in today's virtual world! Veterans have a wealth of knowledge and interesting stories to share for those willing to listen. Of course, not every veteran will be willing to share the details of his or her time in the service, but many enjoy reminiscing and sharing their unique perspective. Rather than simply thanking them for serving their country, take a moment to open up a meaningful dialogue about their military service and how it has shaped their views on life and liberty.

4. Stay Informed

How much do you really know about how our country's military works? What is the status of current legislation regarding today's

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3 Tips for Keeping Your Family Safe From a Home Fire This Winter

By MarLee Berry, texashillcountry.com/lifestyle



Parts of the Hill Country are soon expected to experience their first real bout of cooler weather. While a cool front will eventually move on, the promise of colder temperatures might have you prepping your home for the winter months. However, an important aspect of winterizing your home that is often overlooked is being aware of the hazards that might lead to structure fires during this time of year.

The United States Fire Administration estimates 905 people are killed each year by winter home fires. Additionally, property losses of over \$2 million have been recorded due to homes burning during the colder months. Below are three tips from the administration that can help you keep your family safe this winter and for many winters to come.

1. Be Aware of Proper Placement of Heaters and Fire Screens

One of the most basic ways to prevent house fires is to be aware of the objects nearest to your heating source. A few specific tips regarding space heaters and fireplaces are:

- Keep all flammable items at least three feet away from your source of heat.
- It is hazardous to use extension cords to plug-in space heaters, always plug electric heaters directly into the wall.
- For added safety, only utilize heaters with automatic shut-offs, just in case yours accidentally tips over.
- When using a fireplace, always make sure there is a screen covering the opening. This ensures embers cannot land on flooring or furniture, thus leading to a structural blaze.

Sources of heat in the home are the second leading cause of family dwelling fires. In fact, 45,900 house fires were caused by a heat-related source between 2013 and 2015. Following the above steps will ensure your family stays warm, and safe, this winter.

2. Use Caution When Decorating for the Holidays

Whether it be a spooky jack-o'-lantern glowing in the dark or a beautiful pine tree with lights entwined around its branches, holiday decorations can be a great way to celebrate this time of year, but there are a few things to keep in mind as you gather your decor.

- Battery operated light sources are always preferable to candles if you want to illuminate a spooky pumpkin face.
- Extension cords should be replaced if they are showing any wear and tear such as cracks or exposed wires.
- If you do choose to use candles, keep them at least a foot away from flammable objects.
- When using a live Christmas tree, be sure to water it daily.

3. Check Your Smoke Alarms

A final step in protecting your family and home this winter involves something very simple; checking your smoke alarms to ensure they are in proper working condition. This elementary process can literally be the difference between life or death in the event of a house fire. The following information provides specific guidelines for smoke alarm use:

- Every floor of your home, from the basement to the attic, should have a smoke alarm.
- Alarms should be tested once a month to ensure they are functioning properly.
- If the alarms in your home are over 10 years old, they should be replaced with newer models.
- For the utmost safety, place alarms inside each sleeping area as well as the outer areas such as the living room and kitchen.

The use of smoke alarms has been shown to reduce your chances of dying in a house fire by 50 percent. When winterizing your home, do not forget this simple, but critical step.



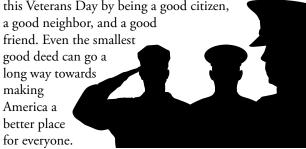


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active-duty troops and veterans? Which political leaders have a military background? Many people have little more than basic knowledge of America's armed forces. One of the best ways to show your appreciation is to take the time to understand exactly what role the military plays in today's world. Arm yourself with knowledge by reading (and verifying) information about the military's mission and its history, and always exercise your rights by voting for people and policies that support veterans.

5. Pay it Forward

The service of veterans is the cornerstone on which American freedom stands. It is important to appreciate both the rights and responsibilities of being an American and to work together to ensure that veterans' sacrifices are not in vain. Honor a veteran this Veterans Day by being a good citizen,





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November is Diabetes Awareness Month

By Andrea Gabrick, edited for space

Follow these tips to stay at your peak!

1. Say "Om"

Learn to meditate to help reduce stress and improve your blood sugar levels.

2. Step Out

Exercise helps keep your weight and blood sugar under control, and just about everyone can do a brisk daily walk.

3. Eat Right

Follow your food plan. If you don't have one, ask your doctor about seeing a dietitian who specializes in diabetes.

4. Jet Set

Before you hit the road, get a checkup, pack extra meds, and plan your doses around time zone changes.

5. Hang 10

Drop 10% of your body weight through diet and exercise.

6. Trade Up

Swap saturated fats and refined sugar for healthy fatsin nuts and sweet whole fruit.

7. See Clearly

Diabetes complications can cause vision loss or blindness. Schedule a full eye exam at least once a year.

8. Stand Up

You may not feel foot injuries, so check both feet daily for blisters, cuts, or sores.

9. Show Color

Pack your plate with a palette of greens, yellows, and reds -- like spinach, squash, and tomatoes.

10. Learn More

Visit WebMD's Diabetes Center for news, tips, a blood sugar tracker, and more.

Expert Tips on Living With Diabetes

Tips from Adrian Vella, MD, endocrinologist, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

- Use the web or your smartphone to help you manage what you eat. Online tools can help you keep track of your calorie consumption, aid in meal planning, and provide important nutrition information to help you make healthy choices.
- Get a pedometer. People with diabetes need to exercise.
 For many of my patients, that means walking. Set a goal.

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Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:
Peel, Inc. - Kids Club, 308 Meadowlark St, Lakeway, TX 78734-4717
We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/PeelInc.
DUE: November 30th

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know! Name: (first name, last initial) Age:

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