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Lake Ridge Facts:

- 3,200 total acres
- Over 50 miles of street
- 23 acres of manicured, fertilized turf not including the gated communities
- 30,000 square feet of flower bed area
- 3,600 pots of plants needed for change in seasonal plants
- 1,149 homes in the Lake Ridge community

Lake Ridge Charitable Foundation Hosting 10th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

By Kay Davidson

The Lake Ridge Charitable Organization is proud to be hosting the 10th Annual Lake Ridge Charity Golf Tournament at Tangle Ridge Golf Course in Grand Prairie on November 4, 2017. This year's format is the same as in the past with a blind bogey scramble format and a shot gun start beginning at 8:30AM.

Registration begins at 7:15AM and golfers can register at the POA office or online at the website: <http://lakeridgecharitygolf.org>. You can register as a single golfer and you will be placed in a foursome, or you can register as a foursome. This is a day that is fun from the beginning to the very end with the always popular...DAL prize!

Our tournament has raised over \$130,000 in the 9 years that we have been organized. It has allowed our community to reach out to those in need, and is indeed a wonderful way to help our community and have some fun along the way.

We are encouraging all golfers to join in the fun and fellowship. This is a great time to meet many of your neighbors. The city officials always support our tournament as does the CH Police Department and the Fire Station. The cost is \$100.00 entry fee which includes:

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

TOURNAMENT PRIZES

ADDITIONAL CONTESTS

- ◆ Putting contest,
- ◆ Longest drive for both men and women,
- ◆ Closest to the pin for both men and women,



- ◆ 2 Mulligans,
- ◆ The opportunity to try for a car on 3 of the par 3 holes,
- ◆ The ever challenging, but popular "circle" drive,
- ◆ And a great new game called 10-10-10 to celebrate our 10 year anniversary (guaranteed to be a fun event!)

We also have lots of raffle items this year that are sure to please and the auction items are coming in for your bidding pleasure!

Be sure and bring canned foods to support our food pantries and buy a couple extra Mulligans for those "not so great" shots that you just need to do over one more time! Five cans of food (requesting peanut butter, rice and beans) will buy 2 mulligans.

There is also the 50/50 jar that is fun to watch fill up with tickets and money...it just might be your lucky day on the course and off! And, you can look forward to the ever popular "Wall of Beer".

So many fun things are happening on November 4th!

Lake Ridge Financial Update

by Bill Braas, Treasurer

We are now $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through our financial year for the Association, so we wanted to provide you with a quick update on our results to date. Here are a few financial indicators that show how our Association is performing this year:

1. We are currently under budget on our overall operating expenses by approximately \$8,500.
2. We continue to pursue collection of past due owner assessments plus interest. So far this year we have collected \$21,516. A few of these collections go back as far as 2008. As the old saying goes "you can run but you can't hide".
3. Legal Fees charged to owners in connection with unpaid assessments also continue to be collected. YTD we have collected \$7,875 in past years fees. Legal Fees are not a budgeted expense and have to be paid by the Association from our available funds.
4. We currently have \$29,298 uncollected for the 2017 assessment which represents 117 owners. In addition, there is \$15,959 still outstanding for the enhancement fee.

If you are currently behind in your assessments please contact us. We offer flexible payment plans that will allow you to catch up and avoid additional interest and penalties on late payments. Our Association runs on a zero base budget. We do not budget for profit, so all of our budgeted expense items are paid from the assessments collected. If we have a shortfall or an unexpected cost, we have to utilize our reserve funds on hand to cover it.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our annual meeting in 2018 at which time a more detailed summary will be provided.

**OFFICE SPACE
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RENT**

The Property Owners Association of Lake Ridge currently has office space for rent. Please contact Carolyn Rollwitz at 972-299-5270 for more information.

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Please make note of the following
phone numbers for the Property
Owners Association of
Lake Ridge offices:

Carolyn Rollwitz - 972-299-5270

Kim Brown - 972-293-2243

FAX number - 972-293-7119

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Steve Schell, Corey Thompson

Lake Ridge Real Estate Review

by Tara Powers

Lakeridge continues to have growth in our community --- we have had:

225 new owners that have received welcome letter in the past 12 months.

32 new home plans submitted in 2017

Currently there are 149 lot's for sale....

Our area analysis currently shows:

50 homes in active status

1 home under option contract

13 homes sold

Listing prices range from \$320,00 to \$2,699,000 with sq footage between 2926 and 10,841.

Active homes on the market are averaging \$128.60 per sq foot selling price with the average asking price of a home at \$599,900.

Sold homes averaged \$108.59 per sq foot with an average close price of \$443,600.

Texting and Driving Is Now Illegal in Texas

by Officer Cooper #192, Cedar Hill PD

Governor Greg Abbott announced on June 6th that he's signed House Bill 62 into law, making Texas the 47th state to officially ban the dangerous practice of texting while driving. At least 45 cities have also enacted hands-free ordinances.

Beginning on Friday September 1st, texting while driving within the state of Texas will be punishable by a fine of \$25-99 for first-time offenders, and \$100-200 for repeat offenders (though no points will be assigned). The new law also states that if an accident caused by texting and driving results in the death or serious bodily injury of another person, they can be charged with a Class A misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$4,000 and confinement in jail for a term not to exceed one year (in addition to any other charges/punishments).

It's important to note that this new law only addresses "reading, writing, or sending electronic messages" via a "wireless communication device." It is still legal for motorists in most cities to use their phone for GPS navigation, music apps, dialing phone numbers, etc., but drivers may still get pulled over if an officer suspects them of texting.



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Mansfield Road Construction Update

by Steve Schell, P.E.

Mansfield Road has changed in the past two years.

The completion of the landscaping, a few concrete pavement corrections and street pavement markings remain in order to complete the improvements, remove the barricades and completely open the street up to all lanes of traffic including dedicated bike lanes.

We have been making construction corrections throughout the length of the project. As a result sections of the sidewalk, pavement and trail have recently been and will continue to be removed and replaced. The colored and stamped concrete crosswalks were poured in multiple small sections while traffic was switched on one side and then the other. The color of the installed concrete crosswalks was not consistent at several locations. These sections of the crosswalks have been removed and will be reinstalled to more closely match the adjacent installed colored crosswalks. This effort is being coordinated with the concrete color vendor in an effort to ensure the crosswalks are not reconstructed multiple times.

Our goal is to complete the corrections, complete the landscaping, and then stripe the project before removing the barricades.

The contractor is working to complete the project ASAP. One of the biggest remaining challenges is to complete the landscaping. We are hopeful this will be completed by the end of the year or early next year.

A Cedar Hill entrance monument in the Mansfield Road median at Lake Ridge Parkway has been an integral part of the proposed improvements since early in the conception process. The construction schedule of this monument slowed down as entrance monuments and City facility signage standards and guidelines were developed and approved for the City of Cedar Hill. The City recently bid a construction packet for the installation of the entrance monument at Mansfield Road, an entrance monument at Belt Line Road, and the replacement of signage for seventeen (17) parks throughout the City. As a point of clarification, Valley Ridge Park entrance signage will not be replaced.

We are hopeful to begin the construction of the Mansfield Road entrance monument in Early November 2017, with a completion in March 2018.

Above is a conceptual view of the proposed entrance monument to

be built on Mansfield Road at Lake Ridge Parkway. The color and texture of the rock surface of the sign will likely differ as the architect makes the final selection of the stone at the quarry. Also, the landscaping installation has been modified to complement and be consistent with the landscaping along Mansfield Road.

Best regards to all and as always, your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated

Steve Earl Schell, P.E.

Project Manager

972.291.5126 ext. 2839 (office)

214.587.6148 (cell)





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2017 BOND & CCPD ELECTION

(CRIME CONTROL & PREVENTION DISTRICT)

Get out and vote in the Bond & CCPD Election - November 7, 2017
Here's the information you should know:

Since the last City bond referendum in 2003, our community has grown substantially. Responses from various citizen input surveys and master plans indicate that Cedar Hill residents desire expanded facilities for the library, improvements to the only public pool in the city, more accessible parks and trails, and infrastructure improvements to keep our sidewalks, streets, and drainage safe and efficient for our growing population.



Based on this feedback from the 2016 Citizen Survey, the City Council appointed residents to a Citizen Bond Review Committee in January 2017. The Committee's charge was to review and evaluate current and future community needs and recommend projects for City Council consideration and inclusion in a potential November 2017 bond election. City Council reviewed the Committee's recommendations and financial implications and approved a resolution calling an election on November 7, 2017 to ask Cedar Hill voters to consider the following propositions: A) \$10 million for Streets & Drainage Improvements; B) \$20 million for a new Library Facility; and C) \$15 million for Parks & Recreation Facilities.

Voters will also be asked to consider a ballot proposition to continue the Cedar Hill Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD). The CCPD, first approved by voters in 2012, designates a portion of sales tax revenue to fund community safety and crime prevention initiatives. In November, citizens will be asked to extend the CCPD for an additional 15 years to continue to fund these initiatives.

On behalf of the City Council, I ask for your careful consideration of the ballot propositions and encourage you to vote during the early voting period beginning October 23, 2017 or on Election Day, November 7, 2017. If you have questions regarding these issues or about voting locations, please visit cedarhilltx.com/bond.

Sincerely,

Rob Franke
Mayor

For more information about the Bond election visit:

cedarhilltx.com/bond

Election Day is TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

EARLY VOTING

October 23 – November 3

Dallas County early voting will take place at the Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd. For additional voting information, including how to register to vote and locations:

Dallas County residents visit:
www.dallascountyvotes.org

Ellis County residents visit:
www.co.ellis.tx.us

Para recibir una copia de esta información en español, por favor visite cedarhilltx.com/bond o llame (972) 291-5100 x. 1032.

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN MORE

Election Informational Session

September 28, 7 p.m. at the Rec. Center (310 E. Parkerville Rd.)

October 17, 7 p.m. at the Ninth Grade Center (1515 W. Belt Line Rd.)

Walk with the Mayor

Grab your walking shoes and take a stroll with the Mayor and City Council for an active conversation about the election.

September 30, 9 a.m. at Virginia Weaver Park (631 Somerset Dr.)

October 21, 9 a.m. at Bradford Park (401 W. Wintergreen Rd.)

We've included the first (see page 8) and last page of the 2017 Election Brochure coming soon to your mailbox. Please be on the lookout for the full packet!



Made a change in your email address lately? Send your change to:
crollwitz@cmamanagement.com



IMPORTANT CHANGE

NOTICE: Future communications that were sent with your assessment billing-- will now be posted to the website. This includes all gated communities as well. This will help reduce cost for copies. Change takes place on the first of December the same time as billing.

www.lakeridgepoa.org

Candidates Response to Election Tampering Accusation

by Chad McCurdy

Recently an accusation was made regarding black voters being spied upon during the recent runoff election. Unfortunately, even though these claims are baseless, once they are levied they must be investigated.

Michael Lewis, who was the third candidate in the Cedar Hill City Council election, wrote a very nice response to the Dallas Morning News regarding his experience during the election.

I am writing regarding the story about the "racially divisive" election in Cedar Hill. As the third candidate who ran in that election, I am mystified why the reporters never tried to contact me. Had they done so, I would have told them that as an African-American candidate, my experience both in this election and as a Cedar Hill resident is not consistent with the story as written.

In fact, contrary to their portrayal, Cedar Hill is a great city not despite its racial diversity, but because of it. While diverse representation is something we should strive for, I reject the implication that the white or black members of the council only work for the betterment of their own race. We in Cedar Hill are better than that. Our council, our school board, our city boards and commissions are all made up of a great diversity of people who work together for the greater good of our city.

In short, losing my bid for City Council was a disappointment. But I do not believe it had anything to do with the color of my skin. Furthermore, I remain ready to serve our great, diverse city.

Finally, I invite all Cedar Hill residents, from all walks of life, to get involved, contribute and learn more about your city and its leaders. If you are not a Cedar Hill resident, I encourage you to visit our great "city that is set upon a hill." Michael Lewis, Cedar Hill

It is unfortunate that a writer for the Dallas Morning News wrote an article based upon these baseless accusations, but I'm glad to see Michael set the record straight about his experience.



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Who Is Keeping Lake Ridge Community Safe?

by Bill Pierce

Lake Ridge have dedicated COP volunteers and police officers that patrol our neighborhoods. Our community crime rate is one of the lowest in the city of Cedar Hill.

And this is how —

Citizens Police Academy

Requirement 12 weeks and 26 hours of class room participation where every function of the Cedar Hill Police Department is explained in detail.

Three members of the Lake Ridge POA Board of Directors are attending the present Citizens Police Academy

Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association

Upon graduating from CPA you can join the CPAAA - Their Mission Statement is; "To serve as ambassadors for the Cedar Hill Police Department and the community of Cedar Hill. To promote public safety and law enforcement by supporting the Police Department and the community it serves through action and resources."

COP - Citizens On Patrol

After you have joined the CPAAA you can become a COP member. You have seen them patrolling our neighborhoods, and yes, they do patrol Grand Prairie as well as, Cedar Hill. The COP volunteers have three retired police cars dedicated to following:

Programs: Patrolling retail, industrial, apartments and residential communities, Handicapped Parking Enforcement and they are writing citations, The License Plate Reader (LPR) last year 198,043 plates were read. The majority of hits; Sex Offenders, Stolen Vehicles, Stolen License Plates and Warrants. Hours patrolled last year 3,377, Miles Patrolled 2016 12,835, Cedar Hill is 35.91 square miles. Volunteer hours Increased 18% over previous the year.

Services Performed: Community Traffic Control Events, Head for the Hills Bike Rally, City Wide Block Party, Country Day on the Hill, Holliday on the Hill, National Night Out and Scare on the Square and, a Senior Citizen's Wellness Program meeting transportation needs initiates 4th qtr. 2017

Special Projects: Decoy Cars placed in retail and residential hot spots. Assist with TX DOT Safety Inspection Highway 67 and Beltline where 52% of commercial trucks stopped were removed for hazardous safety issues. Traffic Control Training; Directing Traffic, Positioning Patrol Car, Cone Placement and Striking and positioning of Flares. Radio Training COP's checking in/out and reporting to Dispatch and Shuttle Police Cars for Maintenance first Monday of each month.

Crime Watch (Observe, Record, Report) Suspicious activity report to Non-Emergency Number 972.223.6111. **Criminal Activity Call 911**



CPAAA & COP members meeting and enjoying hospitality at Lake Ridge Clubhouse

Lake Ridge P.A.C.T. Officer

by Tammie Cooper, P.A.C.T. Officer

Greetings, Lake Ridge homeowners, my name is Sr. Officer Tammie Cooper and I am the Police And Community Team (P.A.C.T.) officer assigned to the Lake Ridge and surrounding area. Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself and share with you some of the services I offer as your P.A.C.T. representative. I started my Law enforcement career with the Dallas County Sheriff Department as a Jailer from 2002-2006. I became a Cedar Hill Police Officer in February 2006 and hold an Advanced Peace Officer License, Crime Prevention Specialist Certification, CPTED Certification (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) and Child Passenger Safety Technician License.



Personal Safety, Anti-Bullying and Bike Safety.

I was awarded Cedar Hill's "Officer of The Year" in 2014 and also serve as a member of the Cedar Hill Police Department Honor Guard.

As your P.A.C.T. Officer, I can arrange a home security survey to help reduce your chances of becoming a victim of a home burglary. I can be called on to intervene in an ongoing neighborhood issue that may detract from your quality of life, i.e. parking issues, noise issues, reduction of ongoing crime trends, and facilitation of neighborhood crime watch groups.

In 2014, I started the Youth Summit on the Hill; a youth initiative designed to create a positive impact on our youth through education, awareness and prevention programs from Law Enforcement such as: drug & alcohol awareness, texting & driving and positive decision making.

The P.A.C.T. unit is funded by the Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD); a sales tax initiative designed to fund crime prevention and reduction strategies using a portion of collected sales tax. Cedar Hill has one of the lowest crime rates in Dallas County; including a 10% decrease in crime over the last five years. The P.A.C.T. unit was recognized earlier this summer as the Crime Prevention Unit of the Year-Small Agency by the Texas Crime Prevention Association; an award which recognized our contributions to help keep Cedar Hill safe. This November 7th, the CCPD is up for renewal; please remember to vote.

In 2016, I secured a grant which helped provide over 30 free car seats and education on properly installing car seats to parents and caregivers as well as car seat checks upon request. I am the coordinator of the Cedar Hill Youth Graffiti Abatement program, L.E.A.D Council (Law Enforcement Advisory Council) and I volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters, Impact Cedar Hill and the Cedar Hill Action Team (CHAT). I have enjoyed providing instruction to our local schools on important safety topics including: Five Rules for

I am committed to serving the citizens of Cedar Hill with dedication, integrity, and passion to make our city the best, safe place to live.

WHAT IS DOG WALKER WATCH?

According to the Humane Society of the United States and the ASPCA, there are over seventy five million dog owners across the nation. That's dozens, if not hundreds, of neighbors walking their dog throughout the community at all times of the day, all days of the week, in all weather conditions, who are often preoccupied with texting, chatting, emailing and listening to music. Dog Walker Watch encourages these neighbors to assist local law enforcement as extra eyes and ears while out walking their dog. The program enhances the partnership between police and community while providing resources for neighbors to be more aware and how to effectively observe and report suspicious activity.

Tri-City Animal Shelter Serves Seniors Well

by Corey Thompson

There's something pretty special happening over at Tri-City Animal Shelter these days. What began as a single day of community service by shelter staff has blossomed into a year-round labor of love for the seniors in our neighborhood.

The Wag on Wheels Program for Seniors brings Tri-City Animal Shelter staff members and volunteers out into the homes of local senior citizens to provide much needed services for their pets. These services include clipping claws, bathing pets, checking microchips and updating registration information, providing transportation to/from the vet, or just dropping off needed supplies like a collar or food. Staff and volunteers have made assistance to seniors available seven days a week, including some evenings when needed.

The best part of the program -- all these services are being provided at no cost to our wonderful senior neighbors! Seniors who wish to give something back may donate newspapers for lining cages or old linens for bedding. Some may even choose to leave a "Legacy of Love" by designating the Friends of Tri-City Animal Shelter in their will or as part of their annual charitable giving.

Interested in helping? Individuals and businesses who wish to participate or donate to the Wag on Wheels program should contact Tammy Miller at 972-291-5335.

While we're on the topic of seniors...

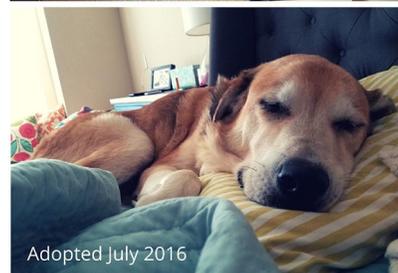
If you're considering adopting an animal this year, will you consider choosing a senior one? Older dogs and cats find their way into our shelter for many of the same reasons as younger animals. Sometimes they are a beloved pet whose owner has passed away or who is moving into a nursing facility and can no longer keep their long-time companion. Regardless of why they arrive, senior dogs and cats are adopted at lower rates and wait longer in shelters than younger animals.

There are lots of great reasons for choosing a senior pet. If you've housetrained a puppy before, you can surely think of one! Most senior animals are already house/litter box trained! In fact, they may already have wonderful manners all around. A senior animal's temperament is also usually



much more predictable than a puppy or kitten. Older pets may be more mellow and less rambunctious than their younger counterparts. Want a pup to join your evening stroll, or a kitty who just enjoys sleeping in your lap? Adopt a senior!

My senior "Rex" is 11 years old and was adopted from Tri-City Animal Shelter last summer. When I visit my grandmother, he usually troops along and greets each of the residents in her hallway, bowing his head down for a gentle pat.



Whether you can volunteer helping seniors with their pets or you're ready to adopt a senior dog or cat -- you'll be loving on some of our community's most precious residents!

Corey Thompson is the Executive Director of Friends of Tri-City Animal Shelter, a 501(c)(3) non-profit that helps to fund spay/neuter and veterinary care for shelter animals. Learn more at www.tricityfriends.org.

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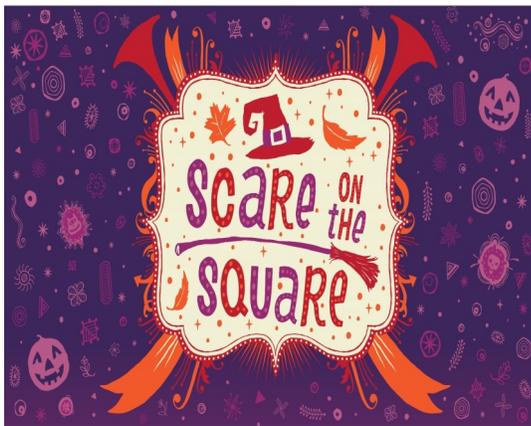
ENGINEERING
IS OUR MIDDLE NAME



Community News



Check out: www.countrydayonthehill.com



Ghosts, goblins and ghouls invade historic downtown for **Scare on the Square**

**Thursday, October 31,
2017
6:00 - 8:00 pm**

Admission to the festival is always free to children accompanied by a parent or guardian. Guests are encouraged to arrive on time for the storytelling. Please call 972-291-5100 ext. 1514 for more details



For more info:
cedarhilltx.com/polarexpress

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There will be train rides, plenty of holiday kids activities, festive crafts, a reindeer petting zoo, live performances, photos with Santa, and the official lighting of the City of Cedar Hill tree. Kids are encouraged to wear their pajamas just like in the story.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE ARE DESIGNATED WEEKS FOR CEDAR HILL BRUSH AND TREE LIMB PICK UP:

Can I get loose brush and tree limbs picked up?

Monthly curbside brush pickup is available. See the below map showing collection areas. Week 1 is the week of the first Monday of the month, Week 2 is the week of the second Monday. Brush must be placed at the curb early on Monday of your week for collection during the week. Do not put brush on top of water meters.

Tree limbs must be bundled, no longer than 4 feet in length and not exceeding 50 pounds each. If there is a large amount of limbs, a special pick-up must be coordinated with Waste Management at 972.315.5400. Please be aware of your week.

LAKERIDGE IS WEEK 2-----



FOR GRAND PRAIRIE RESIDENTS DID YOU KNOW?

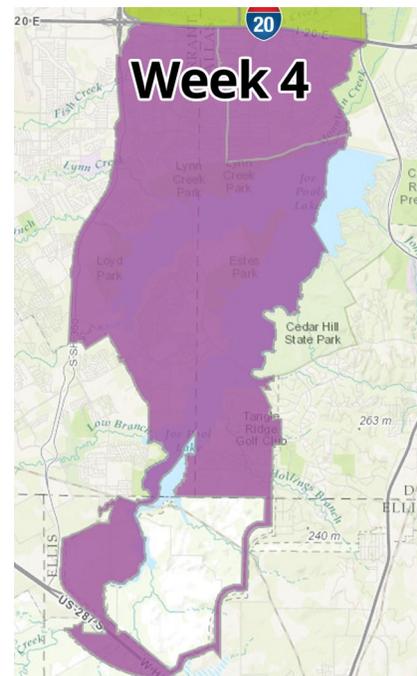
Week #4 If you live... South of I-20, stack brush at the curb by 7 a.m. the 4th Monday of the month.

Requirements:

Limbs and brush must be neatly piled at least two feet away from utility poles, trees, gas and water meters, fire hydrants, fences, mailboxes, sprinkler heads, and any other obstacles that would prevent collection. No vehicles should be parked in front of brush. Brush must not obstruct any city sidewalk, right-of-way, or view of traffic.

Allowed: Brush includes tree limbs up to 10 inches in diameter, shrubs, other parts of shrubs and trees.

NOT Allowed: Grass clippings, leaves, stumps, root balls, weeds, flowers, wire, fencing, or any other foreign materials.



A Note From Your Compliance Coordinator

by Kim Brown

Friday, September 22, 2017 was the first day of fall. The time of year many will do some much needed maintenance to their homes that they have put off because of hot or rainy weather. We also see a lot of improvements such as adding a fence or extending a patio.

REMINDER - Most improvements, additions or changes require ACC approval. So if you are wanting to add that fence or covered patio this fall, you will need to submit your plans for review and approval prior to any work being commenced, or you could risk a violation which can escalate to a fine up to \$1000.00 per day. There are some improvements that don't require approval. Some of those include; minor landscape enhancements, painting the trim on your home, a new roof same as or similar to the original. Painting/staining your fence. If you are unsure it is better to submit a plan or give me a call at the office. We love to see improvements!

SPEAKING OF IMPROVEMENTS...I just want to say **THANK YOU!** This year I saw a decrease in the amount of violations to date. Last year at this time we had nearly 2200 notifications of violations sent, this year I have sent 1860. Now that is an improvement, nearly 16% decrease in the amount of violations sent. Landscaping continues to be the #1 violation followed by ACC violations from not submitting plans to construction site trash.

As a reminder, here are some of the most frequent non-compliance issues:

- Not edging along driveways, sidewalks or trimming around air conditioning units and flower beds
- Weeds and grass in flower beds
- Trailers, boats and RV's not being stored from view
- House trim in need of painting
- Parking on the lawn
- Mowing – mostly empty lots
- Leaving grass clippings in the street
- Not submitting modifications/alterations of home or land to the ACC for approval

ACC approvals so far this year:

- 32 New Homes approved for construction
- 16 Pools
- 28 Fences
- 10 Gazebos/Patios/Arbors/Balconies
- 3 Detached Garage/Sheds
- 2 Solar Panels/Solar Screens
- 2 Outdoor Kitchen
- 2 Additions
- 4 Other



Exchange Zone Offers Safe Way To Buy & Sell

The Cedar Hill Police Department has designated an E-Commerce exchange zone at the Cedar Hill Government Center to keep online buyers and sellers safe.

The exchange zone is located at the northeast corner of the Cedar Hill Government Center in front of the police station near the P.A.C.T. unit vehicles and police vehicle entry. The exchange zone sign is in full view of a camera, which records 24/7.

Whether you're looking to sell some items after spring cleaning or found a great deal on 5 miles or Let Go, the E-Commerce exchange zone is available for your use.





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Nine Tips to Handle Pets Who Eat Too Fast

by Stacey Copeland

Oreo (a Rat Terrier) gulps his dinner down with so much relish it often comes back up whole... only to get "inhaled" all over again. In fact, Oreo eats so quickly that even when his food doesn't hit the floor again, he sometimes coughs, chokes, and gags all the way through his meal. This dog isn't merely food motivated... he's food obsessed.

This obsessive behavior happens to be a common problem among pets. And it's not just dogs. Some cats do this too. Do you ever wonder why?

For some dogs it seems to be a breed thing. Beagles, for instance, are notorious for being neurotic when it comes to food. Though they may never have wanted for a meal in their entire pampered lives, they'll drool in advance of dinnertime, beg mercilessly, and generally make a pest of themselves with respect to eating. Obsession is a good term for it.

Other dogs and cats have clearly been neglected or suffered near-starvation on the streets. Their environment has probably informed some of their extreme food bowl behavior, gulping down as much as they can as fast as they can. They seem to live in continuous fear of never eating again.

Still others may have suffered some form of behavioral conditioning as a consequence of a competitive environment. Puppies and kittens who've had to vie for their place at the teat or communal bowl may be exhibiting extreme feeding behavior as a result of this formative social experience. Homes with multiples pets or a communal food bowl can also feel they have to race to get as much food as possible.

It is very important to recognize any extreme version of this characteristic as nothing more than a behavioral abnormality — one that can be readily remedied in many cases.

Pets who suffer from food obsession must be treated to a variety of methods to relieve any anxiety associated with this approach to eating *and* to aid their digestion, which is clearly compromised in many cases by the lack of chewing that attends such feeding frenzies.

Here are 9 tips to help with obsessive eating:

1. **Isolate** - Feeding in isolation of other pets may help

reduce the anxiety any competition may pose. Enclosing pets in their crates during feeding time may be just the thing to help keep everyone in their proper places and competitive behavior at bay.



2. **Ignore food seeking behavior** - Not only should you not reward any food-seeking or begging behavior, ignoring such behavior means never making a big deal out of feeding time either. While this is the hardest for us pet parents, it has multiple benefits for the pet.



3. **Feed in a non food-oriented area** - This means that you should avoid feeding in the kitchen (or anywhere food abounds in your home).

4. **Feed on a strict schedule** - Stick to a strict schedule to the extent that you can. This alleviates anxiety for lots of pets. And confine treats to training time or to a very specific time of day. Again, do this away from highly trafficked areas.

5. **Hand feed or use food-slowing options (like food puzzle toys or bowls)** - By hand feeding, pets know they are getting food, but you control the portions. Also, spreading food out on the floor (best in isolation) allows them to "hunt" for their food and can slow them down. Food-slowing bowls have upright obstacles that pets have to eat around. It takes them longer to do this and helps get them chewing instead of gulping. Food puzzle toys also slow pets down and provide mental stimulation, as they have to figure out how to get the food out of the toy.

6. **Feed Smaller Kibbles** - Smaller kibble is less likely to get gummed up in the esophagus - which means it's less likely to make its way back up and out.

7. **Feed wet food** - This not only helps some animals eat more slowly, it also helps the food slide down the esophagus more easily (as with smaller kibble).

Continued on page 23

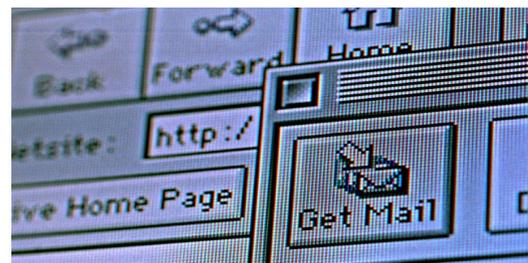


Nine Tips to Handle Pets - continued from page 22

1. **See a behaviorist** - In some extreme cases, veterinary behaviorists should be sought to help address these behaviors. If your pet is seriously stressed out around mealtimes and over eating in general... consider it.
2. **See your vet** – In some cases, a thyroid problem can cause this behavior. Also, Prozac-like drugs have even been used successfully in some of these more extreme sufferers. It's one option, but one that should only be attempted when the food-related anxiety is severe and cannot be resolved any other way.

Following these simple suggestions can set your pet more at ease while making feeding time a safer experience. Your pet's health and happiness are at stake, so don't ignore the signs.

Stacey Copeland is Owner and Top Dog of Camp Bow Wow and Home Buddies by Camp Bow Wow, a pet services company located at 519 E Highway 67, Duncanville, Texas, 75137 serving the Southwest Dallas, Texas area. You can find more information at www.campbowwow.com/swdallas or contact directly at 972-296-9663.



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10 Ways to Make Your Landscape **EARTH-KIND®**

Tim Hartmann, Extension Program Specialist, Horticultural Sciences
The Texas A&M University System

Earth-Kind® focuses on using environmentally friendly management practices to produce landscapes that are beautiful, low-maintenance, and sustainable. The goals of an Earth-Kind® landscape are to conserve water and energy, reduce pesticide and fertilizer use, and to recycle landscape wastes. Unfortunately, some Earth-Kind® principles can be difficult to implement in an established landscape especially if the owner does not wish to make drastic changes to the existing design and plantings. The following, however, are ten practices that can easily be implemented to transform an existing landscape into one that is Earth-Kind® (<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/>).

1. Mulch

Adding and maintaining a three-inch layer of plant-derived mulch, such as native hardwood, will significantly reduce the amount of water required in the landscape. This is especially true when drip irrigation is placed underneath it. Mulch also helps prevent weeds and erosion, modifies the soil temperature, and serves as a continuous supply of organic matter for the soil beneath. Mulch can easily be added to an existing landscape and may be available free from municipal or utility sites.

Learn more at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/files/2010/10/mulch.pdf>

2. Low-volume irrigation

Micro and drip irrigation is typically at least 90 percent efficient compared to traditional sprinkler irrigation (50 to 70 percent) because it applies water only where it is needed and slowly enough to minimize runoff and evaporation loss. It also reduces salinity damage and disease on foliage by keeping the water and soil splash off the plants' leaves. A wide variety of products and kits are available, as are many internet resources that offer guidance on installation.

Learn more at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/files/2010/10/lowvolume.pdf>

3. Irrigation auditing/evaluation

An assessment of your irrigation system's efficiency and effectiveness will help identify problems such as leaks or sprinkler heads that are damaged or misaligned. Measuring sprinkler output and coverage will help you determine if the coverage is uniform and how long you should run your irrigation system. A licensed irrigator can perform a formal system audit, or a homeowner can conduct an informal evaluation.

Learn more at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/files/2010/10/audit.pdf>

4. Cycle and soak watering

Programming your irrigation system to split run-times into several shorter cycles can save a substantial amount of water. This method allows more time for water to soak into the soil than if you apply the water all at once. Cycle and soak watering is especially beneficial on compacted or clay soils or landscapes with steep slopes where infiltration is slow. Modern irrigation controllers can be easily programmed for cyclic watering, and some are already equipped to perform this special function. For manual irrigation, move sprinklers around instead of completely watering one area at a time.

Learn more at: http://dallas.tamu.edu/media/75308/cycle_and_soak_irrigation_method.pdf

5. Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

A balanced approach to pest control focuses on using cultural, biological, and mechanical control measures. Under IPM, chemical control is used only as a last resort. Strategies include using pest and disease tolerant plants, preserving pest's natural enemies, and excluding or physically removing pests. Chemical treatments are selected carefully and used only

when pest populations warrant such measures. In the case of chemical control, select the product that is least toxic, but yet still effective, and avoid using broad-spectrum insecticides that also kill beneficials.

Learn more at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/les/2010/10/ipm.pdf> and <http://landscapeipm.tamu.edu/>

6. Composting

You can convert yard waste such as leaves, grass clippings, and pruning waste into compost, rather than paying to have it removed and added to a landfill. A properly managed compost pile can produce a valuable soil amendment in one to three months—and often without disagreeable odors. Compost is derived from once-living material so it contains most of the nutrients that plants need in a slow-release form, it improves soil structure, and it is free.

Learn more at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/les/2010/10/compost.pdf> and <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/les/2010/10/compostleaves.pdf>

7. Fertilizing based on soil tests

Sampling the soil in your lawn or landscape properly and having it analyzed can help the environment and your wallet. A soil test will reveal the specific nutrients that your soil may be lacking and will help you choose an appropriate fertilizer. It will allow you to save money and avoid excess nutrient levels

in the soil by applying only the type and amount of nutrient needed. You will also reduce pollution in the form of runoff or groundwater contamination.

Learn more at: <http://soiltesting.tamu.edu/publications/E-534.pdf> and <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/les/2010/10/fertilizers.pdf>

8. Rainwater harvesting

Collecting and storing rainwater can reduce your water bill. It is also pure, and in areas where tap water is high in salts or chlorine, irrigating with it can allow you to grow sensitive plants such as azalea and camellia where they otherwise could not. Capturing rainwater is easy if gutters are already in place, but if not, they can easily be installed. Capture and storage can be as simple as placing a barrel under a downspout.

Learn more at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/les/2010/10/rainwater.pdf> and <http://rainwaterharvesting.tamu.edu/>

9. Preparing planting areas

Preparing the soil properly can drastically reduce the need for fertilizers in both new and existing beds. It can also reduce disease problems and the amount of water required. Incorporating at least 3 inches of finished, plant-derived compost into the soil will improve the nutrient and water holding capacity in sandy soils and improve drainage in clay. Compost supplies nutrients slowly, encourages beneficial soil microorganisms, and allows roots to penetrate deeper for greater water uptake. Raised beds approximately 12 inches high and crowned in the center will greatly improve plant performance where soils drain poorly.

Learn more at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/les/2010/10/soilimprovement.pdf> and <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/les/2010/10/raisedbeds.pdf>

10. Turf maintenance

Sound turf management can greatly reduce your lawn's labor, water, and fertilizer requirements. Keeping turf mowed to a reasonably greater height promotes a deeper root system, reduces plant stress, and provides more shade for the soil surface. All these factors reduce the lawn's water needs. Grass clippings generally contain approximately 2 to 3 percent nitrogen. Leaving them on the lawn will significantly reduce the need for nitrogen fertilizers. Mulching grass clippings (rather than bagging them) also returns organic matter to the soil. Research shows that this practice does not contribute to excessive thatch accumulation when the turf is mowed regularly.

Learn more at: <https://aggieturf.tamu.edu/education.html>

Property Owners Association of Lake Ridge

November 2017

Dear Homeowner,

Enclosed is your invoice for the Property Owners Association of Lake Ridge assessments covering 2018.

You will notice the \$125 Enhancement Fee has been added to your account for the fourth year. As a reminder, the Enhancement Fee was approved through a majority vote of property owners at a special meeting held on October 16, 2014 and was approved for four (4) years.

In 2017, the **enhancement fee** funds were utilized **for** the repairs and new roof of the Lake Ridge Clubhouse, finalization of the Golden Pond Dam repairs, and pond maintenance. Future enhancement fees will be utilized for the following: Once the Mansfield road construction is finished we will be working on a **new** front entrance structure/monument, additional landscape improvements and maintenance along major roadways, continued remediation of the Bulrush in 3 POA ponds and replacement of the fountain in the Clubhouse pond located at the community entrance. If you have not been by the Lake Ridge Clubhouse or walked around Ridge View Park to see the improvements please feel free to drop by.

We assure you that prudent steps are being taken to spend the community money wisely and to make sure that every dollar is accounted for.

We thank you for understanding how important the Enhancement Fee is to **the continued improvement of our community.**

Sincerely,

Chad McCurdy
President
Property Owners Association of Lake Ridge

NOTICE: Future communications that were once sent with assessment billing will now be posted to the website. This also includes all gated communities as well. This will help reduce cost for copies. www.lakeridgepoa.org

*100 Lake Ridge Parkway, Cedar Hill, Texas 75104
Phone (972) 299-5270 ♦ Fax (972) 293-7119
www.lakeridgepoa.org*

SAVE THE DATE:

November 4, 2017

Tangle Ridge Golf Course
Blind Bogey Shotgun Start at 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast and Catered Lunch

5 cans of food buys you two extra mulligans
\$100 per Golfer and \$400 per Team includes all contests
(If you are a Tangle Ridge member, discounts apply)

Putting, Chipping, Closest to the Pin, and
Longest Drive contests

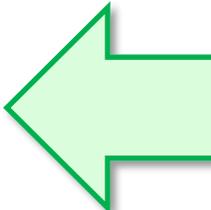
And as a show stopper we always have the
DAL Place = Special Prize

Raffle tickets are \$1.00

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crollwitz@cmamanagment.com or go to the website at
www.lakeridgecharitygolf.org



This year we are sponsoring:
Bridges SafeHouse, Mission
Cedar Hill, CERT, CPAAA, Cedar
Hill Fire Department, Cedar Hill
Police Department, CHAT, Cedar
Hill All Dads Inc., Grand Prairie
Food & Clothing Co-op, GP
Pregnancy Resources, PAWS for
Reflection Ranch, Cedar Hill
Shares, and Children's First
Counseling.



Communications Information

Email Web Telephone

communications@lakeridgepoa.org (General)
www.lakeridgepoa.org (Our web site)
972-299-5270 (Association Manager)

websiteinfo@lakeridgepoa.org (Web)
www.cedarhilltx.com (Cedar Hill)
972-291-5100 (City of Cedar Hill)

www.gptx.org (Grand Prairie)
972-237-8000 (City of Grand Prairie)

www.lakeridgepoa.org (Request to Login)

Committee Information

To join a committee or volunteer your time, please
send an email to:

Architectural Control Committee
architecture@lakeridgepoa.org

Communications Committee
communications@lakeridgepoa.org

Finance/Legal Committee
finance@lakeridgepoa.org

Maintenance Committee
maintenance@lakeridgepoa.org

Landscape Committee
landscape@lakeridgepoa.org

Board of Directors
board@lakeridgepoa.org



Cedar Hill Fire Department
1212 W. Belt Line Rd.
Cedar Hill, Texas 75104
972-291-1011
Fax: 972-291-3473
www.cedarhilltx.com/fire

May 26, 2017

The Cedar Hill Fire Department is continuously seeking to provide the most effective emergency services to our citizens.

To improve our effectiveness and safety, we are seeking to gather information on houses which have below grade rooms. Below grade rooms may include basements, wine cellars, and storm shelters. We are asking each resident to complete the attached questionnaire which will be used to assist first responders in emergency situations. The information supplied will be entered in the premise files in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system utilized by Cedar Hill Fire and Police Departments. For residents in the City of Grand Prairie, this information will also be provided to the Grand Prairie Fire Department.

The information will only be available to emergency response units and will not be provided to any companies or other entities for personal or financial gain. We respect your privacy concerns and assure you that this information will only be used in emergency situations.

The Cedar Hill Fire Department would like to thank you for your assistance. Should you have any questions, please contact us at 972.291.1011.

Respectfully,

John R. Ballard, EFO, FSCEO
Fire Chief



John R. Ballard, *Fire Chief*, Ricky W. Pendley, *Deputy Fire Chief*,
Kevin Cunningham, *EMS Chief*, Reginald J. Alexander, *Fire Marshal*
Danny Smith, *Fire Inspector*, Sally Moore, *Executive Secretary*





Home Owner Last Name: _____

Property Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Alt. Phone #: _____

Number of Occupants living in home: _____

Does your home have a Sub-Floor?
(If yes, please complete form) Yes No

Type of Sub-Floor:

- Basement Game Room Wine Cellar Other _____
 Theater Room Storm Shelter

Location of the entry and exit points(s): Interior Exterior Both

Does your house have gas? Yes No

Does your house have an indoor pool? Yes No

Please provide any additional information you feel would be important to the Cedar Hill Fire Department:

If you have any questions/comments please contact: cory.landiers@cedarhilltx.com

Cedar Hill Fire Department
1212 W. Belt Line Rd.
Cedar Hill, Texas 75104
972-291-1011

