





NWACA Newsletter

November 2014

NORTHWEST AUSTIN
CIVIC ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 26654
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78755
www.nwaca.org

NWACA Platinum Business Sponsors of the Month

Thank you, sponsors, for supporting the annual 4th of July Parade and helping us to promote the interests of Northwest Austin!

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MESSAGE FROM THE NWACA BOARD PRESIDENT

- Joyce Statz

Given all the forums, mailings, and media advertisements, everyone should be aware of the elections underway. It's very important that all registered voters get out there and cast an informed vote. So, if you don't get a chance to cast your ballot during Early Voting, be sure to reserve time on Tuesday, November 4th.

As we note in the calendar below, we turn our clocks back this coming Sunday, as Daylight Savings Time ends. A quick safety reminder: With the end of summer and the shorter days, many of us are walking, jogging, or cycling in early morning hours and evening hours, when it's quite dark outdoors. Remember to wear reflective clothing and/or be lighted some way when you're out and about.

IS YOUR HOME FIRE-HARDENED? SIGN UP FOR YOUR FREE WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT



The NWACA Wildfire Prevention Committee can help you minimize the risk to your home from wildfire. Certified assessors are ready to do a free assessment of your home with you, so you know how to harden your home.

To arrange an assessment or to get more information about preventing wildfire, go to www.nwaca.org and click on the *Firewise Request* link at the left side of the home page. If you do not have internet access, please mail us at: NWACA, P.O. Box 26654, Austin, TX 78755

NWACA and NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Date	Location	Event
Nov. 1, 1 PM	Mangia Pizza	NWACA Zoning Committee Monthly Meeting
Nov. 2	<i>All of CDT—CST</i>	<i>Daylight Savings Time Ends.... Turn clocks back; extra sleep! ☺</i>
Nov. 2, 2 PM	Kneaded Pleasures	Monthly Meeting of NWACA Parks Committee
Nov. 2, noon – 4PM	Dell Jewish Community Campus	Snout by Snoutwest – celebration of bond between humans and dogs – demonstrations, live music, information
Nov. 3-7	Doss Elementary	2014 Book Fair – see article below for specific times
Nov. 5, 8AM	Kneaded Pleasures	Monthly Meeting of NWACA Communications Committee
Nov. 6, 8AM	Kneaded Pleasures	NWACA Membership/Sponsorship Committee Monthly Meeting
Nov. 7; 6-9 PM	Lamar Middle School	Lamarfest – see article below for more information
Nov. 8; 9 AM until 1 PM	Murchison Middle School	Campus-wide Work Day – see article below for more information
Nov. 11; 6-8:30 PM	Great Hills Baptist Church, 10500 Jollyville Road	Region 2 Commander’s Forum; see article below for more details
Nov. 12, 6:30 – 8:30 PM	Mangia Pizza Meeting Room	NWACA Monthly Board Meeting
Nov. 15; 9 AM to Noon	Doss Elementary Garden	Work Day in the Outdoor Wildlife Learning Center – see article below for more information
Nov. 15; 8:30 AM to 1 PM	<i>Balcones Shred, 9301 Johnny Morris Road</i>	<i>Free Fall Shred Day, sponsored by ARMA and Balcones Shred – see article below for more information</i>
Nov. 19, 7 PM	First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa	Tree and Environmental Stewardship Committee Meeting (odd-numbered months, 3 rd Wed)

JOIN NWACA AT SNOOT BY SNOOTWEST – Sunday, November 2

- Rebecca Leightman

JCC Austin celebrates the special bond between humans and dogs with Snout by Snoutwest. Pet-free humans are also welcome!

Sunday, November 2 from 12-4 PM. (Rain date: November 9)
7300 Hart Lane, Austin TX 78731 (512)735-8000

Raise the woof! While dogs are not typically allowed on the campus (other than service animals), this special event welcomes all friendly pups on leashes with current vaccinations. (The only pets at this event are dogs.)

- Obedience demonstrations
- Live music
- Dog treats
- Doggie wading pools
- Rescue groups and local shelters will have dogs available for adoptions
- Food and snacks for purchase
- Bounce house for kids

\$5 for Adults, FREE for Kids and Dogs! 12-4 PM. A portion of the proceeds will benefit **Therapy Pet Pals**.

Interested in volunteer opportunities? Have a high schooler needing service hours? Register to volunteer at <http://www.shalomaustin.org/page.aspx?pid=957>

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS NEWS

- Jen Despina

There are many fun events coming up at our local schools in November:

Monday, November 3 through Friday, November 7 – Doss Elementary 2014 Book Fair

Doss PTA is partnering with BookPeople for the annual Book Fair Fundraiser. You can get a jump start on holiday shopping and support Doss PTA at the same time – shop for readers of all ages! New this year – BookPeople gift cards available for purchase. Times for the fair: Monday 3-7pm; Tuesday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm; Wednesday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm; Thursday 7:30 am – 6:00 pm; Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm.

Friday, November 7; 6-9 pm, Lamar Middle School Lamarfest!

Lamar Middle School is a Fine Arts Academy that serves students from all over the City. Lamarfest is a fall carnival that is Lamar Middle School's big fall fundraiser and also a very enjoyable event for the whole family.

Saturday November 8, 9 am – 1 pm Campus-wide Work Day

Murchison IB World School will be having a campus-wide work day, with lots of jobs and projects for everyone to help beautify the campus!

Saturday, November 15; 9am to noon; Work Day at Doss Elementary Garden

Northwest Hills neighbors: Come join us at Doss Elementary for a work day in our Outdoor Wildlife Learning (OWL) Center. The OWL Center is a native habitat that we are developing at the school to provide opportunities for kids to observe nature and wildlife. We are adding two new beds including limestone edging and amending the soil. Bring your gloves and join teachers, students and parents in the back of the school near the playground for this ongoing project!

The NWACA Board is also pleased to tell you some good news about our donations to the schools. In the last two years, we've made donations to fundraisers for the schools that serve our neighborhood. This year's donations include: \$150 each to Doss, Highland Park, and Lamar; \$100 to Anderson and to McCallum.

ALLEN PARK WORK DAY – GREAT SUCCESS!

- Caroline Alexander

On Saturday, September 27, we celebrated National Public Lands Day with a work day at Allen Park. More than 45 volunteers appeared, and we made a ton of progress.

Thanks to everyone who pitched in!



CodeNEXT: EVOLUTION OF OUR LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE - David Whitworth, Zoning Committee

On October 23rd Council postponed selecting a code approach until the November 6th Council Meeting. The public hearing will remain open so people still have a chance to speak on November 6th before council makes its decision. There are three code "approaches" to re-writing our land development code that are being considered (1-The Brisk Sweep, 2-The Deep Clean and Reset, 3-The Complete Makeover).

To monitor the ongoing activity with the Land Development Code, see this City web site:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/codenext>

The Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan that underpins these efforts can be found online here:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/our-plan-future>

UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED AUSTIN OAKS PUD

- PUD Ad Hoc Committee Co-Chairs

On October 3, the City staff at Planning and Development Review issued their consolidated set of comments on the Spire Realty PUD application for Austin Oaks. Those comments and other data about the case can be found by scrolling down to the bottom of the page (and clicking on the attachment) on the City's web site here:

https://www.austintexas.gov/devreview/b_showpublicpermitfolderdetails.jsp?FolderRSN=11183289

The file is also on the NWACA web site in the Zoning Committee page of Austin Oaks PUD Documents; look for the file named Staff Comments 10-03-2014:

<https://sites.google.com/site/nwaca2org/committee-overview/zoning-committee/austin-oaks-pud-documents>

Staff comments reflect many of the concerns of the neighborhood, in the individual reviewer responses as well as the section of General Questions. In the General Questions, staff asks about how this PUD aligns with Imagine Austin, its environmental superiority, the proposed height, the increase to floor-to-area ratio, the basis for computing bonus area (which affects affordable housing requirements and community benefits), and the overall public benefits of the PUD.

Because of a delay in the City's response to the application, the applicant now has until March 12, 2015 to respond to the requests and questions in this report, extended from the original date of January 12, 2015. If they do not respond in this timeframe, the application is automatically denied.

The standard process, assuming the applicant does respond to these requests and questions, may be additional rounds of questions and answers with City staff. Once comments are completed, the next steps are a public hearing at the Environmental Board, then a public hearing with the Zoning and Platting Commission, and then up to 3 readings with City Council.

As the comment process has progressed, the applicant has considered the feedback heard at the August Community Meeting, as well as what the area neighborhoods have expressed since then. The applicant is considering other approaches to the development and plans to provide information about those ideas to neighborhood association leaders in the coming weeks. As the information comes available, we will share it with you for discussion and feedback; we are not in a negotiation process, but gathering information as the applicant moves through the zoning application review process.

DEER MATING SEASON – BE CAREFUL AND BE INSURED!

- Wildlife Management Committee

You're probably seeing more large male deer in the area recently than in the past, and at times there are females scurrying along ahead of them. We're in the rutting season, so the deer may be more focused on each other than on people around them. Be careful, as they may dart in front of walkers, runners, cyclists, and moving cars. As you run or walk or go out with your pets, give the deer plenty of space.

Throughout the neighborhood, there are deer crossing signs where deer are especially common. Take special care in those areas.



Given the frequency with which cars and deer collide, it would be prudent to check your auto insurance to see if you have the coverage for "Collision – Other" that applies to such incidents. There's more detail at this link:

http://www.bankrate.com/finance/auto/deer-crashes-auto-insurance.aspx?p=295405&ed_rid=GYLHNXX-LR806-R5OG-W8WTI-VGC32-v1&ed_mid=295405=

COYOTE MANAGEMENT POLICY UPDATE

- Wildlife Management Committee

As we described in last month's newsletter, a Coyote Management Policy is under consideration by the City of Austin. At the Animal Advisory Commission meeting on October 8th, the draft policy proposed by the Coyote Working Group was approved, without the changes NWACA and Austin Coyotewise had championed. That same draft was approved by the Public Health and Human Services Committee at their meeting on October 21st, and the matter is now scheduled for City Council consideration on November 6th.

This proposed policy allows for capture of a coyote only after an attack on a human, or after an incident with an attended pet in a yard or a pet on a leash. Capture would be limited to box trapping, rather than the rubber leg-hold traps now used by Texas Wildlife Services (TWS). Experts disagree on the efficacy of box traps; TWS does not endorse them. They carefully set leg-hold traps so that the traps are not triggered by smaller animals, and they check the traps frequently so that coyotes caught in them are quickly addressed.

NWACA Wildlife Management Committee members are meeting with City Council members to explain our concerns and our position, and we will keep you apprised of the results. The draft policy is posted on the NWACA website in the Coyote Management References at this link, if you wish to review it:

<https://sites.google.com/site/nwaca2org/committee-overview/wildlife-management-committee/coyote-management-references>

WINTER BOPA RECYCLING COLLECTION

- John Warden and Tim Pham

Should we have another BOPA recycling collection?

The spring BOPA recycling collection was a record-breaking event with 145 carloads, 3000 pounds of recyclables, and 37 new/renewed memberships. Would you like another this winter? We'll need your help. If we can get 150 people interested and 10 volunteers, a date will be set for the event.

Show your interest by liking the "Winter BOPA Event" on the NWACA Facebook page or send an email to nwacainfo@gmail.com

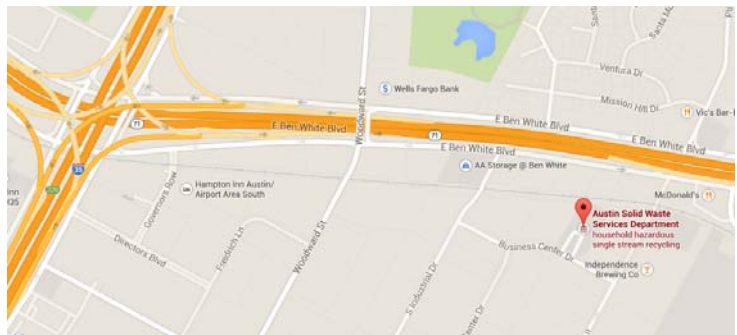
What can we accept?

Due to state regulations on transporting certain accumulated items, we can accept ONLY Batteries, Oil & Oil Filters, Paint, and Antifreeze (BOPA)

What about everything else?

Austin's Resource Recovery Center will accept *other hazardous wastes* like lawn chemicals, compact fluorescent bulbs and tubes, cleaners, solvents, and insecticides. Consider joining with a few of your neighbors to combine your collections and make a stop on your way to the airport. The Center is open 8:00 to 4:00 Monday-Friday, and the staff will unload your items from your car. The complete list of accepted items is at

<http://www.austintexas.gov/hhw>



PREVENT OAK WILT – SCHEDULE PRUNING NOW

- John Warden

The ideal season to prune Oaks is now – November thru January. If you believe your Live Oak or Red Oak trees should be pruned, have you scheduled the pruning some time before February 1? All trees tolerate pruning the best during the coldest part of the year, their dormant period. Important questions to determine whether your trees *need* pruning include:

- Are branches touching the house or rubbing together? Obstructing activity areas? Encroaching on power lines? If too low, contributing to potential wildfire spread?
- Are there more than a few small dead limbs? Tree canopies don't normally need to be "thinned" of living branches other than "sucker" growth. Trees know what they're doing!
- Has it been 5 or more years since the trees were pruned?

Prevent Oak Wilt PLAN AHEAD - PRUNE

NOV thru JAN

- *Beetles Inactive*
- *Dormant Season*
- *Coldest Months*

Your Tree Care and Landscape Plan for all kinds of trees should include other care needed throughout the year.

- Are there signs of distress? Wounds? Broken limbs?
- Are there irrigation needs, nutritional needs, missing compost/mulch?
- Do you need to replace or add trees or drought-resistant turf and plants?

NWACA recommends employing only certified arborists and working with them to develop and execute your Tree Care Plan that implements the Prevent Oak Wilt Best Practices. Avoid uncertified vendors knocking on doors. Do not become the next victim of oak will spread by careless pruning!

- Find International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborists (by name/ZIP) <http://texasoakwilt.org/find-a-vendor/certified-arborists/>
- Check Better Business Bureau ratings (by name) at www.BBB.org
- Check the local reviews for the vendor (drill down for the details) at www.austin.citysearch.com

For general Oak Wilt information, see www.nwaca.org/oakwilt and www.texasoakwilt.org

The City has scheduled limbs and brush pickup in the NWACA area the week of January 12, 2015.

PRUNING DATES CORRECTION

In last month's newsletter we had a short article about fall and winter tree maintenance. It included a reference to the message of our Prevent Oak Wilt campaign, but it got the dates confused. As several readers pointed out, it should have said "Do Not Prune Oaks Feb-June." We apologize for the error!

FREE HOUSEHOLD DOCUMENT SHREDDING

With the potential financial losses and frustrations that can arise from identify theft, it is more important than ever to carefully dispose of items containing personal information such as credit card statements and checking account records.

The Austin chapter of ARMA (Association of Records Managers and Administrators) and Balcones Shred are sponsoring a fall free "Shred Day" at Balcones Shred, 9301 Johnny Morris Road. The event runs from 8AM to 1:30 PM on **Saturday, November 15**. Austin residents can bring dry paper packed in cardboard boxes, with fitting lids, no larger than 24x24x36 inches. All of the shredded paper and cardboard boxes are recycled. More information is available at their web site: www.austinarma.com/shred-day

FIREWISE TIP OF THE MONTH: Fire Embers and Snowflakes

- Al Simmons

It is generally acknowledged by firefighters and fire experts that embers from a wild fire are more dangerous to homes and structures than the actual flames from the wildfire. Why is this? Well, the flight characteristics of fire embers are very similar to those of snowflakes (the difference being that one "freezes" and the other "burns!!!"). And the fire embers can be blown considerable distances in front of the actual flames of the wildfire itself.

Fire embers can fly through the air on strong winds very similar to snowflakes....they "pile up" and "bunch together" like snowflakes. They gather into corners and tiny crevasses (like under gables of a roof, or under roof tiles, or into open vents, or "up against" wood siding in corners of exterior walls), or against wooden fences. They also can get into your vegetation and yard, landing on dry grasses, leaf piles, stacked cut fireplace wood, plastic or wooden lawn furniture stacked under a wooden deck, etc.

To understand the potential risk on your property, go outside and walk around your house and yard. Visualize blowing snow and where it would stack or pile up in the yard and on the house. Now visualize those little piles as fire embers and think about what will burn. Now, what can you do to eliminate those penetrations and piles from burning?

These are the kinds of concerns that the NWACA teams of assessors look for in their home wildfire risk assessments. The assessors have been certified by the Austin Fire Department and Texas Forest Service, the assessments are free, and you will learn what it takes to harden your home against wildfire. You can also find a great deal of information on how to protect your home and your family from wildfires on the internet. You can start with the www.nwaca.org web site, to see a collection of materials and links on wildfire prevention.

If you would like to better understand the behavior of wildfire embers, there's a video at this link showing a controlled test of an ember storm: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvbNOPSyys>

MURCHISON POOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

- Caroline Alexander

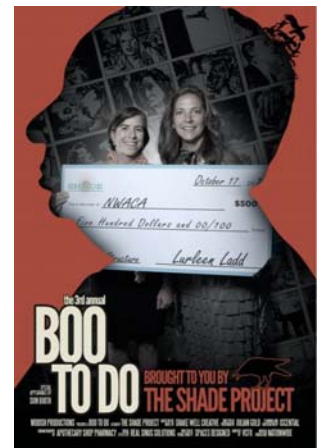
Murchison Pool is one of our neighborhood jewels. Well, it's more of a diamond in the rough these days, but we have a plan to make it shine!

With your help as well as the help of many of our neighbors and neighborhood partners, we will transform Murchison Pool into an inviting summer oasis. Depending on funding and approval by the City of Austin, we are proposing to add the following components:

- Up to 2 shade structures
- Up to 6 more picnic tables
- Up to 5 more benches
- Minor bathroom repairs
- Landscape improvements to make more usable space around the pool

To define the components of this project, we conducted a community survey in September 2014 to assess what neighbors want to see at the pool. We were pleased that 185 neighbors responded and were consistent in citing the need for shade, additional seating, and general improvements to make the pool area more inviting.

We are pleased to be partnering with Native Edge Landscape and The Shade Project on this effort, and we invite you to join us. Check out this web link for how you can get involved: www.murchisonpool.org



LATAM - THAT IS, "TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES"

- Joyce Statz

A neighbor asked recently for information on how to get "speed humps" put up on a quiet street that has too many speeding drivers. The City has a special process for this, known as Local Area Traffic Management. You can find more information about the qualifications for the program and how to apply at this web link:

<http://austintexas.gov/departments/local-area-traffic-management>

You can see which streets are at which state of the process in the list that's accessible at this site as well. They get more requests than they can fund in any given year, so there is a waiting list.

CRIME PREVENTION – BE A SAVVY SHOPPER - reprinted from North Austin Community Newsletter

Always lock your vehicle. Often car burglars will walk down parking lot aisles trying car door handles. Many burglaries of vehicles involve no forced entry, because doors were left unlocked by the owner.

If you are going to leave bags with your purchases in your vehicle, hide them or place them in your car trunk. Remember, burglars may be in the parking lot watching and waiting for you to leave your purchases. If you have more shopping to do at the same location, consider loading your purchases and driving around the parking lot and parking in another spot in case a burglar is watching.

Do not leave anything of perceived value in your vehicle in plain view (cell phones, tablets, laptops, iPods, GPS units, purses, wallets, or backpacks even if empty). Either place items in the trunk, out of sight/covered, or take the items with you. If at all possible, have items already put away before arriving at your destination as auto burglars may be watching.

Never leave your keys inside your vehicle, and never leave your vehicle running and unattended. Not only is it illegal under Texas law, but insurance companies often will consider this as owner-assisted auto theft.

And always remember, think before you drive. Hide your bags, THEN drive to your next destination. That way you can walk away from your car like there's nothing valuable in it.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS

- Membership and Sponsorship Committee

NWACA would like to thank our members who have so generously contributed to the Oak Wilt Fund, the 4th of July Parade Fund, or the Park Fund, between September 26th and October 27th, 2014.

Donations to the Oak Wilt Fund provide financial assistance to property owners dealing with oak wilt. With this assistance, NWACA can reimburse forty percent of a pre-approved homeowner's expenses, up to a maximum \$1,000 reimbursement. NWACA policy requires that a property owner obtain an assessment of oak wilt infection, or risk of infection in healthy oaks, from an arborist with ASI oak wilt certification.

Donations to the 4th of July Parade Fund help NWACA to host the best 4th of July parade in Austin! We celebrated our 42nd Annual parade on July 4th, 2014.

The Park Fund will help us revitalize parks in NWACA with projects such as putting picnic tables at Murchison Pool Park and providing materials for cleanup days at several of our parks.

• Sherry and Bill Buchanan	• Art and LaNell Coltharp
• Tavia and John Conkling	• Margaret Denena and Clifford Knowles
• Patricia and David Goodman	• Julie and Jim Johnson
• Judy and David Kellogg	• Wanda and Alan Sanderson
• Shirley Shaw	

HAPPENINGS IN THE NWACA AREA

Capital City Village Open House – December 2, 2014

Capital City Village is a nonprofit dedicated to supporting active aging for Austin residents over 50, helping them remain independent in their own homes and neighborhoods. They provide a network of volunteers to help with everything from transportation to light household tasks to computer assistance, and a list of providers for professional services. Members form a vibrant community and participate in classes, outings and social events.

Capital City Village will be hosting an open house, sponsored by Humana and co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center, for those who want to learn more:

- **Tuesday, December 2, 5:30-7:00PM**
- **Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart Lane**

RSVP to info@capitalcityvillage.org OR (512) 524-2709

Cemetery Master Plan Recommendations and Feedback – November 3, 2014

The fourth community meeting for the City of Austin Cemetery Master Plan will be held

- **November 3, 2014, 6:00–8:00 p.m.**
- **Zilker Botanical Gardens, 2220 Barton Springs Road.**

The Cemetery Master Plan project team will present and gather feedback on preliminary programming recommendations for the cemeteries, based on best practices from around the United States and feedback received to date from the community. The project team also will brief the community on the gravesite rules and regulations process, which will be incorporated into the master planning process. To view a memo from PARD to City Council explaining the consolidation of these processes, see: <http://goo.gl/q5p6N6>.

Two community surveys are now online and ready for your input. Survey #1 seeks to learn why and how often people currently visit the cemeteries. See this link for Survey #1: <http://goo.gl/WKZe35> Survey #2 is about burial options. As cremation and natural/green burial become more popular, the City might consider creating spaces in one or more cemeteries for different interment alternatives. Survey #2 is here: <http://goo.gl/tVXNU2>

You can find Cemetery Master Plan Newsletter #5 here: <http://goo.gl/1bKDom>

This website for the Cemetery Master Plan process is updated weekly: <http://www.austincemeteryplan.com/>

For updated information about the Cemetery Master Plan process and to view past newsletters and information from previous meetings, please visit: <http://austintexas.gov/cmp>. You may also call Kim McKnight at 512.974.9478 should you have questions or concerns.

"SCOOP THE POOP" SIGNS AVAILABLE FROM CITY OF AUSTIN



Some of our neighbors have expressed an interest in yard signs that remind dog-walkers to pick up after their dogs. The City of Austin has provided us small free yard signs that can be used to remind our friends to 'scoop the poop' as they walk their dogs.

We have a batch of those signs for distribution to anyone who'd like one. If you would like one, please let us know at nwacainfo@gmail.com or send us a message via U.S. mail.

Each month we feature helpful information from the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program, provided by Program Specialist Wizzie Brown.

Carpenter ants nest outdoors in dead wood (tree stumps or dead limbs, fences, firewood, etc.). They may also be found in wood siding, beams, joists, fascia boards or trim on structures. Damage is usually limited since carpenter ants tunnel and nest within wood; they do not eat wood. However, wood can become weakened by carpenter ant excavation.



Carpenter ants are large ants that can vary in color from all black to reddish to yellowish or a combination of colors. These ants have one node, no stinger and a circle of hairs at the tip of their abdomen.

Galleries in the nest are excavated following the grain of the wood and have clean, smooth walls. Nest locations may be discovered by searching for piles of sawdust-looking material under exit holes. Sawdust is coarse and may also contain soil or sand, uneaten insects as well as dead ants from the colony.

Carpenter ants are able to enter homes from tree branches or utility lines touching the home, through cracks and crevices around windows and doors, cracks in foundation walls, ventilation openings, or heating and air conditioning ducts.

Here are some tips for a carpenter ant infestation:

- Remove dead trees and/ or limbs and remove tree stumps from the landscape. Many times you can remove the (possible) nesting sites and get rid of the ants without using pesticides.
- Prune trees and shrubs that touch the home. Carpenter ants will often use these areas as a bridge to enter the home.
- Replace wood that is water damaged. Carpenter ants are drawn to moisture damaged wood, so make sure to repair any water leaks and replace damaged wood.
- Remove wood debris and firewood that is near the home. Carpenter ants may nest in firewood and when it is stacked right next to the home, it allows the ants to enter more easily.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out the blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Texas AgriLife Extension Service or the Texas AgriLife Research is implied. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

APD QUARTERLY COMMANDER'S FORUM SCHEDULE

The NWACA area is included in two districts of the Austin Police Department, thus we have two District Representatives, and we are served by two of the quarterly Commander's Forums.

Region 1, Central West (B4), District Representative Darrell Grayson – covers Baker Sector: (a) the area from Spicewood Springs to Far West, Mesa to Mopac, plus (b) all of the area south of Far West, from 360 to Mopac. There are no more Region 1 Commander's Forums in 2014.

Region 2, Northwest (A3), District Representative Joe Hebbe – covers Adam Sector, the area from Spicewood Springs to Far West, 360 to Mesa. The next Region 2 Commander's Forum for 2014:

- Tuesday, November 11, 2014 - 6-8:30 p.m. - Great Hills Baptist Church, 10500 Jollyville Rd.

To help you see which of these regions serves your street, please see the maps that are on the Crime and Safety Committee page at our web site: www.nwaca.org

NWACA FACEBOOK PRESENCE AND NOTES YAHOO GROUP – SHARING AT ITS BEST!

Are you on Facebook? Join our Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/299472207877/> to be part of neighborhood conversations on everything from local events to lost dogs, reporting suspicious criminal activity, and exchanging referrals on residential services (as well as feedback on negative experiences). Get to know your neighbors online!

Due to the group's huge popularity NWACA now also has its own community Facebook page dedicated to NWACA events at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/NWACA-Northwest-Austin-Civic-Association/563320463775985>

There is also a special-purpose Facebook group for information about the Austin Oaks PUD at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/213579268812724/>

Our NWACA Notes Yahoo Group is another vehicle for trading messages, news, and trends. You can join by sending an email to: NWACANotes-subscribe@yahoogroups.com . The bigger the group the more valuable the info!

REMINDER ABOUT NOT FEEDING THE DEER

Some new neighbors may not be aware that feeding deer is prohibited in Austin. If you see someone feeding deer, let them know that it's bad for the deer, and it's a violation of a City ordinance. If the feeding persists, you can report it by calling 3-1-1. The Code Compliance Department will send someone to talk with the neighbor.

SEE A GREAT DROUGHT-RESISTANT LANDSCAPE? TELL US!

- Joyce Statz

For about a year, we've been featuring a neighbor's landscape that gives us ideas about things we can plant that are drought-resistant and look great, too.

If you'd like to share your landscape with us, or you want to nominate one of a neighbor, please let us know. If you see an inspiring example as you drive through the neighborhood, tell us about that one, too, and we'll contact the neighbor to get their story. With our persistent drought, we really need a lot of new ideas!

WHY JOIN NWACA?

The Northwest Austin Civic Association is your neighborhood association! NWACA represents YOU on issues like:

- Crime (how to prevent car and home break-ins, interacting with APD on issues)
- Transportation (raising awareness about excessive vehicle speeds and tracking new traffic lights).
- Zoning concerns
- Wildfire Prevention (helping homeowners harden their homes against wildfire)

NWACA plans the annual 4th of July Parade (42nd Annual in 2014!), organizes election and issues forums, sponsors an annual neighborhood garage sale, publishes a newsletter and much, much more!

NWACA Membership Form

Send annual dues of **\$25** with this form to: NWACA, P.O. Box 26654, Austin, TX 78755

Homeowner Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____ Zip _____

Email #1 (kept private; print): _____

Email #2 (kept private; print): _____

Phone (with area code): _____ Date: _____

Do you have school-age children in our local schools? ___ Yes ___ No

(Our monthly newsletter includes a schools column, which you might want to review.)

Annual Dues: \$25

(Optional) 4th of July Parade Contribution: \$10___ \$20___ Other ___

(Optional) Oak Wilt Fund Contribution: \$10___ \$20___ Other ___

(Optional) Parks Fund Contribution: \$10___ \$20___ Other ___

(You can also pay via PayPal by following this link on our web site: [Join NWACA](#))

(If you've already paid your dues for this year, please pass this on to a neighbor who is not yet a member.)

Volunteers are always needed on our committees.

Please mark those you'd like to know more about, and a Committee Chair will contact you.

Thanks very much!

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civic Engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime and Safety/Neighborhood Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree and Environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire Prevention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership and Sponsorship | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning |