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Thank you to our 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

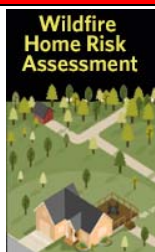
In January, we were pleased to report on an Austin Parks Foundation grant for improvements at Stillhouse Hollow Preserve. This month, we celebrate with our Parks Committee, as the City of Austin's Neighborhood Partnering Program named us as a grant recipient for improvements at Murchison Pool Park! This grant will enable us to extend the changes made last year (additional picnic tables) to incorporate shade structures and more seating. (See the article below for more details.) Our part of the partnership requires both a bit of "sweat equity" as well as some serious financial support. We'll be reaching out to everyone in the neighborhood to help make the dreamed-of improvements a reality in the coming year or so. Help us turn this park into a real jewel!

It's only March, but now's the critical time to be planning the 4th of July Parade! Our organizing committee needs to get together soon and distribute tasks. If you have a few hours you can contribute, please send email to nwacainfo@gmail.com to let us know how you can help.

You'll see a brief reminder below about having a home wildfire risk assessment. These are **free**; and without exception, homeowners tell us the information they get is very valuable as they plan the small changes needed to make their homes fire-hardened. This is a good time of year to have an assessment, as you plan changes to your landscape. The weather is fine for all the little repairs you may need to do, so that embers can't float into the various vents or collect in nooks and crannies. Sign up as described; our assessors are ready to help!

Thanks, as always, for supporting our fantastic neighborhood!

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
Mar. 2, Noon	Mangia Pizza	NWACA Zoning Committee
Mar. 3, 7-9PM	ABoR Events Center, 4800 Spicewood Springs Road	NWACA Crime and Safety Seminar – <i>Crime Prevention and Safety Issues in our Neighborhood</i>
Mar. 4, 8 AM	Kneaded Pleasures	NWACA Communications Committee
Mar. 5, 8 AM	Kneaded Pleasures	Membership and Sponsorship Committee
Mar. 7, 9 AM- noon	Stillhouse Hollow Nature Preserve	It's My Park Day – work session at the Preserve
Mar. 7, 1-4 PM	Murchison Pool Park	It's My Park Day – work session at the Park – 2 slots left - to sign up, go to http://www.austinparks.org/
March 8		<i>Daylight Savings Time begins</i>
Mar 11, 6:30 – 8:30 PM	Mangia Pizza	NWACA Monthly Board Meeting

SEMINAR –HOW TO PREVENT “SPRING-BREAK-INS” AND MORE... - Cuatro Gross and John Sepehri

While we need to be vigilant all year around, there are some times of the year when homes and vehicles in our neighborhood are especially vulnerable to break-ins – Spring Break and South by Southwest among the worst.

Come join us for facts and figures and helpful tips on how to keep your home safe.

When: Tuesday, March 3, 7 PM

Where: Austin Board of Realtors Events Center, 4800 Spicewood Springs Road

Speakers: Officer Darrell Grayson, APD District Representative for NWACA
Paul Rusch, Blue Line Security, representing the Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association

Light refreshments will be provided

Officer Darrell Grayson of the Austin Police Department, APD's liaison with our neighborhood, will give us an update on crime and safety in our neighborhood. Our second panelist, Paul Rusch, will speak about security methods. Mr. Rusch is the manager of Blue Line Security, a locally-owned security company that has been in the security industry for nearly a decade. The company specializes in traditional burglar alarms and the ever-expanding arena of home automation (e.g., remote thermostat control, automated door locks, lighting control and camera access). In addition, we'll hear from neighbors who have had a recent spate of incidents. Bring your questions and concerns and learn how to keep your home and property safe.

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS NEWS

- Jen Despina

Thanks to everybody who voted in the Follett Challenge in support of Doss Elementary! Doss came in 3rd place and was awarded \$8,000 for technology upgrades for its library. What a wonderful investment for Doss!

Highland Park Elementary will be having a spirit night at CraigO's Pizza and Pastaria on Wednesday March 4th. 10% of all proceeds from 4 to 10 PM will be donated back to the school. Come out and support the HP Scotties!

Lamar Middle School will be hosting FAME Jr. on February 27th, February 28th and March 1st. See info at <http://www.lamarchoir.com/fametickets>. The Symphonic Winds concert will be March 3rd at 7 PM at the AISD Performing Arts Center.

Spring break is March 16th- March 20th. All AISD and area private schools will be closed.

ZONING CASE UPDATES

- Joyce Statz

Several zoning cases have been addressed in City meetings during the past month. Here is a brief summary of those being watched by the neighborhood.

Overlook at Spicewood Springs – 4920 Spicewood Springs Road (4.2 acres out of 24-acre plot being subdivided)

- This request to change zoning from Single Family (SF-2) to Limited Office with conditional overlay (LO-CO) was heard on first reading at City Council on February 12. (This is the second application on this site; a prior case last year was denied.) The City Staff and Zoning and Platting Commission (ZAP) recommended limits on traffic and building height in their conditional overlay. These were augmented by conditions on square footage in a valid petition filed by neighboring businesses and residents. Council Member Gallo met with neighbors and the developer to attempt to gain agreement on the conditions. The applicant agreed to all conditions except the building size. The proposed building has 18,000 square feet; neighbors want a 12,000 square foot maximum; the applicant would agree to 16,000 as a compromise.
- Council voted 10-0 to approve LO zoning, with the set of conditions set by ZAP, augmented by those of the neighbors (with Mayor Adler recusing himself). The Council's motion is on the NWACA web site, in the News and Announcements blog in a news item dated February 13, 2015.
- See this link for a video of the Council hearing:
<http://austintx.swagit.com/play/02122015-590> (item 79)

4316 Far West Boulevard – 4 variances to build on a steep slope near critical environmental features

- These variance requests were not supported by City Staff and the Environmental Board. The case was heard by the Zoning and Platting Commission on February 17. After hearing from both City Staff and the applicant, the Commission voted to deny the variances by a unanimous vote.
- See this link for a video of the hearing:
<http://austintx.swagit.com/play/02172015-677> (item 8)

WATCHING THE CLOCK? SPRING AHEAD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8

- Public Service Notice



Daylight savings time starts soon....

Sunday, March 8

Set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night and be right on time!

UPDATES ON THE PROPOSED AUSTIN OAKS PUD

- PUD Ad Hoc Committee Co-Chairs

February 17th Zoning and Platting Commission (ZAP) Meeting

Jerry Rusthoven from Planning and Development Review provided a progress report on the PUD application, for which City Staff received an indefinite postponement (up to 180 days) in December:

- Staff is continuing negotiations with the developer; no updates have been submitted since December.
- The Traffic Impact Analysis is still under review.
- The applicant had communicated a set of proposed changes to the neighborhood on December 22, 2014 and is awaiting neighborhood feedback.
- Staff is not prepared to make a recommendation yet.
- The case expires on June 16th, unless it comes back to the Zoning and Platting Commission before then.

ZAP asked that Jerry come back with another update at its April 7th meeting.

Meetings with Council Members

Council Member Gallo has been meeting with neighborhood representatives and with the developer's representatives about this case, getting briefings on the details of the PUD application and the concerns of the surrounding neighborhoods. On February 18th, neighborhood association leaders from the civic associations which represent the four corners around the development (NWACA, Balcones Civic Association, Allandale Neighborhood Association, and North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association) were joined by several other neighbors and Jerry Rusthoven in a meeting with Council Members Gallo and Pool and their aides. Each association leader talked through the background of the PUD case, meetings that had been held with the developer and with the community, surveys done to date, and the key issues that have surfaced in the process.

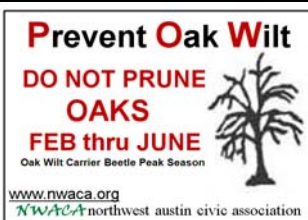
The neighborhoods have common concerns: traffic created by the density of the PUD, height of the proposed buildings, impact on schools, threat to heritage trees, and setting a precedent for development along Mopac.

Jerry Rusthoven was asked what density is possible with current zoning. He said his staff is unable to answer that question, since the answer depends on the design of what is developed. He agreed that if the site was simply changed to extend the height of current buildings to an allowed maximum of 5 stories, the density could be essentially doubled. Key staff concerns with the PUD at this point, he said, were height, compliance with Imagine Austin, and setting precedent for similar development.

Next steps in the process can be taken when the applicant submits updates to their application. After staff review, the case goes to the Environmental Board, then ZAP, then Council. Dates are yet to be determined.

Each neighborhood is in the process of gathering feedback to the December proposals. NWACA is working on a survey for the entire NWACA neighborhood to be conducted in the next several weeks. The other neighborhoods are planning to do something similar. *Watch for the survey details coming soon. Your response is very important.* We will be sharing the results of the survey with our Council Member as well as City Staff and the developer's representatives.

REMINDER - DO NOT PRUNE OAKS – FEBRUARY THROUGH JUNE



Tree Trimming companies are busy soliciting business in NWACA neighborhoods. Don't let them prune your live oaks or red oaks until July. Until then, sap beetles are attracted to fresh tree wounds and can transmit the oak wilt fungus to a healthy oak tree during pruning. The heat of July-August is believed to suppress the beetles and reduce the risk of infection. Note that all trees are under the normal stress of summer, depending on soil moisture, and some are still in their growing season then. So if you haven't completed pruning of oaks by now, it's best to wait until fall.

MURCHISON POOL PARK GRANT

- Caroline Alexander

NWACA was thrilled to receive notice that the City of Austin's Neighborhood Partnering Program approved our funding request for improvements at Murchison Pool. The project will include the installation of a picnic pavilion in place of the existing arbor, 8 picnic tables, 2 cantilevered umbrellas over the picnic tables that were installed last year, and 5 benches placed around the pool.

While the City is providing the majority of the funding, we will need to contribute \$30,000 and 150 volunteer hours. That means we need your help! We have 6 months to raise our funds and contribute our hours. If we can accomplish these goals, we will have a new and improved Murchison Pool for Summer 2016.

How can you get involved? Glad you asked!

1. *Make a contribution.* Anything helps. We have sponsorship levels from \$25 to \$5,000. A \$100 donation (or above) gets you a super cool yard sign that will make all of your neighbors jealous. We'll be collecting donations at the pool on March 7 between 1:00 and 4:00 and around the neighborhood at various events and locations. You can also visit MurchisonPool.org and donate online.
2. *Sign up to be a fundraising team captain.* If you are at all competitive or if you used to be a cheerleader, you would be perfect for this job. We'll have a fun contest to see which part of the neighborhood can show the most support for the pool. Contact Caroline Alexander at caroline.m.alexander@gmail.com
3. *Volunteer.* We have a few more spots open for [It's My Park Day](#) on March 7 and will have one or two more work days before the pool opens in May. Stay tuned for the announcement of the work days and sign up.

If you want to get actively involved and stay informed of our progress, join the Friends of Murchison Pool group at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!aboutgroup/murchison-pool-atx>.

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 January 26, 2015 and February 18, 2015.

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! In 2015, we will be celebrating our 43rd Annual parade on July 4th.

The Park Fund helps us revitalize parks in NWACA with projects such as the improvements planned at Murchison Pool Park and cleanup days at several of our parks.

• Susie and Dan Allen	• Anonymous
• Kay and Tim Bradley	• Paula and Otis Brinkley
• Karlen Gross	• Judy Hetherly
• Estelle and Reuben Kogut	• Cindy and Michael Marks
• Susan and David Sheppard	• Ravi Venkatrao

CALLING 311 TO REPORT A COYOTE

- Carolyn Abernathy and Jennifer Hopper

Throughout this year, the NWACA Wildlife Committee will provide education about how to minimize conflict with and damage from coyotes in our neighborhood. Each article will be archived on the NWACA web site for quick and easy access, in the Coyote References files.

Using 311 for citizen reporting of coyote was established in the Fall of 2004 as part of the first coyote management program serving residents of Austin and Travis County. Throughout that year there was an explosion of habituated coyote exhibiting aggressive and bold behaviors toward pets and humans in Northwest Hills and adjoining neighborhoods in the 78731 and 78759 zip codes.

Citizen-reported observations and conflicts with coyote are used to assess the impact of urban coyote behavior on people and pets. 311 reporting data is collected by the professional wildlife biologist at Texas Wildlife Services (TWS). The primary response of TWS is to assess the information, investigate and perform a site visit if needed, and provide education about urban coyote to those affected. The information collected for a 311 call includes the following: **1) location of coyote sighting, 2) number of coyote sighted, 3) date of the sighting, 4) time of the sighting, 5) the behavior of the coyote (i.e. aggressive or non-aggressive), and 6) coyote contact with human or animal.**

Historically, 78731 had the highest rate of coyote reporting. This is likely due to intertwining greenbelts and creek beds, the Bright Leaf Preserve (200 acres) and various other parks in the area. Urban coyote are here to stay. There has never been - and there never will be - an urban coyote eradication program in Austin or Travis County.

As we strive to co-exist with these opportunistic urban predators, we must consider the normal behaviors of urban coyote which are of low concern:

- Sighting in streets, yards, and edges of greenbelts from dusk to dawn
- Howling heard at night
- Coyote exhibiting human avoidance behavior

The following observations and encounters reflect habituated behaviors with an increased risk to pet and human safety. Hazing by adults is recommended. A coyote that does not exhibit fear of humans and acts aggressively should be reported immediately.

- Daylight observances of coyote in yards, streets, parks
- Daylight observances of coyote chasing or taking pets
- Coyote approaching, tracking, or stalking of leashed or supervised pet (any time of day)
- Coyote chasing runners, cyclists
- Daylight observances in and around play areas, school yards or parks

Lethal removal is an option only after there is an attack, OR, there is an incident involving a coyote growling, snarling, baring teeth, and lunging toward people or pets.

COMMANDER'S FORUM DATES FOR 2015

Dates have been set for the quarterly Commanders Forum for our area of Austin, Region 1, Central West and North Central. Here are the upcoming dates and meeting places for the meeting which cover all of NWACA, plus more neighborhoods:

- Tuesday, April 7, 2015 - 6:30 - 8 PM - McCallum High School, 5600 Sunshine Dr.
- Tuesday, July 7, 2015 - 6:30 - 8 PM - Cornerstone Church, 1101 Reinli St.
- Tuesday, October 13, 2015 - 6:30 - 8 PM - McCallum High School, 5600 Sunshine Dr.

FIREWISE TIP OF THE MONTH – WHAT TO DO WHEN THE WILDFIRE COMES

- Al Simmons

Each month we feature helpful information about ways to make your home more fire-adapted, better able to prevent wildfire destruction. The full set of tips is archived on the www.nwaca.org web site.

First, you should have already done all of the fire-damage prevention to your home talked about in the NWACA Newsletter Firewise columns over the past two years. Those “tips” helped you harden your home against urban wildfires and their deadly embers, by working on the landscape and vegetation-intense areas surrounding your home, and by tending to the exterior skin materials and weak points in the walls, roofs, windows, vents, and all other places where flying fire embers can gather to cause fires.

Assuming you have **already** accomplished these prevention measures and are now need to escape an urban wildfire sweeping toward your home, what are the next steps? Here is some guidance based on many experiences with wildfire.

Preparation Work (well before a fire):

1. **Identify a place where you, your family and your pets can stay for 4 to 5 days “because of fire.”** (NOTE: If you have family or friends outside of the potential fire zone, this is good. If not, make a list of 5 or more hotels which will pre-arrange to reserve space for your family and pets for a 4 – 5 day period. Call each hotel well in advance of a potential wildfire and find out their procedures for handling fire victims and make whatever arrangements you can).
2. **Have “escape bags” ready to go.** (with sufficient quantities to accommodate your family for 4 to 5 days away from home):
 - Clothing for each member of the family
 - Medicines/medications for each family member
 - Feeding/watering bowls, pet foods, and pet medicines for the pets
 - Important documents that “cannot be lost in a fire”
 - Jewelry and other valuables you do not want to lose in a fire (NOTE: Many safes and vaults are NOT FIREPROOF and you can lose your valuables in such safes/vaults. Be sure that a safe or vault is certified to withstand a house fire for an extended period of time, i.e. 3 – 4 hours, in any case.)
 - Cell phones/iPads/etc., chargers, and their cables, so that you can notify family and friends of your predicament regarding the urban wildfire event

Exiting activity (The fire or smoke is visible or you can smell it.)

1. **Call 911, report fire, its location, and your location. Have the family vehicle ready to go.**
 - VERY IMPORTANT: Account for all family members and all pets.
 - VERY IMPORTANT: Know where your car keys are: **put them in your pocket or purse.** You don’t want to waste valuable time searching for them after you have things packed.
 - Park the car close to the primary exit door of house.
2. **Escape the fire.**
 - Your family needs to already be prepared, so that they **don’t panic when the fire sweeps toward you**, and so that they **react to your game plan** to get everyone (people and pets) into your vehicle, get the escape bag into the vehicle and leave.
 - Plan your escape route(s) based on the direction from which the fire is coming, turn to get **away** from the fire i.e. left or right at the street away from the fire.
 - **Watch out for fire trucks and other emergency vehicles and yield right-of-way!**

Returning to the site for your pets?

Do not return to the fire site until approved by officials. Dogs and cats will know before you do that a wildfire is in the area; their sense of smell is far superior to that of humans. They will become hyperactive before the fire reaches your location, and they may run or escape or hide. Don't let this happen – put them in crates or X-pens for their own safety and put them in the car. Be aware that if you can't find your pets and you have to leave without them, your children will want to go back and find them. This happened to people in the Steiner Ranch fire and the Bastrop fire. **Don't let it happen to you or your family. Take care of the pets and take them with you!**

*The next issue of the NWACA newsletter will have information regarding the trying time of surviving an urban wildfire situation. For additional guidance about these topics, review or download the **Ready, Set, Go** brochure at www.nwaca.org in the collection of wildfire prevention references under the Wildfire Prevention Committee page. It provides great guidance, along with checklists for how to get ready before a fire threatens, what to do when the fire arrives, and a list of emergency supplies to pack.*

HAPPENING BEYOND THE NEIGHBORHOOD – ORGANIC SPRING VEGETABLE SALE

- Bob Easter

Here is an event that a group has asked us to publicize to our neighbors.

Sunshine Community Gardens (SCG), 4814 Sunshine Drive, 78756 is having the largest non-profit Certified Organic Spring Vegetable Sale in the State of Texas, March 7, 2015, starting at 9 AM.

30,000 Certified Organic Plants will be on sale along with local vendors, live music, and fun for every member of the family, including children.

Over 150 tomato varieties, 72 Wicked Hot and Sweet Bell Pepper varieties, 15 kinds of eggplants, and 5000 herbs and other plants will be available, ready for spring planting. For a complete list of plants on sale and varieties to grow go to <http://www.sunshinecommunitygarden.org/>

SCG is the oldest community garden in Austin, a cooperative arrangement with the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI). A percentage of the sales proceeds will benefit TSBVI's horticulture and animal care programs. SCG members donate time, gardening experience, and expertise to help students at the school. SCG members also grow, harvest, and deliver twice weekly, thousands of pounds of vegetables per year to the Micah 6 Food Bank and Pantry. For more information:

- Website: <http://www.sunshinecommunitygarden.org/>
- Contact: Bob Easter, SCG Member at 512-346-1692 or email: beaster1@austin.rr.com

INDIANMEAL MOTHS

- Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service

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

Indianmeal moths can be found in dog food, birdseed, cereals, dried fruit, nuts, powdered milk and candy. Adults are small with grayish wings tipped in copper. Larvae are creamy yellow to yellow-green to pink and often crawl along pantry walls. Spun pupal cases are often found along corners and edges of wall areas.



To eliminate a pantry pest problem, the first step is to locate and remove all infested items. Removing infested items is the easy part; finding the infestation is not always so simple. Begin with the oldest food items, usually in the back of the pantry. Inspect everything, including unopened food items since these can also be a source. If you find an infested item, do not stop your inspection, more than one item may be infested.

Throw away infested items. If you don't feel that you can throw away food, place the infested food in a zip-top plastic bag and place the bag in the freezer for about 5-7 days or spread the infested food item on a baking sheet and bake at 250 degrees for 4-6 hours to kill any insects. Once all the insects are dead, you can sift the food item or pick out the insects. Of course, you can always just leave the insects in the food and get a little more protein with your meal!

It is extremely important to find the source, and not all pantry pest infestations come from the pantry. Check rooms for items such as dried decorative peppers, dried flowers, potpourri, or rice heating packs.

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

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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SHERI GALLO'S OFFICE

- Public Service Notice

For your reference, if you would like to contact our District 10 City Council Member, Sheri Gallo, here are the contact details:

Office line: 512-978-2110

Policy Aides:

Tina.Cannon@Austintexas.gov

Taylor.Smith@Austintexas.gov

Constituent Liaison, Suzie Chase Brown:

Suzie.Chase@Austintexas.gov

- Suzie fields incoming calls, arranges meetings, and handles general office inquiries

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.

CAN WE SEE YOU? CAN YOU SEE US?

If you're walking or running in the street, are you able to catch the eye of the driver of the car or truck or motorcycle in your lane? Please remind your family and friends, as you are out walking and running in the street, that you need to be facing the traffic. It's the law for a reason - it's the safe way!

On some of our streets, the best place to be is the sidewalk – even if you're not facing the traffic. On streets that are marked for bicycles (perhaps also with a parking lane), there's too little space for walkers and bikes and cars; so use the sidewalk if one is available there.

When out at night on the street, please wear something reflective, to help drivers see you in the dark or dusk. Thanks!



CITY OF AUSTIN "SCOOP THE POOP" SIGNS AVAILABLE



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.

TAP SIGNS AVAILABLE

The Traffic Awareness Program (TAP) signs are a very visible way for you to raise awareness about the excessive speeds on our residential streets, cautioning drivers to slow down. To show your support, place a free **"Please Slow Down"** sign in your front yard!

If you would like a sign, please contact us at nwacainfo@gmail.com



CALL 9-1-1 FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The 9-1-1 emergency number gets you a response for a wide variety of issues:

- Life-threatening issues – house on fire, person having a heart attack, burglary in progress, etc.
- Health-related crises – someone can't catch their breath, incapacitated person needs a lift out of the bathtub, and more.
- If you're unsure, err on the side of caution!

Call 9-1-1 and you will get a quick and kind response from EMS, APD, and Austin Fire Department personnel.

CALL 3-1-1 FOR ASSISTANCE WITH ANY NON-EMERGENCY ACTION BY THE CITY OF AUSTIN

The City of Austin provides one number, 3-1-1, that citizens may call for things like the following:

- Coyote sightings or howling – provide an exact street address, so the trapper can locate them
- Reporting trees that have fallen and block roadways or sidewalks, or those that drag on power lines
- Reporting dead animals for pickup; they must be placed at the curb, though; City personnel are not allowed to enter our yards to gather them
- Problems with loose dogs or traffic signals not working
- Reporting instances of people feeding deer
- And more

Call 3-1-1 or file a request at <http://austin-p1csrprodcwi.motorolasolutions.com/Home.mvc/Index>

The City also has a smartphone 3-1-1 app now. See this link for more information:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/311/smart-phone-app>

NWACA MAILING LIST – IT'S FAST AND FRIENDLY!

If you're among the NWACA members getting this newsletter by U.S. mail, but you also have an email address, please let us know your email address and let us deliver the newsletter and other news to you that way. You can easily click on the many links in the newsletter to find more detailed information and you'll get your news much sooner than if you wait for it from "snail mail!" When we sign you up for the email list, we'll give you a clear explanation of how to set up your options.

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 |