

RANCH AT CYPRESS CREEK

HOA NEWSLETTER

Board of Directors

Elena Barrett

Troy Fielding

Larry Yetter

Newsletter: Dee Yetter

MARCH 2013

www.ranchatcypresscreekhoa.com

Well it's been a year since the last HOA newsletter and not much has changed during this period of time. The HOA Annual Meeting was held on March 12 at the Cedar Park Library in the Conference Room. They had a Quorum so the meeting and election of a Board Member was completed. Elena Barrett was re-elected to the Board. Financials were discussed as well as questions addressed from the floor regarding HOA Covenants.

UPCOMING HOA EVENTS

EASTER EGG HUNT

*WHERE: Rachel Ridge Park
(corner of Rachel Ridge & Del Roy)*

WHEN: March 30

TIME: 12 Noon

HOA GARAGE SALE

STILL TO BE DETERMINED. WATCH WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

UPCOMING CEDAR PARK EVENTS

Cedar Park Thin Mint Sprint. March 23, at Cedar Park Center
Monarchsu.com/ThinMintSprint/

2013 Cedar Fest Barbecue Cook Off.

March 23

Twin Lakes YMCA, 204 E. Little Elm Trail.

Open to the public and is free.

LANDSCAPING AND LAWN MAINTENANCE

Now is the time to be taking a close look at our lawns. Last year was a rough year on all of the landscaping. Grass was stressed as well as our shrubs, flowers, trees etc. We still haven't had much rain. Some homeowners have lost portions of their grass. If you don't see any green by now, you're going to have to re-sod. If you want to throw out some Bermuda seed, it's still a little early for that, the evenings are still too cool. If you need to re-sod don't just pick up some squares of St. Augustine and throw it down, you're wasting your time and money. You need to loosen up the soil, get some bags of good soil with some nutrients mixed in, spread it loosely in the area of re-sodding, then put your sod down and water. You'll need to water this area enough to keep it damp for several weeks. Once it has taken hold then water as you usually do. For those of you who have grass, but it looks stressed now is the time to spread out compost approx. ¼" thick, then in about a week come along with a slow released fertilizer. A good one that we have used for a long time is "Milorganite" (spelling?). It's a slow release and won't burn your yards. There are several links to landscaping sites on the HOA website as well as the MUD's.

Watering tips: You don't have to water often, but water **deep**. You need for those roots to go down so they don't burn up in the heat. A way to check how much water you're putting down is to take a tuna or cat food can and put them in several locations in your yard. You should put down close to an inch with each watering. Last yr. we had our sprinkling system set for every 6 days on the lawn and every 3 days for the flower beds. About the end of July we moved it to every 5 days. When Cedar Park put the restrictions to twice weekly, we were actually watering one extra time a month with their restrictions, so we cut back a little on the length of time we were watering. The lawn was green and healthy all summer.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR PETS

Recently, a resident off the MUD reported to the MUD Board that their family cat was killed. The cause of death is undetermined at this time. The Board would like to remind residents of the District that pets that are left outside, particularly at night, are at risk of encountering wild animals or other dangerous activity. Residents should report suspicious animal deaths by calling 911 and requesting an Animal Control Officer, who will determine if there is a need for the Sheriff's Office to investigate it as a predation or cruelty case.

FENCES AND COLUMNS

The concrete fence and columns along Cypress Creek Rd, Anderson Mill Rd, Zeppelin Dr, Sunchase Blvd, and adjacent to the Austin Community College campus are the property of the Ranch at Cypress Creek Municipal Utility District No 1 (the "District"). Any removal of the fence or columns to allow access to private property must be done **by the District. Please contact one of your MUD board members if you need to arrange to have work done. Please do not do any work involving the fence or columns yourself.**

MUD LANDSCAPING

In the last newsletter (you can find it on the HOA website) I described a more drought tolerant type of landscaping they were considering. It was decided that this was too expensive and have decided not to pursue it.

MUD MEETING

For those of you who are new to the area or have forgotten, Clawson is our Waste Disposal Company.

The MUD pays for your trash disposal, the amount they pay is included in your MUD tax billing. Your tax bill is a little higher, but it's deductible from your taxes, thus being a little cheaper for you. The MUD Board is also considering having the Homeowners pay their own disposal bills. Clawson will bill quarterly and the costs below will be approx. \$2.00 more. You will not have a choice of the option, the MUD will pick one.

The owners of Clawson were present at the meeting as the contract with them is up in April. Below are the options and cost they presented to the MUD Board.

OPTION 1: \$16.95 Mo.

95 Gallon Cart – Solid Waste

95 Gallon Cart – Single Stream Recycle

Garbage service one day per week – ***no plastic bags***, trash carts only

Recycle service every other week

OPTION 2: \$17.61 Mo.

95 Gallon Cart – Solid Waste

95 Gallon Cart – Single Stream Recycle

Garbage service one day per week – ***including two additional bags***

Recycle service every other week

OPTION 3: \$18.25 Mo.

95 Gallon Cart – Solid Waste

95 Gallon Cart – Single Stream Recycle

Garbage service one day per week – ***including five additional bags***

Recycle service every other week

CEDAR PARK RAIN BARRELS

Through March 31, Cedar Park water customers can order a 50 gallon rain barrel for a discounted price of \$69 or two 50 gallon rain barrels for \$133 or 65 gallon for \$99. Rain barrels work by connecting to the downspout of a home gutter & capturing water from rooftops. The 50 & 65 barrel has a gravity fed spigot where a water hose can be attached at the bottom of the barrel. You can turn on the spigot to irrigate gardens and lawns, wash cars & pets.

You can purchase these through March 31 at cedarparktexas.gov. They will be distributed on April 6 from 8 a.m. to noon at Southwest Wmsn. Cnty Regional Park in Leander. If you want to place one in front of the fence line you will have to submit an AMR to your HOA Board for approval.

SOLAR PANELS

Pedernales Electric members looking to supplement their home energy supply with solar energy now have the option to lease solar panels. Members will have both monthly and pre-paid leasing options. They take care of the installation and maintenance. Plus, they have a power production guarantee. Visit pec.coop/solarleasing or call 1-855-NRG-SOLAR for details.