

Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

Calendar

- 12-11 Santa Event
- 12-17 MUD Meeting
- 12-19 Holiday Contest Judging 6-9PM
- 12-20 WIA Meeting

Holiday Happenings



Saturday, December 11th
3:00PM-5:00PM

Join us for a free Santa Event at the WIA Office! Santa will be here for photos and to find out what the kiddos want for Christmas this year.



At 7PM, Palmer Real Estate will host a family friendly outdoor Christmas Movie in their parking lot. BOYB snacks, drinks.

Please contact Melanie at 936-891-5200 to reserve your spot.



Links

(Click to follow)

[Waterwood Website:](#)

[Waterwood MUD](#)

[Waterwood Pictures](#)

[Classified Ads](#)

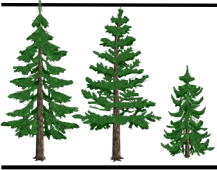
[Click here to place classified ads on the new website.](#)

Waterwood Security
936-661-2800

San Jacinto County Sheriff
936-653-4367

WIA Office
936-891-7710

Waterwood VFD
936-755-0960.



Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021



**Please make sure everything is plugged in and lit up
from 6-9pm on Sunday, December 19th for the
Waterwood Holiday Decorating Contest judging!**

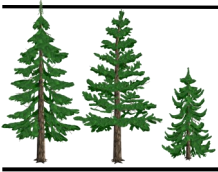
**One Winner from each neighborhood subdivision will be
selected as well as honorable mentions.**

**There will also be one Grand Prize Winner
for all of Waterwood!**

Good Luck!

From Larry and Joan Westerdahl:

*Thanks to everyone who came out on November 20th
to help decorate our community!*



Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

Executive Director's Report

Lisa Hayman

December is here and 2022 is right around the corner!!! The ACB has been working diligently on deed restriction violation letters. Boats and trailers are continuing to be an issue and final letters have been mailed to residents concerning those issues.

A reminder for Large Item Pickup...Please call the office (936-891-7710) before the first Monday of the month to get your name and address placed on the list. The list is created the first Monday of every month by 6am so that maintenance can pick it up by 7:00 to get their day started.

Waterwood Improvement Association, Inc. hopes you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

LCS Fiber Update

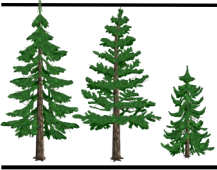
Jamie Groskopf

LCS is continuing to move forward and the projected time for fiber to begin being available in Waterwood is January 2022.

LCS is now offering Pre-installs in Greentree Village and Whispering Pines 1. If you are interested in getting signed up to get pre-installed, email info@lcsfiber.com so that your name can be placed on the list. Several have already taken advantage of this option and LCS is anxious to get everyone pre-installed and ready for fiber the day that it is operational. Greentree Free Installation deadline has passed and is now closed.

Whispering Pines 1 – The FINAL deadline for FREE INSTALLATION is December 31, 2021. If you have not signed up for with LCS Fiber and would still like to take advantage of the free installation, please go to www.lcsfiber.com and complete the form.

The new goal that LCS has set is to have customers online by the end of 2021 so that we start 2022 with lighting fast speeds in the internet world!



Waterwood Neighborhood News

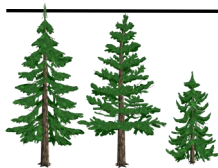
December 2021

The Aquatic Dance

Poem by Jink Willis

I watched a flock of white pelicans, over 100 in count, majestic waterfowl with wing spans greater than the width of my out-stretched arms. They flew over, gliding like a flock of billowy gowns laced in black, then suddenly landed over the water in unison. In pale pods swimming in one direction, their yellow bills drove the surface fish ahead, and in sync, they lowered their heads to “scoop” out their prey, filling their large pouches below their bills. Without delay, the birds on the back of this floating artistry moved to the front and the aquatic dance continued...





Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

WVFD

Chief Tim McGrath



The Waterwood Volunteer Fire Department would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. We have had a number of changes occur during the past two months and are very pleased to share the news.

The first major operational change is the creation of a certified helicopter landing zone. In the near future, you will see red striping on the street between the fire station and Palmer Real Estate which will state "No Parking, Tow Away Zone". Additionally, we will be placing a large "H" in the middle of the street designating the helicopter landing spot. Since this approval, we have had three life flight calls at the location. Please be aware, we will shut down the road when a landing is occurring; and it will remain closed until the flight has departed. This is an integral part of our Emergency Preparedness Plan.

The Waterwood VFD has been awarded a grant for **twenty thousand dollars**, by Texas A&M Forestry, to be dedicated to structural and wildfire gear for our personnel, safety equipment; and extraction machinery.

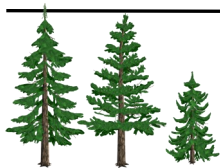
The department has been busy during the past month and a half with six calls and seventy-eight hours of service time. We are very happy and proud to announce that Tyler Harris has joined the team as the station Captain. Tyler is a Waterwood resident and had previously worked with the Waterwood VFD prior to transferring to another local station. His experience, certifications and commitment make him a valuable asset to our team and the community.

As the hurricane comes to a close; we would like to distribute our emergency water supply to residents who are interested. These are cases of aluminum cans and we will announce the distribution dates and times on the Waterwood VFD Facebook Page.

The department had a wonderful time seeing the children and families during the Halloween celebration. Thank you all for stopping by and saying hello.

Please enjoy your holiday season with family and friends.

Chief Tim McGrath



Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

The MUD District would like to ask homeowners to winterize their homes and property. We were all caught off guard last year with broken water lines and frozen pipes. Insulating exposed pipes and turning off water to lawn sprinklers before freezing weather occurs will help. Check with your weekend neighbors, and remind them.

The next board meeting will be December 17th. at 3:00 in the WIA building. Come and bring your questions or concerns.

Thank you

Roy Knapp

Photo courtesy of John Charlton

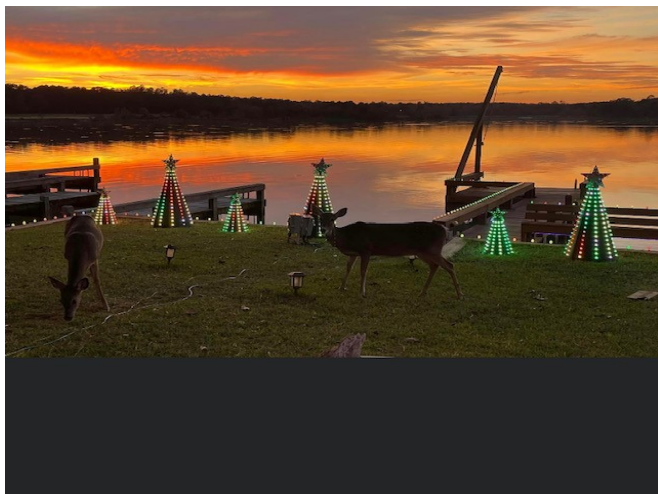
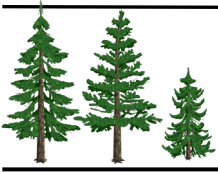


Photo courtesy of Kevin Brashear



Photo courtesy of Mikey Culpepper



Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

Waterwood Women's League

Trista Byrd

WWL Meeting November 10, 2021

18 ladies met at Teysha Vineyards for our November meeting. Dianne Chrestopoulos opened the meeting with a welcome and call to order.

Dianne read the minutes from the previous meeting as Trista Byrd was unable to attend today.

There were no changes to the October meeting minutes and the motion to approve these and the treasury report from Pat Chandler was accepted.

There is a balance of \$10, 971.89 in the account and there was a brief discussion regarding moving the CD next year from the current location in Huntsville to the bank in Onalaska where we currently have our checking account.

Shirley Morrel delivered the following on Tuesday to the Veterans Association: 210 pairs of socks, 24 blankets, 17 sweatshirts and 25 sweatpants. The donations were very much appreciated.

Marla Fink reported that 50 pounds of toiletries were brought to Coldspring High school and these were very much needed and appreciated.

To retire the American Flag, the VA office has a drop box and more details are to follow in answer to a question regarding this.

It was briefly discussed that the Garage Sale next year needs to have a committee because it is too much for just 1 person to coordinate (Debbie M) and Dianne asked the members to please think about volunteering for this or another committee for next year.

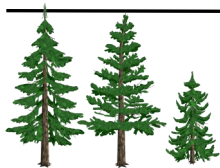
Debbie Maas gave a short report on the garage sale - we made \$576 from only 7 booths as it was not well attended. Thus - the need for others to help with a future committee - i.e. advertising, set-up/cleanup, baking etc. She asked members to be thinking about things for the Spring Herb Festival in Huntsville - We will be making "bird" crafts - so any ideas you have will be great.

Toys for Tots - please bring an unwrapped gift in a gift bag to the December meeting or give it to Marla or Shirley, please DO NOT put it in the box at the Palmer office.

You need to RSVP for the Christmas Luncheon and ornament exchange (\$10 limit) on either our WWL FB page or to Trista Byrd by 12/4. The luncheon is on December 8th at Boop and Marla's home. We will be having soup, breads, crackers and desserts provided by the WWL Board.

We respectfully request that anyone who is not vaccinated please plan to wear a mask to the luncheon.

The meeting was adjourned at 11am.



Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

Helpful Community News

Point Blank Shot Day

December 18th - Saturday

9:00am - 1:00pm

Shots will be given At the Point Blank Civic Center on Saturday, December 18th @ 9:00am - 1:00pm.

Shots Include

Flu

Covid-19. - 1st and 2nd

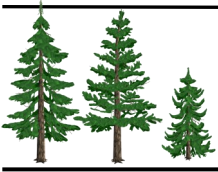
Covid-19 Booster

All who need the shots are encouraged to attend.

Information will be posted in Flyers and on Facebook.



An amazing Waterwood Sunset captured by John Charlton!



Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

The birds and the berries

Waterwood is ready to host Cedar Waxwings

By Ruth Massingill

Perhaps one of the most beautiful bird visitors to our area in winter, Cedar Waxwings will surely flock to our yards this year to gobble up the bumper crop of berries we are seeing in Waterwood.



Cedar Waxwing close up

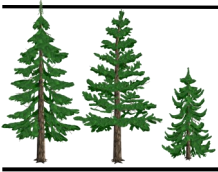
Similar to starlings in size and shape, but far more beautiful and well-behaved, Cedar Waxwings are one of the three species of waxwings in the world, and the only one to be found in Texas. With their rakish black masks, yellow-tipped tails, and bright red waxy feather tips adding splashes of color to an otherwise pastel bird, Cedar Waxwings are unmistakably gorgeous. There is also a Bohemian Waxwing, which resides in the northern US and Canada, and a Japanese Waxwing found only in northeastern Asia.

But the Cedar Waxwings, which breed in southern Canada in the summer, do not care for cold climates, and they grace us with their presence in the winter. Some even travel as far south as Costa Rica and Panama.

The Cedar Waxwing is one of the few North American birds that specializes in eating fruit. They can survive on fruit alone for several months. Although their name comes from a fondness for cedar berries, they also love all kinds of other berries, including dogwood, serviceberry, juniper, hawthorn and winterberry. If I am lucky enough to be home when a Cedar Waxwing flock discovers the berry-laden weeping yaupons and possumhaw hollies in my yard, it is an entertaining sight as they devour every berry in short order!

Unlike those of us who must limit our sugar intake for health reasons, Cedar Waxwings have intestinal enzymes that catalyze sucrose. This, along with low nitrogen requirements, permits Waxwings to exist on a diet high in fruit. When fruit and berries aren't readily available, they mix insects, flower buds, and tree sap into their diets.

As a result of eating fermented sugary fruit for thousands of years, Waxwings have the largest livers and the widest esophagus (in relation to body size) in the bird family. Their intestines are twice as wide as other birds and are relatively short, allowing them to consume large volumes of fruit.



Waterwood Neighborhood News

December 2021

If you have seen Cedar Waxwings, you have probably seen a flock; it is rare to see just one Waxwing. A group, which may include hundreds of birds, is called a “museum” of waxwings. Look for Cedar Waxwings in woodlands of all kinds, and at farms, orchards and suburban gardens where there are fruiting trees or shrubs. They sit in fruiting trees swallowing berries whole, or pluck them in mid-air with a brief fluttering hover. Occasionally a line of Waxwings perched on a branch will pass a berry back and forth, from bill to bill, until one of them swallows it.

Waxwings are both social and polite. They eat in shifts. Unlike most birds that grab whatever food is available, one group of Cedar Waxwings will eat first and then move out of the way for the next group to come in. Waxwings also appreciate being near bodies of water, flying low over ponds and lakes like tubby, slightly clumsy swallows, to dine on insects.

When a flock of Cedar Waxwings is nearby, you may hear them before you see them. They call often, especially in flight, with a high-pitched, trilled *bzeee* and a sighing whistle, about a half-second long, often rising in pitch at the beginning.

Our visiting Waxwings socialize and forage while they are here, but will head north in the spring to breed and raise their young. It is interesting to know, however, that both males and females work together as parents, with the female spending 5 or 6 days building a nest, often requiring more than 2,500 trips to complete the project. To save time, Waxwings sometimes take nest materials from other birds’ nests.

Luckily, Cedar Waxwing populations seem to be holding up well, although they are vulnerable to window collisions as well as being struck by cars since they feed on fruiting trees along roadsides. The popularity of ornamental berry trees and shrubs in landscaping has benefitted Waxwings, and they are increasingly common in towns and suburbs.

So, be on the lookout, especially if you have berries in your yard; a loud crowd of Cedar Waxwings may be headed your way!

Fun Fact: Because waxwings have the ability to metabolize ethanol, they can become intoxicated by too much fermented fruit. Sometimes, waxwings gorge themselves so much on sugary fruit that they are unable to fly.

Share birding tips with Ruth at: ruthmassingill@yahoo.com

Cedar Waxwings in berry heaven



Classifieds



Serving Waterwood and the Lake Livingston area for nearly 50 years, **Palmer Real Estate** is ready to meet all your Real Estate needs. Our services include Property Management and Rentals, Home sales, Lot sales, and Acreage sales. We have agents available covering east Texas from Lufkin all the way to Galveston. Look for the big orange sign, come by to just say “Hi” or give us a call and let us guide you through all your Real Estate transactions!

Hello, Bridge Players!!

We are a local (Coldspring) bridge group that hosts regular weekly daytime bridge games, and occasionally, a weekend game. We are currently seeking bridge players who represent all levels of experience. If you're new to the game or have been playing as long as you can remember, or anywhere in between, we'd love to play bridge with you.

We're looking forward to hearing from you, and we're especially hopeful that you'll be joining us!

Please contact Zelda at the following email address for more information:

jones.zelda@gmail.com

We are COVID aware, and adhere to preventative measures to ensure that we are protected.

Waterwood News Classified Ads now being accepted

Do you want to advertise your business, vacation rental or make a special announcement in our monthly newsletter?

Send ads to: News.waterwood@gmail.com

***Ad payments must be received in the WIA office before publication. Payments can be made in person or mailed to the WIA office at: 62 Waterwood, Huntsville, Texas 77320.**

Call WIA office for rates.