

# Waterwood Neighborhood News

November 2021

## Calendar

- 11-15 WIA Meeting
- 11-19 MUD Meeting
- 12-6 Heavy Trash Pickup
- 11-? WIA Holiday Decorating Help
- 12-11 Santa Event

## Community Holiday Decorating Help Needed!!!

Please come out on November 20th at 9 am and help get our community ready for the Holidays! Treats will be served.



## Links

(Click to follow)

[Waterwood Website:](#)

[Waterwood MUD](#)

[Waterwood Pictures](#)

[Classified Ads](#)

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

Add your own pictures to our new Waterwood Website by sending them to:

[Wiaboardsocialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:Wiaboardsocialmedia@gmail.com)

**Waterwood Security**  
936-661-2800

**San Jacinto County Sheriff**  
936-653-4367

**WIA Office**  
936-891-7710

**Waterwood VFD**  
936-755-0960.

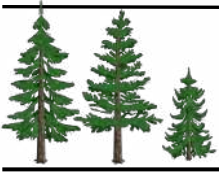
# Save The Date!

Santa will be in Waterwood Saturday, December 11th!



More details coming soon!

Also, start planning your home outdoor holiday decorations! This year there will be one Grand Prize Winner in addition to a winner and honorable mention in EACH subdivision.



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REMINDER- Please remember that trailers may only be stored in a garage or carport and must be screened from view of street, golf course and lake.

### **Trailers are not allowed in driveways after September 30th.**

WIA has a storage facility for those needing a place to move those trailers. The cost is \$120 per year. Please stop by the WIA office to purchase one.

Lisa Hayman, WIA Executive Director

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 November 19th. at 3:00 in the WIA building. Come and bring your questions or concerns.

Thank you

Roy Knapp

MUD Board President

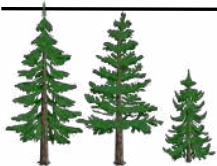


**Two fun gals having their own "Wine Down"**

**Photo courtesy of Heather Nabors**



**Another amazing sunset captured by Rob Davis!**



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Halloween in Waterwood was an absolutely gorgeous fall day! Perfect weather for the annual Waterwood Halloweenie Golf Tournament hosted by Steve and Shirley Morrell.



It was a 9-hole scramble tournament with a trick hole mixed in here and there. 35 golfers participated. The 15th hole had "snakes" on the green with a hula hoop to hit through on 17.



Players had to use a crutch, an axe and a rubber hose putter on the 10 hole with a tennis racket to tee off on 11. To top it off, everyone got to sit on a toilet to tee off on hole 12! All the tricks were followed by treats (lunch) on the Morrell's porch. Everyone had a great time! Thanks Steve and Shirley! Watch for it next year and sign up early!



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### Waterwood Women's League

Hello ladies!

What a beautiful fall we're having here in Waterwood. Just perfect for outings with the WWL! Our last was a great trip to The Heritage Village in Woodville with a homestyle lunch at the Pickett House! About 20 ladies made the Oct. meeting/trip and had a wonderful time!

We have SOOO much going on! Please save these dates!

- Our next meeting is Nov 10th at Teysha Vineyards. Meet at the Waterwood Lot at 9:45 a.m. to carpool to the location. Cost will be according to what you choose for beverages and lunch from the food truck. Please drink responsibly and ensure you have a designated driver! RSVP NLT NOV. 4 through Teysha post on WWL FB Page or by contacting Trista Byrd: [tbbyrd612@yahoo.com](mailto:tbbyrd612@yahoo.com)

-Shirley and Marla reminded everyone about Socks and Sweats for Vets with the collection box in the mailbox vestibule of the Palmer Real Estate Office. Put these items as well as light blankets (Warmth for Warriors) in the box and any toiletries for the Coldspring High School students. You can also drop items off to Marla or Shirley. Shirley mentioned that donations are really down right now so please remember if at all possible, to pick something up to donate the next time you are out.

Dec. 4- Christmas Fair & Winter in the Park: 10 a.m-5 p.m downtown Huntsville. WWL Craft Booth

- Be thinking about helping our Marines with "Toys for Tots." Bring NEW, UNWRAPPED gifts for girls/ boys in gift bags, no wrapping paper to Dec. 8 meeting.

RSVP for Dec. 8 meeting, lunch and ornament exchange at Boop's house no later than Sat., Dec. 4 to WWL FB Post (not up yet) or to Trista Byrd at: [tbbyrd612@yahoo.com](mailto:tbbyrd612@yahoo.com)

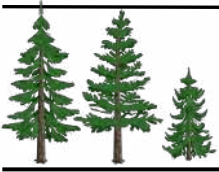
Whew!!!! We have a ton going on and coming up. Hope this helps. More info to come. As always, thank you for your participation and continued generosity!

The Point Blank Food Bank is in need of volunteers at the Civic Center. Please contact Pat Chandler to learn how you can help.

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page for upcoming events! WWL is a 501(c)3 organization. Our main goal is to provide educational scholarships for local students. Please join us! We have a lot of fun, do a lot of great things and we'd love to have you!

Deb Harlow  
Social Chairman

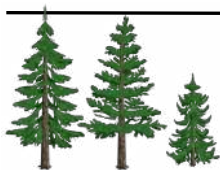




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## Halloween Fun





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**Who, who, who's there?**

**Owls rule the night in Waterwood's forests**

*By Ruth Massingill*

You may not see them, but they are here year-round, nesting and raising young, silently hunting by night and sleeping in dense evergreens during the day. Although at least four owl species are native to East Texas, you are more likely to hear these secretive birds' calls than catch a glimpse of them.

Adding to the mystery of their nighttime adventures, owls have a special type of feather that deadens sound so you cannot hear them fly. Coupled with keen night vision and superior hearing, owls are able to sneak up on their prey in the dark. Owls vary in colors and size, but none migrate, and they are all monogamous, with both parents caring for the young.

Owls are excellent hunters, eating a wide variety of invertebrates like insects and spiders as well as vertebrates such as small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. They swallow their prey whole, then a couple of times a day, they cough up pellets containing the matter that doesn't pass through their digestive tracts. Scientists study the content of these pellets to learn more about owl's ecosystems.

Here's a brief look at the four kinds of owls you might hear in the night, or see, if you are lucky.

### **Great Horned Owl**

However, they are very powerful and can prey on animals larger than themselves, including cats, skunks and opossums. If you hear an agitated group of cawing American Crows, they may be mobbing a Great Horned Owl. The crows have good reason, because the Great Horned Owl is their most dangerous predator.

This is the owl of storybooks, with a deep hooting voice and an intimidating yellow-eyed stare. The Great Horned Owl is impressive in size: With a body up to 2 feet in length and a wingspan as wide as 5 feet, this is the biggest of our native owls and also the most widespread owl in North America. Varying in color from brown to grey or black and white, the Great Horned Owl has distinctive large yellow-orange eyes and ear tufts that appear to be horns.



Great Horned Owl

### **Barred Owl**

This medium-sized owl is the most common owl in East Texas and is slightly bigger than a crow. The Barred Owl is a gray-brown color, streaked with white horizontal bars on its chest, vertical bars on its belly and a long barred tail. They have dark eyes, a yellow bill and no ear tufts.

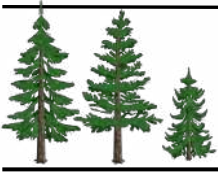
They weigh about half as much as the Great Horned Owl, which is their most serious predatory threat.

You can recognize the Barred Owl's song by listening for 8 or more drawn-out notes, "Who cooks for you; who cooks for you all?" They will readily call back to imitations of its call. This is an ancient species; Pleistocene fossils of Barred Owls, at least 11,000 years old, have been dug up in Florida, Tennessee and Ontario.

Barred Owl



Continued on next page



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### Eastern Screech Owl

This is the smallest owl in Texas, weighing less than 6 ounces, with a wingspan of up to 2 feet. They have small ear tufts, which they flatten at will, and bright yellow eyes with a pale bill. Although the Great Horned and Barred Owls may sometimes be seen during the day, the Screech Owl is exclusively nocturnal. They are known to eat a variety of songbirds, including the European Starling.



Eastern Screech Owl

Screech-owls are “neighborhood owls.” If you put an owl box in your yard, the screech-owl will probably come nest in it. To imagine the Screech Owl’s call, think of a horse on helium: The little raptor lets out a descending whinny, capped off



Barn Owl

### Barn Owl

Although native to our area, the Barn Owl is much less common than the other three species. They are slightly smaller than the Barred Owl, but sport a distinctive heart-shaped facial disk. Barn Owls have white to cinnamon underparts with spots and golden tawny upperparts. They also have longer legs and a barred tail.

Though the Barn Owl may look elegant, its voice is anything but; they emit eerie, raspy calls, quite unlike the hoots of other owls. Their song has been described as an unexpected gasping screech that can raise the hair on the back of your neck!

As their name implies, Barn Owls like to occupy buildings near areas cleared for agriculture. Unfortunately, Barn Owls are declining in parts of their range due to habitat loss, threatened by the conversion of agricultural land to urban and suburban development, and the loss of suitable nesting sites such as large, hollow trees and old buildings. Also, because Barn Owls hunt by flying low over fields, they are often hit by cars.

### Why encourage owls?

Owls are not common backyard birds, but they can provide intriguing nighttime sounds and excellent rodent control. Because owls are not highly active during the day, a backyard owl can coexist with other backyard birds, and as excellent hunters, they can help control squirrel and rodent populations.

Owls are protected by state and federal laws, but their populations are in decline due to habitat loss and to being poisoned by pesticides and other toxic substances that accumulate in their prey. All of our native owls can be attracted to nest boxes; plans and directions for placement can be found online. Give a hoot!

**Fun (but not) Factual:** Craig Hensley, a biologist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Texas Nature Trackers, mentions in an interview people believe a lot of myths about owls: “One of the things I heard as a young naturalist was that if you hear an owl call three nights in a row, someone you know is going to die. So, if I hear them call two nights in a row, I don’t try to listen for a third.”

Share birding tips with Ruth at: [ruthmassingill@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthmassingill@yahoo.com)

# 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!

Looking for volunteers who has the time to work on the Waterwood

Multi Purpose Facility Project

who is good with taking accurate notes, well-versed with the computer, some knowledge of construction would be helpful and able to meet as needed.

Contact Pat Zappa, 936-294-6549

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.