Waterwood Neighborhood News

www.waterwoodwia.org

April 2025

Out like a lamb! April is here!



Welcome to April in Waterwood where fun times and meaningful celebrations abound! From enjoying springtime on the lake or course, to quirky holidays like "National Twinkie Day" and "Wear Pajamas to Work Day" (sounds like a good time!), there's something for everyone to enjoy. April is definitely opening the door to a wonderful spring and summer! So sit back, take a breather and enjoy the April 2025 edition of the Waterwood Neighborhood News!

Informative Numbers, Links, and Dates

Waterwood Security 936-661-2800

San Jacinto County Sheriff 936-653-4367

Waterwood Improvement
Association Office
936-891-7710
Website

Waterwood MUD/Precision Utility 936-891-7182 Website

> San Jacinto County, Texas Website

Mark Your Monthly Calendars!

WIA Board Meetings
3rd Monday at 9am
WIA Building

Waterwood Municipal
Utility District #1 Board Meetings
3rd Friday at 3pm
WIA Building

April 2025 Calendar

04/02 San Jacinto County Commissioners' Court 9am

04/07 Leaf and Limb pick up

04/08 Deadline for picking up Spring Fling/Block Party tickets

04/10 Waterwood Women's League Meeting 10am

04/12 Waterwood Improvement Association Spring Fling 12pm-3pm

04/16 San Jacinto County Commissioners' Court 9am

04/17 Waterwood MUD Meeting 3pm

04/18 Good Friday

04/20 Easter Sunday

04/21 Leaf and Limb pick up

04/21 Waterwood Improvement Association Board of Directors Meeting 9am

04/26 Fire Fair 11am-3pm Waterwood Fire Station

04/30 San Jacinto County Commissioners' Court 9am

Save The Dates

05/03 Waterwood Women's League Garage Sale (Point Blank) 8am-2pm 05/09 Trivia Night 6pm



April 1:

The only day of the year that people critically evaluate things they find on the Internet before accepting them as true.

The Legendary Spaghetti Tree April Fools' Joke

Long before the internet turned April Fools'
Day into a meme-fest, the British Broadcasting
Corporation pulled off what many still consider
the funniest April Fools' joke of all time. In a
segment aired on its serious current affairs show
Panorama, the BBC showed footage of a Swiss
family "harvesting" fresh spaghetti noodles
from trees.

The narration explained that thanks to an "early spring and the disappearance of the spaghetti weevil," spaghetti trees were producing record crops.

Thousands of viewers, trusting the BBC as an authoritative source, fell for the gag. Many called in asking how to grow their own spaghetti trees at home. The BBC famously replied: "Place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best."







Keith's Corner-Waterwood Maintenance

Progress since the last column:

The Maintenance Committee is composed of the following folks, all of whom I greatly appreciate:

- o Ray Ramirez in dual role as Roads/Paving and Paid Maintenance person. In addition to these jobs, Ray has taken over the day-to-day monitoring of the community pool. Thanks very much to Ray for the work he has been doing. Have you noticed the state of the garbage area or the pavilion recently? Their improved look is directly the result of hard work on Ray's part.
- o Sam Butler on Facilities and unofficial advisor to maintenance
- Pat Zappa the "Triple Threat:" Trees Person, as inspector for the mowing contract, and coordinator for Leaf and Limb.
- O Dianne Chrestopoulos as Entrances Coordinator. On Tuesday 3/25, Dianne worked with Chase's Mowing to start quarterly maintenance and landscaping upgrades to both entrances; at 190 and at 980. Dianne did a tremendous job on this, both in planning and execution. The entrances look much better and all of this improvement was done in one work day. Congrats to Dianne on a job well done.
- o Last but not least, Derek Gill as backup for all things maintenance, Facilities guy, and the man who will take over when I drop off the Board eventually. Derek led the charge to find our paid maintenance person and is a key part of the team.
- And me, aw shucks, I'm still just a humble maintenance guy.

My thanks go to each of these folks. They care about what they are doing and have given Waterwood their best efforts on a consistent basis.

Federal Disaster Response

While we are closer to the resolution of this matter, there has been no news to speak of for two months; so I am repeating this news in its entirety.

We have been notified by San Jacinto County that FEMA has "approved our claim for reimbursement" for the money spent repairing many culverts after the May 2024 storms. This is very good news, and it is gratifying after so much work was done to obtain this. I must thank Lisa and Melissa, and especially Ray Ramirez, who spent literally hundreds of hours with me reviewing all of the invoices and paperwork to make sure that we told FEMA an accurate story of how the repairs were done. We are grateful to A and L Paving, the company was there for us when we really needed them and did a great job.

The last hurdles will be for us to:

- Monitor San Jacinto County to assure that we receive whatever the amount FEMA recommends.
- At this time we only have a verbal statement that approval has been obtained.
- FEMA has told us that there might be an 'after payment audit" of our paperwork. If they have a problem with this, they tell us that we might have to give some of the money

Keith's Corner-Waterwood Maintenance

back. (I'm not making this up; you gotta love our Federal Government!) Luckily Raymond and I have worked hard to internally audit all the records generated by this work, and have reviewed it all once again.

LEAF and LIMB PICKUP

LEAF AND LIMB PICKUP is planned for the FIRST and THIRD MONDAYS of each month. NOTE that the FIRST AND THIRD MONDAYS IN APRIL are APR 7th and APR 14th. The First Monday in May is May 5th.

A note regarding Leaf and Limb: There has already been some abuse of this service. A couple of reminders:

- If you have a contractor come to your place and perform landscaping activities, you must have that contractor haul off all of the debris. As an option, have it removed yourself, either on your own or hire a second contractor. This type of debris is NOT in the scope of Leaf and Limb.
- Don't place your debris on a different property than your own. This is a good way to get it to remain where it sits for another two weeks. Examples of wrong locations are on the property across the street, on the golf course, etc. There are two things to say about this:
 - Folks, our system works on Street Addresses. A vacant lot or the golf course are difficult to ascertain addresses for!
 - Your property may be the best-looking manicured yard out here, but we don't award Yard Of The Month prizes out here. Trust me; your lush green carpet can stand a pile of bags and debris for a little while. Pile your debris on your own lush green carpet.
- Our system works on Street Addresses. Security goes around on the Sunday before the Mondays in question and writes an Address List of all Leaf and Limb piles. Two things to say about this, also:
 - O HAVE YOUR PILES OUT BY THE CURB IN THE AFTERNOON SUNDAY. If you put your pile out at "dusk:30" Sunday night, you are taking a big chance that Security will not see it and your address will NOT get on the list. It takes Security a couple of hours to drive all 25 miles of the community. The later you put the pile out on Sunday, the bigger chance you are taking.
 - If you put your pile out MONDAY MORNING, it PROBABLY WON'T GET PICKED UP. Why? Because your address won't be on the list! The list was done Sunday.
- If you place a huge pile out in front of your yard, a pile that has all the earmarks of land clearing, the Leaf and Limb guys will NOT pick it up. There is a case where a resident offered the L&L Contractor an obscenely small amount of extra money to take the big pile away. If any offer is made like this, it is separate from the Leaf and Limb contract and is solely between the resident and the Contractor. The Contractor is well within his rights as a businessman to turn down any such offer that does not meet his own business objectives. My advice to any resident who finds him or herself in a situation like this? MAKE A BETTER OFFER or find your own means of debris removal for your pile.

April IInternational Fun at Work Day

April 6-National Twinkie Day

April 13-National Scrabble Day

April 15-National Rubber Eraser Day

April 16-Wear Pajamas to Work Day

April 18-Lineman Appreciation Day

April 20-Volunteer Recognition Day

April 21-Earth Day

April 25-National Plumbers Day

April 28-Global Pay It Forward Day

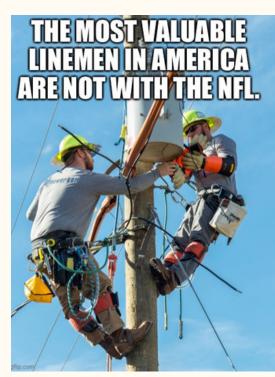
April 30-National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day

















Waterwood VFD & Aux

We can now officially use our new name.

Tax deductible donations are welcomed and can be mailed to:

192 Waterwood, Huntsville, TX. 77320

We have had a busy March. We added two new firefighters.
Welcome to Ed Cotter and Erik Peterson.

We sent two firefighters to the Livingston Fire School for pump operation training.

Thank you to Damein Whaley and Gavin Hoffpauir.

We have two new officers
Assistant Chief Carole Magee and Captain James Shannon.

Fire Fair will be April 26th 11 am – 3 pm

There will be demonstrations of extrication on three vehicles where the "Jaws of Life" will be use used to show how vehicles are dismantled to rescue trapped victims.

Exhibition of PPE (firefighting gear) on display with the prices!!!!

RAFFLES

Talent Meat Package, TV, BBQ Grill, Bicycles, Hammer / Drill from Home Depot

Stained Glass by our own Wanda Gardner

Bullet Grill Food Truck, Fire extinguisher demonstration and sales, Face Painting, A
Sweets Booth to name a few.

980 N VFD will be helping with the demonstrations & exhibitions.



Waterwood VFD & Aux

We are looking for a few more volunteers.

Just look at the fun we are having training and serving our community.

Come join Waterwood Fire & Rescue, Inc.



Weekly Maintenance Check



Follow the hose Back to the pump



Weekly Inventory Check

In light of the recent Forest Fire in the southern part of San Jacinto County, here is food for thought...

The three biggest wildfire behavior factors are (1) Topography (2) Weather with wind speed, relative humidity, and ambient temperature (3) Fuel of vegetation and structures Fuel is the only one of these factors within your ability to control. Waterwood is surrounded by forest so the one fuel factor you can control is your own property.

- Fuel can be dead leaves and pine needles left on decks, in gutters, and strewn across lawns that can and will ignite from embers. Clean them up.
- Shrubs and low hanging tree limbs can be reached by fire moving along the and low hanging tree limbs can be reached by fire moving along the ground. Trim them up.
- Homes with flammable features like unprotected attic vents allow firebrands entry into attics and the flammable materials there. A burning home is a potential threat to the rest of your property and that of your neighbors. Protect your attic vents.

Waterwood Municipal Utility District #1

Waterwood M.U.D. recently completed work TEXDOT instructed us to perform on the 8-inch water main suspended under the Pools Creek overpass on FM 980. The work was performed by contracted labor, Precision personnel, and helped by two members of the board. It proved to be challenging due to the steep slope of the concrete embankment and the weight of the cast steel pipe. Most of Waterwood did not experience any disruption of services because the water-main was isolated to FM 980, although we did lose thousands of gallons of water due to the 3+ miles of the line.

We are continuing to work with our engineers preparing for a bond to revamp all our lift stations. We were hoping to use State DFund loans but were denied. This project involves a number of entities and has proven to be a lengthy process involving engineers, our bond agency, auditor, accountant, and TCEQ. We will keep you informed of our progress.

I invite all interested to attend our monthly meeting which is on the third Friday of the month in the Waterwood Improvement Community room. Our next scheduled meeting is April 17, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

Thank You,

Donald Marshall, Waterwood MUD Board of Directors President

HOW IS A MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT DIFFERENT FROM A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION?

In some ways, a MUD might appear similar to a homeowners association (HOA). Both a MUD and an HOA have authority over defined areas. Both collect payments from homeowners to cover the costs of the services they provide. That's where the similarities end.

An HOA is a private organization whose authority comes from contracts and restrictive covenants. A MUD is a government entity with the power to levy taxes. While HOAs may have the authority to foreclose on homeowners who fail to pay HOA dues and assessments, MUDs rely on county governments to collect taxes and enforce delinquencies. MUDs are subject to laws like the Open Meetings Act and the Texas Elections Code.

WIA SOCIAL CORNER

Here you can find the latest and greatest information on events happening in our neighborhood. Information can also be found on FACEBOOK. Please contact

<u>Wiasocialgroup@gmail.com</u> if you need additional information. Thank you for allowing me to be part of your journey!!

UPCOMING EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES





IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!
WATERWOOD
SPRING FLING
SAVE THE DATE
12 APR 2025

TRIVIA NIGHT
9 2 MAY 2025
HAPPY HOUR BEGINS AT 6 PM
GAME BEGINS AT 7 PM



SPRING FLING BLOCK PARTY 12 APRIL 2025!

SEE YOU AT THE PAVILLION!!

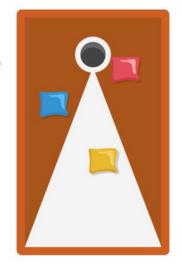
YES, it's that time again!!
Be sure to get your food tickets from the WIA
Office before the 8 April deadline.





FREE BBQ TO ALL WATERWOOD RESIDENTS AND RENTERS!!

THIS WILL BE A NEIGHBORHOOD POTLUCK EVENT.
ALL RESIDENTS ARE ASKED TO BRING FOOD TO
SHARE!! IF YOUR LAST NAME BEGINS WITH
A-H BRING APPETIZERS
I-P BRING APPETIZERS
Q-Z BRING DESSERTS





THERE WILL BE GAMES, MUSIC,GREAT FOOD, AND PRIZES!!

WATERWOOD WILL PROVIDE BRISKET, CHICKEN, SAUSAGE AND DRINKS. NO TAKE AWAY PLATES ARE ALLOWED!!







Are you ready to take on the ultimate trivia challenge? See you at the Pavilion Free Snacks, Bring your favorite drink!!



12 APRIL 2025 12 NOON AT THE PAVILION

WATERWOOD SPRING FLING BBQ BLOCK PARTY

FREE BBQ TO ALL
WATERWOOD
RESIDENTS AND RENTERS



CORNHOLE CONTEST

MUSIC

FREE FOOD

BOUNCE HOUSE

PICK UP YOUR FOOD TICKET AND PROVIDE THE NAME OF YOUR DISH AT THE WATERWOOD OFFICE. ONE TICKET PER FAMILY



POTLUCK FOOD TO SHARE
IF YOUR LAST NAME BEGINS WITH
A-H - BRING APPETIZERS
I-P - BRING SIDES/SALADS
Q-Z - DESSERTS

WATERWOOD WILL PROVIDE BRISKET, CHICKEN AND SAUSAGE
NO TO GO PLATES ALLOWED







Waterwood National Golf & Recreation Association

We have repaired the aerator which will allow us to work on the greens. We have a project coming soon to repair the fairway on hole number three. We have had volunteers helping get the course repaired from the recent hog activity. We also have made several repairs to the irrigation system and have used some outside sources to aid in the repairs. We would ask our members to pay the annual dues and all donations are welcomed. One small fundraising attempt is the renovation of the signs in each hole. If you would like one of the signs to be redone, please donate to the WNGRA and state which sign. (it takes about 8 hours to do one) We will announce a workday for April and we will have the first quarter meeting.

Gene Womack, President





Waterwood Women's League News

Our March meeting was on March 12th at the WIA boardroom. Our guest speaker, Leigh Ann Dye, was from the Texas Bluebird Society. We learned many things about Bluebirds, and their nest building. The ladies were able to join the Texas Bluebird Society and receive a bluebird nest birdhouse. Information about where to hang the nest birdhouse and how to keep the chicks cool in hot weather were very helpful. After our meeting we were treated to a wonderful lunch provided by some of our ladies.

The April meeting will be on THURSDAY, April 10th when we will visit West Sandy Creek Winery in Richards, TX. We will meet at Palmer at 10:00 to carpool. The cost of a flight of wine is \$15. We will have lunch at the winery.

WWL has received 28 applications for the Waterwood Women's League scholarships! It will be a hard task narrowing the field down to just 2 deserving recipients.

GARAGE SALE

Date: Saturday, May 3, 2025

Time: 8:00-2:00

Where: Hwy 190 in Pointblank

THIS IS A NEW BIGGER LOCATION!!

Start saving those items you wish to donate!

Acceptable/non-acceptable items and item drop instructions can be found on the next page.



Waterwood Women's League GARAGE SALE

Saturday, May 3, 2025



7360 Highway 190 Point Blank 8am - 2pm

ACCEPTABLE Donation Items:

Small clean working appliances Medical equipment, shower seat, walker, etc. Clean bedding SETS, Dish/Glassware SETS, Purses in GOOD condition, Toys/games/puzzles with all pieces included and taped shut, Working yard equipment - gardening tools, pots, lawnmower, edger, Books, Sports equipment: fishing items, baseball, etc., Household items - lamps, chairs, couches, bed FRAMES, headboards (NO mattresses) Baby items - pack-n-play, crib, changing table, Holiday Decor - any holiday



UNACCEPTABLE Donation Items:

Clothing of any kind including shoes, hats, gloves, socks and belts, Single glassware, TV/computers/printers, Large appliances including washer/dryer/freezer or fridge, Non-working small appliances or yard equipment, Medical potty chairs or bedpans



Donated items cannot be dropped off until Friday, May 2nd, from 8 - 12 in Point Blank at 7360 Highway 190. Drop off - evening 6-7 p.m. same place



Deed Restriction Enforcement Committee

March was another good month as there were 5 new violations (all tree stumps), and several previous violations were cured. Thank you for your continued maintenance.

The deed enforcement committee welcomes volunteers. Currently we have 6 volunteers for our monthly deed drives. If you would like to become a DEC volunteer, or have a concern please email the committee at waterwooddec@yahoo.com

Neighbor to Neighbor- Most concerns relating to adjoining/nearby properties should be resolved by first contacting the property owner before contacting the DEC.

Mowing season is here, so let's all work on keeping our yards cleaned up and mowed to keep your Waterwood neighborhood looking good.

Exterior Spring Cleaning- In May we will be focusing on houses that the exterior needs cleaned, repainted, or pressure washed. Mold and algae are concerns. Get a jump on this by taking care of the exterior before we send a letter to you.

Fire and Burning- With the recent San Jacinto County wildfire please be careful when burning in your firepit and grills. Keep watch on the fire and not let it spread.

Note the Waterwood Policy on Fires and Burning:

Waterwood Policies Number 12, Page 7 Fires and Debris Burning. Outdoors burning of any material including trash, rubbish, debris, leaves, grass, brush, shrubs, native growth, tree stumps, trunks, or limbs, and construction materials is expressly prohibited. Outdoors fires used for food preparation or recreational purposes (e.g. fire pits) are permitted provided they are continuously controlled and monitored and are confined in a manner that does not create a fire hazard to the surrounding property. When a San Jacinto County burn ban is in effect, Waterwood residents shall comply with the outdoors fire prohibitions established by the San Jacinto County Commissioners Court.

Exterior construction- Remember that if you are doing any exterior construction- you need to get ACC /ACB Large or Small Improvement Application/Additional Improvement Application available on the website waterwood wia.org under documents or at WIA office. Then you need to submit the application and get ACB/ACC approval before you can start construction.

Fences- we have begun to check for damaged fences, leaning or needing repair.

Should your fence need repair or replacement, please remedy by fixing or removing your fence before we have to send you a deed restriction violation letter. If you are repairing or replacing your fence with the same type of material, you do not need a ACB/ACC Small improvement Application/ Additional Improvement Application. However, if you are changing from the original design and material then a Small Improvement Application/ Additional Improvement Application is necessary.

Deed Restriction Enforcement Committee

Dogs- We are getting complaints about dogs pooping and peeing on neighbors' yards, chasing people and pets, barking continuously, and running loose. These are violations of the protective covenants of all subdivisions and carry a fine of \$250. San Jacinto County has a leash law as well. So please keep your dogs confined in your yard and on a leash when they are not in your yard.

Trailer/boat storage- There has been some confusion about this. The DEC will not be writing any violations for trailers or boats stored on your property until the trailer/boat storage area is opened again. Hopefully this clears up any misunderstanding.





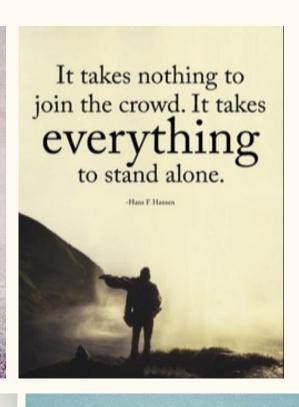


A positive finish...

HAPPINESS
IS NOT THE
ABSENCE OF
PROBLEMS;

IT'S THE
ABILITY
TO DEAL
WITH THEM

Be kind to those who are unkind, they need it the most.



Your

attitude

is like a

price tag,

it shows how

valuable

you are.

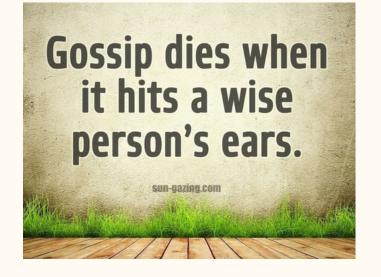
We don't have to agree on everything to be kind to one another.



"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."

MAYA ANGELOU

If you want a positive life,spend life with positive People.



Have a Blessed Passover & Easter







Community Services

CPR WITH KAITLIN



"This county deserves to have as many CPR trained citizens as possible. Help me make that a reality."

Classes:

- ✓ BLS Provider \$55
- ✓ Heartsaver CPR AED \$55
- ✓ Family and Friends \$25
- ✓ Stop the Bleed \$Free

SIGN UP TODAY

KAITLIN COOK

President San Jacinto County First Responders

- Mom
- Veteran
- EMT-B
- Health Science
 Educator
- EMS Instructor



Contact Me sjcfresponders@gmail.com Find the SJCFR on Facebook



Classified Ads



Classified Ads



Huntsville • 1700 Normal Park Dr. • 936-291-7300

Montgomer y • 20850 Eva St. • 936-597-7300



Smith Memorial Park Cemetery • 10129 FM 1097 W. • Willis • 936-890-0454

Back row: Owner, Greg Smith, Will Smith. Front row: Michael Hunt, Cari Rogers, Belinda Honea, Judith Rodriguez and Billy Cauthen

shmfh.com

Classified Ads



PALMER REAL ESTATE is a resident-owned and operated real estate agency located in the heart of the Waterwood subdivision. With over 50 years of combined experience, we are dedicated to serving our community and residents with extensive knowledge of Waterwood, Lake Livingston, and the surrounding areas. As long-time residents actively involved in community activities, we have a deep understanding of the local market. This expertise has consistently placed Palmer Real Estate at the top in sales within the Waterwood subdivision, as recognized by the Houston Association of Realtors MLS. Whether you're buying or selling, trust Palmer Real Estate for professional, knowledgeable, and community-focused service.



Be sure to tell your friends to join the list!!



