

Waterwood Neighborhood News

February 2026

www.waterwoodwia.org



Now that February is here, Texas brings some chilly temperatures that won't be here for long. The days get longer, baseball practices start, Bluebonnets are right around the corner. Waterwood starts to come to life again after the short Texas hibernation. Mardi Gras and community involvement at Waterwood's gatherings reminds us of what a great community we live in. Valentine's Day brings hearts together, while Presidents' Day celebrates classic historical figures who were instrumental in the development and forming of our great nation. Enjoy a beautiful February while it lasts...it won't stick around long.

Waterwood Neighborhood News

January 2026
February 2026

www.waterwoodwia.org

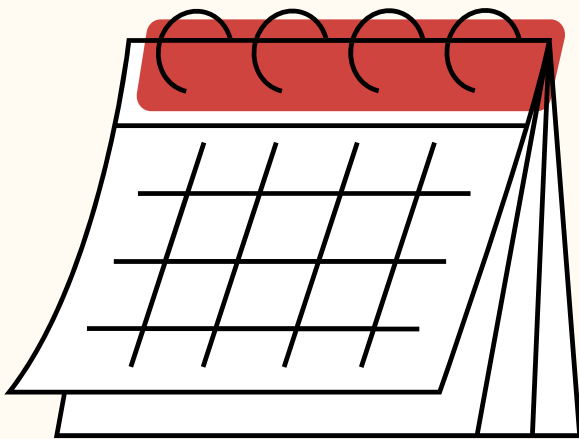
Waterwood Security
936-661-2800

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](#)



February 2026 Calendar

- **02/04 San Jacinto County Commissioners Court 9am**
- **02/07 Mardi Gras Celebration 10:30am**
- **02/16 Waterwood Improvement Association Board meeting 9am**
- **02/18 San Jacinto County Commissioners Court 9am**
- **02/20 Waterwood Municipal Utility District meeting 3pm**

Save the Dates!

- **04/11 Spring Fling**
- **07/04 Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks Display**

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

ESD2 Meeting
1st Tuesday at 5pm
WIA Building/Fire Station

Waterwood Fire & Rescue



The Waterwood Fire & Rescue had the honor and privilege to hold a final call out and send off today for Joe Meyers. We thank his family for the trust they put in us to do so.

We owe a huge thank you to the San Jacinto County Sheriff's Dispatch Center who toned the station and Joe out for the last time. The transmission ended with: "Joe Meyers, you are relieved of your duty. We have it from here. Rest in peace brother".

If I can find a way to share the transmission I will. Without their service to us today, the morning would not have been nearly as meaningful.

We also thank our WFR Auxiliary members for providing refreshments for those in attendance.

Members from Joe's family and from our community shared stories of his "orneriness" and his generosity in equal numbers. Aside from Ron LaBaff, Ed Cotter, and Brian James we are all relatively new in the community and hearing these rich stories of Joe and the way things were in the past was a pleasure.



Thank you



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.



1 in every 7 home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths involves heating equipment.



Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away from your home as possible.



Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.



Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.

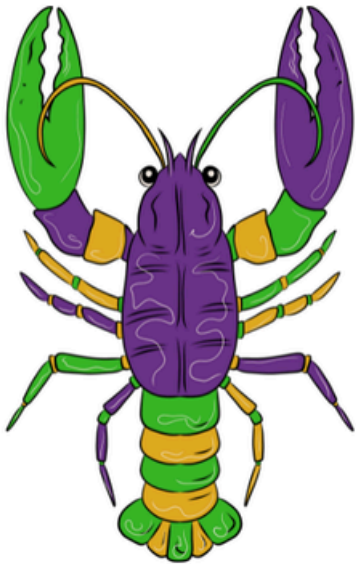


For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES



**Mardi Gras
Celebration
7 Feb 2026**



**Spring Fling
11 April 2026**





DJ GREG RILEY
Cajun cook-off,
Golf cart parade



PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS!

**CAJUN
COOK-OFF**

10:30 am

Food set up

11:30 am

**Judging
Begins**

GOLF CART PARADE

10:30 am

Line up at Fire Station

11:00 am

Parade begins



**HAPPY
MARDI
GRAS!**



**Waterwood Pavilion
Saturday, 7 Feb 2026**

WATERWOOD
PRESENTS

Cajun Cook-Off

CONTEST



PRIZES AWARDED
TO

BEST SAVORY

BEST SWEET

ALL -AROUND

FAVORITE

Set-up at
10:30 am

Judging at
11:30

7 Feb 2026 at the
Pavilion



**WATERWOOD
PRESENTS**

**PREORDER
NOW**

\$10.00/LB

SIDES/\$5.00

**SEASONED
CRAWFISH
\$10/LB**

**CORN, POTATO
MUSHROOM,
& SAUSAGE
\$5.00**

Good Food and Great company!!

7 Feb 2026/ 11:30 am / Pavilion

**call WIA office to preorder and pay
936-891-7710**

Waterwood presents

**Line up at
Fire Station
at 10:30 am**

**Parade Begins
at 11 am
Prizes for the
winners**



**Mardi Gras Golf Cart Contest and Parade
7 Feb 2026 at the Pavilion**



Waterwood Municipal Utility District #1

We were fortunate to not have any water leaks from the arctic front that blew through January 24 through 26. We were prepared for the worst but received a less weather problem. We had technicians on property throughout the weekend just in case. They made sure the water and waste water plant worked normally, which they did. Thanks to the individuals who stayed here rather than with their families.

We are proceeding with planned repairs to the lift stations and storm drain. If all goes according to plan both projects should be completed within the next few weeks.

Our bond is still being reviewed by TCEQ and hopefully we will receive the approval shortly so we can begin the work on renovate all of the lift stations.

We are as well planning for future renovations. With a 50 year old infrastructure, many renovations are needed. I invite all to attend our monthly meetings which are held the third Friday of the month at the Waterwood Improvement Association community room starting at 3:00 pm.

Donald Marshall, WW MUD #1 President

President's Report

The WIA board has been continually active in working and planning for the future of Waterwood.

New Officers and committee members were appointed at the December 13, 2025, board meeting, Welcome to all the board members. They are as follows:

President- Rod Kirschner

Exec. Vice President Phyllis Lavallais

Secretary Melanie Cook

Treasurer Rob Davis

Greg Gusman

Derek Gill

Jamie Groskopf

Louis Pabor

Sam Butler

Lisa Hayman- Executive Director

Melissa Gill- Office Assistant

Raymond Ramirez- Independent Contractor for WIA Maintenance

Standing Committees

Architectural Review Committee (ARC)- Raymond Ramirez, Kathy Samperi, Mike Ross, Syed Sultan, James Schwebach, Marie Murphey, and Tony Lavallais (appointed at January 19, 2026, WIA meeting)

Audit/Financial-Rod Kirschner, Louis Pabor, Rob Davis

EMS/ESD2-Rod Kirschner/Jamie Groskopf/Rob Davis

Maintenance- Greg Gusman & Derek Gill (Backup)

MUD- Jamie Groskopf

Nominations- Derek Gill

Security- Derek Gill

Strategic Planning/Real Estate- Jamie Groskopf

President's Report, continued

Other Committees

Bylaws & Covenants- Melanie Cook & Jamie Groskopf

Collections- Melissa Gill

Communication/Website- Melanie Cook

County & State- Sam Butler

DEC- Rod Kirschner & Phyllis Lavallais

Legal Committee- Rod Kirschner, Jamie Groskopf, Rob Davis, Louis Pabor

Social- Phyllis Lavallais & Derek Gill

Liaisons

WNGRA- Rod Kirschner & Greg Gusman

WWL- Phyllis Lavallais

Trespassing on Private Property- There have been numerous complaints from property owners about people trespassing/coming onto their property without permission. Please be diligent and respectful of others property. Please ask permission of the owner first before entering another's property.

New Building – Bids have been submitted and the board is currently deciding how to go forward.

Trash Dump- There continues to be problems at the dump, overfilled containers, illegal materials, non-handicap persons using the handicap dumpster, etc. When the dumpsters are overfilled (materials past the top level) the company issues a fine. When the company dumps the trash, they have cameras that record the trash and if they see illegal materials they issue a fine. These fines often amount to \$1500 or more per month. Please let's do a better job of not disposing of illegal materials as posted on the gate entry large sign, and please do not over fill the dumpsters.

The extra charges is money that is not budgeted for and costs all the property owners.

Waterwood Women's League

Announcing the Waterwood Women's League Scholarship
Graduating seniors who are full-time residents of Waterwood are invited to apply for the Waterwood Women's League Academic or Technical Scholarship. These are competitive scholarships. If you are enrolled in Coldspring-Oakhurst High School (COHS), please see your counselor for an application. If you are enrolled in another school or program and are graduating this spring, please contact me, Maryann Readal, at mreadal@yahoo.com to receive an application. Deadline for application is March 2.



Deed Restriction Enforcement Committee

A big thank you to the volunteers who serve on the DEC, your work and monthly deed drives are greatly appreciated! The Deed Enforcement Committee welcomes volunteers. Currently we have seven 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 You do not have to be a retiree or a full-time resident to be a volunteer!

EXCELLENT past two months -Total Violations=**ZERO**. **Thank You Waterwood for doing such great work on your properties.**

There were 11 Cured Violations from the previous months.

Only one 209 was written for a previous watchlist violation.

We did the Golf course drive- 1-4-26- and saw no violations.

Dead trees and stumps – It is the property owner’s responsibility to take care of dead trees and stumps on their property; they need to be removed according to the Protective Covenants. Should you have a concern about a neighbors dead tree then a **Neighbor-to-Neighbor** communication should take place.- Most concerns relating to adjoining/nearby properties should be resolved by first contacting the property owner before contacting the DEC. Any questions, send an email to the DEC at email address above.

Exterior construction- Remember that if you are doing most exterior construction- you need to submit an **ARC Large or Small Improvement Application/Additional Improvement Application** available on the website waterwoodwia.org under documents or at the WIA office. You need to submit the application and get **ARC** approval before you can start construction. There are fines if you fail to apply and get approval. You also need to have the Pink Sign placed in your yard visible from the street before the application is approved or there is a \$50 fine plus \$25 per day till it is posted.



Waterwood Maintenance, Greg Gusman

1. Three bid proposals received for Apartment at Bass Boat Village repair/remodel and reviewed. Also received 3 bids for A/C (Split Units) replacement which was reviewed by the board in my absence.
2. All bids received for conference bldg. and reviewed by board; I was absent.
3. No word received from Lilly construction as to bidding a quote or material refund.
4. Several fallen trees and limbs were removed from the streets by Raymond, saving the cost of using Ray Norman's services, cost savings!
5. Lawn service continued through the month along with weed eating and leaves blowing off the streets and curbs. Chase purchased two new mowers and a stand-on blower that will cut his time leaf-blowing the streets and the blower does a better job of removing limbs and debris in the street gutters.
6. Two trees fell and were cut off the roadway, thanks Ed and Volunteer Fire team. Special thanks to Mark Nettuno for cutting up and getting rid of one tree that fell on La Jolla, savings of \$150.00
7. Purchased two poles to install the solar panels for the gate openers, which will be installed in January.

Addendum to Maintenance Report

- 1A. Completed tree and limb cleanup throughout all of Waterwood, by Ray Norman week of January 6th.
- 2A. 1 dead pine cut down on corner street in Greentree, safety issue.
- 3A. Three trees scheduled to be cut down Friday, located at WIA green belt off of Bay Hill, danger to house and garage.
- 4A. Numerous dead trees are being looked at throughout Waterwood, property owners will be notified if they pose a danger to vehicles, buildings or pedestrians and removal will be required if unsafe conditions determined!

Maintenance budget was approved for 2026 for the amount requested. In contract discussions with Ray Norman for 2026, last contract agreement was for 1 year only. No major issues reported during or after winter storm. Dodged a Bullet!

Waterwood National Golf & Recreation Association

We are getting ready for the new Golf season. There are some issues remaining from late last year. We are working on the irrigation system. The weather has been an issue with getting the last leaks repaired. The trees have been cleared on hole 13. Our neighbors have been very supportive in getting that mission accomplished. This is a slow time of year, but we still need you. There is constant debris to clean up. We appreciate all of those who volunteer and take care of these things with no one knowing.

Gavin has been hard at work completing maintenance on mowers and repairing the aerator. We will be ready when the Spring season comes along.

Thank you for your continued support.

Gene Womack, President, WNGRA

Presidents' Day February 16, 2026

Presidents' Day began as a celebration of George Washington's birthday (Feb 22). In 1968, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act moved the holiday to the third Monday in February to create long weekends. Over time, people began honoring Abraham Lincoln as well, and the day informally became known as Presidents' Day, celebrating Washington, Lincoln, and often all U.S. presidents.



In Loving Memory of our Neighbors...



Betty "Betts" Horn



Betty "Boop" Snapp



Eleanor Zoeller

As we transition into a new year, we remember our long-time residents who have recently passed away. Each of these residents lived here for many years and will be missed by those who knew them. Please keep their families and friends in your prayers as they navigate through their grief and healing.

In Loving Memory of our Neighbors...



Joseph "Joe" Meyers

Susie Pynes

*"Grief and love
are conjoined,
you don't get one
without the other."*

—JANDY NELSON,
"THE SKY IS EVERYWHERE"



**"May there be
comfort in knowing
that someone so special
will never be forgotten."**

—JULIE HÉBERT



FREE TIRE RECYCLING EVENTS

San Jacinto County residents are encouraged to bring disposable tires to these events:

Friday, April 10, 2026

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Pct 2: 550 N Byrd Avenue Shepherd

Pct 1: 141 Hwy FM 222 N Loop Coldspring

Pct 4: 401 Counts Rd Point Blank

Pct 3: 31 Lilley Yeager Loop N Cleveland

Event Times: 7:30 am – 12:00 pm (or trailers are full)

Important Information:

- ❖ No Cost.....
- ❖ Tires up to 24.5
- ❖ **NO TRACTOR TIRES or HEAVY EQUIPMENT TIRES**
- ❖ **All Tires must be off the rims**
- ❖ Tires will be unloaded for you.
- ❖ Tires will be accepted during event times, please do not drop off tires before or after event

****Tire Amnesty Event provided by grant funding from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Deep East of Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) in conjunction with San Jacinto County**



*****NO COMMERCIAL DEALERS*****

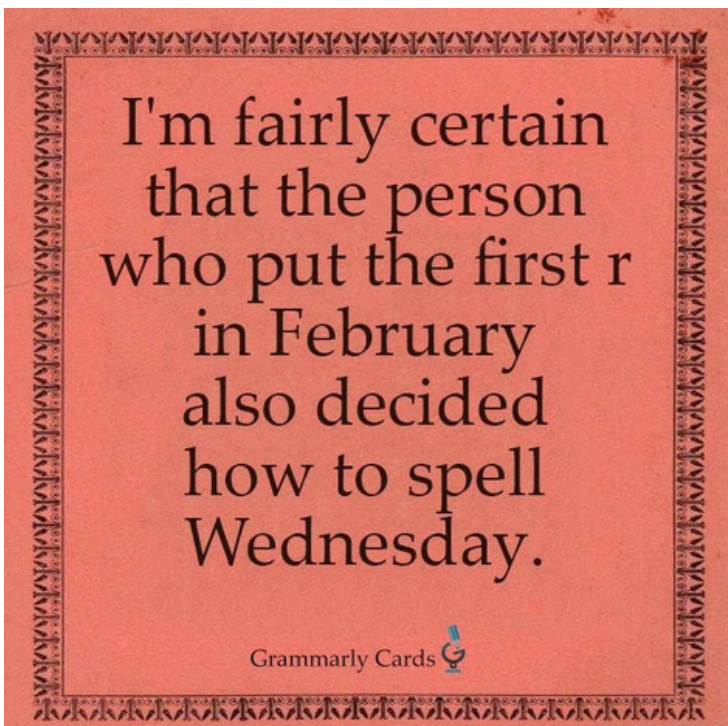
Don't forget your honey this Valentine's Day!



The Lighter Side



When u go to a super bowl party just for food and people start talking to you about football



Special shout out to our Precision Utility guys, Elijah and J.D. They worked long hours during the freeze to make sure our system had no frozen pipes to keep Waterwood's water flowing. Thanks guys!



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

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LCS FIBER



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Willis • 10129 FM 1097 W. • 936-890-0454

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

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Office 936.891.5200 Fax 936.891.5900

MELANIE COOK
Broker/Owner • GRI • ABR
Cell 936.661.7767
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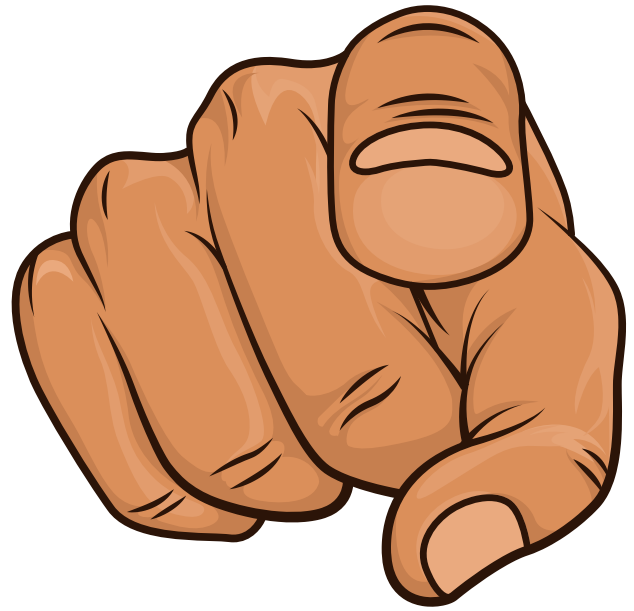
www.PalmerRealEstate.com

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





next
month