



Old Spring Branch Bugler

February 2023 * febrero 2023

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, February 23: **JUNK WASTE**

Thursday, March 23: **TREE WASTE**

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 23 de febrero: **Basura Chatarra**

jueves, 23 de marzo: **Desechos Verdes**

PLEASE REMEMBER:

OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.

****RECUERDE QUE OLD SPRING BRANCH ES UNA COMUNIDAD BAJO RESTRICCIONES.****

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

I will begin my message to the OSB community about elections coming up in 2023. The City of Houston citizens will be electing a Mayor, City Council Members and other positions in a general election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. It is important that citizens get registered to vote for the year 2023. Every year we should confirm our “right to vote” through the Harris County Clerk’s Office, 713-755-6965.

To be eligible to vote early by mail in Texas, you must be:

- 65 years or older;
- Sick or disabled;
- Out of the county on election day and during the period for early voting by personal appearance; or
- Expected to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day; or
- Confined in jail, otherwise eligible.

One of the candidates for Mayor is a former Council member, Amanda Edwards. She will be OSB’s guest speaker at our quarterly meeting on April 11. Yes, it is three months away. Therefore, we will keep reminding you every month until then.

Do you have a 4-legged family member? A dog or a cat. The City of Houston does have ordinances (laws) concerning your pet. Along with the “POOP” ordinance (picking up your dog’s poop outside your property) and the “leash” ordinance (not allowing your dog to run loose outside your property), a **NEW City of Houston ordinance has come into effect as of 2023.** The grace period for this 2022 law has ended.

Continued page 2...



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Check out our website!
[OldSpringBranch.org](https://www.OldSpringBranch.org)

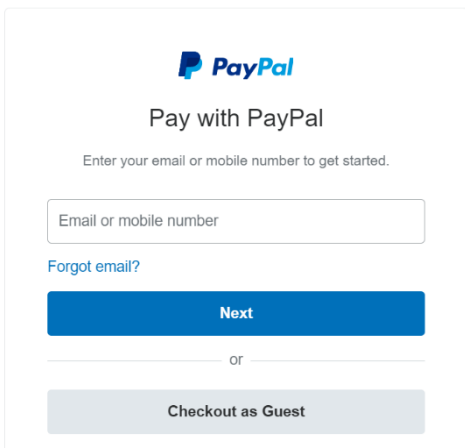
From the President, continued...

Microchips are mandatory for Houston pets and BARC offers microchips for \$15. The worst nightmare is if or when your pet goes missing, having a microchip can make the difference between reunited and never seeing them again. Contact BARC at 713-229-7342 or go by 3300 Carr St. to get your pet a microchip.

Folks, I am encouraging you, our OSB residents, to abide by the City of Houston Ordinances. Many of our Deed Restrictions are City of Houston ordinances. I try to keep all our residents informed and in compliance with the City of Houston laws. I strongly request that those of us who have Deed Restrictions comply. We, as the Board of Directors of the Old Spring Branch Civic Association, are striving to hold our community to a high and respectful standard.

We should all be committed to helping our neighborhood maintain an attractive and valuable place to live. Please, all of us are responsible for reaching this neighborhood goal.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP? IF YOU HAVEN'T, PAY ONLINE!



The screenshot shows the PayPal payment page. At the top is the PayPal logo and the text "Pay with PayPal". Below that, it says "Enter your email or mobile number to get started." There is a text input field labeled "Email or mobile number". Below the field is a link that says "Forgot email?". There are two buttons: a blue "Next" button and a grey "Checkout as Guest" button, separated by an "or" separator.

Step one:

Visit OldSpringBranch.org and click on "[Membership](#)" on the main menu.

Step two:

Select the type of membership you fall under and then click the button under it that says "Pay with PayPal".

Step three:

If you don't currently have a PayPal account, you can log on using "Checkout as Guest"

Step four:

Fill out the information so you can make the payment.

Now is the best time to get your AC system checked for efficiency to ensure maximum performance!



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COMMON DEED RESTRICTIONS THAT LIMIT PROPERTY USE

You found your dream home. You love the house. You love the neighborhood. You love the limitations. Wait, what? Homebuyers need to be aware of a term called “Deed Restrictions.” Deed Restrictions are rules or regulations that pertain to your new home or the plot of land it resides on. Deed Restrictions are commonly recorded in the property’s deed. They may have been added by a Homeowners or Civic Association, the neighborhood, builder, however, they in some way restrict something about the property or its use. Most common Deed Restrictions are permanent and are not up for negotiation and everyone must follow them.

COMMON DEED RESTRICTIONS

Not every property within our area has Deed Restrictions. Attend the next OSB monthly meeting to find out if your area is Deed Restricted. Often restrictions are imposed to maintain property value. Below, you’ll find some of the most common and what they mean for you as a homeowner:

KEEP YOUR STUFF OUT OF SIGHT

Often neighborhoods and associations want to keep property values high. One of the easiest ways to do this is to tell homeowners what they can, and can’t, keep in their front yards and/or in view from the street.

Most common observed violations within Deed Restricted areas and/or in view from the street would be:

- No 16-Wheel Trucks
- No mobile homes or RVs
- No boats and/or trailers
- No trailers of any kind
- No outdoor storage of trash and/or uncommon personal items in front of the residence
- No trash containers stored in view and/or in front of the residence
- No temporary structures or temporary carport
- No cars with expired registration stickers or no license plate; cars that don’t run and/or are not in service, etc.

These restrictions generally don’t make stipulations based on condition of the item either. If you’re not

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

Some common Deed Restrictions prohibit running a business out of your home or erecting signs in your yard of any type. Others limit your ability to parcel and/or subdivide your lot and sell it to others. The growing popularity of companies like Airbnb, have brought into question a homeowner’s ability to rent out his/her home for a day at a time in some areas as well. Knowing what can and can’t be done in and around your home is important to be respectful to your neighbors, not receive Deed Restriction Violation Notices and/or possible litigation.

DETAILS MATTER

Some Deed Restrictions cover general property appearances such as a portion of the veneer must consist of brick or stone material, deteriorated siding and/or trim paint conditions, etc. Some communities require each home be a minimum size or on a minimum size plot (so that homes aren’t clustered together or too tall). Most of these restrictions were put in place long ago to safeguard our property value.

HOW DO I KNOW THE LIMITATIONS ON MY PROPERTY?

When you’re ready to buy a home in a certain area don’t go into the process unaware. Obtain a title search from a reputable title company. Find out if there is a Civic or Homeowners Association. Ask if there are Deed Restrictions within the area before purchasing. When you find the home of your dreams, work with a Realtor and/or title company to ensure you know everything about the residence before buying. These Professionals should explain the Deed Restrictions on your property and what it means for your use. Some restrictions may already be known but having the information before you sign the documents will help you understand any limitations you might face as owners.

CITIZENS ON PATROL (COP)

Virginia Lehman

Happy Valentine's Day! Our COP Patrol group was only able to report 28 hours for the month of December and 32.25 hours for January. We continue to patrol even though the drive is quite dreary and somewhat depressing this time of the year. We have a group of individuals that gather by Connie's Seafood restaurant or across the street at the Latino Food Mart and they have been reported several times. If you notice them, please call the non-emergency number, 713-884-3131.

I know that we always seem to be in a hurry to get to where we need to be but when leaving your home, please take a minute to make sure that your garage door closes completely before you leave. Its a good plan when you return home to make sure your garage door closes completely before you enter the house also. Another reason to make sure a neighbor has your home/cell phone so they can send you a text or give you a call, if they notice your garage door open. I have been guilty of leaving my garage door open and have greatly appreciated a text from my neighbor. Please don't become a victim to a 'crime of opportunity'!!!

As always, I want to thank our CP volunteers for patrolling our area whenever possible.

Be aware of your surroundings! Stay alert, be diligent and report any incidents that you see or hear. If the Police department is not aware of anything going on in our neighborhood, they will not patrol our area. You can call the non-emergency number at 713-884-3131. If it is life-threatening situation, please call 911!

We are always looking for volunteers to join our CP group. If you are interested, feel free to contact Virginia at 832-748-8088, please leave a message. We would love to have you.

CRIME REPORTS – JANUARY 2023

Virginia Lehman

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for December 29 thru January 31, 2023:

- One report of Aggravated Assault: January 6th, 1AM, 7700 Block of Long Point.
- Two reports of Breaking & Entering (Commercial): January 10th, 8AM, 1900 Block of Woodvine and January 19th, 12PM, 1900 Block of Woodvine.
- Four reports of Motor Vehicle Theft: January 9th, 10PM, 2000 Block of Antoine; January 11th, 5PM, 7800 Block of Hammerly; January 19th, 8PM, 2000 Block of Antoine and January 24th, 2AM, 2000 Block of Thonig.
- One report of Arson: January 6th, 5PM, 1900 Block of Johanna.

Please note that the above information was gathered from the [LexisNexis Community Crime on the Houston Police Department website](#).

You can file a police report online if you have access to a valid, functioning e-mail address and you are the actual victim of the theft, loss or criminal mischief (not a witness, relative, friend, etc.) Website is: houstontx.gov/police/online_report.htm

MEMBERSHIP – JANUARY 2022

Loretta Nalley

In our membership corner, we have **44 members**. WOW! Thank you all for helping, it does take every neighbor to help our neighborhood up.

Members on each street: 2 - Antoine Dr.; 2 - Cedel Dr.; 7 - Counter Point Dr.; 2 - Hammerly Blvd.; 3 - Harland Dr.; 1 - Jacquelyn Dr.; 1 - Johanna Dr.; 1 - Silverbonnet St.; 4 - Thonig Rd.; 2 - Todd St.; 2 - Turquoise Ln.; 14 - Woodvine.



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Old Spring Branch Civic Association

2022 – 2023 Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Mailing _____

Address: _____

I am interested in the following committee(s):

- Beautification
- Citizens on Patrol
- Communications
- Deed Restrictions
- Landscaping
- Membership
- Social
- Special Events

Annual Dues/Membership Types:

- \$25.00 Property Represented
- \$12.50 Senior Citizens (62+) /Fixed Income
- \$25.00 Business/Non-resident

- New Application
- Renewal

Membership Due Amount: _____

_____ Committee

Donation Amount: _____

Total Payment: _____

In applying for renewal or new membership, I agree to pay dues and to support my civic association to achieve a better neighborhood.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Membership dues are good for 5-1-22 through 4-30-23.

Bring form and payment to the next meeting or mail to:
Old Spring Branch Civic Association
P. O. Box 55172
Houston, TX 77255-5172

Checks payable to Old Spring Branch Civic Association or OSBCA.

Asociación Cívica de Old Spring Branch

Formulario de Membrecía 2022 – 2023

Nombre: _____

Dirección: _____

Correo Electrónico: _____

Dirección de correspondencia: _____

Estoy interesado en los siguientes comités:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embellecimiento | <input type="checkbox"/> Vigilancia de la Vecindad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comunicaciones | <input type="checkbox"/> Restricciones de las Propiedades |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jardinería | <input type="checkbox"/> Membrecía |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social | <input type="checkbox"/> Eventos Especiales |

Cuota Anual/Tipo de Membrecía:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Propiedad Representada |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.50 | Tercera Edad (62+) /Bajos Ingresos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Negocio/No resident |

- Nuevo Miembro* *Renovando*

Cantidad de la Cuota Anual: _____

_____ Comité

Cantidad de la Donación: _____

Pago Total: _____

Al solicitar membrecía nueva o al renovar, está de acuerdo a pagar su cuota y apoyar a su asociación cívica a obtener una vecindad mejor.

Firma: _____

Fecha: _____

Cuota de membrecía válida del 1-5-22 hasta 30-4-23.

Traiga el formulario y pago a la siguiente reunión o puede mandarlo por correo a:

Old Spring Branch Civic Association
P. O. Box 55172
Houston, TX 77255-5172

Cheque a nombre de Old Spring Branch Civic Association o OSBCA.



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- RECOVERY SERVICES
- FOOD ASSISTANCE
- SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

For more information call 713-328-1963

WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG

BEAUTIFICATION & LANDSCAPING

Jo Lightsey

I am going to take this opportunity to combine our efforts to keep our neighborhood attractive through a well-groomed winter yard and picking up litter from our property to the middle of the street. **Carry a litter bag in your car. Bring your litter home and put it in the trash.**

The “Yards of the Month” will resume in April. However, the lawn will continue to grow slowly, and leaves will fall from trees until bare. Therefore, I suggest residents mow/mulch leaves, edge and weed-eat their yards at least every two (2) weeks.

Yard clippings, in City of Houston approved bags, and bundled/tied small branches should be picked up on Fridays along with garbage. Call 3-1-1, if not.

Remember to take down your Christmas lights.

Protect your plants from freezing. Cut back on watering your lawn. The area has had and will have more rain than usual. Apply fungicide to keep “brown patch” in check. Fertilize with Micro Life 8-12-16.

WAIT, wait to cut back shrubs, flower beds, etc., until after the weather begins to warm and continues to stay above freezing conditions.

Thank you, LMC for continuing to maintain our two esplanades: Hammerly & Wirt and Antoine & Long Point. You are appreciated. Thank you, Nino for maintaining our drip/sprinkler systems at both locations. You, too, are appreciated.



**Saturday, February 18, 2023
10 a.m.**

Online registration closes Fri. Feb. 10
\$25 adults, \$20 student, \$15 child
Registration day of opens at 9 a.m.

SBColorRun.com






The money raised will go towards both Northbrook and Spring Woods High School's prom.

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS
Deadline: Thursday, March 2, 2023**

Got ideas or suggestions? Send them to sybilsanchez@yahoo.com, Subject line: OSBCA

The Old Spring Branch Civic Association publishes the Old Spring Branch Bugler monthly. OSB serves the area between Wirt & Antoine, north of Long Point and southwest of Todd. Material in this publication may not be reproduced without permission from the OSBCA communications committee. Due to time and space not all letters or articles may appear. Any correspondence must include your name and address (which may be withheld upon request). Please print or type any submissions. For advertising information or to submit articles, mail to: OSBCA Bugler; P. O. Box 55172, Houston Texas 77255-5172

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

FEBRUARY 2023							FEBRERO 2023
Sunday <small>domingo</small>	Monday <small>lunes</small>	Tuesday <small>martes</small>	Wednesday <small>miércoles</small>	Thursday <small>jueves</small>	Friday <small>viernes</small>	Saturday <small>sábado</small>	
5	6	7	8	9	10 	11 <i>Int'l Day of Women & Girls in Science</i>	
12	13	14 <i>Valetine's Day</i> PIP Meeting	15	16	17 	18 <i>May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada</i>	
19	20 <i>President's Day</i>	21	22	23 HEAVY TRASH: JUNK	24 	25	
26	27	28	1	2 Bugler deadline	3 	4	
5	6	7	8 <i>Int'l Women's Day</i>	9	10 	11	

Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meetings – Third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Faith Center Chapel, 8009 Long Point

OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
<u>OFFICERS</u>		
President:	Jo Lightsey	713-681-0560
Vice President:	<i>Gerry Thielemann</i>	
Secretary:	Linda Whatley	713-681-0560
Treasurer:	Virginia Lehman	832-748-8088
<u>STREET REPRESENTATIVES</u>		
Antoine:	---Vacant---	
Counter Point & Turquoise:	<i>Anonymous</i>	
Harland & Todd:		
Jacquelyn/ E. Hammerly:	Mike McGeehon	713-956-8446
Johanna:	Florence Armbruster	713-688-7546
Silverbonnet, Cedel & W. Hammerly:	---Vacant---	
Thonig:	---Vacant---	
Woodvine:	Rosario Machorro	713-391-6355

<u>OSBCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u>
Advertising: Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634
Beautification: Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560
Citizens on Patrol (COP): Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751 Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088
Communications: Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331 Lorna Gast, Bugler Mail Out
Deed Restrictions: <i>Committee of Five</i>
In-Touch: Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634
Landscaping: Nino Roman, 832-877-4701
Membership: Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751
Social: ---Vacant---
Facebook & Website: Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331

HEAVY TRASH & RECYCLING

2023 Schedule

MONTH	RECYCLING <i>(Every other Friday)</i>		HEAVY TRASH <i>(Fourth Thursday of the Month)</i>	
JANUARY	Jan 13	Jan 27	Tree Thurs. Jan 26	
FEBRUARY	Feb 10	Feb 24	Junk Thurs. Feb 23	
MARCH	March 10	March 24	Tree Thurs. Mar 23	
APRIL	April 7	April 21	Junk Thurs. April 27	
MAY	May 5	May 19	Tree Thurs. May 25	
JUNE	June 2	June 16	June 30	Junk Thurs. June 22
JULY	July 14	July 28	Tree Thurs. July 27	
AUGUST	Aug 11	Aug 25	Junk Thurs. Aug 24	
SEPTEMBER	Sept 8	Sept 22	Tree Thurs. Sept 28	
OCTOBER	Oct 6	Oct 20	Junk Thurs. Oct 26	
NOVEMBER	Nov 3	Nov 17	Tree Nov 23	
DECEMBER	Dec 1	Dec 15	Dec 29	Junk Thurs. Dec 28

YES! Put these in your recycling bin:

- **Metal and Cans:** Aluminum and Tin Cans. Examples include soup cans, vegetable cans, fruit cans, coffee cans (emptied and rinsed)
- **Cartons:** Both gable top and shelf-stable food and beverage cartons. Examples include milk cartons, juice cartons, soup cartons, soy milk/alternative milk cartons (emptied and rinsed)
- **Glass:** Bottles, jugs and jars only (emptied and rinsed)
- **Paper:** Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper
- **Cardboard:** Cardboard and cereal boxes (emptied of packing materials and flattened)
- **Plastic:** Bottles, tubs and jugs #1 - 5 and 7. Examples include water and soda bottles, milk jugs, yogurt cups, margarine tubs, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles. (emptied and rinsed)

Do NOT put the following in your GREEN RECYCLING bin:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Batteries/Electronics • Shredded Paper • Tanglers (cords, hoses, wires, clothing) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food/Liquids • Trash and Bagged Recycling • Furniture and Household Goods | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrap Wood and Scrap Metal (NO Helium Tanks) • Yard Waste |
|---|---|--|