



Old Spring Branch Bugler

March 2023 * marzo 2023

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, March 23: **TREE WASTE**

Thursday, April 27: **JUNK WASTE**

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

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

jueves, 27 de abril: **Basura Chatarra**

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

Well, it happened, a freeze in December and a freeze in early January.

Now, all the advice that was given to you about what to do about your plants and getting ready for a spring garden/yard, do it now! Refer to the landscaping article in this month's Bugler.

Spring is around the corner and daylight savings starts March 12. "Spring forward" to continue to make 2023 our best year yet. We, as the OSB Board, are going to continue working to move our neighborhood forward. I hope you residents will support us to do so by backing our Civic Association, financially and physically.

Junk heavy trash pickup was February 23. I am hoping that all of that junk is picked up by the end of the weekend. Please remember to call 3-1-1 if your service is not taken care of in due time.

It is important that ALL home remodeling and structural improvements have a Building Permit posted on the front window of the home project. It is a lot cheaper to go get a permit BEFORE one begins a project than to get RED TAGGED and have to pay a FINE.

Those who continue NOT to get in compliance with your subdivision deed restrictions are a nuisance to

Continued page 2...

Old Spring Branch Civic Association – Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 – 7 p.m.

Mendenhall Civic Center, 1414 Wirt Rd.

Special Guest: Former council member Amanda Edwards, candidate for Houston Mayor



Follow us on Facebook!
[Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch](https://www.facebook.com/OldSpringBranch)



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

From the President, continued...

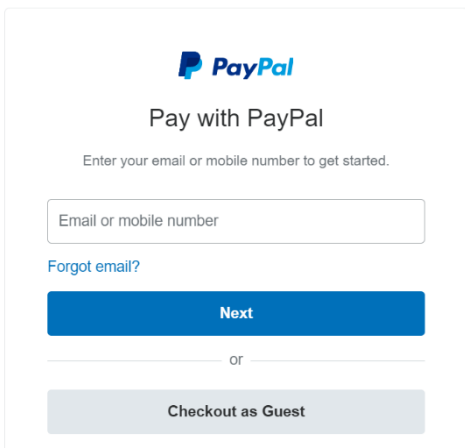
those who DO respect the “laws of the land”. These residential “laws” were established by previous and founding residents that wanted to keep the neighborhood respectful and property values high.

Step by step, we have come a long way since Old Spring Branch Civic Association was established in 1991. Let’s strive to keep moving forward. The area is a perfect location. Attracting new residents that are responsible and that will enhance our area is the goal of Old Spring Branch.

Developers have constructed townhouses along Johanna and land has been cleared for more development. It looks like Jacquelyn will soon have new structures on two cleared lots. In addition, I understand that land is being cleared next/behind the Waste Management company on Todd Rd/Afton for apartments. Four townhouses are being finished on Thonig.

Our OSB area is an ideal location for progress. Location, location...be appreciative!

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 is the instruction "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 "Forgot email?". A blue "Next" button is positioned below the field. Below the "Next" button is the word "or" and a grey "Checkout as Guest" button.

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.

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BUILDING PERMITS: THE CITY OF HOUSTON & DEED RESTRICTIONS

IMPORTANT!!! Building permits must be in compliance with Deed Restrictions!!!

In order to protect the neighborhood character and property values, the City of Houston is cooperating with citizens to ensure building permits are not in conflict with deed restrictions. You as a responsible homeowner are required by law to abide by your Deed Restrictions.

Please be informed before you begin any construction:

Before you begin any construction or home improvement project, please consult your civic association regarding possible deed restrictions within your area. You may not purchase a building permit without signing a sworn deed restriction affidavit stating that you are aware of and agree to abide by deed restrictions pertaining to your project. That is the law.

Building Permits:

The building permit application needs to have the correct legal description, including the subdivision name and the Deed Restrictions Affidavit on the back of the Permit, must be filled out; (a legal description can be found on the title to your property). Customer Service Representatives will check the subdivision listed on your permit application against a database index of restrictions. **ALL construction projects MUST comply with the community's deed restrictions. If you knowingly, or unknowingly, sign the deed restriction affidavit under false pretenses, you could be subject to municipal court citations, fines, and the removal of the structure or violating portion thereof at any time in the future.**

To research restrictions, you can:

1. Check to see if a Notice of Restrictions was provided at your closing (required by title insurance in some areas). If not ask your agent to research and provide you a copy.
2. Obtain a copy of restrictions from either Harris County Clerk's office or through your Civic Association. Attend our monthly meetings and request a copy if necessary.
3. Contact a title abstract company to obtain a copy of the restrictions or a letter stating that there are no restrictions.

Projects that require a permit include:

- New construction of building or structures
- Alterations, repairs or additions to existing buildings or structures. Changes in the use or occupancy of an existing building or structure. Interior tenant lease build-outs, remodeling and repairs.
- Exterior remodels, alterations or repairs. Moving/relocation existing buildings.
- Demolition (interior and complete buildings).
- Fences over 8' high.
- Driveways and sidewalks (in city R.O.W.)
- Parking lot paving.

If you need clarification concerning fees or have questions concerning building permits, please call 832- 394-8852, before beginning any project to be informed.

CRITERIA FOR YARDS OF THE MONTH

Below is Old Spring Branch's guide for getting your yard placed in the "Yards of the Month" list. *Save this for your future use.* Thanks to Campbell Woods for use of its yard criteria.

Criteria:

- Green, mowed and edged
- General neatness (no visible garbage or clutter)
- Shrubs and trees neatly pruned
- Walks, driveways and curbs swept and clean
- Nice overall landscaping design
- Color contrast (flowers, shrubs, etc.)
- City of Houston codes and OSB Deed Restrictions must be observed

In addition:

- No dead plants
- No out of season Christmas lights
- Buildings, fences, porches and patios in good repair
- Have no indoor furniture on porches or patios
- Must be attractive and pleasing to the eye

Yards of the month will begin appearing in the May issue of the Bugler (this means the yards from April). The Yard Hawk is really going to be stricter this coming year. Following all the criteria really means a lot of work for the homeowner. Not every yard will have ALL the criteria. However, the obvious points can be met.

3-1-1 HOUSTON SERVICE CENTER

Have you called the City of Houston's 3-1-1 Houston Service Center at 3-1-1 or 713.837.0311 to report your concerns?

You can also report your request online at houston311.org or download the Houston 3-1-1 app to your smartphone or tablet.

Did you know that reporting your concerns via 3-1-1 is the fastest way to address your issue and track the resolution? The City of Houston tracks those calls which provide vital information needed to properly address an issue.

MEMBERSHIP – FEBRUARY 2023

Loretta Nalley

As of February 28, 2023, we have 48 members! That's an increase of 4 members! Woo-hoo, thank you so much! We had a new member from Antoine, Harland, Thonig and Woodvine.

Members on each street: **3 - Antoine** Dr.; 2 - Cedel Dr.; 7 - Counter Point Dr.; 2 - Hammerly Blvd.; **4 - Harland** Dr.; 1 - Jacquelyn Dr.; 1 - Johanna Dr.; 1 - Silverbonnet St.; **5 - Thonig** Rd.; 2 - Todd St.; 2 - Turquoise Ln.; **15 - 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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| • COUNSELING SERVICES | • FEDERALLY-QUALIFIED |
| • RECOVERY SERVICES | HEALTH CLINIC |
| • FOOD ASSISTANCE | • SE HABLA ESPAÑOL |

For more information call 713-328-1963

WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG

BEAUTIFICATION

Jo Lightsey

Thank you, LMC, for taking care of our OSB Esplanades at Hammerly/Wirt Rd. and Antoine/Long Point. Thank you, Nino Roman for taking care of our irrigation systems on our esplanades.

The Solid Waste Dept. has been pretty good about picking up Heavy Trash and has been on schedule for garbage and recycling. It is still important that we, as residents, do our part. Place those garbage and recycle containers at least 3 feet apart when put on curb-side.

In addition, PLEASE follow the Heavy Trash schedule. If in doubt, call 3-1-1 as to what heavy trash is to be picked up that particular month. A lot of yard work is going on. Remember, to have yard clippings, leaves, weeds, etc., picked up, one must place them in City of Houston, approved 100% compost-able lawn and leaf bags.

I have found that the best such bags are found at Home Depot. They are 33 gal in size, 20 in a box, @ 12.?? A box. EcoGuard brand. These bags are collected every Friday. **BLACK BAGS ON CURBSIDE = GREEN TAGGED... NO PICK-UP.**

Don't be guilty of putting these black bags in the garbage bin. Yep, we have all been guilty of doing it. **It is against City of Houston code.** Please use the approved leaf bags.

Tied Bundles of tree limbs and bushes, 3-4 foot in length, no more than 40# in weight, should also be collected on Fridays. Call 3-1-1 if not collected.

Thank you, residents, for picking up litter in your yards, ditches, and streets. We are all responsible for keeping our neighborhood clean and attractive.

GARAGE/YARD SALES - ONLY TWO (2) A YEAR

As we begin the spring/summer months, garage/yard sales will become a focus. We would like to remind residents of the rules and regulations behind these kinds of sales.

Garage/yard sales are not regulated by the City of Houston. The Office of the State Comptroller regulates these types of sales. **RESIDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE ONLY TWO (2) SUCH SALES WITHIN A TWELVE (12) MONTH PERIOD.** Any more than two, the resident is recognized as having a business and must obtain a tax permit from the State. Since many subdivisions prohibit solicitation and commercial businesses within residential areas of a neighborhood, such activity is restricted. For residents who try to operate a business in their homes, there are other city requirements that must be met. Specifically, at a minimum, the resident must obtain a Certificate of Occupancy. There is NO PERMIT known as a "Garage sale permit".

The Texas tax code, Title 2, Chapter 151, Section 304 underlines the use of sales tax in occasional sales (too much information for most folks that have only two garage/yard sales a year).

For more information on the regulation of garage/yard sales or on the state taxation, please visit the Office of the State Comptroller at 1-800-252-5555 or 713-462-8200.

GETTING YOUR GARDEN READY FOR SPRING/SUMMER

Nino Roman

Well, with spring around the corner, I know everybody is ready to do some gardening. These are a couple of things you can do to get ready for the spring and summer.

- Fertilize turf/beds with an organic fertilizer
- Trim back freeze-damaged plants
- Remove weeds from beds
- Mulch beds with about 1 ½ - 2" of mulch
- Replace/relocate plants
- Check sprinklers
- Plant seasonal color
- Remove weeds from landscapes
- Trim trees
- Enjoy

Everybody has their favorite place to shop for yard improvement, so pick up some organic fertilizer, mulch, and your choice of trees, shrubs, and seasonal color.

OSB thanks LMC for their continuing service to our two esplanades.

THE MILLER OUTDOOR THEATRE'S 2023 SEASON OPENS MARCH 17

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To learn more, visit milleroutdoortheatre.com or call 281-373-3386.






NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Thursday, April 27, 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

MARCH 2023						MARZO 2023	
Sunday domingo	Monday lunes	Tuesday martes	Wednesday miércoles	Thursday jueves	Friday viernes	Saturday sábado	
5	6	7	8 <i>Int'l Women's Day</i>	9	10 	11	
12 <i>Daylight Savings begins</i>	13	14 <i>Pi Day</i> PIP Meeting	15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> 	18 <i>May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada</i>	
19	20 <i>Int'l Day of Happiness</i>	21	22	23 HEAVY TRASH: TREE	24 	25	
26	27	28	29	30 Bugler deadline	31 <i>Cesar Chavez Day</i> 	1 <i>April Fool's Day</i>	
2	3	4	5	6	7 	8	

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 |
|---|---|--|