

# NORTH VIEW NEWS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

# POOL OPENING

Saturday, May 27<sup>TH</sup>

Pool hours will be from 12-8. Monday – Friday and on Sundays. This year it will be opened from 9:00 – 8:00pm on Saturdays. The pool will be closed on Mondays for cleaning with the exception of holidays that fall on a Monday in which case, regular hours will be observed and the pool will be closed the on the following Tuesday.

As a reminder, we converted to an electronic entry system for the pool and tennis courts a few years ago. The system incorporates a keypad code and a proxy card. You will use the same cards and codes every year. If you need a card and a code or have forgotten you code or lost your card, contact Chaparral Management at (281) 537-0957. Please note: Chaparral Management Co. charges a \$10.00 fee to issue the cards. There is a \$20.00 charge for replacement cards. The cards are the property of the North View HOA and should you move, the card is to say with the house, please pass it on.

**Come out, meet your neighbors let the kids play on the playground.**

***NOTE:** You MUST have a card to get into the pool area NO EXCEPTIONS. Each cardholder is allowed two guests. The guests must be accompanied by an adult member and will be required to sign in. Each guest must have proper identification. . You are responsible for your guest.*



## June Gardening

School will be out in only a short time, but your kids are sure to soon complain about having nothing to do. Summer vacation is a great time for children to develop an interest in gardening as a hobby.

A trip to the garden center for inexpensive pots, potting soil, timed-release fertilizer, and a few colorful flowers or vegetables is an easy way to start. Add a child-sized watering can and shovel to give kids a feeling of ownership of the project.

Select flowers or vegetables by checking the labels for like needs of sun or shade and group pots accordingly. Grouping pots together also makes daily watering much easier. Even a small child will love to shovel soil into the pots and play with the water. **GETTING DIRTY IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF GROWING UP!**

Some super tough flowers that even beginners can grow include wax-leaf begonia, periwinkle, coleus, blue daze, gomphrena, impatiens, pentas, moss rose, Mexican(narrowleaf) zinnia, 'Profusion' zinnia, salvia, and verbena.

Instant gratification helps a lot. Plant radish seeds even if you don't like them. They come up in three or four days.

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## BEFORE YOU DIG

The Utility Coordinating Committee (UCC) is a Damage Prevention Council. Please allow us to share some important safety information with you.

If you, or a contractor hired by you, are planning any type of digging (such as landscaping, installing sprinkler systems, swimming pools, spas, fences, decks etc.), you should first call the **Lone Star Notification Center at (713) 223-4567** or **(800) 669-8344** to identify potential buried power lines, pipelines, or other service lines. A National Common Ground study reveals that fifty percent of underground utility damages are caused by people digging without knowing the location of buried utility lines. One careless dig can cause the following:

**Loss of service** - Entire subdivisions, shopping malls and medical centers could lose electric power, gas service, telephone service, cable TV,

**Threat to life and health** - If you hit a power line with mechanical equipment or hand digging tools, you can be shocked or electrocuted. If you hit a gas line, chances are you will cause a fire.

*For safety's sake, plan your project. Call the Lone Star Notification Center 48 hours before you dig.* Utility companies will come out and stake their buried lines free of charge. However, in Houston and some surrounding areas, power lines on private property may not belong to the utility (Center Point Energy) and will not be staked. You may contact private location companies for this service for a modest fee. Private location companies are in no way affiliated with the UCC, Lone Star Notification Center or Center Point Energy.

To request the location of underground utility lines, call the **Lone Star Notification Center at 713-223-4567** or **800-669-8344**. After waiting 48 hours, call the **CenterPoint Energy hot line at 713-207-5463** if you have problems locating a gas or electric line.



## YARD Etiquette



After you have mowed your lawn, although blowers are convenient and quick, it is still necessary to gather up all grass, leaves and trash from your yard as well as any that have strayed into the street or your neighbors' yard. **DO NOT** blow debris into the drains. Do not burn leaves or debris as trash burning is prohibited in the subdivision.

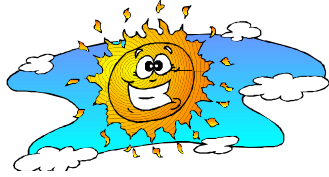


## **BE A NEIGHBORLY NEIGHBOR!**

Welcome **ALL** new neighbors. We're glad you have chosen to become part of the North View Family. Please make note of some very important house rules. This is a tight-knit community, which stresses the safety of our family, children and animals. To be a *Neighborly Neighbor*, remember

- ⚡ **Observe SPEED LIMITS.**
- ⚡ **No parking on the grass.**
- ⚡ Remove toys, bikes, and other family items from the sidewalk and street, which can be hazardous.
- ⚡ Keep a look out for your children and others.
- ⚡ Be courteous to your neighbors.

# PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE SUN



Skin cancer is the most prevalent of all cancers. Estimates vary on its occurrence but it is estimated that approximately 950,000 Americans develop skin cancer every year.

The principal cause of skin cancer is overexposure to sunlight, especially when it results in sunburn and blistering. Other less important factors would include repeated medical and industrial X-ray exposure, scarring from disease or burns, occupational exposure to such compounds as coal and arsenic, and family history.

Prevention is the best defense against skin cancer. Prevention is a matter of guarding the skin against the known causes. Since the sun and its ultraviolet rays would seem to be the principle culprit, the most effective preventative methods is to limit the exposure of the skin to harmful rays by covering up and by the use of sunscreens with at least a 15 rating.

*American Cancer Society  
Texas Division, Inc.*

## Air Conditioner Efficiency

Have a technician check your central A/C's duct system for air leakage. Seal with duct tape or

Insulate cooling and return ducts that run through accessible areas in the attic (where temperatures can easily reach 120°F) and the basement or crawl space with foil-faced fiberglass duct insulation. Fasten batts with ratcheting plastic ties, wire, metal tape, or glue-on pins. If you're not up for this kind of job, and your air conditioning technician can't do it for you, he or she may be able to recommend a qualified house doctor or insulation contractor.

Have the refrigerant charge checked. Under- or overcharging compromises performance: a 10 percent undercharge can reduce efficiency by as much as 20 percent. Make sure the technician won't vent the chlorofluorocarbon (CFC or HCFC) refrigerant to the air during servicing. Federal law now requires the capture and reuse of this environmentally hazardous chemical.

Set your A/C to the recirculation option - it takes a lot less energy than if the A/C is drawing hot and humid air from outside.

Set your A/C's thermostat at 78°F - or higher if you have ceiling fans. You'll save 3-5 percent on cooling costs for each degree you raise the thermostat.

Don't turn the A/C's thermostat lower than the desired setting - the house will not cool any faster and can get uncomfortably cold.

Turn off your A/C when you leave for more than an hour. It's worth it.

**MYTH:** It's more efficient to leave the A/C running than to shut it off and have to recool the

**Close off** unused rooms (or close registers in those rooms, if you have central A/C).

**Install** a programmable thermostat for your central A/C system to regulate cooling automatically. Such a thermostat can be programmed to ensure that your home is cool only when you want it to be - when you come home from work, for example.

**Trim** bushes or shrubs around outdoor units so they have unimpeded airflow - a clear radius of two feet is adequate. Remove leaves and debris regularly.

**Shade** your room A/C or the outside condenser unit on a central A/C from direct sunlight if possible. This can increase the unit's efficiency by 5-10 percent.

**Remove** your window-mounted A/C each fall. Their flimsy mounting panels and drafty cabinets offer little protection from winter winds. If you don't remove it each fall, at least make sure that you close its vent after the cooling season.

Clean your A/C's filter every month or two during cooling seasons. Normal dust buildup can reduce airflow by 1 percent per week.

Clean the entire unit according to the manufacturer's instructions at least once a year. The coils and fins of outside condenser units of a central A/C should be inspected regularly for dirt and debris that can reduce air flow.

When the cooling season ends, turn off the power to the central A/C at the electrical panel. Do

their cooling load have this same problem.) High humidity results in condensation problems and a sweaty mid-August New York City feeling. People tend to set their thermostats lower to compensate for the humidity, using even more energy. Here are better solutions:

- ? Reduce your fan speed. This makes the coils run cooler and increases the amount of moisture that will condense in the A/C rather than on your books. (Don't worry; your air conditioner can handle it!)
- ? Choose an A/C with a "sensible heat fraction" (SHF) less than 0.8. The lower the SHF, the better the dehumidification ability. The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers has information on SHFs.
- ? Size your A/C carefully. Contractors should calculate dehumidification as well as cooling capacity. Most air conditioning systems are oversized - many by 50 percent or more. Ask any contractor you may be hiring to show you his or her sizing and SHF calculations to avoid being sold an oversized model or one that won't remove enough moisture.
- ? Investigate the feasibility of using a Dinwiddie heat pipe/pump. These devices use no energy to operate, cool the air before it runs through the air conditioner, and warm it again as it blows out of the air conditioner. They can help your existing air conditioner dehumidify several fold more effectively

## NORTHVIEW HOA NEEDS YOUR INPUT

We invite you to come to our monthly meetings, which are held every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday on the second floor of the Fire Station on Imperial Valley. This is a great opportunity for you to become an active part of our community.

### Community Club NEXT PLANNED EVENT Saturday July 1, 2006

Celebration of Independence



More information coming soon!

If you would like to help with this event please contact Ron [ronaldrowan@northviewnews.com](mailto:ronaldrowan@northviewnews.com)

### ADVERTISE HERE

**\$10.00 homeowners / 3 free for Volunteers**

If you would like to advertise in this newsletter e-mail  
Sharon at [SharonDMorris@northviewnews.com](mailto:SharonDMorris@northviewnews.com)

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### YARD OF THE MONTH



The North View HOA as well as the residents appreciates a well kept yard. We the members of the community club would like to give you some incentive for your hard work by giving the Yard of the Month winners a \$25.00 gift certificate to HOME DEPOT as well as a sign to be displayed in their yard.

If you know someone who has an exceptional yard, you may nominate them via our website.

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

**Chaparral  
Management**  
281-537-0957

Contact: **Betty x29** for ACC applications, and to report park or pool area maintenance problem.

**Kendall x23** for deed restriction violations

**Susan x21** for questions regarding your statement.

## websites

### CENTERPOINT

<http://www.centerpointenergy.com/outage/>

### PRECINCT 4-COMMUNITY ASST

<http://www.cp4.hctx.net/cad/index.htm>

### PRECINCT 4 - CONSTABLE DEPT

<http://www.co.harris.tx.us/pct4/>

### HARRIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPT

<http://www.hd.co.harris.tx.us/Display.htm>

### HARRIS CTY VICIOUS DOG INFO

<http://www.countypets.com/webbad.htm>

### CCFCC

[www.cfcc.org](http://www.cfcc.org).

### FAMILY WATCH DOG

<http://www.familywatchdog.us/>

### NORTH VIEW SUBDIVISION

[www.northviewnews.com](http://www.northviewnews.com)

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