February 2018

Important Phone Numbers

Animal Control (972) 292-5303
City of Frisco (972) 292-5000
Co Serv Electric & Gas (800) 566-2314
Progressive - Recycling/Trash (469) 452-8000
Frisco Police Department (972) 292-6000
Frisco Fire Administration (972) 292-6300
SEM Elementary School (469) 633-3575

Upcoming PCE Events

Please keep an eye on the website as events get closer for details and updated information! We could still use volunteers to help with these events. If you’re interested in helping with any of them please email the board and let us know! To receive email updates for these events, please see the info on how to sign up in this newsletter.

PCEBoard@PantherCreekEstates.org

Egg Hunt 2018
Sunday, March 25th 10am-12pm

PCE SAFETY BLOCK PARTY
Friday March 2nd, 5pm-7pm

Community Wide Garage Sale 2018
Friday & Saturday, April 6th & 7th, 7am-2pm

PCE MultiCultural Day Party
Saturday, April 21, TIME TBD

Pool Opens for the Season 2018
Saturday, May 4th

Spring Fling at the Pool 2018
Saturday, May 19, 11am-1pm

ALL POOL CARDS NO LONGER WORK!
DON’T WAIT TO REACTIVATE

In an effort to regain control of the pool, the HOA has hired a security company to help manage the pool entrance. As part of the revamping of the pool access, we have also deactivated all pool cards to ensure all members are up to date with their pool waiver documents. Once you submit your pool waiver form, your card will be reactivated within 7-10 business days. If you are a renter, you will also need to have your owner sign the same document to ensure you can gain access. (BOTH signatures, owners and renters, will be required to activate the pool key.)

(Continued on pg.2)
WE WILL HAVE A STRICT NO ACTIVE CARD, NO ACCESS POLICY starting in 2018.

ALL members will also need to sign in upon entering the pool area.

You can get your pool waiver by one of the options below:

• #1: Log into your Resident Portal at: www.realmanage.com Go to: My DOCUMENTS> FORMS and then download the PCE POOL WAIVER document. (NOTE: This will be the QUICKEST WAY to get your pool key activated!) While you’re there, feel free to update any information related to your property and contact details.

-OR-

• #2: Download the form via the website: https://panthercreekestates.org/faqs and submit it to Real Manage via the information on the form.

-OR-

• #3: Real Manage will be doing a community mailing and Eblast by the end of February which will have your waiver to fill out. Once you fill it out, simply submit to Real Manage via the information on the form.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email the board at: pceboard@panthercreekestates.org

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You HOA Board is working hard to make sure it’s easy for PCE residents to be informed of neighborhood news and events, get answers to their questions, and be involved in the community. We are in the process of re-vamping our website and have also recently opened up an official Facebook Page that you can follow to keep up with PCE related information. We are also looking into expanding into more social media platforms and will be sure to let you know as they become available.

Please check out our website here: www.PantherCreekEstates.org

Please check out our official FaceBook page here: https://www.facebook.com/PantherCreekEstates/

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Community Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 25th
10am – 12pm
Egg Hunt to begin promptly at 10:30am
Hummingbird Park

There will be 2 age group fields: 6 and under & 7 to 12 years old. There will be games, bounce houses and a petting zoo for the kids to enjoy.

SPECIAL VISIT BY THE EASTER BUNNY HIMSELF! We’ll be setting up a photo-op for your family!

For updates on this and other community events, be sure to sign up to receive emails from the board. Info on how to sign up can be found in this newsletter.
Did You Know About These City of Frisco Events?

Frisco Starfest

2nd Saturday of each month at Frisco Commons Park
Time: 6:00pm
Place: 8000 McKinney Road - Frisco, TX 75034

Texas Astronomical Society holds once monthly Star Parties where members and guests can get together to observe and educate others about the night sky. Look at planets, stars and other celestial wonders.

Visit www.texasastro.org for more information.

Frisco Heritage Center

3rd Sunday of each month Open House
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Place: 6455 Page St. Frisco, TX 75034

Monthly event includes kids crafts, games, working blacksmiths, historic home tours and much more. Admission is FREE!
REPORT FIRST! POST SECOND!

To many people, reporting suspicious activity on Facebook within our community has become the norm. We’ve seen a large number of residents posting things like, “Someone started banging on my door, should I call it in?” and “I saw a car with no lights on driving slowly in our alley, watch out!” Seriously folks, while we commend you for your due diligence on letting your neighbors know of suspicious activity, it does absolutely nothing to deter, prevent, or keep you safe from people who want to do bad things. In order to help curb and deter those bad doers, ALWAYS REPORT FIRST to the police AND POST SECOND on Facebook. I would also add that it would be good to indicate that you already called the police when you post in the group. It will help set a precedent to other neighbors when they read your post! Let’s all work together to keep this neighborhood safe!

SAFETY BLOCK PARTY
FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018
5:30-7:30
MOURNING DOVE PARK
It may seem counterintuitive, but winter is the best time to plant — at least here in South Texas. And your options of what to plant are numerous. They include bulbs, corms, rhizomes and tubers.

As winter progresses, our weather here in South Texas tends to become cooler and damp, which often discourages people from working and planting in their yard. But there are multiple plants you can put in the ground this time of year. Some examples are: tulip and daffodil bulbs, gladiolus corms, dahlia tubers and iris rhizomes.

Tubers, rhizomes, bulbs and corms all have different planting requirements, but with a little tender loving care you can put them into the ground in the winter and appreciate their color and beauty in the spring.

Bulbs
A bulb is a common name we see when we go to our local nursery, but what is a bulb really? A bulb is basically a compressed stem that has layers of leaves around it that some say look similar to scales. Those scales carry important nutrients and food that aid in the development of your plant. Bulbs, such as tulips and daffodils, should be planted about 6 to 8 inches deep and in groups of three to five. Once you’ve placed your bulb into the ground, make sure to water it to stimulate growth. These bulbs don’t need to be watered constantly during the winter months. In fact, over-watering is the biggest killer of bulbs. Generally the tulip bulbs we use last no more than two years. Clusian tulips can last up to a decade.

Corms
A corm is sometimes confused with a bulb because they’re the same shape. The biggest difference is the layered scales, which only bulbs have. Don’t worry, it can be hard to distinguish between the two unless you have many years of horticultural knowledge. Corms, like gladiolus and crocus, can be planted anywhere from 4 to 6 inches deep and in groups of three to five. Like with most plants, be sure to water them in to stimulate root growth. And like bulbs, corms don’t need to be watered constantly during the winter months. If the winter is unusually dry, then water by hand, being careful not to over water.

Tubers
Let’s talk about tubers. When talking tubers we think of the most famous one of all: potatoes. Tubers are formed from a root or stem and used for storage of nutrients. Caladiums, cyclamen and tuberous begonias are tuber plants that can be planted about 4 to 6 inches deep in well-drained soil. Similar to growing potatoes, you can cut these guys into sections to increase production. Just be sure each section has at least one eye on it.

Rhizomes
Rhizomes are usually easy to identify. They’re swollen roots that grow in a horizontal direction just under the top layer of soil. One familiar example is ginger. Here in South Texas, you can plant calla lilies and irises in the winter. These flowering rhizomes need to be planted about 6 to 8 inches deep and, like bulbs and corms, planted in groups. Rhizomes need well-drained soil and a little water here and there if the winter becomes too dry.

Each of these plant types can be found in your local home improvement lawn area or nursery. So don’t think your growing season is done just because of a little cold. Toss on a jacket and get out there and plant some flowers that you can enjoy in the spring.

Source: www.gardenstylesanantonio.com
(BPT) - When you fill your bird feeders and put fresh water in the birdbath this season, you'll definitely be giving your feathered friends a helping hand. But you could also be serving the greater good!

Take note of the birds that visit your yard, and you'll be ready to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), a four-day annual event during which thousands of people around the world record information about the species of birds they see. The information backyard bird-watchers gather assists scientists in better understanding the movement of species around the globe, how well different species are - or aren't - doing and how factors like climate change are affecting bird populations everywhere.

And when the bird count is over, you'll still enjoy a yard filled with the pleasing colors and sounds of wild birds.

Birds are important

“We enjoy birdwatching and feeding birds because they brighten our backyards and entertain us with their antics, especially during long winters,” says Richard Cole, co-founder of Cole’s Wild Bird Products. “But birds also play an important role in maintaining environmental balance around the world. They pollinate plants, scatter seeds so new plants can grow, help control insect populations and recycle nutrients back into the soil. It’s critical for us to have a greater understanding of how bird species are doing around the world, and to do our part to help take care of them.”

Fluctuations in bird populations are often the earliest signs of greater environmental changes.

What you can do

Founded in 1998, and co-sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the National Audubon Society and Bird Studies Canada, the next Great Backyard Bird Count will be Feb. 16-19, 2018. You can start preparing to participate by taking steps now to make your own backyard an oasis for birds.

• Start by offering a variety of feeders. Different species prefer different styles of feeders. Tube feeders are versatile and appeal to a wide range of bird species. They can also handle large (think sunflower) or small seeds (like petite mixes) equally well. Some birds prefer to cling to feeders while dining, rather than perch, so use a versatile Mesh feeder; or try a Bowl feeder, perfect for serving suet in kibble form, dried mealworms and fresh fruit. Be sure to keep all feeders clean and in good condition to help prevent disease and injury.

• Serve a variety of birdfeed. In winter, seeds with a high fat or oil content are best for birds, so offer black oil sunflower seeds, niger, raw peanuts and suet. Special Feeder is a high-energy blend that also attracts large numbers of birds, with the perfect mixture of black oil sunflower, sunflower meats, black stripe, raw peanuts, safflower and pecans. Birds also need (and love) suet, which helps ensure they get the fat stores they need to weather winter.

• Fill every feeder with quality food. Birds won't be satisfied with birdfeed that contains cheap fillers, and they won't get the nutrition they need. Think of it as the difference between serving your family fresh veggies instead of fast food. Serve birdfeed that contains quality ingredients and is free of chemicals or other toxins that could be harmful to birds.

Be sure to also offer birds plenty of fresh water; it can be very difficult for them to find unfrozen water sources in winter.

By feeding backyard birds and participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count, you can be counted on to help protect the wellbeing of wild bird populations. What’s more, the work you do prepping your yard for the count will benefit you - and your feathered friends - throughout the year.

Source: www.brandpointcontent.com
City of Frisco Warning Sirens
What do they mean? What should I do?

The way citywide warning systems are used varies from place to place. This leads to some confusion when hearing the sirens for the first time in a new place. We want to help inform everyone about what these sirens mean for PCE so they can make the best choices for their families when they are utilized.

The City of Frisco controls when these sirens are activated and does so conservatively. These are NOT tornado sirens. They are intended to be heard by those outside and warn them to seek shelter due to pending or active dangerous activity. Dangers sirens could sound for include, but are not limited to: tornadoes, flash floods, winds in excess of 70 MPH, reported hail of 1.25” in diameter or greater, national security, or environmental threats. They are intended to notify us of potentially dangerous activity and to give us an opportunity to gather additional information and protect ourselves, our families, and potentially our property. When you hear the sirens the best thing you can do is turn on the TV and tune into the news for the latest information.

You should never go outside to try and hear the warning the sirens are broadcasting. They are telling anyone outside and in earshot to get inside to safety. They are sounded well in advance of dangerous weather actually arriving to give people plenty of time to seek the appropriate shelter. Likewise, when the sirens stop sounding, it does not necessarily mean the danger has passed. So be sure to tune in to a local source of information to determine the appropriate action to take and when the danger has passed.

To receive official information from the Frisco Communications Department, you can tune to the following:

WBAP Radio 820 AM – designated Emergency Alert System (EAS) for our area
Channel 12 – Grande Cable Subscribers
Channel 16 – Time Warner Cable Subscribers
Channel 37 – Verizon FIOS Cable Subscribers
Channel 99 – AT&T U-verse Cable Subscribers

Most other local radio and TV stations will also broadcast emergency information. Many TV stations and Meteorologists also have Facebook pages and Twitter that you can follow for updates and there are a number of weather apps that can be downloaded for your smartphone to provide alerts as well. Make sure you are using a local station/app for updates for the most accurate information (as opposed to one with international coverage like The Weather Channel).

The sirens are also tested on a regular basis. They are tested the first Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon. All other Wednesdays, the sirens are tested using the “voice” portion only. In addition, these sirens are silently tested daily. When testing the sirens, the Fire Department will only sound the sirens on days when skies are clear or overcast but not threatening. When severe weather is in the forecast, sirens will not be activated unless there is an actual emergency. This is done so citizens are certain the activation is real and not a test.