



# Spring Branch Oaks Civic Association



Vol. 26 Issue 2

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

April-June 2017

## CITY COUNCILMAN TO SPEAK AT APRIL 18 MEETING

At-large city councilman Mike Knox will be our featured speaker at the April 18 General Meeting. Councilman Knox is a Spring Branch resident and will be able to give us an update on issues that affect our neighborhood.

In addition to our speaker, we will have an update from DROCOM chairman Jerry Fowler, and Jim Majsterski will explain the role of Citizens on Patrol (COP) and duties of volunteers who sign up to help with that in our neighborhood.

There has been some interest in utilizing the easement along Spring Branch Creek as a walking trail. We will talk about what the flood control district would require if we decide to pursue that option.

Traffic calming is always a hot topic in the neighborhood! Mike Lewis has been in touch with the city Planning Department to check out what options may be open to us in that area, and he will have a report to make.

This year we are due for new directories—and we certainly need them with all the new residents! Linda Cover will begin working on them this month and needs someone on each block to help verify the current homeowners and their contact numbers. You can volunteer to help at the meeting or by contacting Linda directly (see phone numbers and emails of our Board of Directors on the back of this newsletter).

Since assessment notices were late being mailed

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## GET CONNECTED ON LINE

There are several ways that you can keep up with your Spring Branch Oaks neighbors. Our website—

[www.springbranchoaks.com](http://www.springbranchoaks.com)—includes useful information about the subdivision such as meeting dates, newsletters, copies of our deed restrictions, and announcements.

If you do not currently receive announcements from SBOCA, sign up by clicking the “Sign Up” button at the top of the screen.

Another way to connect is through these social media sites:

- [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com)— You can go to this site and create an account to register yourself. Af-



ter registration, in a few days, you will receive a postcard with a verification code that you will use to verify that you are a neighbor. Then you

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## Upcoming Meetings

**General Membership and Board meetings are held at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Latham Hall, 1656 Blalock Road, the third Tuesday, beginning at 6:30 p.m.**

### General Membership Meetings

January 17  
**April 18**  
July 18  
October 17

### Board of Directors Meetings

January 3  
March 21  
June 20  
September 19

### National Night Out Tuesday, October 3 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Held at the park on the corner of Campbell Road and Spring Branch Drive

## CONNECTING WITH NEIGHBORS

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can read and comment on posts in this group. This has both a Spring Branch Oaks option or the full Spring Branch area...you set what you are interested in on your account when you set it up.

- **Facebook: Spring Branch Oaks neighbors** – This is a group just for residents of Spring Branch Oaks subdivision. To join, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1560367080930614> and click the “join” button. Then the group administrator will approve your membership and you will be able to participate in the group.
- **Facebook: Spring Branch Area Residents Now** – This is a group that has people in it who live in any part of Spring Branch. To join, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/297062647038384/> and click the “join” button. Then the group administrator will approve your membership and you will be able to participate in the group.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR SBOCA—TO HELP PRESERVE YOUR PROPERTY VALUE

**Below is a partial list taken from City of Houston Neighborhood Violations. The amount of fines were also listed but have not been included.** Please read the list to make sure your property is in compliance. Also, please help to maintain the appearance of our neighborhood and its property values by reporting properties that consistently are not in compliance (more than a few days or weeks) by dialing 311 or emailing [311@houstontx.gov](mailto:311@houstontx.gov). DRO-COM members and Board members have full-time jobs and have limited time to do volunteer work for our neighborhood. Your help is greatly appreciated.

### PERMITTING CONDITIONS THAT MAY ATTRACT RATS

A property owner/occupant may not accumulate lumber, boxes, barrels or similar materials that may be used as a harborage for rats. Control of rat infestations is the responsibility of the occupant/owner.

### STAGNANT WATER

Accumulation or collection of stagnant water may become a breeding place for mosquitoes. Eliminate any holes in the ground or remove containers, including tires that collect water and may promote mosquito breeding.

### GARBAGE, RUBBISH, AND TRASH

Junk, trash, litter and rubbish cannot be deposited or allowed to accumulate on the lot or street. It is a violation to place heavy trash or any oversized items on the curb line prior to the Friday before the scheduled collection date.

### JUNK MOTOR VEHICLES

A junk motor vehicle is any vehicle, visible from a public place or public right-of-way, that is:

- wrecked, dismantled, discarded, or
- is inoperable and remains inoperable for a continuous period of more than 30 days on private property, and
- displays an expired license plate or does not display a license plate.

**Any such vehicle must be screened by completely enclosing the vehicle in a building. Car covers, tarps, bamboo shades and other types of materials are not acceptable screening.**

### OPEN AND VISIBLE STORAGE MATERIALS

Property owners must not store materials out in the open. These materials include dead trees, tires, refuse, glass, building materials, appliances, discarded

paper, tree trimmings, cardboard, plastics, fallen tree limbs and other offensive or objectionable materials.

### BOATS / TRAILERS

Remove any rubbish or garbage from the boat or trailer. Elevate the boat or trailer at least 6 inches from the lot surface. The boat must be stored so that water cannot accumulate in the boat. If the boat is on a trailer, the trailer must be operable.

**(NOTE: SBOCA Deed Restrictions require a parked boat or trailer to be behind the building setback line.)**

### DEAD TREES

Remove and properly dispose of dead trees and tree limbs.

### BROKEN FENCES AND OTHER STRUCTURES

It is the property owner/occupant's responsibility to keep all fences and accessory structures in structurally sound condition and in good repair.

## YARD-OF-THE-MONTH BEGINS AGAIN IN APRIL



Yard-of-the-Month selections began again in April and will continue through September. Cornelius Nursery sponsors this monthly award, and we appreciate their support.

What a great way to encourage all our neighbors to spiff up their yards, now that the weather is great for gardening! Each month, one yard is selected for recognition, and that homeowner receives a \$25 gift card via the nursery's Blooming Rewards Loyalty program.

Congratulations to Matthew and Heather Harkrider, whose home at 9317 Walterville was chosen for April. You can see photos of their home and past winners on our website.

## TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE



Friday, March 31	Recycle
Friday, April 14	Recycle
Thursday, April 27	Junk trash
Friday, April 28	Recycle
Friday, May 12	Recycle
Thursday, May 25	Tree trash
Friday, May 26	Recycle
Friday, June 9	Recycle
Thursday, June 22	Junk trash
Friday, June 23	Recycle

For reminders on your phone, get the **Rollout!** App. It is available for download in the **iTunes** and **Android** app stores.

## BLOCK LEADERS NEEDED

Vice-president Sheree Speck is looking for volunteers to fill the gaps in our Block Leaders roster.

The Block Leader's job is simply to be a good neighbor—greet new residents when they move in, help with updating the directory, and keep the Board informed of births, deaths, etc. This is a different responsibility from that of DROCOM members.

At right is a list of the current Block Leaders (If you have volunteered, and your name is not listed, please let us know). A few of our longer streets need two people to split the responsibility.

Please contact Sheree at 713-385-0290 or [shereespeck@speckinsurance.com](mailto:shereespeck@speckinsurance.com) if you are willing to help.

Street	Block Leader
Benbow	Pam Poole
Campbell	<i>Vacant</i>
Crispin	<i>Vacant</i>
Crownover	<i>Vacant</i>
Greensward	Brenda Butcher
Leto	Marilyn Thigpen
Livernois (9302-9356)	Janis Reed
Livernois (9361-9397)	<i>Vacant</i>
Rosstown	<i>Vacant</i>
Saddle/Spur	Donita Ayotte
Spring Branch Drive	Linda Cover
Walterville	<i>Vacant</i>
Willowview (9202-9342)	Claudia Siems
Willowview (9343-9414)	<i>Vacant</i>

## FULL AGENDA FOR GENERAL MEETING

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this year due to our transitioning to a new treasurer, the deadline for payment was postponed until March 31. Now that date has passed, and the late fee of \$20 will be charged for each overdue account.

This will be an important meeting, as we will **not** have another business meeting until October. Please try to attend and encourage your neighbors to join you.

## SBOCA Board of Directors for 2017

Matthew Harkrider	President	mhark@alertlogic.com	832-656-0962 or 832-646-5584
Sheree Speck	Vice-President	shereespeck@speckinsurance.com	713-385-0290
Patricia Fowler	Treasurer	tricia.fowler@aglife.com	832-477-7816
Linda Cover	Secretary	cover.linda@yahoo.com	713-464-7787
Donita Ayotte	Board member	DAyotte@lucasgroup.com	
Michael Lewis, Sr.	Board member	mslewis.lu@gmail.com	832-265-6429
<b>Other contacts</b>			
DROCOM:	Jerry Fowler	sbodrocom@gmail.com	832-477-7817
COP:	Jim Majsterski	JimMajsterski@aol.com	713-973-0740

**GENERAL MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, APRIL 18, AT 6:30 P.M.**

*Spring Branch Oaks Civic Association  
P.O. Box 801562  
Houston, Texas 77280*

