

## Schroeter Park Work Day, September 19, 9am-1pm

David Crowley, 11621 Spotted Horse Drive

Come out and help neighbors improve our neighborhood's greatest asset, Schroeter Park, on Saturday, September 19 at 9AM-1PM for a fun and rewarding park work day.

### Proposed Projects:

- Distribute the remaining mulch from the March work day.
- Clear out brush between Running Deer Drive and the playscape
- Improve the neighborhood sign: stain, replace cork board and plexiglass, replace posts (\*Dependent on donations)
- Remove grass and weeds growing in trails
- Line paths with stones
- Put drifting groundcover back into playscape area
- Trash pickup

All ages and abilities are welcome; we will find something for everyone to do. Please bring gloves and water. Restrooms are not available on site, so please plan accordingly. We will try to have enough tools on hand, but if you can bring a wheel barrow, pick ax, or shovel that would help. All projects are subject to approval by Austin Parks Department and donations raised in support of Schroeter Park.

\*We need to raise approximately \$75 in donations for materials for this project. If you would like to donate, please send a check to: MPNA, PMB 104, PO Box 200255, Austin, TX 78720.

## Neighborhood Meeting Sept. 29, 7-8:30pm, Milwood Library

Author: David Crowley, 11621 Spotted Horse Dr.

We are going to have our next Mesa Park neighborhood meeting on Sept 29, from 7-8:30 pm at Milwood Library at 12500 Amherst Drive. Continuing our theme of improving the energy efficiency of your home with the help of the US government stimulus package, we have invited an independent energy auditor to speak to us about the new Energy Conservation Audit and Disclosure (ECAD) ordinance and low-cost energy improvements eligible for a 2009 tax rebate.

**Guest Speaker: Justin Marler, Certified Energy Auditor from Energy Action**

### About energy audits:

As of June, 2009 home sellers are required to provide to sellers an energy audit by Austin's new ECAD ordinance. Additionally, energy audits are a practical and cost effective way to identify opportunities for energy savings around the home.

### Meeting Topics:

- Quarries Construction Update
- Schroeter Park Improvements
- National Night Out Update
- ECAD Ordinance
- Energy Efficiency Improvements and Federal Stimulus Tax Rebate



## National Night Out, October 6th, Street Hosts Needed!

By: David Crowley, 11621 Spotted Horse Drive

Although the rest of the US celebrated National Night Out in the heat of August, Texas is getting out and meeting their neighbors during hopefully cooler weather on Tuesday, October 6th from 6-8pm. We need street hosts to make this upcoming National Night Out a success!

### Street Host Duties:

- Invite neighbors to your front yard (invitations will be provided by MPNA, or make your own)
- Make it a pot-luck, bring-your-own-meal, or provide a quick and easy meal
- Contact MPNA President David Crowley at 586-9583, mesapark@crowleyhome.net, or mail in the registration form on page 3 to sign up with MPNA
- MPNA will give you the information you need to register your party with the National Night Out organization and help you connect with others on your street

National Night Out is a crime prevention event where neighbors share a meal together on their streets, showing criminals that neighborhoods are organized and neighbors are looking out for each other. Local police, EMS, and fire departments have made showings at our street parties in the past and likely will again this year. Gina Matiza and Cindy Lindsay will be helping to organize the event for Mesa Park this year. If you signed up during the last neighborhood meeting and do not see your name below, please contact us again. Sorry for the inconvenience; David misplaced the sign up sheet from the meeting.

(continued on page 3)

## Upcoming Events In this issue

It's My Park Day . . . . . September 19

General Meeting . . . . . September 31

National Night Out . . . . . October 6

## Your Neighborhood Realtor

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*Susan McVicker, ABR, CRS, GRI*  
Coldwell Banker United Realtors  
Office: 512-691-6717  
Email: [susanmcv@att.net](mailto:susanmcv@att.net)

Resident of Mesa Park  
26 years as a Realtor in Austin, TX  
19 years with Coldwell Banker United Realtors

*Market report for Mesa Park: Between 6/12/09 & 8/18/09...7 properties have sold, avg. price \$220,071, avg. price sq.ft. \$155. Three properties currently on the market. Call me if you need more information.*



## SUNTEX LANDSCAPE

Lawn Maintenance. Tree Trimming.  
Installation.

*Brian Boehm*

*Serving Mesa Park for 7 years & Former Resident*  
(512) 461-5909

## Fix-It-Frank

Wood Chairs Repaired

(25+ years experience)

Table/Floor Lamps Repaired

(512)775-6307



Frank Bergen

11507 Catalonia Dr. • Austin, TX 78759

## The Quarries

We are right around the corner and we would love to meet you!



### Upward Flag Football!

Don't miss out on this exciting chance for your child to get involved in a fun and encouraging sport!

For K-6 grade, boys and girls.  
Cost: \$115 until August 24.  
\$125 after August 24-31  
Season starts August 31.

Check our website for more info and online registration!

Fitness classes and Upward sports leagues do not require membership. See website for information.

[www.hpbc.org/quarries](http://www.hpbc.org/quarries)

### Fitness Center!

We offer single and family memberships that include:

- State of the art fitness equipment.
- A variety of fitness classes every day of the week.
- A full gym and walking track

Come by and check out what we have to offer!

Bring this coupon in and we will wave your \$49 processing fee when you sign up for a membership!

# OAK WILT: A Guide to Identification and Management

*Texas Forest Servicesubmitted by Susan McVicker*

Oak wilt is considered to be one of the most destructive tree diseases in the United States. Over 100,000 trees have already died of oak wilt in San Antonio and Central Texas.

**What is oak wilt?** Oak wilt is a disease caused by a fungus that clogs the water conducting vessels of infected trees, causing them to wilt and die.

**What causes oak wilt?** A fungus called *Ceratocystis fagacearum* causes oak wilt.

**What types of trees can get oak wilt?** Oak wilt is a problem for live oaks and red oaks (including *Spanish Oak* and *Blackjack oak*) in the San Antonio area and throughout Central Texas

**How does it spread?** Oak wilt can spread in two ways: 1) underground, it spreads from one tree to the next through connected roots, thus forming expanding patches of dead and dying trees. Among live oaks, the rate of spread is about 75 feet per year.

**How can I tell if my trees have oak wilt?** Live oaks and red oaks show distinctive symptoms when they are infected with oak wilt.

In **live oaks**, some leaves on infected trees may begin to show a characteristic pattern. The veins on the leaf will turn yellow or brown, while the rest of the leaf remains green. The tips of some leaves may also turn brown, or the leaves may turn yellow with only the veins remaining green.

Once live oaks are infected, most gradually drop leaves and die over a period of three months to a year. Some trees survive for many years in various states of decline.

In **red oaks**, leaf symptoms are less distinct. The main thing to watch for is a **red oak** whose leaves quickly turn pale green to brown, usually remaining attached to the tree for some time. **Red oaks** die more quickly than live oaks once they are infected with oak wilt. Once infected, the trees will die within two weeks to several months.

Special structures covered with spores (called fungal mats) may form beneath the bark on certain infected **red oaks**. **These fungal mats make the tree especially contagious**, because they are the source of fungal spores which can be carried by insects to infect new trees. Fungal mats are not known to occur in live oaks.

In addition to visible signs of oak wilt, laboratory tests can be performed on the wood of both live oaks and red oaks to determine the presence of the fungus. Out of season change of color is a sign of oak wilt for red oaks.

**What is the cure for oak wilt?** At this time there is no cure for oak wilt, so treatment involves suppression and prevention.

Trenches stop the underground spread of oak wilt by breaking the root connections between trees. In patches of dead and dying live oaks, trenches are placed 100 feet from the outermost trees showing oak wilt symptoms.

In certain situations, individual trees can be saved by fungicide injections. This practice will not stop the spread of the fungus through interconnected roots and is not considered a cure.

Also, **infected red oaks should be immediately removed**, and the wood burned or buried. This prevents fungal mats from forming on the wood and removes the source of fungal spores.

**How can I prevent oak wilt?** Prevention of oak wilt is in the hands of property owners and their neighbors with oak trees.

All property owners with healthy oaks should immediately paint all wounds, including fresh pruning cuts, on live oaks and red oaks! If possible, avoid pruning from February 1 to June 1. A coat of tree-wound paint acts as a barrier which stops any fungal spores by insects from entering the wound. After a few days, tree wounds are no longer susceptible for oak wilt infection so painting old wounds is not beneficial.

In addition, be very careful with firewood. Avoid oak firewood from trees infected with oak wilt. This firewood could contain fungal mats and/or insect carrying the oak wilt fungus. As a precaution, store firewood under clear plastic and bury the edges. Clear plastic traps the insects, and unlike black plastic, the insects cannot use light holes to escape.

**What if my trees have oak wilt?** The Texas Forest Service Oak Wilt Suppression Project is designed to assist you with your oak wilt problems.

For more information please call the office nearest you: Austin (512) 440-5150.

## ENERGY REBATES

Homes more than ten years old benefit from energy analysis. Knowing how efficiently your home uses energy helps reduce electric bills and increase comfort. Links to participating companies for a home energy analysis are available at Austin Energy's website.

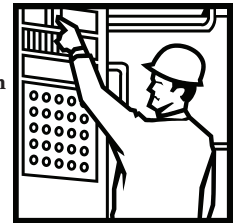
A Home Performance with Energy Star Rebate covers up to 20% of the cost of certain improvements – up to \$1575.

Austin Energy offers rebates on these improvements:

- Air conditioner or heat pump (14 SEER/11.5 SEER or greater)
- Duct repair and sealing
- Additional attic insulation
- Solar screens, window film and Low-E glass
- Caulking and weather stripping
- Attic radiant barrier/reflective material

In addition, Austin Energy offers customers one of the country's best solar photovoltaic rebates, at \$4.50 per watt. This pays between 45% and 75% of the cost of installing a system. For a typical residence, the cost of installing a one kilowatt (1,000 watts) solar photovoltaic system—the smallest considered practical – is between \$6,000 and \$10,000. Austin Energy will rebate \$4,500 (\$4.50 x 1,000 watts) of that.

Austin Energy  
www.austinenergy.com  
1-888-340-6465



## National Night Out (continued from page 1)

Street	Host
Duval	NEEDED
Wind River	NEEDED
Natrona/Natrona Cove	NEEDED
Dull Knife	Gina Mattiza
Powder River	NEEDED
Elk Park/Elk Park Circle	NEEDED
Fast Horse	NEEDED
Big Trail/ Big Trail Cove	NEEDED
Big Trail Circle	
Running Deer	NEEDED
Blackhawk	NEEDED
Shoshone	Adam and Claudia Ullrich and Cindy Lindsay, 11608 & 11702
Running Fox	NEEDED
Beaver Creek	NEEDED
Gray Fox	NEEDED
Santa Cruz	NEEDED
Spotted Horse	David & Veronica Crowley, 11621
Zuni	Richard Heraty and Barbara Tuttle, 4206
Red Cloud	NEEDED
Pyreneese	NEEDED
Catalonia	NEEDED
Murcia	NEEDED
Toledo	NEEDED

### Registration form:

I would like to be a street host for my street.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone/email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: MPNA, PMB 104, PO Box 200255, Austin, TX 78720



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

# MPNA Crime Reports from APD for Mesa Park Neighborhood

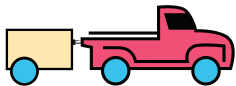
June 13, 2009 - August 16, 2009

Crime	Address	Date	Time
ASSAULT W/INJURY-FAM/DATE VIOL	48xx GRAY FOX DR	06/25/2009	.1841
BURGLARY OF RESIDENCE	50xx POWDER RIVER RD	07/03/2009	.1608
BURGLARY OF VEH	44xx MESA WOODS DR	07/04/2009	.1232
CRED CARD ABUSE/OTHER	47xx BEAVER CREEK DR	07/17/2009	.912
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	50xx DULL KNIFE DR	07/04/2009	.806
FAMILY DISTURBANCE	52xx THUNDER CREEK RD	07/07/2009	.2117
FAMILY DISTURBANCE	117xx RUNNING FOX TRL	07/25/2009	.213
FAMILY DISTURBANCE	116xx SHOSHONE DR	07/28/2009	.2251
LEAVING THE SCENE CRASH/ACCIDE	115xx PYRENEESE DR	08/03/2009	.1908
PROBATION VIOL	46xx BEAVER CREEK DR	07/22/2009	.1200

Please help reduce the crime in Mesa Park by attending National Night Out on October 6th and participating in the Police Appreciation Event in the spring.

## Helpful Numbers

Police Headquarters Main Switchboard	512-974-5000	Auto Theft tip line	512-974-5096
Homicide tip line	512-477-3588	Abandoned Vehicle tip line	512-974-8119
Robbery Hotline	512-974-5092	Northwest Area Command	512-974-5591
Sex Crimes tip line	512-974-5095		



### YOU CALL, WE HAUL

We are looking for unwanted lawn equipment (lawn mowers, edger's, compressors, high pressure washers, tools, BBQ's, ETC, or anything of value. We will haul off for free, but please no trash or rust buckets. We have to be able to repair it or use it for parts or salvage. Thanks, call Rayne at 913-3600

GO GREEN FOR AUSTIN!



### Volunteer for Newsletter Delivery

We need a volunteer to deliver newsletters on Steve Scarbrough. It takes about 10-15 minutes. It depends on how fast you walk with or without your dog. Contact Susan McVicker at 917-3018 or susanmcv@att.net if you're interested.

Do you have an announcement to share or neighborhood news?

Is there something you would like your neighbors to know?

Please send us your news or stories and we will publish them in the next issue of the *Mesa Park Messenger*.

## Neighborhood contacts:

President/Quarries

Representative: **David Crowley**, mesapark@crowleyhome.net or 11621 Spotted Horse Dr., 78759

Volunteer Coordinator and Newsletter Editor:

**Susan McVicker**, susanmcv@att.net.

Board Members:

**Cindy Lindsay**, 346-2232

TreeTopProp@prodigy.net

**Gina Mattiza**,

gmattiza@austin.rr.com

**Terry Tevis**, 736-8469

mpnapres@yahoo.com

**Claudia Ullrich**

claudia.mpna@gmail.com

**Paul Pedroncelli**

pedroncelli@sbcglobal.net

Emergency: 911

Police Non-Emergency: 311

NW Austin Police District Representative: SPO Mike Dunn, mike.dunn@ci.austin.tx.us, 974-5553

Reminder: The MPNA is not an HOA (Homeowner's Association). If you have a complaint or need to report a violation, please contact the appropriate city official for assistance. Thank you!