
Glenlake Neighborhood Association (GNA) Newsletter

July 2006

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

GNA Board and Architectural Control Committee

Karen Waldo, GNA Board member, editor of the newsletter and current keeper of the neighborhood database, will be leaving Glenlake soon. She will be missed. If you are interested in taking on any of her duties, please contact any board member or send an email to gnaboard@yahoo.com. There will be another opening on the GNA Board November 1.

The Architectural Control Committee is looking for new members, too. These members are appointed by the GNA Board, so please contact the Board if you have an interest in serving on the ACC.

HAVE YOUR NEWSLETTER DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Sign up for electronic delivery of your newsletter (in Adobe Acrobat Reader pdf format) and help the neighborhood association save on postage and printing costs. It's easy. Just send an email to the association at gnaboard@yahoo.com stating that you prefer email for your newsletter.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

New Entrance Landscaping Coming This Fall

The neighborhood association board and some members of the Garden Club have been considering alternative strategies for beautifying the entrance to Glenlake. Specific plans for the landscaping and necessary irrigation repairs were not completed before it became too hot to install new plants. However, funds for the landscaping have been allocated and work will begin as soon as possible.

Website Improvements are Underway

Be ready for a new look at our neighborhood website later this year. The site, at www.glenlakehoa.org, is being re-designed to make it more useful and easier to navigate. Keep a watch on the gatehouse bulletin board for news of its completion.

U.S. Mail Service Problems

A number of neighbors have cited problems with mail delivery in Glenlake, including the lack of a delivery on May 1, long delivery times for first class mail and frequent delivery to wrong addresses. The Chimney Corners Post Office on Far West has been contacted about the neighborhood's concerns. In late June the mail route that includes Glenlake was divided in half, reducing our carrier's workload, and we hope to realize improved service with this change. Let Tom Pullum (president@glenlakehoa.org) know if you still have problems.

New Elementary School

In the May 13 elections, voters approved \$286 million in school construction bonds for Leander ISD. Included in the construction plans is a new elementary school in River Place, to be located near the church at the entrance to the subdivision. Construction for the proposed elementary school is scheduled to begin this fall with an opening of Fall 2007.

Glenlake Neighborhood Association
9811 Glenlake Dr.
Austin, TX 78730
512-505-4800 (24-hour voice-mail)
gnaboard@yahoo.com
www.glenlakehoa.org

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITY GROUPS

The **Monthly Women's Lunch**, a.k.a. "**Garden Club**," is a social gathering the second Tuesday of each month. Although botanical matters may be discussed, often they are not. Meetings are held at various members' homes. It's a fun way to get to know some of the wonderful people living in the neighborhood. Absolutely no gardening experience is required. Contact Lisette Schmidli at 345-1776 or albecker@onr.com for more information.

There are two **Book Clubs** in the neighborhood. The original **Glenlake Book Club** shares copies of books and meets every two months for a general book-related discussion. Contact Sheila Porter at 343-8837 for more information. **Between the Covers** meets every two or three months, with all members reading the same book at the same time and meeting to discuss it. Contact Arthur McLean at arthurmc1@yahoo.com or 231-8244 for more information on this group.

NEW TO GLENLAKE?

The Glenlake Welcoming Committee has prepared a newcomer's notebook for anyone moving into the neighborhood. If you have recently moved to the neighborhood and have not yet been contacted by a committee member, please call Gillian McLean at 231-8244.

2006 GNA BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Pullum – President

Mari Barreda – Treasurer

Jeannette Burger – Vice President

Carol Lee – Vice President

Susan Cooper – Vice President

Karen Waldo – Vice President

CAREFUL SUMMER WATERING SCHEDULE CAN SAVE PLANTS AND MONEY

By Elizabeth Drozda-Freedman

Sprinkler season is here. With temperatures already climbing near 100 degrees this spring, we are looking at a hot dry summer ahead.

Many homeowners "turn up the volume" on their irrigation systems in response to summer weather. If you are one of them, it can be hard on your wallet, hard on your plants, and hard on your utility's water treatment plant.

Established landscape plants and turf that are adapted to this area should be watered no more than twice per week, even during the hottest part of the year. To be able to use your system efficiently, however, you must have at least 4 to 6 inches of soil under the plants. For optimal watering, saturate the root zone of the plants, then allow the soil to dry before watering again.

In the thin soils of the Hill Country, putting out half an inch of water twice a week should accomplish this. If you are on a slope, you will want to set your irrigation controller to multiple start times to apply the one-half inch a little at a time.

Watering every day can cause root rot in drought-tolerant plants and fungal problems in turf. If you are in doubt about whether to water, dig down and see if the soil is moist. Remember that plants often droop during very hot weather, and bounce back after the sun goes down.

Time of day is another important consideration in watering. To minimize loss to evaporation, it is best to water between 7 p.m. and 10 a.m. In many areas, water use peaks at around 6 a.m., when many sprinkler systems and showers are operating simultaneously. By setting your irrigation system to start in the late evening or the early morning hours, you can help ease pressure on your water treatment system, while making the most of the water that the system sends out.

LCRA recommends that its retail customers water no more than twice a week. By getting on a schedule this summer, you will be doing your yard a favor and helping manage the increased water demand that occurs during hot, dry weather.

Elizabeth Drozda-Freeman is the conservation landscape specialist for the Lower Colorado River Authority. She can be reached at (512) 473-3200 Ext.2230 or elizabeth.drozda-freeman@lcra.org if you have comments, questions or suggestions for future gardening topics.