

Westchester RAP

Letter From The Board

Season's Greetings! Westchester is continuing the decoration themed streets and blocks from previous years. The general idea is for each street to have a unifying theme, and to maintain and build on the theme as the years go on. Participation entirely is optional.

Add-in these festive elements into your existing decor to make Westchester a winter wonderland for all to enjoy! Themes for Westchester:

14600 block of Cindywood: Lanterns
 14700 block of Cindywood: Candy Canes
 Carolcrest: Christmas Trees made from Lights
 Kellywood: Light-Wrapped Tree trunks
 River Forest: Winter Wonderland
 14600 block of Oak Bend: Snow
 14700 block of Oak Bend: Candy Cane Lawn Stakes
 Bramblewood: Light-up Reindeer
 Green Park: Snowmen

Regarding the Yard of the Month for December: We will have a Holiday decorating contest and we need to ask Westchester Residents to please have their decorations up by Saturday, December 9th so the judging can start and the winner announced.

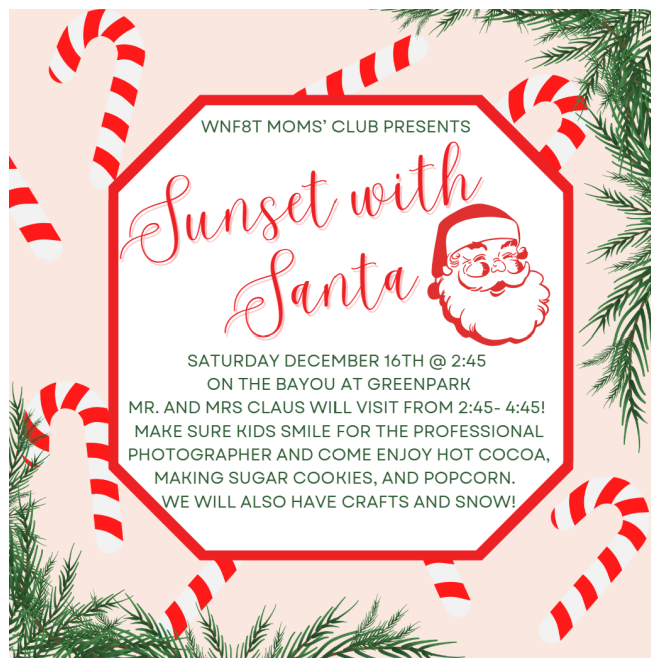
We've had some small issues with pet litter cleanup and escaped animals in the neighborhood recently. Please remember to clean up after your pet; which means pack out what you pickup. Don't leave litter bags on neighbor's lawns or driveways. We often have issues next to the apartments on Pinesap, but this applies to other blocks as well.

For outdoor pets: remember to check your fence gates and secure your latches so back-yard pets don't escape. Speaking as a board member who recently adopted an outdoor cat, please remember to bring in your outdoor pet's food when they're done eating. Leaving food out you can accidentally feed strays, opossums, and ~~trash pandas~~ raccoons.

Interested or concerned about Pickleball on the Westchester Pool & Tennis Club courts? Please see the write-up on page 5.

---The WOC 2023 Board of Trustees---

Sunset with Santa



Volunteer Opportunity: Christmas for the City

Grace Presbyterian is continuing their holiday volunteer program. This year's projects include:

- Build the walls for three homes with Habitat for Humanity.
- Efforts with Kids' Meals, Inc. to pack 4,000 lunches and make 2,500 sandwiches for preschoolers.
- Create a community garden space and build raised garden bed containers at Paul Revere Middle School to provide fresh, seasonal vegetables to their bi-monthly food distribution.

For more details, see:

<https://gpch.org/news/christmas-for-the-city-2024>

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Westchester Club 2023 Pool & Tennis

See the section on page X for the Pickleball vs. Tennis debate.

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December Runoff Election Information



Next Election

December 9, 2023 Joint Runoff Election
Early Voting: November 27 – December 5
Deadline to apply for a ballot by mail: November 28

[More Information](#)



For additional information on voting in Harris County, please visit <https://HarrisVotes.com>

Yard Of the Month

Sponsored By: Keller Williams Realty – Memorial <https://www.kwmemorial.com/>

Robert and Miranda Griffith at 14719 River Forest Dr.



Bloom Where You are Planted

If you want to move azaleas, camellias, or other shrubs to a different location, November and December are the best months to do that. You may need to remove some of the top growth to compensate for the shrub's loss of roots. In the case of azaleas and camellias this will affect their next bloom season but they will recover in the following year. A root stimulator can be applied. Keep the transplanted shrubs moist in the coming weeks and months until they are reestablished.

Be prepared November through April for quick freezes. Watering in-ground plants before a freeze is beneficial, but never water during the freeze. Having a good layer of mulch helps preserve the warmth in the soil. Plan to cover plants that you know are freeze-tender to trap radiant heat from the ground and to help protect them from cold winds.

If desired apply a broadleaf weed killer spray containing 2,4-D to eliminate

dandelions, clover, henbit, etc. Follow the label directions carefully. As chrysanthemums and other perennials finish blooming, cut the flower stalks to the ground to permit all the strength to be used in root growth.

Plant pansies, violas, snapdragons, alyssum, dianthus/pinks, petunias, calendulas, stock, lobelia, and ornamental cabbage and Kale, etc. for winter color. For areas with shade try alyssum, petunias, cyclamen, English daisies, Sweet William/wild blue phlox, and forget-me-Nots.

These tips are drawn from *Lone Star Gardening* by Neil Sperry and The River Oaks Garden Club's *A Garden Book for Houston and the Texas Gulf Coast*, 5th edition. The latter book advocates organic gardening practices but has a wealth of information specific to our area that is useful to all.



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The Dilly of a Pickle: Pickleball on the WC Tennis Courts

In recent years the sport of [Pickleball](#) has become exceedingly popular, replacing in many places Tennis as the popular sport among adults and senior citizens. The 2023 Westchester Board has been asked several times about whether we can install lines and nets to support Pickleball on our facilities. People have spoken about the matter at length at HOA board meetings, both in support of adding lines and nets and against the proposed addition. Properties abutting the tennis court lots and plot have expressed concern about increased noise levels and traffic levels on the courts that the addition of pickleball could bring. All of these concerns are heard and valid.

Our governing documents may tie our hands here. There are two areas where the use of the Tennis facilities are mentioned in our documentation. One is from the club rules and the other from our “AMENDED AND RESTATED DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS FOR WESTCHESTER, SECTIONS ONE (1) AND TWO (2)”. Both of these documents should be available to owners and residents on the Crest Management portal.

The specific section from the former document:



And the specific section from the latter document.

shown on the plat and replat of Westchester, Section Two (2), except that Lots 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, Block 19, as shown on the plat and replat of Westchester, Section Two (2) on Chadbourne Drive shall always be maintained as a pool and tennis club with the necessary equipment and facilities associated with such club.

Residents and owners that don't want pickleball could argue that it would be prohibited under rule 2 of “**Other Play**”. The second document states we must always maintain it as a pool and tennis club, which is another thing constituents can claim pickleball does not fall under.

In general the 2023 Westchester Board favors increased utilization; we want our facilities to be used and loved by our residents as much as possible. In favor of pickleball here is an argument that since other “Tennis Clubs”, including Westside Tennis Club, advertise and allow Pickleball that the broader definition of a “Tennis Clubs” has expanded to meet market demands. It is unclear if the broader definition of a “Tennis Club” changes over time exactly how static Westchester must be.

The 2023 board has not reached any decision or final policy on Pickleball at the Westchester Pool & Tennis club. We need to confer with our management company and legal counsel. It is very possible that our hands are tied and without a vote of the majority of houses to amend our governing documents explicitly to allow Pickleball we simply cannot allow the sport. What we can say is, “*We’re looking into it.*”

We invite all Westchester owners and residents, and especially Pool & Tennis club members to share their concerns. Have your voice heard, contact us at: pool@westchesterhouston.org.



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Academic Calendar 2023-2024

July							August							September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	30	31	1	2	3	4	5						1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30	31						1 - 3 New Teacher Orientation 4, 15 Teacher Work Day 7-11, 14 Staff Development 16 1 st day of school — Begin Grading Cycle							4 Holiday - Staff / Student 20 PK, Elementary & Middle School Early Dismissal/ Staff Development						
4 Holiday																				
October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
29	30	31												31						
6 Staff Development — Student Holiday 9 Holiday — Staff / Student 12 - 13 Parent / Teacher Conference — Elementary Early Dismissal							8 PK, Elementary & Middle School Early Dismissal/ Staff Development 20 - 24 Holiday — Staff / Student							18 - 20 Secondary Early Dismissal 20 Elementary Early Dismissal 20 End Grading Cycle 21 - 29 Holiday — Staff / Student						
January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
28	29	30	31											31						
1 - 5 Holiday — Staff / Student 8 Staff Development — Student Holiday 9 Begin Grading Cycle 15 Holiday — Staff / Student 31 PK, Elementary & Middle School Early Dismissal/ Staff Development							8 - 9 Parent / Teacher Conference — Elementary Early Dismissal 19 Staff Development — Student Holiday							11 - 15, 29 Holiday — Staff / Student						
April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
28	29	30												30						
1 Holiday — Staff / Student or bad weather makeup day if needed							27 Holiday — Staff / Student 28 - 30 Secondary Early Dismissal 30 Elementary Early Dismissal; Last Day of Instruction 31 Teacher work day or bad weather makeup day if needed							3 Teacher work day if 1 bad weather makeup day used						

This calendar is subject to change per Texas Legislative session and Texas Education Agency decisions.



Grading Periods

First Semester — 83 student days; 92 teacher days
Second Semester — 93 student days; 96 teacher days

9 Weeks

Aug. 16 - Oct. 5: 36 days
Oct. 10 - Dec. 20: 47 days
Jan. 9 - Mar. 8: 42 days
Mar. 18 - May. 30: 51 days

Symbol Key

[Begin Grading Cycle		New Teacher Orientation
]	End Grading Cycle		Teacher Workday - Student Holiday
○	Early Dismissal		Teacher / Staff Development - Student Holiday
	Bad Weather Day		Holiday - Staff / Student

Revised Calendar Approved by the Board of Trustees December 9, 2022.
Staff development, grading windows, and early release dates set by Administration.