



WINDOW on WINDSOR

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Mar 2025

**Next
Neighborhood
Association
Meeting**

**Saturday, Mar
8th, 10am**

**Memorial
United
Methodist
Church**

Come join us!

**Topics /
Speakers for
the Meeting:**

**Austin's
Watershed
Protection
Department**

Got something for
the newsletter?
Get it in by the 15th
to newsletter@
windsorpark.info



President's Message

By Chad Cotton, WPNA President

Spring has arrived, bringing with it the beauty of our local parks and the vibrant wildflowers blooming across our landscapes. While a late frost is still possible, the warmer weather is the perfect time to begin preparing our gardens for spring planting. For those who planted wildflower seeds last fall, or enjoy the natural beauty of volunteer wildflowers, remember the vital role pollinators play. Consider leaving a section of your yard unmowed to provide food and habitat for these essential creatures.

This month's neighborhood meeting features speakers from Austin's Watershed Protection Department, who will discuss the exciting improvements coming to Tannehill Branch in Bartholomew Park. This project aims to significantly enhance water quality. The Watershed Protection Department has invited surrounding neighborhoods who share Bartholomew Park to participate and learn about this important initiative. As always, our meetings are open to the public, and we encourage everyone to attend.

In April, we'll welcome a guest from the Capital Area Council of Governments, who will explain the valuable services offered by the Area Agency on Aging / ADRC of the Capital Area. Their presentation will focus on how we and our loved ones can stay active and engaged in the community as we age. This information will be invaluable for navigating available resources.

We will also hear from a speaker from Meals on Wheels Central Texas. This vital organization

plays a crucial role in our community, and their presentation will provide insights into their services and how we can support their mission.

These April topics are especially relevant for those who are retired, nearing retirement, or planning for the future. Personally, caring for my mother has highlighted the importance of having access to information and resources related to aging and senior care. Whether you're already navigating these challenges or anticipating them, these presentations will offer valuable knowledge and guidance. It's never too early to prepare for the future, and we encourage you to join us for these informative discussions.

Recycling Tips

The City of Austin's recycling markets are very strong! The only things that go to the landfill from the recycling facilities Austin uses are the items that cannot be recycled at those facilities. Some of the most frequent items mistakenly added to recycling include plastic bags, clothing, garden hoses, and wire hangers. Please do not put any of these items in your blue recycling carts.

Plastic bags should be placed in the brown trash cans at your house OR can be taken to the plastic bag collection bins at most grocery and other retail stores.

Remember you can always check what can be recycled at the website <https://www.austintexas.gov/whatdo>. Let's keep doing better, Windsor Park!!!

Shade The Streets Update #1 - Plants Behind Blanton Elementary

Martin Luecke

The Windsor Park Shade Brigade planted six oak trees on Blanton Drive behind the elementary school on the first Saturday of February as part of the Shade the Streets program. A total of 850 trees have been planted since the Eco Fest in November.

WPNA Climate Committee got permission from Austin Watershed Protection to plant on the block-long piece of land along Blanton Drive. In a few years these trees will help cool off that street, which will reduce the heat retained in the asphalt during summer months.

More than a dozen neighbors and Shade Brigade members made quick work of the planting ceremony. Much thanks to Committee Member Alexis Dorn for teaching the group how to prepare a tree root ball and all the key steps to ensure a successful planting.

Each of these trees require a volunteer to bring water to the site once a week. New SB members Patrick Rastelli, Joseph Layer and Hope Camacho each adopted a tree for two years of care. There are two more trees available for adoption. We have tools to help you with carrying water. Please contact me if you are interested in helping. Martin@WindsorPark.info



Crane Flies

Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist

It's a bit chilly and raining as I write this, but I know that soon the weather will warm up and the "Texas groundhogs" will be out in force. "Texas groundhogs" is the term I use for crane flies as these typically are the first insects we begin to see emerging in the spring. Like Punxsutawney Phil, crane flies signal that spring is coming soon.

Crane flies can be small to large in size, with some reaching up to an inch not including their 6 legs. The spindly legs of crane flies tend to break off very easily. Adults sometimes are mistaken for giant mosquitoes and may frighten people.



Crane flies are sometimes called "mosquito hawks" which is a misnomer. Other incorrect information about crane flies is that they eat mosquitoes, but this is untrue. Adult crane flies feed on nectar or are non-feeding.

Crane fly larvae are found in moist soil where they feed on decaying organic matter. Crane fly larvae usually do not cause enough damage to be considered a pest, but with very high populations management may be needed.

Crane flies tend to be abundant in the spring. While adults may be a nuisance when entering homes or disturbing outdoor activities, they do not cause damage and do not bite. Keep doors and windows closed and make sure screens are in good repair. Reduce light sources to reduce attraction.

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Giant Letter & Pie on National Pi Day

Dear Windsor Park Neighbors,

Many of you have ventured down Broadmoor Drive whether intentionally or by accident, and have taken the time to stop and read our Giant Letters. Through the messages you have left in our comments box, we have learned of your grief and joy, of your challenges and your inspiration to overcome them. Your notes have illustrated the depth of human experience in our little corner of Austin, Texas and we are fans of you.

Are you the neighbor who has been leaving us little origami pets? Was it you who confided in us that the letter gave you the courage to take a risk for love, then returned a year later to update us about your wedding? Perhaps you are the mother that pulled over one day to tell us how the letters have allowed you to connect with your unreachable teen. Maybe you are one of the little artists who left us drawings of your sensory experience with the giant pie. Are you the person who lost your mother and felt gratitude for the grief that arose and reconnected you to her? Are you the cyclist who was having a sad day and found uplift and bittersweet beauty in reading the letter? Perhaps you are one of the runners that have visited the letter multiple times, to connect with your grief and find healing. Are you the child that lives on our street, coping with a parent who is battling cancer, and the letter gave you hope?



For all of you who have been moved by the characters in our fictional story, the gratitude we feel for you is far from fiction. The messages you have written to us through the years have a home in our Giant Letter project and in our hearts. We want to express our true gratitude for the vulnerability you've shared, the positivity you've extended to us, the blessings, and the prayers. Whether you have followed the project over the years or are just discovering it now, we would love to meet you.

Friday, March 14 is National Pi Day 3.14: and we would like to share pie with you! It is also the night of the March full moon, known as the Worm Moon. The Worm Moon is the last full moon of the winter equinox and as the winter ground warms, worms begin to emerge and prepare the earth for the coming spring. We too would like to invite you to emerge with us and welcome the season of growth and blossoming as a community.

We'll be baking up lots of miniature pies to share with you. Come and be a part of our Giant Letter story anytime between 5pm - 10pm on March 14 for pie, beverages, and sharing of our stories. There will be some seating and an accessible bathroom, but please feel free to bring a folding chair.

We'll be here to welcome you at 1312 Broadmoor Drive on Friday, March 14 from 5pm - 10pm.

We hope to see you there!

Love, Marj :Caro of Team Giant Letter

Please visit our website at www.giantletter.com or follow us on Instagram at giantletter.

Looking for a fully inclusive faith community that gathers weekly to encourage one another in faith and the pursuit of peace and justice?

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Yard of the Month - 2011 Oakleaf Circle

Sara Jane Lee

The March winners Jane Amschwand and her husband Kyle Martin have lived at 2011 Oakleaf Circle since February 2011. To the side of the house there is a smaller house, 2011 B. Kyle's Mother, Mrs. Martin, lives there.



Jane and Kyle wanted to create a beautiful, serene setting that complemented their grey stucco house. They employed ADLA Studio Landscape Architecture to design and construct a low maintenance, xeric landscape. They replaced the grass with black, basalt rock. Concrete pavers lead the way from the street to the front door. There are four Whale's Tongue Agaves on either side of the pavers. Since the front yard is a triangle, the four agaves on one side of the pavers are parallel to the house. On the other side, the agaves are perpendicular to the house. Mrs. Martin's house has white gravel instead of grass - it complements yet differentiates her yard from theirs.

They enjoy the way the landscape complements the house. They find the design simple yet beautiful. They also appreciate its low maintenance requirements.

Jane advises the novice gardener to hire a landscaper if they can afford one. Be realistic about how much time

they want to spend working outdoors. It is a good idea to choose native, xeric plants.

Jane and Kyle will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from Shoal Creek Nursery on Hancock Drive. The nursery offers great advice as well as great collections of plants, seeds, pots, and garden paraphernalia including gloves in various sizes.

Do not be shy - if you like a certain yard, or more than one, tell us. Send your nominations: to 512-928-0681 or email wpna.yom@gmail.com.



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WINDSOR PARK

Market Statistics

LAST 90 DAYS

AVG SOLD PRICE/SQ FT (Over Last 90 Days)	\$320.10
# OF HOMES SOLD (Over Last 90 Days)	20
AVG SQ FT OF HOMES SOLD	1,550
AVG DAYS ON MKT OF SOLDS	41
# ACTIVE LISTINGS ON MARKET	17*

*As of Feb 10th, 2025 - Single Family Homes.
Request a Detailed Report for Your Section of Windsor Park

Trends to Note

Inventory is shrinking:
At time of reporting,
of Active Listings is DOWN,
another 29% since last report.

WP's Go-To Source For Market Statistics since 2010

CHRIS 7 LIQUOR



To our neighbors @ Windsor Park
 Enjoy 10% Off, expires 4/30/2025

Seeking Connection? Memorial United Methodist Church



<https://memorialumcaustin.org/>
Worship-Sundays at 11 AM
 6100 Berkman Drive
All are welcome!
 Let's seek to build faith in families & advocate for justice in our community!
Ash Wednesday 3/5 7pm



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 REAL ESTATE

Windsor Park

January 2025 Real Estate Report

Jef Hahl
 10+ Year Windsor Park Resident
 Broker Associate & Realtor
GRI, ABR, RENE, SRES, TAHS, RESA, PSA
Jef@HahlHomes.com
 512.796.6750

					
\$475,000	\$334.27	42	5	\$300,000	\$875,000
MEDIAN SALES PRICE	MEDIAN PRICE / SQFT	AVERAGE DAYS ON MARKET	NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	LEAST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD	MOST EXPENSIVE HOME SOLD



Scan to see what your home is worth

- Neighbor Special - All Homes Listed Include:**
- Paid Online Promoted Ads
 - 3D Tours
 - Floorplans
 - Professional Photos
 - Open Houses
 - Professional Staging Consult & Report
 - Buy & Sell "Move-Up" Discount

March in the Garden

Chris Winslow & partnership from WPNA's Enlivenment Committee&

1. Cut back roses and shape your shrub roses. Those tall bushes can be trimmed to 1 - 2 feet in height with open centers. Use a sharp pair of pruners and a good pair of leather gloves. Climbing roses should be left un-pruned until after their spring bloom. March is also a good time to add roses to the landscape.
2. Care for fruit trees. There is still plenty of time to spray wintering insects with dormant oil. Pruning to open up the centers will help to reduce disease problems with better air flow. Added sunlight will help to ripen and color the fruit. A few ideas of additions to your orchard: peaches, pears, plums, nectarines, figs, cherries, apples, pomegranates, and persimmons.
3. Tend vegetable garden. The first half of the month is the right time to plant potatoes, asparagus crowns, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, mustard and collard greens, carrots, radishes, Swiss chard, and lettuce.
4. Care for lawn. Early March is a great time to cut the lawn close and aerate if the soil has become compacted. A quarter to half inch top dressing of manure-based compost like Dillo Dirt or Happy Frog Soil Conditioner will go a long way to revitalize turf grass with nutrients, microbes, and beneficial bacteria. If the soil below the turf grass is poor, aeration and Dillo Dirt will work wonders. As a top dressing, Dillo Dirt mixed with a little sand can help to level off the low places.

For the second half of the month, with the last average frost date is behind us, we can shift to warm season gardening.

5. Fertilize turf grass. This will begin to grow as the ground warms up. An organic lawn fertilizer with a 3 -1- 2 ratio can be applied to the lawn at the rate of 10 to 15 pounds per 1,000 square feet. Be sure to water the lawn fertilizer in thoroughly after applying.
6. Insect control. With new growth from all our trees, flowers, and shrubs: come the insects. Aphids will show up on just about everything. A safe, organic spray, like All Seasons Oil will keep them at bay without harming the environment or poisoning ourselves. Our oak trees will be shedding their leaves and putting on new growth any week. With this change come the oak leaf rollers and forest tent caterpillars. Sprays with organic B.T. should be an effective and safe way to control these damaging insects. Look for products with names like Thuricide and Dipel to do the trick.
7. Planting vegetables. The vegetable garden for the latter half of the month will see an explosion of activity. It's finally time to plant tomatoes, peppers, snap beans, limas, corn, cantaloupes, cucumbers, eggplant, and squash.
8. Flower garden. The winter flower garden should be in full force. Those snapdragons you planted back in October should be starting their second and best: bloom. Flowering cabbage and kale should be at their peak. New annuals to set out are alyssum, dianthus, lobelia, phlox, geranium, gerbera daisy, petunias, marigolds, zinnias, and nasturtiums.

9. Perennial care. Keep an eye out for those returning perennials: don't mistake them for weeds and pull them up. Better to surround them with fresh compost and a little mulch. This spring will bring a world of new perennials to plant. Many will be natives that will thrive in our climate with minimal care and minimal water. Some to look for are ox-eye daisy, black-foot daisy, skullcap, rudbeckia and gloriosa daisies. There will be tons of salvia and lantana varieties to choose from.

10. Have fun. Above all, get outside and enjoy yourself. Nothing can be more rewarding than eating homegrown vegetables and enjoying your own beautiful landscape. Happy gardening everyone!



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Shade the Streets Update #2: 30 young trees planted in Windsor Park yards

Laurel Chesky, WPNA Vice President

Like many of us, one Windsor Park resident - we'll call her Michelle - took notice of the downed limbs following the great freezes of 2021 and 2023. Add to that, years of drought have taken a toll on shade trees, and many neighborhood trees are nearing the end of their life. Windsor Park stands to lose a lot of its cooling shade, she thought.

So, Michelle did something about it. Early last year, she called up a friend, Keva Richardson, whom she knew was involved with the Windsor Park Neighborhood Association Beautification Committee. She proposed a: \$10,000 anonymous grant from her family foundation to plant new trees in areas where shade was fading. "She wanted to shade and beautify our neighborhood in a way that would have an immediate impact," Richardson says.

Great minds think alike. Around this same time, the WPNA Climate Committee formed the Shade the Streets initiative, powered by the Shade Brigade volunteer corps, and began planning Eco Fest, which took place in Batholomew Park last November. With TreeFolks' NeighborWoods Program (in partnership with the City of Austin and Austin Energy): Eco Fest distributed 800 5-gallon saplings to community members.

With Michelle's donation, the Beautification Committee initiated a parallel Shade the Streets project focused on giving away 30 larger, 15-30 gallon trees, to be professionally planted in residential yards within Windsor Park. The Beautification Committee publicized the program and selected the candidates, based on the donor's criteria of prioritizing busy sidewalks and streets where people walk, bike, and gather.

Tara Hamiton, an arborist with Austin Tree Experts, volunteered her time and expertise for the project. She met with each recipient individually to select the perfect planting spot and educate them on tree care. "It was wonderful meeting with the community and seeing their dedication to cooling and beautifying the neighborhood." Hamilton says.

Jonathan Ibers lives along a popular stretch of sidewalk on Westmoor Drive. When he moved into his home a few years ago, his front yard contained two large stumps a little else. In January, he became the proud father of a young live oak.



Stacey Benson waters her new Monterrey oak

"I didn't know much about trees," he says. The Shade the Streets project was "a great opportunity to work with experts. I'm happy to shade the sidewalk and have some shade for my house eventually."

Stacey Benson, a Windsor Park resident since 1999, lives along a street that forms part of a quiet horseshoe favored by pedestrians and dog walkers. A large ash dominates her front yard, likely planted when her house was built in 1955. It will soon die, so she replaced it with a young Monterrey oak, provided by Michelle's donation.

"The Eastside has a lot of trees - ash, sycamore, hackberries - that are short-lived and dying now," Hamilton says. "I'm happy that we're helping replace some of those trees for the future."



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Jonathan Ibers stands next to his live oak.



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**Windsor Park Library
 5833 Westminster Dr.**

Upcoming events:
[https://library.austintexas.gov/
 events?loc=184&date=](https://library.austintexas.gov/events?loc=184&date=)

Friday, March 14
 5p-10p
 Giant Letter : Pie
 National Pi Day
 1312 Broadmoor Drive

Mondays March 3, 10, 24 : 4pm - Mexican-American Cultural Center Presents: Guitar classes in English and Spanish

Tuesday March 4 : 6pm - UT Health: Women's History Talk: Is this Menopause? Approaches to Common Symptoms in Midlife

Tuesday March 11 : 6:30 - Windsor Park Book Club In the Distance by Herman Diaz

Thursday March 13, 20 : 6pm - Astrology : the Library for Free!

Friday, March 14, 28 : 3pm - All-ages Chess, all experience levels welcome. Materials and instruction available in English : Spanish

Saturday March 15 : 1pm - Paper Jam: Paper Arts

Monday March 17 : 2pm - DnD Figure Painting

Saturday March 22 : 3:30pm - MACC Drumming All Ages

Thursday March 27 : 5:30pm - Film for Thought: Las Sandinistas!

Saturday March 29 10am-5pm - Come out and Play: International Piano Day Celebration!

**Austin Police Department
 District Representative for
 Windsor Park**

Officer Mark Moreno
 Mark.Moreno@austintexas.gov