

LAKESTIDE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 6

June, 2010



Come Home to Lakeside.

TOWN HALL HOURS:
Monday-Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Upcoming Holiday Closing:
May 31st Memorial Day
July 5th Independence Day
WWW.LAKESIDETEXAS.US

City Council will meet
at 6:30 p.m. on Thurs-
day, June 10, 2010.

The Planning & Zoning
Commission will meet
Monday, June 21, 2010
at 6:30 p.m. if needed.

City Council

Mayor Patrick Jacob
Mayor Pro Tem Don Pitts
Councilmember Dale Martin
Councilmember Kim Ware
Councilmember Vonnie Massingill
Councilmember Gaspare LaDuca

WATER SERVICE OUTAGES OR EMERGENCIES?!

Water Customer Service
Call 817-237-1234 ext. 301
After hour water emergencies
CALL DISPATCH 817-626-1921

SOLVING URBAN WILDLIFE PROBLEMS

As development in rural areas continues, the habitat for wildlife to live in shrinks and so there are more occasions where you may come across a wild animal in your neighborhood or your own yard. Wild animals are more wary of you than you are of them.

These 10 simple guidelines can prevent the most common urban wildlife problems which include squirrels, raccoons, possums, skunks, foxes, coyotes, and mountain lions.

1. **Don't leave cat or dog food outside overnight.**
2. **Don't leave bird seed in feeders or on the ground overnight. Predators like foxes and coyotes are attracted to both the bird seed as well as the birds and rodents who use the feeder.**
3. **Don't put unsecured garbage outside at night and don't put meat scraps in your compost pile.**
4. **Don't put out deer feed. A higher deer population leads to more deer predators in the area.**
5. **If you have a pet door, close it securely at night.**
6. **Trim overhanging branches that provide easy access to your roof for squirrels and other wildlife.**
7. **Cover crawlspace and attic openings with heavy gauge, rustproof wire mesh (not chicken wire).**
8. **Carefully inspect your eaves and other areas where the roof and house join and repair deteriorating boards, warped siding and loose shingles.**
9. **If you have a chimney, make sure that it has a secure cap. Chimneys without caps are open invitations to raccoons to give birth & raise their young.**
10. **If you have a deck, you can prevent animals from digging underneath it by creating an L-shaped barrier. Attach heavy gauge wire mesh to the base of the deck, sink it six inches into the ground, bend it 90 degrees away from the deck for 12 inches and then cover it with soil.**

If you see a coyote or fox during the day it doesn't necessarily mean that they are rabid. They will both venture out in the daylight hours in search of food. Since they both eat squirrels which are only active during the day, they are probably out hunting. You may stumble across a coyote or fox den, but no matter how cute the kits/pups are, **DO NOT** feed them or initiate contact. They may lose their fear of humans, which will ultimately lead to their demise. Instead, you should bang metal pot lids together to create loud noises, which will scare them and teach them to associate humans with a negative stimulus. In three to four weeks the mother will take her kits/pups out of the den permanently and back into the wild.

If you see a mountain lion/cougar, please call the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at (800) 792-1112. TPWD continues to maintain records on mountain lion sightings and mortalities. The game warden can also answer questions regarding wildlife abatement. Their number is (817) 831-3128.

If you have uninvited house guests of the animal nature, you can contact 911Wildlife for information on how to humanely "evict" the offender. Their telephone number is 817-737-0911 and their website is www.911wildlife.com.

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR PATRICK JACOB

The improvements to the waste water sewer plant are still on track for commissioning in July. The Lakeside Spring Clean Sweep was held on May 15th. Thanks to the volunteers that came out and helped pick up litter. The water conservation program continues. In the last newsletter, I had included a reference to some e-mails I received regarding what may have been proposed legislation regarding home inspection requirements prior to selling a home. This information was brought to my attention from here in Lakeside. I followed up on the emails with a call to Congresswoman Kay Granger's staff and was informed that the information I received was **incorrect**. As always, if you have a concern about something you hear or read, please contact Dianna Buchanan or myself. We will make every effort to get the right information and follow up with you.

PAT

Preventing theft of valuables from your automobile

Theft of valuable items from inside of cars takes place on the street, in the parking lots of businesses, shopping malls, schools, parks, apartment buildings and private driveways. Several years ago the most commonly reported stolen items were car radios and radar detectors. Now portable navigation devices made by such companies as Tom-Tom, or Magellan make attractive targets for thieves as do MP3 players such as Ipods, and subscription radio receivers such as those used by XM radio or Sirius radio. Identity thieves also look for gas card receipts, vehicle registration papers, and any other paperwork that may allow them to fraudulently use your identity for gain.

There are several things you can do to make your car a less attractive target. The simplest is don't leave valuables in your car. This may be unrealistic due to the inconvenience of taking these items in and out of your car each time you use it. If leaving these items in your car, at least put them out of sight, such as under a seat or in the glove box. Many of the people that steal items from inside cars have told police they would first look in the car and move on if nothing of value was visible. When parking your car, roll up the windows and lock the doors. This is the most obvious theft deterrent but also the most overlooked.

When parking your car in the warm weather of summer, don't be tempted to leave the car windows down. If the windows are down, the door locks don't do anything. Numerous police reports indicate the items were stolen from automobiles that were unlocked. Also never leave your keys in your car. That is an open invitation for criminals to take your car.

If you have a garage use it. If your car is out of sight, chances are it will be left alone. If you have to park it on a public street or parking lot, try to park it in a well lit space as thieves prefer to work in poorly lit areas that provide them with some cover. If you're wondering if you should lock your car in your own driveway, the answer is a resounding yes. A thief can be in and out of your car in thirty seconds, barely enough time to be noticed during the day, let alone in the middle of the night. Keep a written list or digital pictures of valuable items or equipment kept in your car in the event of theft for Police and for insurance purposes.

Remember, place valuable items out of sight; roll up windows and lock the doors; park the car in a garage or well lit area; keep a record of valuable car contents, and PLEASE NEVER LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN YOUR PARKED CAR.



JUNE 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	City Council 10 6:30 pm	11	12
13	Flag Day 14 	Municipal 15 Court	16	Lakeside 17 Garden Club	18	 19
 20	Planning & Zoning 6:30 pm First Day of Summer 21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

The Town of Lakeside, 9830 Confederate Park Road, Lakeside, Texas 76108
 Phone: 817-237-1234, Fax: 817-238-9187, Police Dispatch: 817-626-1921
www.lakesidetexas.us