



LAKES OF BRIGHTWATER
MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS

Sept.-Oct. 2011

Brightwater Reflections

Coming Events

Neighborhood Coffee
Begins September 12
Clubhouse
10-11:30 AM

HOA Monthly Meeting
Clubhouse, 6 PM
Sept. 20
October 18—at Crest
Management

Brightwater Garden Club
Monday, September 26
6:30 PM Clubhouse

National Night Out
Tuesday, October 4



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

National Night Out In Texas

National Night Out is a community-targeted program that occurs nationwide in August. To avoid our hot summer weather, Missouri City will be celebrating NNO on **Tuesday, October 4**. This yearly event is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships.

Residents are asked to turn on porch lights and join their neighbors for a block party using formats such as a cookout, pizza delivery, simple snacks or a dessert party. Missouri City Police and Fire Department personnel will visit registered block parties. Brightwater families have enjoyed visits from the Bike Patrol, McGruff the Crime Dog, and the new Fire and Ladder Rescue truck.

Register your block party with Diane Giltner at 281 499-0695 or email dgiltner5@comcast.net.

Look Inside For ...

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- ◆ Social News
- ◆ Crime and Security Report
- ◆ Sidewalk Update
- ◆ Yard of the Month
- ◆ Lake Report
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MCPD BRIGHTWATER CONNECTION



Lieutenant Kevin Burluson is the Missouri City Police Department liaison to Brightwater. As part of MCPD hands-on partnering with neighborhoods, he attends our monthly HOA meetings to update us on area crime and address residents' concerns. He believes that interacting with residents in a neighborhood setting promotes a strong sense of community. Brightwater Crime Watch volunteers benefit from the ongoing relationship he has with Brightwater and find him to always be helpful and accessible.

Lieutenant Burluson is a native of San Antonio and attended Sam Houston State University on a football scholarship. He has been with the MCPD for 17 years. He and his wife have five children, two of whom are in the military. When he is not providing support as MCPD liaison for six HOAs, he enjoys sports, hunting and fishing.

Regular Events

Neighborhood Coffee:

Beginning again September 12. Join us the second Monday of the month from 10-11:30 AM at the Clubhouse for refreshments and a relaxed time to meet and visit with your neighbors!

Evening Needleworkers:

After a summer break, we will begin meeting again. At members' homes on a rotating basis the 1st Monday of the month from 7 to 8:30 PM. Bring your hand sewing or needlework and enjoy the company of fellow stitchers. Upcoming meetings are September 5 and October 3. We'd love to have you join us! Call Elaine at 281-499-6660.

HOA Monthly Board Meeting:

Held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Clubhouse. Next meeting is September 20. Residents welcome at 6:00 PM. The October meeting will be the annual budget meeting held at Crest Management.

Brightwater Garden Club:

Meets the 4th Monday, Sept–April, 6:30 PM (Note: New time!) at the Clubhouse. We invite you to join us for great programs and refreshments! Our next meeting is September 26. with a speaker from the Ft. Bend Women's Center. For more information, call Pres. Cathy Montoya-Van Hoose at 281-261-4770 or Membership Chair Betty Grant at 281-261-5913.



The Scoop



Committee Reports

Communications

Ruchira Paul

Brightwater eBulletin: Provides timely e-bulletins about Brightwater events, meetings, security issues and Lost and Found. To subscribe, send your email address to Allen Grant at brightwaterbulletin@comcast.net. If you have signed up but have not been receiving bulletins, send us an email so we can correct the problem. Three out of four people who press the SafeUnsubscribe link do it by accident, and Allen must then send you the instructions to do it yourself. If you wish to discontinue receiving the eBulletin, simply reply to Allen rather than use the link so he knows it was not accidental.

Security/Crime Watch Report: Effective with this issue, the Crime Watch and Security reports will now both be written by Diane Giltner. We wish to thank Ruchira Paul, Chair of the Communications Committee, for her years of service in this endeavor. Ruchira, coordinating with the Missouri City Police Department, analyzed and wrote the monthly Security Report for the neighborhood and also helped establish the Brightwater Crime Watch program in January 2009. Because of her efforts, Brightwater is a better-informed and monitored community.

Architectural Control (ACC)

Dave Lemons

So far in 2011, the ACC has processed over 40 requests from residents to make exterior changes to their homes or property—mostly roofs, exterior painting, and pools. Keep in mind that any change must be APPROVED IN ADVANCE by the ACC through your submission of a Request for Home Improvement Approval to Crest, and allowing the ACC up to 30 days to review your request. Many of the changes or repairs will also require a Missouri City Permit before you can actually start your project. This approval and permitting process is mandated in the Deed Restrictions and Covenants of Brightwater and the City of Missouri City and is not optional.

Social

Diane Giltner

National Night Out in Texas is Tuesday, October 4. Last year, residents from 14 streets attended 11 registered Block Parties. Please consider being a Block Party host. You and your neighbors will develop a sense of camaraderie and knowledge of who is coming and going in our neighborhood. This helps us to look out for one another and makes it nice to know our neighbors by more than just a casual wave.

Neighborhood Coffee will resume on September 12. Plan to join your neighbors on the second Monday of each month for an opportunity to visit and enjoy light refreshments. There will be occasional guests to speak on various topics of interest.

July 4th Sno cones and games at the pool provided relief from the heat.

Middle School Pool Party was a great way to reconnect with friends after summer vacation. Pizza, music and a cool pool topped off the first week back to school.

Brightwater Crime Watch & Security

Diane Giltner

MCPD Crime and Security Report for Brightwater

June: 36 calls included fraud, harassment, noise disturbance, suspicious persons/vehicles, animal-related, violations involving motor vehicles and solicitors. Two residents requested and received police assistance.

33 resolved, dismissed, disregarded, deemed false alarms

- 1 citation/warning for vehicle ordinance violation
- 1 case of fraud is open/active
- 1 case referred to another agency

July: 44 calls included DWI, criminal mischief, suspicious persons/vehicles, noise disturbance, animal-related, traffic/vehicle violations, solicitors.

43 resolved, dismissed, disregarded, deemed false alarms

- 1 DWI arrest

Brightwater Crime Watch Report (BCW)

Smash-and-grab burglaries occur in driveways and public parking lots. Valuables left in vehicles create an easy target for criminals. As a precaution, remove or place valuables in the trunk and keep vehicles locked at all times.

- 6/ 8 Northshore Park: BCW volunteer reported empty beer cans
- 6/11 Eastshore: Resident reported suspicious vehicle in his driveway at 11:45pm
- 6/13 Pool: Resident saw two young girls in the pool during off hours
- 7/20 Westshore Dr: Vehicle window shattered; no property taken
- 7/20 Brightwater Dr: Parked vehicle struck; suspect left the scene



Nine residents completed the August 29 Crime Watch training. City Councilman Robin Elackatt thanked Officer Flagg, Lieutenant Burluson and the volunteers for their support of the program.

To volunteer for BCW or to request a Vacation Watch call Diane Giltner 281-499-0695

To report a criminal incident to BCW after calling the police, email lobsecurity@gmail.com or call BCW at 281-499-0695.

Crime Tip Hotline: 281-403-5868

As always, residents are encouraged to contact the police regarding all threatening and suspicious activities as well as for other security related matters. For City ordinance violations, call the City's Code Enforcement Department. For neighborhood deed restriction violations, call Crest Management Michael Barrera at 281-579-0761, ext. 632.

MCPD notified BCW that citations will be issued for the following violations:

Speeding	\$179
Failure to stop at traffic sign	\$204
Parking left tires to curb/esplanade	\$ 75
Parking nose-in on cul-de-sac	\$ 75
Parking within 15' of fire hydrant	\$ 75
Parking within 30' of intersection	\$ 75

Sidewalk Update

As many of you may have noticed, Missouri City contracted with Precision Safe Sidewalks this summer to grind down portions of the neighborhood sidewalks to make them safer and less of a trip hazard. Their parameters were to cut down sidewalk areas that were raised between ¼" and 1" above homeowner driveways, but not those caused by tree roots.

Brightwater property owners are responsible for (1) driveways that are higher than the sidewalks and (2) sidewalk trip hazards due to tree roots. To rectify the latter, homeowners should install a root barrier adjacent to the sidewalk by cutting the existing tree roots or removing the tree and planting another one in the front yard (no trees are permitted between the sidewalk and street). For City requirements relating to the size and installation of the root barrier and subsequent sidewalk repairs, please contact Jessica Kelley, Public Works Project Coordinator, at 281-403-8970.

YARD OF THE MONTH

July 2011: 4215 Lake Terrace Court

This lovely yard has a delightful mix of colors, textures, and greenery in the curving beds and tree wells. Ixora, loropetalum, caladiums, bulbine, boxwoods, zinnias, and angelonia make the yard really sparkle. This is anchored by two watermelon pink crepe myrtles and two spiral cedars at the front entrance. Great job for the month of July!

August 2011: 1707 Enclave Court

Neat, tidy, cool, and inviting are words that describe this yard. The tree wells sport red and white begonias backed by variegated lirope surrounded by a border of washed river rocks. The trees are nicely pruned and shaped to let in the sunlight. All in all, it is a job well done!



Drought – How Dry We Are!!!

With the exceptional drought that we are experiencing, our Brightwater Lakes, Green Belt, Parks and all our yards are really taking a beating. Hopefully, rain will return soon. However, it is going to take a LOT of rain over an extended period of time to give us relief. Below are some suggestions and comments:

- If your home backs up to one of the lakes, and the lake is shallow enough to expose debris that in the past has been covered with water, please try to remove the debris if it is possible to reach it.
- The HOA is trying to monitor the growing “beach” around Northshore Park to remove debris where possible. Feel free to pick up litter.
- Residents should be watering at night to conserve moisture and allow it to soak into the ground. Daytime watering wastes water through evaporation due to the high heat, bright sunlight and dry winds.

As of this writing, we are under Voluntary Water Restrictions. Please monitor the local newspapers, messages on your Water Bill and the Brightwater eBulletin for updates and changes to the status of the Water Restrictions. The Voluntary Water Restrictions may become mandatory any day now unless we get significant rain.

Dave Lemons, HOA Facilities

LAKE MANAGEMENT

Many residents may not be aware that the HOA contracts with Hurricane Lake Inc to maintain our lakes. Hurricane Lakes comes twice a month to add color dye to the lake, clean the lake, spray for weeds, and conduct water quality testing. Our lakes typically get an average of 50 gallons of customized dye per month called ‘Brightwater Blue’. This special blend is formulated for our lake due to our unusually high sediment content. A typical blue dye will make our lake look green so a mix of color is used to get the right tint of blue. A constant flow of dye is needed since the dye decomposes over time and dilution occurs due to storm sewer run off. Since the American Legions Lake is connected to our lake, we get its excess water, sediment, weeds & fish. During the normal rainy spring months, we end up adding 3 to 4 times more dye to maintain the desired color.

Most of the fish caught in our lakes come from the American Legions Lake which is occasionally stocked with various fish species by the City. Our two lakes are much shallower than people realize—a maximum of 5-8 feet deep between the two. Unfortunately due to the recent drought, our lakes are nearly 2 ft below normal, forcing us to shut off our one and only fountain visible from Cartwright. These lakes are Brightwater’s largest assets and set us apart from other neighborhoods. Our HOA is dedicated to maintaining the quality of all our assets so everyone can enjoy them.

For further questions regarding the Lakes please contact Manish Patel at 281 261 2636.



Back to School!

As school resumes, it is especially important to be ever vigilant as our children make their way to the bus stop. There are **three sets of buses** that come through Brightwater **twice a day**. The High School bus comes between 6:20 and 6:30 AM, the Elementary 7:20-7:30, and then the Middle School from 8:15-8:25. This is repeated in the afternoon from 2:50-3:00, 3:30-3:40, and 4:20-4:30 or thereabouts. Right now, we are lucky that the sun is up but once the time changes it will be much harder to see the children standing at the corner. **Please be especially cautious when backing out of your driveway! Stop and look before proceeding!**

Rita McMahon, HOA Vice President

CREST CONTACT NUMBERS

Rachel Schmutz with Crest Management is the Account Manager for the Brightwater Homeowners Association. If you have any correspondence, issues or questions, please direct those to her attention at:

Rachel Schmutz, Brightwater Acct. Manager
Crest Management
17171 Park Row, Suite 310
Houston TX 77084
281-579-0761, ext. 618
281-579-7062 attn Rachel (fax)
Rachel@crest-management.com

For Architectural Control (ACC) applications
Michael Barrera, Agent for Brightwater HOA
281-579-0761 ext. 632
281-579-7062 attn Michael (fax)
Michael@.crest-management.com

Police & Fire Emergency:	911
Police Non-Emergency	281-403-8700
Fire	281-403-4300
City Hall	281-403-8500
Animal Control	281-403-8707
Code Enforcement Hotline	281-403-8560
Gas Services	713-659-2111
Mail Delivery	281-208-1832
Electricity Problem	713-207-2222

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Clubhouse Rental
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joans1218@aol.com

Security Report
 Diane Giltner
 281-499-0695

 **Newsbites** 

Alligator? Someone reported seeing a small alligator in the spillway area on Lakefront Drive. Keep an eye out for our leathery friend. It's been a while since we've had a resident, and this one may have just been passing through.

HOA Annual Budget Meeting will be held, as always, offsite at Crest Management in October. The regular meeting schedule (3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 PM) will resume in November.

Garden Club Changes Start Time: The Brightwater Garden Club will now be starting its meeting at 6:30 PM on the 4th Monday, beginning with the September 26 meeting.

Water Conservation: As of this printing, MUD 42's voluntary conservation regulations are as follows:

- ◆ **No weekend watering**
- ◆ **Even addresses water only on Monday and Thursday**
- ◆ **Odd addresses water only on Tuesday and Friday**
- ◆ **Report all leaks immediately**
- ◆ **Please conserve water and use it wisely**



The Brightwater Reflections

17171 Park Row, Suite 310

Houston, TX 77084

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National Night Out
TUESDAY
OCTOBER 4

Sept. - Oct. 2011

WE'RE ON THE WEB

PHONE NO. CONTACT 281-579-0761 EXT 618

WWW.LAKESOFBRIGHTWATER.COM

CREST MANAGEMENT - RACHEL SCHMUTZ