



# Oakridge News

www.oakridgena.org

August 2022, Vol. 30, No. 08

## Note from the ONA President

by Billy Ray Thomas, ONA President

Hello Oakridge!

Does it seem hotter to you this summer more so than last year in the summer **time**? It does to me. This **time** around, the heat seems to completely drain you after just a little **time** outdoors. A lot of activities require some of us to be outside (like the amazing work crews that are repairing our streets).

I love being outside and I spend quite a bit of **time** there. Some of my leisure **time** is spent lying around a pool in a shady spot. Speaking of **time**, ONA **volunteers** spend some of their **time** performing ONA-related tasks that benefit the entire Oakridge community.

**Time** is a valuable asset that many of us guard closely. Often, it seems that we don't have enough **time**, and certainly not enough **time** to spare. Just think about it! If we had more ONA **volunteers** we could spread the tasks out, sharing the load, and the **time** spent doing them for any one **volunteer** could be reduced.

What if the **volunteers** didn't **volunteer**? What if?

Would our community perimeter become overgrown?

Would our Holiday decorations be a thing of the past?

What if the **volunteers** who man our neighborhood crime watch withdrew their valuable **time**? What if?

Would our neighborhood's crime increase?

Thank you to all the **VOLUNTEERS** that donate their **TIME** to Oakridge!

Will you **volunteer**? Will you give some of your **time** to the ONA? We need you! There is always room for one more **volunteer**. It takes all parts to make the whole, and we are stronger as one whole.



Will you donate some of your **time** to the ONA?

Even if you cannot donate **time**, it's not too late to show your monetary support by joining the ONA. If you are not a member of the ONA, I encourage you to join. If you are a member but forgot to renew for this year, please do so. If you can't afford the suggested \$60 membership dues, provide a different amount (everything counts!). Join online at [www.oakridgena.org/join-us/](http://www.oakridgena.org/join-us/).

Regards,  
Billy Ray Thomas

## The Last Newsletter

Speaking of what would happen if volunteers stopped volunteering...

**The ONA no longer has a volunteer to produce the newsletter, therefore this will be the last newsletter.** If you would like to volunteer to produce the monthly newsletter, please email [info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org).

## ONA June Raffle Winner

by Cecile LaBossiere, ONA Membership Director

Congratulations to ONA Member **Darla Bonham** (Oakridge District 1), winner of the June Member Raffle. The prize was a \$15 gift card to Whataburger.

Our raffles have been made possible by the generosity of these businesses. Please join us in supporting them in appreciation for their donations.

- Baskin Robbins
- Dallas Superstore-SF Supermarket (in Cali Saigon Mall)
- Frank Marino's Texaco
- Griff's Hamburgers
- Panda Express
- Pizza Hut
- West Washington Foundation

*Raffle Eligibility: All ONA Members (excluding current board members) were automatically entered for the raffle.*

## Membership Update

by Cecile LaBossiere, ONA Membership Director

As we wind down our Membership Drive for the 2022-2023 year, I want to be sure to provide an update on our membership status. We have been challenged this year with meeting our Membership Goals and have many ONA Members that have yet to renew.

### 2022-23 Membership Year

*Households Not Yet Renewed/Not Yet Supporting*

District	Not Yet Renewed	Not Yet Supporting
1	23	114
2	12	88
3	13	112
4	19	84
5	11	149
6	12	135
7	15	113
Total	105	795

*Number of Households Supporting the ONA*

District	Number of Households	2022-23 Supporters	% Supporting
1	185	48	26%
2	154	54	35%
3	141	16	11%
4	151	48	32%
5	190	30	16%
6	181	34	19%
7	164	36	22%
Total	1166	266	23%

If you haven't joined or renewed yet, please take a few moments to send in your dues:

- **Online** – [www.oakridgena.org/join-us/](http://www.oakridgena.org/join-us/)
- **By Mail** – Oakridge Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 450145, Garland, TX 75045-0145

I would encourage all Oakridge residents to let us know what we can do to improve participation in the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. We welcome your input and would like to hear from our neighbors! You can provide your input by sending an email to either of these email addresses:

- [info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org)
- [oakridgemembership@gmail.com](mailto:oakridgemembership@gmail.com)

Thanks,  
Cecile LaBossiere, Membership Director

## Oakridge Happy Hour

by Jackie Reynolds, ONA Events Director

### Mark your calendars!

Thursday, September 22

5:30-7:00 pm—Happy Hour

7:00 pm—ONA General Membership Meeting



All Oakridge residents, young and old, are welcome!

The ONA invites you to come inside the Duck Creek Golf Club for a neighborhood happy hour.

We encourage you to purchase some drinks and/or food at the bar, then find a seat at one of the many tables where you can relax and chat with other Oakridge residents.

This is a great opportunity to catch up with neighbors in a nice, air-conditioned building. It is also a wonderful excuse to check out the inside Duck Creek Golf Club if you haven't already done so; the bar area is open to non-golfers and golfers alike.

After happy hour, stick around for the ONA General Membership Meeting, which will begin at 7:00 p.m.

### New to the Neighborhood?

The ONA assembles and delivers welcome bags to residents who are new to Oakridge. If you are new to the neighborhood and have yet to receive a welcome bag, please send us an email at [info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org). We look forward to sending a bag your way!

### School Bus: When to Stop

Pretty soon we will start seeing school buses again. Do you know when to stop for a school bus?



When a school bus activates a visual signal (e.g., a stop sign, flashing lights) drivers on both sides of the road must stop. If the roadway is separated by a physical barrier (such as a raised median), then the traffic on the other side of the road does not need to stop. Drivers must stay stopped until the school bus starts moving, the bus driver signals to the driver to proceed, or the visual signals are no longer active.

Source: [www.maloneyandcampolo.com/school-bus-laws-in-texas/](http://www.maloneyandcampolo.com/school-bus-laws-in-texas/)

# Summer Safety Tips

by Joan Nichols, ONA Crime Prevention & Safety Director



Don't make Oakridge an easy target—Lock your vehicles!

**What is our #1 crime in Oakridge?** Thefts from unlocked vehicles and when someone steals your vehicle because the keys are in it (referred to as “unauthorized use of a vehicle”). Let's not make Oakridge an easy target for this type of crime. Go to the Oakridge website ([www.oakridgena.org](http://www.oakridgena.org)) and view the Crime Prevention & Safety page—located under Resident Resources—to see the Oakridge monthly crime statistics.

## Helpful Programs and Services

Here are some services and programs that are available to help keep Garland residents safe. More information about each of these offerings can be found on the Garland Police Department website, <https://www.garlandpolice.com/331/Police>.

**Vacation Watch** is a service available to any homeowner within the city limits of Garland. Uniformed volunteers in a marked Garland Police car check the homes of Garland citizens who are away from home on vacation to ensure that no burglar has broken in and taken their possessions. If you would like to have your home placed on the Vacation Watch list, please download the Vacation Watch Request Form available on the Garland Police Department website.

The **Lockbox Program** is open to all Garland residents who live alone and are age 65 or older. Sponsored by the Garland Police Department, it is designed to expedite access to senior adults in their own homes during medical or other emergencies. The lockbox program also reduces the likelihood of property damaged caused by first responders forcing entry into a home in response to an emergency call. Sign up or get more info at the Garland Police website.

The **Garland Video Crime Watch Program** is an extension of the Neighborhood Crime Watch program. Many homes have external surveillance cameras, including video doorbells like Ring and Nest which can serve as a good deterrent to thieves. The Garland Video Crime Watch Program allows

residents with external cameras to add their contact information to a map, letting police know they can contact those residents for possible video footage (even blurry footage) if a crime occurs in a particular area. To add your information to the map, visit <https://www.garlandpolice.com/331/Police>.

## Safety Reminders

*Keep your garage door closed* especially when you are working in the yard or just stepping inside. Open garages are an easy target for thieves.

*Pick-up mail in a timely manner* and consider going to the Post Office to mail checks or skip the mail and pay electronically. Thieves are looking for packages, checks, or identity information left in mailboxes overnight.

*Be a good neighbor.* It's always smart to get to know your neighbors. The “rule of 5” is to at least know your neighbors on both sides and 3 across the street or alley. Practice small acts of kindness—smile, wave, or say hello. Be aware of your neighbor's habits, such as when they are generally at work, if they have small children or teenagers, if they are elderly and may need extra assistance from time to time. Be sure to check on your neighbors, especially during this heat wave.

*Report suspicious activity.* If you see suspicious activity or something (or somebody) that seems out of place, call the Garland Police non-emergency number at 972-485-4840 (or call 911 for emergency or crime in progress). Remember to include details that go beyond race and gender such as behavior, vehicle description, location, time of day, hair, clothing, identifying marks, etc. Share any security camera video that may be helpful with Officer Barnes ([BarnesT@garlandtx.gov](mailto:BarnesT@garlandtx.gov)).

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## About ONA Crime Prevention & Safety

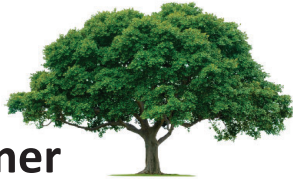
*Oakridge prides itself on a long history of active involvement of its members in watching out for one another. The Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA) through its Crime Prevention and Safety Committee serves the ONA's mission to improve and maintain the quality of life in Oakridge.*

*Siren alerts notifying residents of incidents in our neighborhood are available to anyone who has subscribed ([www.oakridgena.org/resident-resources/](http://www.oakridgena.org/resident-resources/)) or to residents who contact us by email at [safety@oakridgena.org](mailto:safety@oakridgena.org).*

# Oakridge News

Oakridge Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 450145  
Garland, TX 75045-0145

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM Retail



Local Postal Customer

## 2022-2023 ONA Board

[info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org)

### Officers

President, Billy Ray Thomas ..... 214-734-1017  
Vice President, Vickie Litton ..... 972-762-2805  
Secretary, Sharon Parrish ..... 469-939-2270  
Treasurer, Veronica Brown-Corbin..... 214-642-4815

### District Directors

District 1, Joanna Albright ..... 973-879-5965  
District 2 Co-Directors  
    Jack Lang ..... 214-395-8596  
    Sallie Lang ..... 214-708-2870  
District 3, VACANT  
District 4 Co-Directors  
    Oliver Harter ..... 214-663-8862  
    Jackie Jones ..... 972-897-5133  
District 5, Melanie Busby..... 972-989-2253  
District 6, Ruba Qewar ..... 972-207-1911  
District 7, Joetta Harris ..... 469-955-1513

### Committees

Communications, VACANT  
Crime & Safety, Joan Nichols ..... 214-543-2546  
Environmental, David Parrish ..... 469-733-6089  
Events, Jackie Reynolds ..... 469-649-5799  
Membership, Cecile LaBossiere..... 972-896-9413

## Watering Schedule

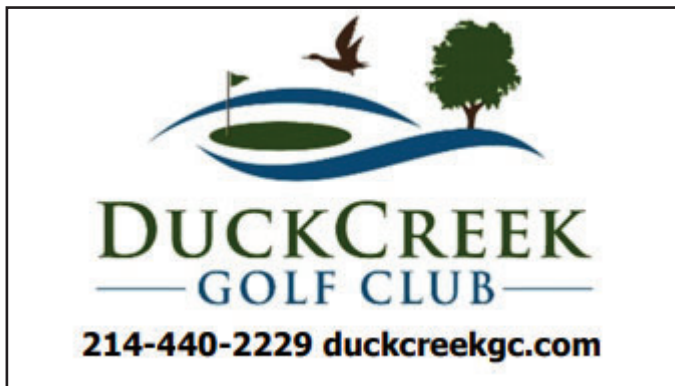


With this heat wave, lawns and landscape plants are understandably getting a bit crispy and thirsty. For those thirsty plants, watering twice a week with an in-ground sprinkler may not be enough. You may need to do a bit of hand watering; something that is currently allowed any time on any day.

As of the printing of this newsletter, here are the watering options available to Garland residents during the months of April through October:

- In order to prevent excessive evaporation, outdoor irrigation between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. is prohibited.
- Garland water utility customers are allowed to water twice per week using an in-ground sprinkler system.
- Garland water utility customers may water with a hand-held device, soaker hose, or drip irrigation any time on any day as long as excessive runoff does not occur.

The watering schedule is subject to change. Please see the City of Garland Water Utilities website (<https://garlandtx.gov/530/Water-Utilities>) for the latest information.



**Donna's Pet & House Sitting**  
Home: 972-495-8599 Call: 214-395-5403  
Donna Feher  
Partnered With Sue Hageland  
Oakridge Area Resident for 30+ Years

**Insured - Certified in Pet First Aid/CPR**

**Overnight Stays in Your Home or Mine**

